

A theoretical study on Rabindranath Tagore's contribution in Educational field

¹Supradip Datta, ²Sophia T. Darlong, ³Jeenti Malakar

¹Research Scholar, ²Guest Faculty, ³Research Scholar

¹Department of Education, Tripura University(A Central University), Suryamaninagar, Tripura

²Department of School of Education, Tripura University(A Central University), Suryamaninagar, Tripura

³Department of Education, Tripura University(A Central University), Suryamaninagar, Tripura

1spdatta7@gmail.com, 2sophiadarlong96@gmail.com, 3jeentimalakar28@gmail.com

Abstract

The contribution of Rabindranath Tagore has been paramount in Educational philosophy and other field. As one of the forerunner educationist who gave valuable thought aesthetic development an intellectual development in education and that of society. According to him to develop an individual power to the fullest, an individual should be provided constant assistance and to achieve these goals the students have an eminent role to play. In this way it will also help in building perfection and complete manhood in the society in which he dwell. Tagore's learning method encompasses aptness and a unique sensivity across multiracial, multi-lingual and cross culture set-up. The core of Tagore's educational philosophy was learning from nature, music and life. This is the reason why his education is easily acceptable by human mind. Tagore extended the meaning and functional importance of certain aspects of personality as nobody else had done before him. His writings also highlighted on women education and their development for upliftment of the society.

Keywords : Intellectual, Multiracial, Multilingual, Cross culture.

1. Introduction

Rabindranath Tagore a great son of India was born in Calcutta from a family renowned for their educational innovation and social-religious involvement. He was a poet, an educationist and also excels in different field a multipotential. Tagore's contribution to India's thought and culture is exceptionally sound and the best in its own form. His restless soul kept struggling for a bitter scheme of things. Tagore's underlying concepts of educational philosophy are enough and assured relevant for today's world. From Tagore's contribution people can comprehend in order to learn about and create a healthy relationship with other people, other nations, and of other religions and cultures, particularly with regards to nature. Tagore's core of educational philosophy was learning from nature, music and life. His works includes dramas, novel and short stories which occupies superior position in Modern Indian literature. Rabindranath saw education as a vehicle for appreciating the richest aspects of other cultures, while maintaining one's own culture specificity.

The pivotal point of Tagore's educational theory stress on absolute harmonies of the development of an individual personality to the core. He had a belief that education will uphold and encourage an individual to gain a complete maturity in its own self, also obtaining an all-round development creating a versatile quality in an individual to the fullest extent, this is to create an individual perfection as well as excel to the community in which he was brought up and to the general society as a whole. Education in its entirety did not only point at a single direction of individual fullness and heightening of their potentiality, but also put an importance on the whole physical and social growth collectively in which an individual lived. Rabindranath Tagore puts his observation that pedagogy of the country gain its shape and solidity in opposition to the entire ground and it is remarkable to note that there is a considerable relationship between teaching and companionship.

Even though Rabindranath Tagore did not acquire an academic degree in formal education, he was a great instructor and educator of his period. He recommended changes in education at the same time apply them practically in his school at Santiniketan. Santiniketan was established in 1901 with the name Brahmavidyalaya originally and with time the school current name Santiniketan was adopt since then. In the later years the school was expanded and extended, and in 1921 Visva-Bharati the International University was formally inaugurated. Rabindranath Tagore was also a recipient of the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1913, "because of his profoundly sensitive, fresh and beautiful verse, by which, with consummate skill, he has made his poetic thought, expressed in his own English words, a part of the literature of the West". This paper emphasised on the improvement and development of education contributed by Rabindranath Tagore through his works.

2. Objectives

1. To find out the contribution of Rabindranath Tagore in the field of education.
2. To study about the factors Tagore mentioned for real educational development.

3. Methodology

For this study different secondary sources of data, articles and research papers were taken account and this is a theoretical study on the contribution of R.N.Tagore in the field of education.

