

# A STUDY OF EDUCATIONAL THOUGHTS EXPRESSED IN CONVOCATION ADDRESSES AT SARDAR PATEL UNIVERSITY

Dr.Rahul H. Rabari  
B.R.C.CO. of Tarapur,  
Dist. Anand, Gujarat

## Abstract :

In the teaching –learning process of any student learn not only from curriculum. He can acquire knowledge from out sources like speech of any delegate, inspirational videos, address of famous persons etc. keep in mind the same thought the present paper talks about some addresses presented by famous delegates at Sardar Patel University on convocation days. Addresses make students enable to do something better in their study or they can be motivated by such addresses to sharpen their competence and do something fruitful for themselves and for society as well. Findings of the study present the analysis of addresses and how they are useful to students in various fields.

**Key words:** Education, Addresses, growing social needs, futuristic perspective

## Introduction:

Education plays a very important role in our life. Without education we cannot build ourselves. During the process of building ourselves we come across with the life span of great people which help us to clear our vision. In the process of educating ourselves we learn many things from people who achieve greatness and contribute their endeavor to make others' life peaceful and prosperous. We have many examples like Mahatma Gandhi, Swami Vivekanand, Sardar Patel and so on.

Students in a process of education learn from syllabus and from ambience. During their graduation they make themselves familiar with not only content but also the impact of life span of great people or people who achieve something noticeable in their life in a particular field and contribute their commitment towards their work to society. Students listen to such people for making themselves familiar with future challenges and the need of present hour. After graduation when they get degree they feel themselves competent enough contribute their share to family and society, and when they listen to honorable person who has been invited on the convocation day they understand what is reality after completing graduation and what are challenges they have to face in the market.

When a successful person expresses his thoughts then it becomes noticeable for students to learn something precious from his speech because that person has good experiences in the particular field and he is capable of stating future challenges from his address students make themselves familiar with the need of present hour and what they have to do for society and country. Having such impression of impact of convocation addresses in the present research the researcher analyzed some convocation addresses and study what invited delegates expressed in their speeches. He studied each and every area about which invited

delegates expressed their thoughts and their every thought is very important for not only graduates but students who are still there in the process of education.

### **Objectives of the Study:**

It is required to know how theoretical basis of education to understand any educational thoughts. Education has become undivided part of human development. There are several aspects of education which are essential for development of education and improvement of education. Several objectives are decided (constructed) to study present research study. They are as under:

- To study educational thoughts expressed in convocation addresses at Sardar Patel University
- To categorize thoughts by units of idea in terms of aims of education, functions of education, relevance of courses, growing social needs, educational processes and futuristic perspective
- To categorize thoughts by units of idea according to the group of dignitaries such as economists, educationists, sociologists, politicians, man of letters, scientists
- To develop educational theory based on category and classification of educational thoughts
- To derive educational implications based on thoughts of the dignitaries

### **Questions of the Study:**

Several questions raised in mind while reading Convocation Addresses. The present research study can be explored systematically to obtain answer of above questions. They are presented in sequence here.

- What are the aims of education expressed in the convocation addresses?
- What are the functions of education perceived in the convocation addresses?
- What is the relevance of courses expressed in the convocation addresses?
- What are the growing social needs expressed in the convocation addresses?
- What are the processes of educating people through holistic development aspects through theories educational thoughts as inputs to the philosophy of education?
- What are the educational implications based on analyzed thoughts expressed in convocation addresses?
- What are suggestions traced out by analyzing thoughts?
- What are the comprehensive views of the dignitaries on futuristic education and enrichment of contemporary education?

### **Area of Research:**

The study has two major areas one is educational ideology and philosophy of education. Researcher derived thoughts related to these areas from 51 convocation addresses expressed at Sardar Patel University. The idea of the dignitaries were categorized and classified in terms of the above two areas.

### **Importance of the Study:**

Education is evaluated as a mean of obtaining degree, money and social reputation. Future of a person is decided within mere three hours. The only measurement of memory became more important than his understanding in such examination. So its real objectives are not achieved in true sense. Standard of quality of education is deteriorated due to exam-oriented-ness of education. It is a dire need to achieve fine harmony of education with life. It is a need to direct thoughts of a person, his desires, his imagination in person direction.

It is said that “A philosopher gives suggestions to make life and education meaningful.”

Work of keeping education vigorous is done by educational philosopher of educationalists. Thoughts of philosophers give new direction to education. Such educational philosophers remain active with students,

teachers, parents, others educationists, various educational institutions, co-workers etc. for whole life. They have direct experience regarding specialties of education, their limitations, problems etc. Study of thoughts of educationalists is very useful in solving problems of education and making education advanced in contemporary times.

