

---

## Vedico-Futuristic Education System

**Advait Dravid**

(Student of FYBA)

Symbiosis College of Arts and Commerce.

### ABSTRACT

*India has a rich culture, tradition, history, treasure of ancient knowledge and many more things. But why is the education system today so paralysed by the Western education? Why, when we call the youth of today as educated, is it not influential and why, if we call our ancestors as unlearned and uncivilized, as we are taught, were they able to rule the ancient world through their ideas? The research is purely based on how a perfect education system for India should be. It is important to strike a balance between modern science and ancient tradition. As Swami Vivekananda, one of the highest order of sages, scholars, saints, thinkers, preachers, puts it, that a generation of students will be created in the future, who will be masters of modern science and ancient Vedas, they will be the preachers of the future and through them alone will India establish herself on the throne of unprecedented glory! It is important to teach the children the Vedas, the Sanskrit language, Vedic Maths right from the beginning of the school years. This is an argumentative and educational research paper. Of course, in modern times, away with the caste system, family- background, class, religion et al.*

### KEYWORDS

*Vedico-futuristic, Aveniristics, Ultramodern, Logical.*

### PRELUDE

The current education system is based on learning the facts and information, which is very much inapplicable in the outside world. Children are forced to learn, what they actually would never need in their future career, for about 10 years of their life. What is taught in the schools is neither useful, nor energy giving, nor positive. There is unwanted competition and comparison, which the children cannot bear and end up getting frustrated and depressed. It is thought that there was no education system in India before the Britishers came. But study has revealed that there was one and it was much better than the current one. Although minor changes have been made in the system, but it still does not serve the real cause of education. Studies have proved that purposeful attempts were made to remove the Vedic teaching from the syllabus because religion is the backbone of the country. So the researcher wants to find out what would be an ideal education system for the Modern India, a perfect balance of ancient tradition and modern science, based on the ideas of Swami Vivekananda. Why Vivekananda? Because it is a must to let the ancient knowledge enter in the modern streamline, so that it reaches the poorest and the weakest student and each and every student in India, irrespective of his family background, caste, religion, financial status, status quo et al, knows the glory of ancient India, of which not even one hundredth part is taught in the schools, so that he becomes confident of himself and proud to be an Indian and strives with his immense potential to stand upon his own feet, fit for the struggle of existence and strives not only for himself, but also for the country, to make it ever glorious again, and as the Swami puts-even more glorious than India ever was! And to do this, one will have to go back to the Vedas, the interpretation of which is an arduous task. And so Vivekananda, who has studied the length and breadth of the country and in whose work, one will find an ocean of knowledge and information of perfect interpretation of the Vedas and thus, our task will be much easier. And as Rabindranath Thakur puts it, there is nothing negative in the teachings of the Swami and if one has to improve the current situation of the country, one has to read Vivekananda.

---

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

'Today's children are the citizens of tomorrow!' 'Today's youth are the leaders of tomorrow!' - this is how the children are addressed and are hammered with lengthy instructions. But the students today lack the necessary training which they really require and they are compared with other children, depressing the inherent born genius in them!

But fortunately enough, the holy blood of the ancient rishis is still flowing in their veins and therefore, when given the right chance, they do marvellous work striking the world with awe!

The biggest problem that the youth faces today is lack of concentration and lack of value education. Though they have a leaning towards glorious goals, they feel frustrated due to lack dependable guidance. But they can, however, find an unfailing Saviour in Vivekananda!

And so, his life giving and energizing message must reach the youth of today.

## **OBJECTIVES OF RESEARCH**

The researcher has made an attempt to study the challenges faced by the school and college going youth today. Along with it, the researcher has also compared the current education system to how it should be according to the Swami. An attempt has been made to understand the ideas of Swami Vivekananda on education.

Lastly, some possible changes in the current education system of India have been proposed.

## **HYPOTHESIS**

The current education system is money-making, rather than man-making, character-building quality education.

## **SCOPE OF RESEARCH**

This research is based on some of the ideas of Swami Vivekananda. The Swami says that education is not filling the mind with a lot of facts. 'Education is character building and man-making'. 'The very essence of education is concentration of mind'. 'We want that education by which the strength of mind is increased and by which one can stand on his own feet'.

Along with that, short interviews of a few students and professors/trainers from Symbiosis College of Arts and Commerce, St. Vincent's Jr. College, Pune, were taken to know their views on the education system. Some ideas and statements are put from internet sources.

## **LIMITATIONS OF THE RESEARCH**

This is an individual research. It is based only on a few selected ideas of Sw. Vivekananda. Along with it, finance and a very short period of time (of only 3 days) were the major concerns. The researcher has collected information only from the acquaintances. So, convenient sampling through personal contacts becomes a shortcoming. This means that the results are subject to change if a different group of people were interviewed. The political interference, need for financial condition of the country and most importantly the population of the country etc. have not been considered.

