



# A study on thoughts of Swami Vivekananda on Man making and Character Building Education

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## *Abstract*

Man making and character building are most important tenets of Swami Vivekananda's teaching. Education can remove social anathema. Swami said if the poor boy can't come to education, education must come to him. He emphasised on assimilation, harmony, peace and also talked about cooperation for man making and character building education. Man making education must develop such individuals who are ethically sound, physically strong and vocationally self-sufficient. He said that a good teacher would be making ideal man. He observed, if you really want to judge the character of man, look not at his performance but his most common actions. Swam Vivekananda's views on character building must be consider here. According to him Continue to exercise, good thought and works, absence of jealousy, good habit are the ways to develop character Which in turn is the manifestation of perfection and the development of inborn abilities of a learner.

Keywords- Anathema, Manifestation, Assimilation, Man making, Harmony

## *INTRODUCTION*

19<sup>th</sup> century India produced a galaxy of great man who has enriched national life by their talent and personality. Swami Vivekananda was one of them. His original name was Narendranath Dutta. He was born in north Kolkata in an enlightened family in 1863. Narendranth is really a genius. He studied many subjects such as Indian philosophy, Western philosophy, Western science and technology, Fine arts, History etc. His philosophy of life was based on Vedanta.

He believes that service to man-kind is the essence of all religion. Vivekananda advocated 'man-making education' as to him man is the highest Temple. Vivekananda believes that "education is the manifestation of the perfection already in man". Perfection is already inherent in man, and education is manifestation of same. Accordingly swami gives a very practical concept of education in this line: "We want that education by which character is formed, strength of mind is increased, the intellect is expanded, and by which one can stand on one's feet". Regarding the aim of education Swami says: "The end of all education, all training should be man making". He emphasised on formation of character through education. He says: "The end of education is character building". Education must build up character, manifest our real nature. He emphasised on assimilation, harmony, peace and also talked about cooperation for man making and character building education in the Chicago world

conference in America in 1890. According to Swami Vivekananda, 'Man making and character building refer to moral, spiritual development and evolution of character traits of learner'

## *OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY*

The objectives of study conducted by the author is as follows

- To know about views of Swami Vivekananda on man making.
- To point out Swami Vivekananda's concept of character building.

## *METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY*

This study is on theoretical basis. All data for the study has been collected from various secondary sources such as reference books, journals, Wikipedia, reports, articles, internet and websites etc. In this study we have discussed only thoughts of Swami Vivekananda on man making and character building. The study has few delimitations because it did not discuss others concept about education of Vivekananda.

## *DISCUSSION*

### **Swami Vivekananda's Man making education:**

Man making education also brings out significance of the famous words said by Vivekananda. These were Help, Assimilation, Harmony and Peace. According to him, education should develop these qualities in man .Man making education is inherent in character development as well as vocational development. Man making is a very comprehensive concept. Man making education includes physical and health education. He was also greatly concerned about the proper care of the body and the health. Not to mention here, Man making education must develop such individuals who are ethically sound, intellectually Sharp, physically strong, religiously liberal, socially efficient, spiritually enlightened, and vocationally self- sufficient. He said that sound health is the resource of human beings which is most important element for man making. Not only health, he emphasised on vocational education, self-dependence. He said, "it would be better if the people, got technical education so that they might work and earn their livelihood". He talked about curriculums which show integration between East and West in his man making education. Physical development is the significant part in the curriculums. He insisted on physical education for man making. And he said "Strength is goodness, weakness is sin, power is life and weakness is death"

### **Vivekananda's Character-Building Education:**

Swami Vivekananda laid stress on formation of character as the most sacred goal which any society can ever pursue. He contended that as compared to all other wealth character is the only wealth which distinguishes a society and its members in terms of his fundamental strength to ensure sustainability. Swami observed, if you really want to judge the character of man, look not at his great performances, but watch a man do his most common actions. Swami Vivekananda says sow a thought, reap actions. Sow an action, reap a habit. Sow a habit reap your character.

*How to Build Character:*

- Continue to exercise your will and it will take you higher. Remember this will is almighty.
- Go on do good, think continuously and productively , that is the only way to build character
- Good habits can reform character of every human.
- If a man thinks good productively and does good works, the sum total of these (his) impressions will be good.
- Absence of jealousy and suspicion are the ways to build character.
- Help all who are trying to be and do well.

*FINDINGS OF THE STUDY*

Basically, his Man- making education is for building-up good qualities in humans'. According to him these qualities are Help, Assimilation, Peace and Harmony. He emphasised on physical education, vocational education, health education, intellectual and spiritual education for man making. In fact he did mention few keys for character building. These were good thinking, good habits, good works, continue to exercise, not to be jealous etc. And for posterity that would make an ideal man

*CONCLUSION*

Lastly, we can say that his ideas and thoughts of education were comprehensive. Man making and character building are most important part in his thoughts of education .At present the lack of good character and idealistic people in our society have prevailed. His man making education was the lamp to our nations, which can build up real and ideal man. If all his messages are accepted, our nation undoubtedly will reach on the top to develop and build citizens of true valour. Even all the evil power will be decimated.

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