Less importance is given to elementary descriptive researcher in present times. But, this attitude discloses tendency of not understanding capacity of descriptive researches. According to Anglehart (1972, p.31), such researcher give base to identity of suggestion and problem and development of principles. Elementary researches are value-oriented as education is mainly involved with values. According to him, scientific educational research is connected, with 'what is' and 'what would be'. Historical research studies about 'what was happened', while qualitative research is associated with 'what should be' against the former research. In this way, there is special importance of study regarding philosophy of education for intellectuals, working for quality of education and future of education.

The present research study is explored by content analysis. This research study is important in that view also. Majority of research studies explored in the field of philosophy of education are explored according to individual study method in which findings were extracted from collecting information regarding life of a philosopher, but analysis (and interpretation) of thoughts of philosopher is done scientific, special and non-subjectively in content analysis method. So generalization of findings becomes strong.

Describing present demand Ivan Ilich (1979, p.116) says that, "We need a name for those who value hope above expectations. We need a name for those who love people more than products... we need a name for those who love earth on which, each can meet the others."

In the present study, the researcher has studied the convocation addresses expressed at Sardar Patel University and analyzed thoughts of scholars into different areas like aims of education, functions of education, relevance of courses, growing social needs, educational processes and futuristic perspective etc. Researcher has derived educational implications which will be helpful to all graduates who are going to face the reality and challenges inherent in the present world. They can understand the areas which were focused by the invited scholars at the convocations. The thoughts expressed in convocation addresses can be work as a torch-bearer for all graduates to understand the requirements of not only their family but also the society. The educational ideology expressed in convocation addresses make graduates familiar with the real role of education after completing graduation.

In this research thoughts of dignitaries invited in Convocation Address of Sardar Patel University are presented. These dignitaries are renowned persons in their respective fields. They have succeeded and set an ideal for society. They are like: Dr.S. Radhakrishnan, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, ShriMahendiNavab Jung, ShriKanailalMunshi, ShriRavisankarMaharaj, ShriMorarji Desai, ShriMadhavsinhSolanki, Dr. VergeseCourian, Shri Sam Pitroda, Dr. A.P.J. AbdulKalam, ShriNarendrabhaiModi etc. these dignitaries are from Economics, Education, literature, science, Politics, Social Science etc. They have got name and fame in their respective fields. Their thoughts can be useful in solving prevalent problems of education. In this way the present study is important with reference to contemporary problems of education.

### **Research Method used:**

The researcher has explored his research work on the basis of following methods:

#### **(1) Content Analysis Method**

## (2) Descriptive Method

### Universe:

According to Fish (1985, p.371) universe should be described with reference to thing, unit, Scope and frame Moore (1999, p.102) says that “In real, there is only a one criteria which defines universe. It is group which occupies general attributes of observation.”

The present study is of study of educational thoughts of Convocation Address. So all speeches (addresses) of Convocation Programmes of Sardar Patel University become universe of the present study.

### Sample:

It is not possible to study entire universe and their aspects. Lots of time money and energy are wasted in it. And it becomes difficult to obtain direction which can lead towards result of research. For the solution of it, sample method is used. It is desirable to select sample and to study it, to obtain desirable result.

“Sample means a small unit selected from whole universe which contains all characteristics of universe.”

Universe of the present study is all Convocation Addresses of Sardar Patel University. From which statements related to educational thoughts become sample.

Addresses of dignitaries of Convocation Programmes are classified as per their work field.

## Data Analysis and Interpretation

Educational thoughts expressed in Convocation Addresses of Sardar Patel University occupy a peerless attribute. The attribute is that dignitaries invited in Convocation Programme are from various fields and they have obtained success in their respective fields. Their knowledge and experience are reflected in their speeches.

Convocation Addresses of dignitaries are classified in the following components (sections):

1. Aims of Education
2. Functions of Education
3. Relevances of Courses
4. Growing Social Needs
5. Education Processes
6. Futuristic Perspective

## Findings:

### 1. Aims of education:

- In the process of developmental revolution, we have to pace with different problems.
- Students have to work hard for creating opportunities as per their talent.
- Students should work in unity in the process of their career growth.
- Having a university is the result of the sacrifice and inspiration of local people.
- The real education means process of learning starts after completion of graduation.

### 2. Functions of education:

- Any organization's role becomes crucial as helps in walking on ways of transformation.
- Vocational training must be given highest priority in university education.
- Innovation, protection of innovation and communication of innovations are functions recognized as key to success.