4. Significance of the study

Education is the only way through which a nation can be changed. Students are the future of a nation as they can contribute maximum for development of the nation. So there should be a dynamic and effective mode of education in educational institutions. In this regard they should know about the works of famous educators, social reformers or activists. Rabindranath Tagore was an influential philosopher who contributed lot for education of children and women. Society needs an effective system of education. As the new education policy 2020 also highlighted that students should know about their own culture, educators etc. So the contribution of Rabindranath Tagore in education is undoubtedly significant.

5. Contribution of Rabindranath Tagore in Education

Rabindranath Tagore received Nobel Prize in the year 1913. He worked so hard for the development of the education system. Tagore's writings like 'Siksha Herpher', 'Prasanga Katha', 'Siksa-Samasya' etc. are also very influential in educational field. He always pointed out that nature is the best teacher. Contribution of R.N. Tagore in the field of education is discussed below:

1. **Understanding the self:** Understanding self is the ultimate goal of real education. If anyone can understand self, then the ultimate goal of education will be fulfilled. So self-realization is very important if life.
2. **Nature as a Teacher:** R. N. Tagore always wanted to make the nature as the ultimate teacher. So he mentioned in his writings also that it is the nature who always guiding us, teaching us and it continues for long.
3. **Freedom in education:** According to Rabindranath Tagore there should be free space for learners in any educational system. So students or learners can learn freely and can achieve their goal in life. Freedom in learning is very important.
4. **Humanity as a quality:** Humanity is very important in human life. Without this quality no one can achieve their real goal in life. So this is the quality that should be practiced in educational Institutions.
5. **Moral and spiritual development:** For all round development of the students or learners moral and spiritual development is also necessary that help the learners to walk in right direction and becoming a good human being.
6. **Open mind:** Tagore always wanted that the mind of a learner should be always open as they can acquire knowledge from their surroundings anytime, anywhere.
7. **Education in Mother tongue:** According to Tagore, child's education should be given in his/her mother tongue. So they can learn more easily and with a warm acceptance.
8. **Philosophical Foundation:** According to R.N.Tagore there should be a place of strong Philosophical foundation in the educational field and this quality will definitely enrich the learners.
9. **Social development:** Social development is another area where R.N.Tagore focused on. Because it is the society that anyhow help us to learn or take our education and it is the duty of the learners to give a good return to their society, so they can become a responsible person in their future life.
10. **Physical and mental development:** Tagore's educational philosophy also focused of the Physical and mental development of the Learners. Different methods like meditation, yoga, playing, activity should be included in curriculum for physical and mental development.
11. **Education for Rural students:** According to Tagore more focus should be given to the development of rural areas and education is the only medium through which the development of the peoples of the rural area is possible and their life can be changed.

12. **Intellectual development:** Education should help in the intellectual development of the learners as in future they will contribute maximum for the development of the society.
13. **Cultural development:** It is very important regarding the all-round development of a child. So according to Tagore a rich culture and knowing about its diversity may help the learners to become a responsible human being in the society.
14. **Fine Arts:** According to Tagore along with books and traditional curriculum there is a very important role of Music, Drama etc. In all round development of a child.
15. **Woman Education:** Through his writings and other different activities Tagore always highlighted the women education and he always pointed out that there should be a proper involvement of women in educational field.

6. Conclusion

Education is the best way in this world through which any nation can lead and move forward. But to achieve the goals there is undoubtedly a significant role of students or learners. So Rabindranath Tagore always wanted to nurture these learners properly. According to him only book oriented study will not fulfil the criteria as our society needs good number of human beings also, so there is a need of well-educated human being. Traditional methods cannot help in this regard so there should be free, dynamic, open minded education for learners and obviously Nature as a great teacher. Along with this Tagore pointed out that there should be a strong base of Philosophical ideas in the field of education. At the same time women education is also necessary for development of the society. So at the end Rabindranath Tagore focused on the all-round development of the learners as they are the integral part of the society and the future maker of a nation.

7. References

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