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



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

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Educational Views of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and Rabindranath Tagore with reference to Aims of Education, Methods of Education and Role of Teacher for future learning

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Abstract

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and Rabindranath Tagore both were educationist and gave their ideas about the best education and institution. Sir Syed Ahmad Khan was the leader in providing the modern science and technology education and Rabindranath Tagore advocated the education in natural setting. Both emphasized the character building of the students and education for future. Modern education for the all-round development of the personality was the first priority. The teaching methods must be exploring the minds of students and use it in applications also. Teachers were the role models of the students and work with them harmoniously.

Introduction

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and Rabindranath Tagore were deeply rooted in Indian culture and religious beliefs while also embracing the advancements in knowledge and education from the Western world. They played pivotal roles in bridging the gap between Indian and Western ideologies. Philosophically, both were naturalists and idealists, advocating for a harmonious blend of these perspectives in education. They believed in the correlation

between these philosophical schools and aimed to establish a comprehensive education system to foster a balanced society. Beyond their philosophical contributions, Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and Rabindranath Tagore were instrumental in establishing renowned educational institutions such as Aligarh Muslim University and Shantiniketan. These institutions, now internationally recognized, reflect their dedication and responsibility in implementing their educational visions.

Need and Significance of the Study

Education holds immense significance throughout our lives, from birth to death. It plays a crucial role in personal development, societal behavior, and national progress. Today, education is an indispensable necessity for every individual and every nation. Numerous academics, philosophers, and thinkers have emerged to address this need. However, this article focuses specifically on the educational ideas and perspectives of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and Rabindranath Tagore.

Objectives of the Study

1. To evaluate the educational contribution of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and Rabindranath Tagore in terms of Aims of Education, Methods of education and Role of Teacher.
2. To evaluate the relevance of educational contribution of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and Rabindranath Tagore's in the contemporary Indian Education system.

Delimitations of the Study

It is impossible to study and explain everything in one study therefore, every research has its own limitation. It may not be possible to study the work or theory of education of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and Rabindranath Tagore, because they have not only served in the field of education, but they have revolutionized

in the other field also. This study confines to aims of Education, methods of education and Role of Teacher.

Reviews of Related Literature

Nasrin, H (2012) conducted a study on " Sir Syed Ahmad Khan's Vision on Education " Sir Syed Ahmad Khan was a visionary who played a pivotal role in modernizing education in India. He believed in fostering creativity and constructive thinking in students, advocating for a sympathetic and democratic approach to administration within educational institutions. His emphasis on vernacular mediums made education more accessible. Sir Syed's legacy as an educator continues to inspire, bridging the gap between traditional and modern education and empowering generations to shape their own futures.

Jalbani, Junaid Ali and Pahore, Muhammad Ramzan (2021)- studied that Sir Syed views about education on different aspects such as the development and progress of the Human's personality. He emphasized the vital role of education in completing a person, likening an uneducated human soul to rough marble in need of sculpting. Education, he believed, reveals the latent qualities and graces within individuals, making their personalities complete.

Mana Biswas (2022) studied on Educational Philosophy and Educational thought of Rabindranath Tagore and its Relevance in Present Scenario. Tagore's educational philosophy and its relevance to modern education. Emphasizing holistic development and a blend of tradition and modernity, Tagore advocated for nurturing individual creativity and a deep connection with nature. His ideas continue to inspire educators, promoting personalized and experiential learning approaches that transcend traditional methods.

Methodology

This research is qualitative research. This research is philosophical in nature. This is also called phenomenological research. 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.

Aims of Education according to Sir Syed Ahmad Khan

- To inculcate in them good values, mental, moral, economic, cultural and social development.
- To foster and cultivate the inherent potentialities of the child.
- To engender piety, morality and humanness in human beings.
- It aims at the harmonious cultivation of the physical, moral, intellectual and aesthetic sides of human nature.
- To promote all round development of human personality.
- To enhance self-reliance in oneself.

Aims of Education according to Rabindranath Tagore

- To create good values, mental, moral, economic, cultural and social development.
- To provide harmonious development of all human faculties.
- It aims at making a man full or complete without neglecting one at the cost of other.
- Education should aim to develop the child physically. Tagore believed that a healthy mind lives in a healthy body.

