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A Study of Educational Ideas of Dr. Radha Krishnan in Special Reference of Value Education

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Abstract:

Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan dedicated his entire life in the education of the youth of the country. He gave a notable and significant contribution in the field of philosophy in modern scenario. He was a great philosopher, a great teacher, a great thinker, a great humanitarian personality, a spiritualist, a man of mission, a man of principles, a notable writer, an educationist, very first Vice-President, and second President of Republic of India. He spread the divine light of Indian philosophy and culture to the western part of the globe. He got Bharat Ratna, the highest national award in 1967.

Key words: Life Sketch, Scenario,

Introduction:

Radhakrishnan started in academia, not politics. He was born on September 5, 1888, in a town called Tiruttani which is located in Tamil Nadu. He belonged to an educated family and grew up around them as well. Reaching this intellectual environment is written to be the beginning, and forever pursuit. Radhakrishnan started his education at Madras Christian College Higher Secondary School, Vellore and Spurgeon's college later joined the Voorhees College in Vellore. His deep commitment to philosophical inquiry, especially Indian philosophy, marked his academic life. Radhakrishnan's books on Hinduism and comparative religion sought to reconcile Eastern philosophies with Western ways of thinking, which had tended to misinterpret them. In his most famous books, such as The Philosophy of Rabindranath Tagore and Indian Philosophy he highlighted the vastness and

depth contentions inside Indian intellectual schools of thought to promote a synthesis between Eastern metaphysical systems with Western science.

1962: Institution of Teacher's Day in India, yearly celebrated at 5 September, Radhakrishnan's birthday, in honour of Radhakrishnan's belief that "teachers should be the best minds in the country".

Life Sketch

Knowledge is the powerful tool to excel the human potential to its maximum. Indian philosophers and educationists played a very vital role in the spread of knowledge and education; He was a man of simple, easy, and visionary thoughts. He was especially known for constructive, qualitative and rational criticism of philosophical ideas of western thinkers.

He was born on 5th September 1888 in a Brahmin family at Tiruttani near Madras. He was the second son of Sarvepalli Veerswami and Seetamma, His forefathers hailed from the village Sarvepalli of Nellore district. Andhra Pradesh. Radhakrishnan's father Veerswami was a subordinate revenue official in the service of a local Zamindar, for which he was facing financial problems for managing the family.

From 1909, his teaching career began and he served as Lecturer in Philosophy at Presidency College, Madras. He had undergone licentiate in Teaching (L.T) training in 1910 at the Teacher's Training College, to qualify for the permanent post of Assistant professor. In 1916, he was elevated to the Post of Professor and placed in Govt. Arts College, Rajahmundry (A.P). In 1936, he was appointed as Professor in Oxford University, London. In 1939, he was appointed as Vice Chancellor of Banaras Hindu University. He chaired the University Education Commission in 1948. He was given the assignment of Ambassador to USSR in July 12, 1949. Because of his learning and wisdom his impact in political circles raised to new heights. Rajya Sabha elected him as the first Chairman and Vice President in 1952. He was appointed as second President of India in 1962. When he became President, some of his students and friends requested him to allow them to celebrate his birthday, 5th September. He replied, "Instead of celebrating my birthday, it would be my proud privilege if 5th September is observed as Teachers Day." Since then, his birthday has been celebrated in India as Teachers' Day. Dr. Radhakrishnan's contribution to education has been unique and irreplaceable.

He enriched the intellectual society with the comparative study of different schools of philosophy. He visualized the concepts of knowledge, task, consciousness, and development in his own way of thinking. He emphasized on the spiritual development of the human beings to express the innermost soul. In his views without spirituality proper all-round development of human personalities is not feasible. By spirituality an individual could be enriched with positive and constructive approach and divinity in the personality.

His Writings- Indian Philosophy, The Pursuit of Truth, The Hindu View of Life, The Philosophy of Rabindranath Tagore, The Bhagavadgita, The Dhammapada, Religion and Culture, The Brahma Sutra: The Philosophy of Spiritual Life, and many more. He passed away in 1975.

Contribution Of Radhakrishnan With Special Reference Of Value Education

Radhakrishnan was one of the most recognized and influential Indian thinkers in academic circles in the 20th century. He was a great and loved teacher and realized the problems of education from the root level. He recommended yoga, morality, geography, general science, agriculture, political science, ethics, literature and philosophy, poetry, painting and mathematics. The most significant contribution to educational thinking and practice is the report of the University Education Commission 1940-49. His report of 'University Commission, 1948-49' makes us aware about his educational ideas and it was the greatest contribution in education.

According to him, the objective of education should be:

- 1.To believe that life has a purpose
- 2.To nurture the wisdom to awaken the innate ability
- 3.To prepare for democratic processes
- 4.earning the skill of Self-improvement
5. To be aware of one's cultural heritage

OVERVIEW:

AS A TEACHER:

In 1911, he was promoted to the permanent post of Assistant Professor of Mental and Moral Science. He was a studious man, who studied classical texts of Hinduism and Indian philosophy thoroughly. Then he started writing articles and research papers with an aim to interpret the great Indian philosophical treasure before western readers.

When he became President, some of his students and friends requested him to allow them to celebrate his birthday, 5th September. He replied, "Instead of celebrating my birthday, it would be my proud privilege if 5th September is observed as Teachers Day." His birthday has since been celebrated as the Teachers Day in India. It was a tribute to Dr. Radhakrishnan's close association with the cause of teachers. Whatever position he held, as President or even as Ambassador, Dr. Radhakrishnan essentially remained a teacher all his life

AS A WRITER:

Radhakrishnan's most notable contribution lies in the realm of philosophy. His books such as "Indian Philosophy" and "The Philosophy of Rabindranath Tagore" are considered seminal works that elucidate Indian philosophical traditions, particularly Vedanta and the Upanishads, to a global audience. His approach was not merely academic but aimed at

fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation of Indian philosophical thought worldwide.