### 3. Relevance of courses:

- During university life students try to develop discipline of joining work and learn the arithmetic of organized efforts.

- A rural nation is dependent on the strength of farmers.
- Educational systems prove to be useful in selection for jobs to students.
- Growth and the pace of progress have been uneven.
- In our country, education is subsidized by the government.
- While learning in university, students inculcate career-oriented education which would ensure for them better quality of life.
- A study is not only topics or sub-topics of a particular subject but also require many disciplines like agriculture, public health anthropology etc.
- The real world is different than what students learn in classroom.
- Educational institutions have to be concerned with value-education.
- Process of learning and appetite for learning remains till death.
- Communication and technology development make people to think about what is next and what will be the end point in development.
- Innovation will give us reorganization among friends, society and the world.
- Commercialization of innovation will fulfill the need in society for developing the financial strength.

#### **4. Growing social needs:**

- We should try to cope up with new co-operative life.
- An organization' efforts are always positive and it helps in spreading educational and cultural awareness among students.
- After completing graduation, students have to commit to their job like veterinary doctor who run for help to farmers anytime.
- Students will face life's realities after learning university.
- We should be alert in responding and adjusting to technical change.
- Education has been and will be a way to create and recreate the basis of our prosperity.
- Characters needed to be adopted for success in life.

#### **5. Educational processes:**

- A revolution raises the people from one base level to higher.
- Though students have less opportunity they should work hard neglecting all barriers.
- The answer of any question comes out of the question/problem.
- In the process of learning, students have been supported by parents, society and teachers.
- Learning takes place not only in four walls. I.e. classrooms but also outside.
- Life is a learning experience.
- Learning has been taking from birth to death.
- Quality of culture is very important for the success of the country which derived from the character of the people.
- Use of knowledge for creativity will be students' wealth.
- Concentration, commitment and courage are keys to success.

#### **6. Futuristic perspective:**

- All students have to contribute in making our country a part of development revolution.
- Education is one of our most valuable properties.
- Students can contribute their skills in some measure to the benefit of others.
- The growth of university education must be checked in the interest of better and more wide spread primary and secondary education.

- Students have to upgrade their technical skills and must be prepared to learn new trades and new techniques.
- Change is required in any trade or job.
- Strict monitoring in environment would improve the project.
- Students are the ambassadors of University.
- Graduates represent some of the best talent in the country.
- Future is different from past. In future graduates cannot imagine challenges. They must be ready to face them.
- In the world, three things have more importance- a positive attitude, listening rather than speaking and continual learning.
- Graduates can contribute to the development of the state and our nation.
- Students would shape their destiny of themselves and India.
- Each citizen and corporate have to follow and implement the global law and systems.

#### References:

#### Websites:

- [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/dr-stephen-m-gavazzi/the-true-meaning-of-convocation\\_b\\_1821893.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/dr-stephen-m-gavazzi/the-true-meaning-of-convocation_b_1821893.html)
- <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/convocation>
- <https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/convocation>
- <https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/convocation>
- <https://www.reference.com/holidays-celebrations/difference-between-convocation-commencement-bce2e55fd05b7d66>

#### References Books:

- Chagla, M.C. (1969) (Ed.). *Thoughts on Education. New Perspective in teacher Education*. Mysore. Mysore Press.
- Gopal, M. H. (1970). *An Introduction to Research Procedure in Social Science*. Gian Publishing House. Bombay.
- Gupta, A. K. (1975) (Ed.). *Examination Reforms*. New Delhi. Sterling Publisher's Pvt. Ltd.
- Joshi, Bharat, Jayant Vyas (2006). *Problem Selection and Analysis of Data*. Bhavnagar. Department of Education, Bhavnagar University
- Kothari, C.R.(2004). *Research Methods and Techniques*. New Delhi. New Age International Publishers.
- Pandey, K.P. (1983). *Fundamentals of Educational Research*. New Delhi, Amitash.
- Uchat D.A(1997). *Theoretical and applicable Basis for Selection of Research Problem in Social Studies*. Rajkot. Paras Publication.
- Uchat D.A. (2012) *Research Methodology in education and Social Science*. Rajkot. Paras Publication.
- John W. Best,(1969), "Research in education, U.S.A., Prentice Hall Inc., Englewood Cliffs,p.6
- Maslow's need Hierarchy quatod in Principles & Practice of Management L.M. Prasad (1999), S. Chand & Sons, New Delhi, p.504-506.
- Mourya, Prahlad (1973). *The Social Philosophy of Kabir* Kanpur: Pustak Sanstan.
- Morgan, Kenneth W. (1998). *The Religion of the Hindus* New York: Motilal Banarsidass pub.