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The Influence of Indian Philosophy on Contemporary Education in India

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Abstract

Traditional concepts in modern education have come to an end. Psychological and sociological research and experimentation have highlighted new problem areas in education. It is very important to educate to know the nature of education so that we do not get lost in the maze of modern development. The aims of education, curriculum instruction-strategies, discipline- there is no aspect of education which is not influenced and guided by philosophy. Both Indian and western philosophies have spread their influence in the field of education. This philosophy is fundamentally based on the realization of spiritual and practical truths. The philosophy of truth or perception of truth is the main feature of Indian philosophy. But the revelation of the nature of truth is not only goal of Indian philosophy, but how to live a moderate, elegant and free life by sheltering the truth, this practical aspect is also more or less rooted in Indian philosophy.

Keywords: *Modern education system, Indian Philosophy, Vedic culture, Buddhism, Jain philosophy, Charvak philosophy*

Introduction

Philosophie and education are interdependent. In the context of this dependance the basic tenets of various Indian philosophies and discussion of their educational significance is very important in modern education. It is well known that in Vedic period in ancient India the education system was based on Vedanta philosophy, on the other side based on Buddhist philosophy the structure of traditional institutional education was first developed in India. Not only in ancient times, Vadanta other Indian philosophies including Buddhism, the basic principles are equally relevant in the field of education today. Developing learner mindfulness in education, intellectual development, individual establishment, establishing good relationship

between teachers and students etc. the ideologies of various Indian philosophical sects are uniformly followed in modern education.

The nature, pace and progress of modern education have made education more complex. Traditional concepts in modern education have come to an end. Psychological and sociological research and experimentation have highlighted new problem areas in education. It is very important to educate to know the nature of education so that we do not get lost in the maze of modern development. The aims of education, curriculum instruction-strategies, discipline- there is no aspect of education which is not influenced and guided by philosophy. Both Indian and western philosophies have spread their influence in the field of education. In this article, I am trying to focus on only Indian philosophy. This philosophy is fundamentally based on the realization of spiritual and practical truths. The philosophy of truth or perception of truth is the main feature of Indian philosophy. But the revelation of the nature of truth is not only goal of Indian philosophy, but how to live a moderate, elegant and free life by sheltering the truth, this practical aspect is also more or less rooted in Indian philosophy. On the other hand, Vedic, justice, shanku, yoga, mimamsa, Vedanta philosophies enriched the Indian education system. On the other hand, anti-separatist Charvak, Buddhist and Jain philosophical thoughts influenced Indian education.

Relevance of Charvaka philosophy in present day education:

As anti-spiritual and prominent and consumerism the Charvaka philosophy as a philosophy has been criticized by other Indian philosophical schools of thought but is modern rational. As a materialistic philosophy, it has a special contribution in the field of modern education. Student satisfaction in modern education, emphasis is placed on pleasant feelings etc. Meeting the students own needs is given priority. The core of the materialistic Charvaka philosophy is that happiness and joy are not judgements of the past or the future.

Relevance of Buddhist philosophy in current education:

Equal educational opportunity was the first sounds of Buddhist philosophy. The need for universal education has also been accepted in this philosophy. Buddhist philosophy is a democratic philosophy. Buddhist philosophy and Buddhist education were mostly people oriented and public welfare. It was his philosophy that first announced mass education, which is very significant in modern education. Education for all, is our aim today. Government of India launched 'Sarva Shiksha Abhijan' to achieve this goal. That is the seed of the idea of education for all was rooted in Buddhist philosophy. Ethics and values are the important aspect of Buddhist philosophy. Buddha principle mainly focuses on four 'Arya Satya' and 'the Ashtangaic path'. In terms of social and educational significance of Buddhist ethics is immense. Multiple human and moral virtues are the principals of this philosophy. Such as non-violence, truthfulness, righteous livelihood, humanity, public welfare, friendship, mercy, sympathy, neglect etc. propagated ideas. Through the promotion of this ideal, the formation of moral character of people and formation of moral society has gained importance. We can inculcate all these ideals in the students through education, but the moral devaluation and crisis of sense of value in social life is seen, where it can be removed, and then an ideal moral society can be developed. Through that we can find the educational value and current relevance of Buddhist principles.

Relevance of Jainism in present day education:

In the context of the description of the nature of life in Jain philosophy, it is said: 'Jiva Ananta darshan', darkness of infinite knowledge and other powers. That is the main motto of current child centered education. Every child is a shadow of infinite power and infinite potential. The role of education is to facilitate the full and comprehensive spontaneous development of child's essential potential. In the words of Vivekananda, education is the manifestation of the depth of greatness inherent in humans. Jain philosophy is the philosophy of the infinite potentiality of the living being and striving for the development of life towards that end is a significant feature of modern education.

The definition of Jain pluralism and Sativism is all really reciprocal. Jain polytheism and satism parallel the principles of modern discrimination. In his welfare judgement towards the different discriminating characteristics, needs, tastes, inclinations, abilities and society of the student – the principles of Jain philosophy and ethics are quite relevant in modern education. Non-violence is the mainstay of Jain philosophy. The principle of non-violence is to do good without harming anyone in thought, word and deed. The role of non-violence policy is immense in sharpening the character of the student. Needless to say, violence, fights, bloodshed, intolerance, bad competition, conflict, non-co-operation etc. can be observed in today's education system. It is necessary to follow the principle of non-violence to get rid of it.