## **METHODOLOGY**

The researcher will collect primary data through personal interviews and questionnaires and secondary data through books and internet. The problems of the children and ideas from the teachers will be taken, thought upon, and analysed by the researcher. The summary of the discussion and so also the possible solutions will be presented in a detailed manner.

---

## DATA ANALYSIS

From the discussion, some very interesting points and ideas were noted. If we compare the education systems of some highly developed countries like the USA, Germany, France, Russia etc, what is remarkable is the of course the quality of education, but along with that, hands on activities and most importantly, internships opportunities for children, right from the age of 10 or 11. For example in the case of Germany, after attending Kindergarten, the one stage called Grundschule [(age 6-10 ) till Std 5 in comparison with India], the parents have a chance to select the field of the child's interest. And there is a vast choice of subjects for the students. So, a sound solution for India would be, that all the subjects must be taught till the 5th standard, including Languages, History, Geography, Vedic Math(and not the regular math), easy Vedic lessons (most probably in languages), and Science. Making Sanskrit a compulsory language along with English and the regional language would be a really good idea for the better development of children. It was noticed that some people think introducing Vedic knowledge would be saffronising the education system. But the reality is different. To put in Swamiji's words, if one perceives this knowledge, he will become a better human being, so if a student gets this knowledge, he will become a better student, a Christian will become a better Christian, a Muslim will become a better Muslim, a teacher will become a better teacher and so on... Why Sanskrit? Haven't the people, the government and the education ministry understood the importance of Sanskrit yet? The Sanskrit language is the identity of India. The second most ancient and a very highly scientific, rich in vocabulary, a language with vast ancient literature of the world... One may argue that Tamil is the oldest language and it also has a perfect grammar and a vast ancient literature. True, but Sanskrit literature has spread far and wide. This is not a comparison though, but Sanskrit has the Vedas, Shastras, Puranas, Upanishads(which, Swamiji says, is a huge mine of strength. It has the knowledge to invigorate and energise the whole world! ) and Ayurveda. More research is done, even abroad, on Sanskrit. All the prayers, if not all, maximum, are and have been chanted in Sanskrit since time unknown. So some people opined, that the Indian students should not be kept away from that. It is not always possible for the people to join extra classes for the love of Sanskrit. And so, Sanskrit is to be made compulsory. This is till the 5th standard. After that, the students must have choice of selecting the subjects. This is quite logical, because if the parents know that their child is more inclined to learning languages and arts and it is quite arguable that even the teachers must have realised the potential of the children in 5 years, there is no need for the student to brush his head against Math and Science. He is just wasting his time! In the name of extracurricular activities, what is done in the schools nowadays is that, students have to learn 9-10 subjects.

English, Hindi, the regional language, Math, Science, History, Geography, Computer, EVS, Sports Education(which strangely enough, includes theory ), Tabla, Music etc in the school. But what if the student is interested in entrepreneurship? He has to go again for a special training, waste his time, energy and money once again! So it is very much logical to let the students learn the main subjects, as discussed above, till the 5th standard (because the child is quite mature, parents and teachers get a good amount of time to realise his natural potential) and he must be allowed to select his favourite subjects, and so also the parents, which will be really useful for his future career. And as some people opined, the subjects like many foreign languages, music, arts, literature, computer science, design, creative thinking for the children who want to perceive a career in Arts ,quantum physics,physics,chemistry, zoology, botany etc for the students who are planning for science and economics, law, linguistics, business and management etc for the students aiming at other fields, would be really good options. As practised in Germany,suggested a teacher from St.Vincent's Jr. College,that students can be given opportunities of internship from 6th or 7th standard. This will increase their confidence level, make them smarter, and give them an experience of the outside world and an amazing experience. We also should be aware of what is taught in the school and why. Quantity is given more importance that quality. There should be material that really fascinates the children, in the book, so that there should be absolutely no need for the poor children to join classes outside the school. In English literature, instead of Shakespeare, whose work is more concentrated on love and romance, reading what, the children might get depressed and distracted, great stories from the life of great Saints, ancient Indian Kings, whose lives were filled with positivity and inspiration, should be introduced. Wouldn't it be more inspirational to know how Swami

---

Vivekananda could read 10 complete volumes of the encyclopedia in 10 days be more interesting , positive and motivating than learning how Juliet killed herself?