Overall, Dr. S. Radhakrishnan's contributions as a writer were multifaceted, encompassing philosophical expositions, educational insights, literary criticism, and the promotion of Indian thought on a global stage. His works continue to be studied and appreciated for their profound impact on both Eastern and Western intellectual traditions.

AS A CHAIRMAN OF UNIVERSITY EDUCATION COMMISSION (1948-49) :

Government of India laid emphasis on Education just after Independence as they considered education as an agent of social change and an input of economic progress. University Education Commission (UEC) was appointed on 6th December 1948 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Radhakrishnan. It was supposed to suggest and devise ways and means for making higher education relevant to the changing needs of India. The Commission worked with all efficiency and sincerity and submitted its report on 25th August 1949. The report contained not only suggestions and proposals to give higher education a new orientation but also outlined the principles relevant to higher education in the country.

In essence, Dr. S. Radhakrishnan's chairmanship of the University Education Commission was marked by a visionary approach to educational reform, blending traditional wisdom with modern educational practices to foster a robust and inclusive higher education system in India. His leadership during this pivotal period left a lasting impact on the trajectory of Indian education.

AS A VICE-PRESIDENT:

Radhakrishnan was elected as the Vice-President of India in May 1952 by both the houses of Parliament. He proved himself a successful Chairman of Rajya Sabha within a truly short time. During his Vice-Presidency, he undertook several foreign tours to U.K., Japan, Singapore, China, and other countries to develop relationship among neighbouring nations. The purpose of these tours was to disseminate knowledge of Indian life, culture, thoughts, religion, thereby increasing importance of India among the world's intellectuals and institutions of learning; to expound independent India's policies especially of secularism and non-alignment, and to promote a sympathetic understanding among the politicians of the world.

Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan's tenure as Vice-President of India was characterized by his dedication to parliamentary democracy, advocacy for education and culture, promotion of international relations, and commitment to ethical leadership. His legacy continues to inspire generations of Indians and scholars worldwide. He was projecting the Government plans and programs through his eloquent speeches and lectures before the people. He was elected as the President of India after Dr. Rajendra Prasad

AS A PRESIDENT OF INDIA:

In 1962, Radhakrishnan completed his second term as Vice-President and Rajendra Prasad completed his second term as President of India. Congress party unanimously nominated Radhakrishnan as the candidate for the Presidentship. He became the second President of India.

He was awarded Bharat Ratna in 1954 for his significant contribution to the development of the country. In 1968 he received Sahitya Academy fellowship, in the same year Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan awarded him a title 'Brahma Vidya Bhaskar.' After lying down in his office on 13th May 1967, he left for Madras by a special train. After retirement he remained away from politics and completely involved in the pursuit of reading, writing and deliberation of lectures. Ending his busy life, he left the world on 16th April 1975 for his heavenly abode. He was mourned all over the world. His death created a permanent vacuum in the world of Philosophy and Literature Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan universally respected and loved for their unique philosophy. Every citizen of India will salute this great personality.

Through education Radhakrishnan wants to establish a classless society in order to bring equality between man and man. He wants that education should develop universal brotherhood. The most important aim of education is to help us to see the other world, the invisible and intangible world beyond space and time. Education has to give us a second birth, to help us to realize what we have already in us. "The meaning of education is to emancipate the individual and we need the education of the whole man physical, vital, mental, intellectual and spiritual".

CURRICULUM:

Radha krishnan has defined his concept of curriculum in his university commission report published in 1949. He wants that a student should study a number of subjects such as philosophy, literature, science, ethics, politics, theology, geography, history, agriculture, natural science, economics, human science and civics. In the curriculum for women, Radhakrishnan wants to include some subjects which may be particularly useful for their specific duties in life. They should also be given education in home science, cooking, fine arts, ethics and religion. Thus Radha krishnan wants that curriculum must be related to one's life.

METHODS OF TEACHING:

Radhakrishnan attaches great importance to observation, experiments and the relationship of nature and society in the method of teaching. He is of the view that teaching of moral values should be through real and living examples. He wants that the student should come close to society and nature in order to understand the same. In learning industrial subjects he recommends the use of imitation method. He thinks that man

through regular practice in the Yoga and Meditation may be helped in reaching his goal. He also accepts the importance of internal knowledge for experience in different subjects.

NEW EDUCATION CONTENT:

Today we need more liberal arts courses, more mix of liberal and science and technology courses etc. Our basic education approach and attitude has to be to first make education widely accessible, create a more egalitarian approach, give students more choices, almost more like the American campus life style opportunities.

CONCLUSION

It can be concluded that Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan A philosopher, a great teacher, a scholar par-excellence, a creative genius, a great humanist, a spiritualist, a man of vision, a man of mission, a man of principles, an idealist, an orator with the gift of the gab, an original thinker, an eminent author and then the role of the Executive Head of India are a few outlines of this personality. He was one of the greatest educationists in India. He not only enlightened India, but also the whole world by his outstanding personality and intellect.

Dr.Sarvepally Radhakrishnan's opinion that education is an instrument of social, economic and cultural change and should aim at a balanced growth of the individual. In education, Radhakrishnan insists on integration of personality and social integration. Politics should promote human welfare and happiness.

There are very few men who have so deeply influenced the mortals in every nook and corner of the world and have so universally loved and respected as well. Every Indian will salute this great personality forever.

He shines like a luminous star in the galaxy of intellectuals. He was a great son of India. His birthday is celebrated as the Teacher's day in India

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