- Education should enable the child to acquire the knowledge through independent efforts and critical examination of ideas.
- Education should inculcate moral and spiritual values in children.
- Main aim of education should be drawing out all the latent potentialities of child.
- Education should create self-discipline among teachers as well as children.
- Education should aim at the attainment of inner freedom, inner power and enlightenment.
- Education should not only train children to be effective farmers, clerks or craftsmen, but also develop them to be complete human beings.
- Education should aim at development of a sense of social service in pupils and teachers

Methods of Education according to Sir Syed Ahmad Khan

- Constructive method of education
- Student-centered method
- Kinesthetic method of
- Play-way Method
- Scientific and experimental method

Methods of Education according to Rabindranath Tagore

- Heuristic method
- Discussion method
- Play way method

- Narration-cum-discussion and debate method
- Excursion method

Role of Teacher according to Sir Syed Ahmad Khan

Teacher should be pious, he should be ideal for students, he should encourage student to learn. Teacher should not only provide knowledge, but also prepare students to put it in practice. He should horn them with spiritual knowledge too. Teacher is a Guardian, leader. Teacher should know spiritual knowledge as well as worldly knowledge.

Role of Teacher according to Rabindranath Tagore

Tagore gave a very important place to the teacher. He assigned an important role to him in the education of child believing that only man can teach another man. To him, the teacher is a Guru like ancient Indian Rishis who has to keep the students on the right track by remaining a learner throughout his life.

Educational Services, Social and National Achievements

The most important movement for the spread of modern education and social reform among Muslims was started by Sir Syed Ahmad Khan. Sir Syed realized that this miserable and deplorable condition of Muslims was due to the lack of modern education. He believed that the cure of every problem of Muslims was the modern education. Therefore, he commenced an educational program in order to uplift the deprived and disappointed Muslim community who had lost their past glory. He took concrete steps for his educational plan.

Finding according to Objectives

Both Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and Rabindranath Tagore played crucial roles in the intellectual and educational landscape of their time, albeit in different contexts and with distinct approaches.

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, a leading figure in the Indian Muslim community during the 19th century, focused on educational and social reform as a means to uplift his community. His emphasis on modern education and rational thought, alongside his commitment to Islamic principles, reflected his vision of progress and enlightenment for Muslims in India. By advocating for the adoption of modern sciences and technologies, Sir Syed aimed to empower Muslims to thrive in the rapidly changing world of the colonial era.

On the other hand, Rabindranath Tagore, a polymath and cultural icon of Bengal, approached education from a more holistic and universal perspective. His emphasis on the harmony between nature and education, as well as his advocacy for a natural environment for children's learning, demonstrated his deep connection to the principles of humanism and spiritual growth. Tagore's establishment of Vishva Bharati as an international institution exemplified his aspiration to create a space where people from diverse backgrounds could come together in pursuit of knowledge and understanding.

Both figures, despite their differences in background and approach, shared a commitment to education as a tool for enlightenment and societal advancement. While Sir Syed focused on modernization and the empowerment of a specific community, Tagore's vision encompassed a broader, more inclusive ideal of education that transcended cultural and national boundaries. Their contributions continue to inspire educational reform and cultural dialogue in the modern world.

Educational Implications of Study

Both Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and Rabindranath Tagore made profound contributions to education and social reform. Sir Syed's focus on modern education for all classes and his establishment of educational institutions laid the groundwork for educational

reform. He emphasized practical skills alongside academics, advocating for specialized madrassas and self-reliant education. Tagore, through Vishva Bharati, championed a holistic and multicultural approach to education, fostering global understanding. Incorporating their ideas can enrich our education system, promoting inclusivity, practical learning, and global perspective.

Suggestions for Further Researches

Students are key to shaping the next generation and should engage in comparative studies of educational theories and practices. Understanding the insights of Indian philosophers like Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and Rabindranath Tagore can positively impact contemporary education. The National Policy of Education-2020 underscores the need to integrate Indian cultural traditions into education. Comparative studies help identify solutions to present and future educational challenges. Research opportunities include implementing Sir Syed's concepts globally, promoting schools similar to Tagore's Shanti-Niketan, and exploring areas like health, women's, ethics, and social education.

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