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The Future of Joyful Learning: Preparing Generation Alpha for a World of Change

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Dr. Smita Srivastava
Dr. Suman Pratiksha Ranjan
Dr. Asha Pal
Dr. Ashish Kumar Awasthi



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Comparison of Educational Views of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and Rabindranath Tagore

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Abstract

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and Rabindranath Tagore both were educationist, philosopher and advocate the modern education in India. Sir Syed primary focus on science and technology and Tagore was focused on education with morality in natural setting. Both contributions were important for India and most of the implemented in modern education. In this paper researcher tries to compare the educational views of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and Rabindranath Tagore with refence to Role of students, Curriculum, Discipline and Community services.

Introduction

It's fascinating to explore the parallels between Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and Rabindranath Tagore, particularly in their philosophical outlook and contributions to education. Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, a pioneer in modern education for Muslims in India, founded Aligarh Muslim University with the aim of blending Western scientific knowledge with Islamic teachings. His vision was to empower Muslims through education and to bridge the gap between tradition and modernity. Similarly, Rabindranath Tagore, a poet, philosopher, and educationist, established Shantiniketan as an experimental school where the emphasis was on holistic education that integrated the arts, nature, and spirituality. He believed in the importance of nurturing creativity and individuality in education. Both thinkers were influenced by Western ideas but remained

deeply rooted in Indian culture and spirituality. They recognized the need for a balanced education system that harmonized the naturalist and idealist philosophies, emphasizing both scientific inquiry and spiritual development. Their educational institutions, Aligarh Muslim University and Shantiniketan, continue to uphold their legacies and serve as centers of excellence in education, nationally and internationally.

Need and Significance of the Study

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and Rabindranath Tagore, eminent figures in Indian history, were renowned academicians and philosophers. They dedicated their lives to advancing education and enlightenment as vehicles for societal progress. Both believed in the transformative power of education to liberate minds from blind imitation and foster critical thinking. Their efforts paved the way for significant developments in India's educational landscape, serving as beacons of progress and enlightenment. This study aims to compare their educational views, biographies, and contributions, seeking insights to inform and enhance contemporary education practices. Through their visionary leadership and concrete actions, they left indelible marks on modern Indian education, inspiring generations to come.

Objective of the Study

To evaluate the educational contribution of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and Rabindranath Tagore in terms of Role of students, Curriculum, Discipline and Community services.

Research Question

Is there any significant difference in educational contribution of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and Rabindranath Tagore in terms of Role of students, Curriculum, Discipline, and Community services?

Delimitations of the Study

Comparing the educational thoughts and ideas of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and Rabindranath Tagore is indeed a challenging task due to the multifaceted nature of their contributions. Both luminaries not only made significant strides in education but also left indelible marks in various other spheres. This study confines to Role of students, Discipline, Community services only.

Wani, Shamila (2015) conducted a studied-on Tagore's Objectives of Education in the Light of Educational Thought - A Study. The objectives of know Tagore's life and his educational work and study Tagore's educational conception. and study Tagore's purpose of study education. The researcher chose to explore Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and Rabindranath Tagore's educational views. Both aimed to rejuvenate India, with Khan advocating for departure from Western education and founding Aligarh Muslim University, while Tagore established Shantiniketan, promoting solidarity in education and holistic development. Despite their individual efforts, a direct comparison of their educational philosophies had not been undertaken, prompting the researcher's interest in this topic.

Urmila Bisht (2019) Rabindranath Tagore's Thoughts on Education with special reference to Shantiniketan" Tagore's vision for education at Shantiniketan prioritized creative self-expression and holistic development, including physical, mental, aesthetic, and moral facets. He underscored empathy, fostering intimate connections with one's cultural and natural environment, while also promoting appreciation for diverse cultures alongside preservation of one's own cultural identity. Tagore's educational model, emphasizing the teacher-student relationship, was an early example of co-education in South Asia. It pioneered Indian higher education, mass education, and facilitated cultural exchange globally. Tagore envisioned education within a global village

framework, tailored for diverse socio-cultural contexts, despite economic, political, and social challenges.

Introduction of the Methodology

This research is a Qualitative Research. This is the research of a philosophical in nature. This is also called phenomenological research. This article or section needs sources or references that appear in credible, third-party publications. Because both Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and Rabindranath Tagore have been eminent thinkers and educators and their books have become an important part of history. Hence, the researcher's objectives are to study the educational theories of these two thinkers and make suggestions for the future, so the researcher has used primary and secondary sources to gather material.

Role of Students according to Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and Rabindranath Tagore

Students should focus on their purpose, they should be bold to ask question, they have strong will to achieve their life goals. Students should be curious to know, they should be nature lover, students should have interest in fine arts and music etc.

Role of Curriculum according to Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and Rabindranath Tagore

After considering the various needs and requirements of Muslim community, Sir Syed presented the details of his curriculum which can be categorized into two types –

1. General Education Curriculum
2. Special Education Curriculum The general education curriculum was to meet the needs of Muslims – secular as well as spiritual. The special education curriculum as to enable the Muslims to benefit by the education system adopted by the government. The curriculum should be designed in such a way that all aspects of children's development are kept in mind, for example, the language

of the lesson or the story should be simple as well as it should be related to our country and society. Apart from this, physical education should also be arranged and all kinds of sports should be organized. For the development of children's creativity, a written and oral competition should be organized so that a spirit of competition is created in them.

Role of Discipline according to Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and Rabindranath Tagore

He advocates discipline at all costs. He said freedom is to be restricted by teacher. He emphasizes on impressionistic discipline. As per Sir Syed Spiritual development cannot be feasible without discipline. He emphasizes sympathetic control on undesirable activities of the child. It grants regulated liberty for his spiritual development. Tagore strongly favoured self-discipline in place of rigid and harsh discipline imposed from outside. Discipline should grow from within without any interference in an atmosphere of freedom. In a free, complete and creative atmosphere, the pupil would be automatically disciplined.

Role of Educational Principles according to Sir Syed Ahmed Khan

- Self-development
- Western education among Muslims
- Technical Education
- Self-Independence
- Eradicate the egoistic spirit and self-aggrandizement

Role of Educational Principles according to Rabindranath Tagore

- Intellectual Development
- Natural growth in Natural Circumstance
- Freedom to Learner
- Self- Realization:
- Love for Humanity
- Physical Development
- Teaching - Practical and Real
- Co-relation of Objects: Place of Fine Arts (Dance, Drama, Music, Poetry etc.)
- Mother Tongue as the Medium of Instructions:
- Moral and Spiritual Development
- Social Development:
- Goodbye to Book-Centered Education
- Education for Rural Reconstruction

Educational Implications of Study

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and Rabindranath Tagore were visionary educators whose contributions shaped modern education in India. Sir Syed's emphasis on widespread education and Tagore's holistic approach resonates today. Incorporating their ideas, like creating a broad educational atmosphere, practical skill development, and embracing multiculturalism, is crucial for progress. By integrating their principles, societies can foster inclusive growth and prepare individuals for the challenges of the contemporary world.

Suggestions for Further Researches

Comparative studies of education systems help identify similarities and differences in various aspects like purpose, aims, methods, and curriculum. By analyzing these, researchers and policymakers can address present and future educational challenges effectively. This fosters knowledge sharing and enhances educational quality and outcomes globally.

- Implementation of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan's concept of education in the context of East and West.
- Research work can be done on health education, women's education, ethics education, social education, etc.

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