Relevance of special philosophy of Justice in present education system:

Various aspects of modern education are metaphysics of Nyaya- Vaishashika philosophy can be benefited from epistemology and values. Direct involvement, inference, simple and words are mentioned in this philosophy as methods of enlightenment, which is similar to the principle of sensory learning followed in modern education. Justice is taught in debates, discussions, arguments, counter-arguments etc. and teachers students they can also participate in this. As a result, the essence of knowledge that came out through it became very clear to the student. In fact discussion, argument, debate bring clarity of thought. This type of process is adopted as a principle in the current education system. So, in the current education sector seminar, webinar, workshops etc. are widely used. In the philosophy of justice, the sense of value is the ultimate value of human life, which is the main point of current education. And here lies the relevance of philosophy of justice in the field of education.

Relevance of Shankho philosophy in current education:

The essential features of the education system in modern times are - education is theoretical and practical, secular and spiritual, be careful in all these aspects. In terms of this the good works of Sankhya, male and nature theory, knowledge theory, creation theory and the concepts of binding and liberating beings are very significant in education. Sankhya philosophy recognizes the principle of interaction between nature, humans and the soul. Modern educational theory states that the learner's development is through the interaction of the innate characteristics of the learner with the various elements of his environment. Learning behavior is the behavior that leaves take to restore the environment when the environment disrupts it. That is, this principle of modern education is only a name change of the doctrine of mutually

between man and nature in Sankhya philosophy. The aim of modern education is to assist the learning process of the learner, that is why this teaching is called Sankhya philosophy. What is said about Man or Soul in Sankhya philosophy, is reflected in modern education theory. Sankhya philosophy says that the soul is not one but many. The basic principle of modern education has also been said to be individuality or individuality present in every student and the learners learn accordingly. That is the student's education will be on his own characteristic or unique basis. This principle is also followed in curriculum design today. So Man and nature theory of Sankhya philosophy has influenced modern education.

Relevance of yoga philosophy in recent education system:

Yoga philosophy is very significant from an educational point of view. Yoga is the prevention of mental attachment and yoga philosophy lays emphasis on the prevention of mental attachment. Yoga sastra is basically the ultimate salvation. According to yoga philosophy, the goal of life is samadhi or cessation of mental faculties. For this, the yoga sages talk about the practice of Ashtanga yoga. The educational significance of Ashta yoganga is immense. These Ashta yogangas are Jama, Niyama, Asana, Pranayama, retreat, concept, meditation and samadhi. The practice of this Ashtanga yoga plays an important role in the overall development of the student. Practices like Ahinsa, Satya, Bramhacharya, Pranayama, Asana, meditation, niyama etc. are very important especially in student life. It is sacred duty for a student to practice celibacy. Every student should follow it strictly. Asanas and Pranayama are conducive to the physical development of the student. Concentration and meditation help in creating concentration in the learners. Truth motivates the student to think, act and be honest. Non-violence inculcates love, friendship, positive attitude, tolerance in students and help in developing social qualities. Bramhacharya makes the student a temperate disciplined virtuous person. Also, according to yoga philosophy, the main goal of human beings like yogi is to gain self-knowledge or self-realizations. Deller commission stated four objectives of education, these are:

1. Learning to know
2. Learning to do
3. Learning to live together
4. Learning to be

The shadow or influence of yoga philosophy can be observed on this fourth purpose.

The relevance of Vedanta philosophy in present day education:

Vedanta philosophy impose the foundation of Indian education. Later education was built on this. We can say that Vedanta philosophy is ultimately a spiritual philosophy, it covers the way for the formation and development of society. It has given every man, his or her soulmate in the universe is one and the same. All the souls that are your souls. All living beings are your body. Hurting someone means hurting yourself. Loving someone means loving yourself. After gaining knowledge of Vedanta, when anyone reaches a higher stage of his development, then the gender of men-women, casteism, caste etc. are not visible to anybody. When a person rises

above all these differences, he or she meets the humanity or the only Brahma Satta in all these people, only then is the sense of world brotherhood established.

Following the Vedanta philosophy, every person in society becomes morally, spiritually, socially educated, then it will be possible to build a better society. So, it can be said that as a major branch of Indian philosophy rich in ancient tradition, Vedanta philosophy today also occupies an important place in the field of education. And in the future too, the ideas of Vedanta philosophy will play a guiding role not only in the field of education but also in the formation of social society.

Conclusion:

So, it can be said from the above discussion, Indian philosophy is truly a rich philosophy. Beneficial effects of this philosophy made human life fulfilling in the past and is also important in building a prosperous society. Not only this, but the far-reaching influence of idealistic Indian philosophy is also equally appreciated in human life today. Based on Indian philosophy if people develop their entire life beyond just education and if the principles present in Indian philosophy adhered to then human life and human society will reach the ideal place. That is why the relevance of Indian philosophy has increased in the current era of decadence of values.

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