From an internet source, it was noticed that the history which is more focused on the lives of the Mughal Sultans and very less is taught about the Indian Kings. So the History syllabus needs to be upgraded. It should be filled with the more glorious, more ancient dynasties like the Gupta , the Maurya , the Vijayanagara dynasties, which teaches students how great were our ancestors. The literature, as discussed earlier, has to be filled with the Characters of our Kings. How glorious they were! How great was their character! How adamant their will and to what degree they were able to SACRIFICE what they had , for the welfare of the people! But alas, one can see only how the Brahmins tortured the lower castes, how the Mughals slaughtered the poor and fell thousands of temples, how the Britishers butchered the innocent and all the other negative things! Where is the glory of the ancestors, who found the Vedas, wrote Mahabharata, and gave shelter to whoever came to India to be seen? Nowhere! To put in the words of the Swami, *"The education that you are getting now has some good points, but has a tremendous disadvantage which is so great that the good things are all weighed down. In the first place, it is not a man making education; it is merely and entirely negative education. A negative education or any training that is based on negation is worse than death. The child is taken to the school, and the first thing he learns is, that his father is a fool, the second thing, that his grandfather is lunatic, the third thing, that all his teachers are hypocrite, the fourth that all the sacred books are lies! By the time he is sixteen, he is a mass of negation, lifeless and boneless..."*

But after a few interviews, it was noticed that all are hypnotised! All are comfortable in what's going on and now wants a change. Like dogs and camels people are chewing the same bones and thorns for years and years and bleeding their own gums! People must get out of this comfort zone. A boy named Abhimanyu, 16 years old, committed suicide. The following was found in his suicide letter.

*"The CBSE system is based on mugging. Education should be about understanding and applying your knowledge. My death should be a lesson and a reason for the system to change."* How many Abhimanyus should sacrifice their life before the system is changed.

The teacher from the Junior College also said, that this is one stunning fact, that all know, but no one has marked. Especially here in India, it's a trend, seen everywhere, that children are made to learn the alphabets, numbers, nursery rhymes et al, by their parents, at a very young age. The parents are rather proud of that. An Indian student knows at least 3 or 4 languages right from the childhood-which is a very appreciable thing, which means that their intellectual level on an average is more than the foreign students. But what happens to them later? The students in the foreign countries go ahead of the average Indian students, settle early and earn more! Why? -Their education system!

So, to continue the previous discussion, the students must be provided favourable opportunities to enter into internship from 6th or 7th standard. This can continue till 10th standard or 11th standard. 11th then, will not be Jr. College. It will be a part of the school, if need be. Training should be given to them to enter directly in the university or Job. This means, the subjects studied in 8th, 9th and 10th will be intense and in depth. But the students will be studying them for their career and there won't be many subjects to study. This will balance it and will be worth studying in depth, opined a few. Why Vedic Math? Because it is much simpler and useful than the modern Math. It helps in brain development. The importance of Vedic Math is known by all. Students nowadays are joining coaching classes for Vedic Math.

Along with that, a special subject should be planned and patterned, which includes all the ultramodern and futuristic topics like Design and Innovation, Creative thinking, Startup planning, Futuristics et al, to be introduced right from the 5th standard-to-be. [(We can name this subject as 'Aveniristics') *Avenir* is a French word for future]. Also, some part of Artificial Intelligence can also be added in that. These subjects should be offered like Liberal Arts and all the students who wish, can opt for them, depending on their interest. This is important because much of the portion that is taught is highly outdated. This will also help the students in the career. And lastly, does anyone understand the importance of this? Does anyone notice that so much of time, energy, money is being wasted for a zero result? Does anyone care for this? *Carpe diem !* India needs to

---

change... It has the potential to become a superpower, says Swamiji. But not with this kind of education. Where is the zest? Where is the zeal? Where is the enthusiasm? The true will to grow, develop and prosper? To end with the Swami's quote, " *The ideal, therefore, is that we must have the whole education of our country, spiritual and secular, in our own hands, and it must be on national lines, through national methods as far as practical*".

### **SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION**

The Indian Education System needs a drastic change! Something is definitely going wrong! It should be upgraded, uplifted and modified for the betterment. It should be based on practical, updated knowledge. A perfect balance should be struck between ancient and modern knowledge. Practical and quality education needs to be introduced for the country. After the Kindergarten, students will go to the first standard and all the important and upgraded subjects like Vedic Math, English, History, Geography, Sanskrit, Aveniristics etc. After the 5th standard they'll be allowed to select the subject, which will be useful for their future- career. Internship opportunities will be provided from 6th or 7th standard. From 8th to 10th or 11th standard, training will be given to reach the University et al institutions. An all round education in a true sense will be provided for an ever glorious India!...

### **BIBLIOGRAPHY/ WEBLIOGRAPHY:**

- [1] Vivekananda speaks to you. Adhyaksha, Shri Ramakrishna Math, Mylapore, Chennai-4, India.
- [2] Swami Purushottamananda . Student's Treasure. Shri Ramakrishna Math, Chennai, India.
- [3] Complete work of Swami Vivekananda. A collection of his books, letters, and poetry. Swami Vivekananda.
- [4] The Quora Digest (An internet source).

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The researcher would like to thank  
Dr. Shirish Limaye for his strong support and motivation.  
Mrs. Manila Williams for some of the very modern, practical and outstanding ideas.  
And last but not the least, all the friends for their help in getting different ideas.