



“Rabindranath Tagore’s Insights on Education: A Reflective Journey”

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Abstract

The well-known Indian poet, philosopher, & Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore had insightful ideas about education. The old Indian system, which deeply influenced him, is plainly reflected in his work. Self-knowledge is developed by self-education. In education, it is integrated. Therefore, a pupil must be confident. The ultimate objective of education is to educate students with the cosmos. Therefore, the primary carrier of this heritage is the educational curriculum. He was more than just a simple poet or author; he was the forerunner of a literary age, giving him the status of India's cultural ambassador. Basic education, in Tagore's view, aids in the development of a fully mature man. Furthermore, Tagore supported education that comes from the natural world. Rabindranath Tagore developed Visva-Bharati, which translates to "world communication with India." He also tried to link the educational system and the core of rurality. By placing a strong emphasis on an individual's intellectual, physical, social, cultural, and spiritual lives, Tagore's educational philosophy aids in the establishment of a newly established pattern in human existence.

Keywords: Rabindranath, Self-education, Education, Visva-Bharti, Human existence

Introduction

Despite being an author, Rabindranath was a visionary. His spirit and emotions were both affected by the smell that pervaded the entire nation. He carefully examined the items strewn about. He experienced both joy and pleasure as a result of different experiences. Rabindranath was not a prisoner of environmental confines and was not subject to the ancestral tyranny of the deceased, hence he was able to express all these things with the proficiency, subtlety, and strength of art at its greatest. He overcame the hereditary mistake with tenacity and willpower. For him, nothing about being human could be foreign. He was, in fact, the high priest of humanity and life.

Tagore has stressed that there is a fundamental oneness in love between people, nature, and international relations. Therefore, genuine education should foster this sense of community and affection for all that exists today. The majority of education during Tagore's time was rigid, rational, and motionless as it wasn't tailored to individual wants and societal demands.

The philosophical traditions have persisted in India from ancient times to the present. As a result, current Indian philosophers discover that ancient and modern thinkers were in common about methods of learning. This is the cornerstone of current Indian educational theory.

This study examined the ways in which India's modernization was influenced by Rabindranath Tagore's educational philosophy. The development and modernization of nearby nations like Sri Lanka depend on the results of this study.

Rabindranath thought that genuine education might advance mankind. Only genuine education can foster healthy interpersonal relationships. While traveling the globe, he

came to understand the crucial role of education in culture. His initial education was affected by the foreign system of education. But he placed greater emphasis on the traditional Indian educational system. He held a high regard for Vedic education. His philosophical views on education were strengthened by all these factors. His educational philosophy was founded on admirable idealism. But his ideas about education went beyond only theory. Instead, it was utilized as well in real life. This is still relevant to modern society and the state of the planet. It may be found in all his writings.

1. Syllabus of Education

Rabindranath held the view that if the purpose of education is to familiarize an individual with the entire universe, then the course of study is the primary carrier of that society. As a result, he suggested taking great attention while creating the curriculum so that the human culture is reflected on it. Actually, Rabindranath was not just a wonderful poet but also a terrific educator. He put a focus on performing arts including singing, dancing, acting, and gardening. Additionally, they were planned in Viswabharati, Santiniketan. In order to illuminate all of India by the light of intelligence, he incorporated mass education and mass literacy in the curriculum in addition to indigenous handicraft and horticulture.

2. Aims of Education

Rabindranath Tagore had a strong vision for education, and he listed a number of important goals that he thought need to be pursued during the educational process. His views on education's objectives were comprehensive and firmly

ingrained in his thinking. Following are some of Rabindranath Tagore's main goals for education:

- i) The formation of a strong and moral character, in Tagore's opinion, ought to be one of education's main objectives.
- ii) In his works, Tagore marked the importance in having a strong bond with nature.
- iii) Tagore's schooling also aimed to promote cultural and social consciousness.
- iv) Tagore highlighted the value of participating in social and communal activities.

3. Rabindranath Tagore's Philosophical Views

All philosophical investigation begins with human awareness. According to Tagore, the paradoxes in human existence inspire people to seek for the truth. A finite-infinite being, man is. In him, soul and nature are combined. On the one hand, he was heavily influenced by the Vedas and Upanishads, while on the other, his views are the confluence of ideas and conceptions that served as emblems of enlightenment. He contends that although man is free because he is a part of the spiritual world of ends, he is subject to the rule of necessity. Science, art, and moral all experience this contradiction, which need an answer.

4. A way of life based on Tagore

Rabindranath thought that adaptability was the true path of existence. He became familiar with current events as a result. The personalities of "Upen" and "Krishnakanta" in "Dui Bigha Jami" and "Puratan Vritya" are exquisitely detailed, giving an account of their sufferings and pains, much as we discover Upanishadic notions in his writings. Despite having Upanishad-inspired ideas, he rejected redemption. He believed that the efforts of the masses, who labored long and hard, shedding their blood and sweat for the betterment of society, were where true redemption lay. He therefore never renounced the organisation or its members. He desired a dynamically growing existence that was free from evil and inhumanity. He was both a real patriot and a renegade in this regard.

5. Education of Rabindranath Tagore

Rabindranath combined prophetic philosophy with scientific principles to establish the primary goal of education. He contends that a person may fully enter education through a process of ongoing self-realization and intellectual development.

6. Tagore's Cultural Views

Rabindranath discussed Indian culture, but despite the fact that it was unfamiliar to him, he had no mistrust for any civilization. But he believed that external factors were required for the legitimacy of our intellectual character. He objected to the unnatural framework that enabled western education to tend to take up all of our nation's mental space, killing the huge chance for the development of a new thinking power through a novel combination of truths.

7. Enhanced Understanding across the Globe

As suggested by Tagore, another goal of education should be to help kids develop a positive outlook on life. Despite Tagore's freedom, his communism and even internationalism were not compatible with his independence. In the same way that he highlighted certain

turns of events, he also advocated for the advancement of society and the entire human species (Bulletin, 1930). It was widely believed that one should first reach the farthest limits of creation while giving his all to the growth of international aid.

6. Tagore's vision on ideal education

Tagore offers a variety of ideas about the ideal education. He offered various innovative methods for the perfect education that do not support the use of a formal education system. His ideal educational approach is life-oriented education, which is based on the unique intrinsic qualities of each learner. He constantly places a strong focus on extracurricular activities such as playing games, singing, creating art, etc. Kinesthetic learning is therefore the cornerstone of Tagore's ideal education.

Conclusion

In a sense, Rabindranath Tagore was the Renaissance man of contemporary India. The primary goal of Rabindranath Tagore's educational system was to assist students in developing into fully mature men. According to Tagore, a successful educational system influences not just knowledge growth but also the intellectual, physical, moral, social, and spiritual development of students. It promotes the growth of peace and creative expression. Through his educational philosophy, Tagore creates individualism, naturalism, spiritualism, and internationalism. Other reputable educationists have adopted Tagore's educational principles, and many of his inventions have now materialized into common educational practices.

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