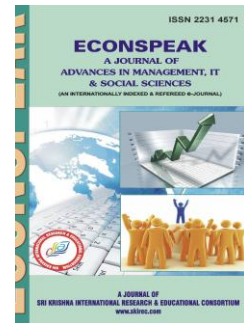




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J. Krishnamurti's Educational Thoughts and Their Relevance in Contemporary Educational System

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Abstract: J. Krishnamurti, an Indian educationist gives ways and means to accomplish the task of preserving and developing priceless treasures of the mind and souls of Indians. Krishnamurti is the great educational thinker of our country. He has given his ideas on his morals, religions, culture, sex, politics, education, etc. In the context of the contemporary education system, Krishnamurti's views on education have a very important role and are relevant according to the needs of the present society. In this paper, the author has discussed Krishnamurti's educational thoughts and the relevance of their educational thoughts in the context of the present education system.

Key Words: Educational thoughts, relevancy, education system.

Introduction

Krishnamurti is the present-day Indian educationist. Krishnamurti questions the roots of our culture. His challenge is addressed not only to the structure of Education but to the nature and quality of man's mind and life. All other educationists have tried to suggest alternatives to the contemporary educational system. But Krishnamurti's approach breaks through the frontiers of particular cultures and establishes an entirely new set of values which in turn can create a new civilization and a new society and be adopted by the present system of education in India. J. Krishnamurti was dissatisfied with the present system of education as well as the quality of education imparted through it. He was against that educational system where only certain faculties of the mind are emphasized and the rest of the aspects of man are neglected and favours the holistic approach to education. There is increasing poverty, hunger, and violence and man is forced to face the realities of the human situation. At a time, like this, a completely new approach to the postulates of education is necessary for India.

Krishnamurti says, “The modern educational system is a failure, as it has produced two devastating wars and appalling misery. Learning to read and write by acquiring various techniques, which is the cultivation of memory is not enough, for it has produced unspeakable sorrow. What do you consider to be the end purpose of education?” He also says that understanding comes only through self-knowledge, which is awareness of one’s total psychological process. It is J. Krishnamurti’s influence on the present Indian system of education that we are trying to motivate our students to self-knowledge. He was the first scholar in Indian education who said that technology and computers should be an integrated part of education. Today, we are implementing technology-based education in our institutions.

J. Krishnamurti talks a great deal about violence. In the world, there is violence at all levels of human existence. The ultimate violence is war. There is killing for ideals, for religious principles, for nationalities, to preserve a little piece of land. There is violence, antagonism, hate, cruelty, ugly criticism, and anger all this is inherent in each human being. Education is supposed to help you to go beyond all that, not merely to pass an examination and get a job but the purpose of education is to make you a beautiful, healthy, sane, rational human being, not a brute with a very clever brain who can argue and defend his brutality. Krishnamurti wants education to make us humans, generous and kind. In India, this thought of J. Krishnamurti is the base of education so we have the democratic setup of education.

Objectives of the study:

1. To find out the relevance of J. Krishnamurti’s educational philosophy contemporary education system.

Methodology of the study:

The present paper is based on content analysis and philosophical methods.

Krishnamurti is the iconoclastic thinker of our country. His teachings on life’s problems have revolutionized contemporary thoughts without referring to tradition good or bad. He has given his ideas on morals, religions, culture, sex, politics, education, etc. In the context of the contemporary educational system, his view is that a new vision of education can make religious and scientific minds line together provided the deeper meaning of both concepts is understood and he claims that education alone can materialize this happy wedlock. His ideas have had a great impact on the contemporary educational system:

On Aims of Education: Krishnamurti realized that the aim and function of education is to create human beings who are integrated and therefore intelligent. Intelligence is not

mere information, it is not derived from books, nor does it consist of clever self-defensive responses and aggressive assertions. Intelligence is the capacity in oneself and other is education. According to him, the purpose of education is to cultivate the right relationship not only between individuals but also between individuals and society for the development of an integrated and peaceful society, which is the need of the hour.

On Teacher and the Taught: A teacher should give all his thought, care and affection to the creation of the right environment and the development of understanding; so that when the child grows into maturity, he will be capable of dealing intelligently with human problems. According to him if the teacher is of the right kind, he will not depend on a method but will study each pupil to take care of the individual differences existing between them, especially in today's complex world where education is the fundamental right of the children.

On School: The aim of Krishnamurti's school is not to provide the children knowledge but to make the child understand that knowledge is not the end of life which will ultimately help in the removal of the wrong dilemma of today's educational pattern.

On Curriculum: Krishnamurti does not rule out the necessity of academic excellence for without the study of sciences, languages, arithmetic, and social sciences the child will not be able to gain knowledge. Music, Arts and dance, which are given special emphasis, help in the emotional development of the pupils. In this way, the goal of all-round development of the child can be attained.

On Methods: According to Krishnamurti, no particular method is sufficient in today's educational pattern. However, he suggested a variety of methods like self-study, project method, observation method, dialogues, and questioning which are very useful in the context of the 21st century.

Concluding Remarks

J. Krishnamurti questions the relevance of the modern system of education in life. He wants to find out how far education helps us to understand life along with all its travails. Does this education help us to live life completely and fully? This is also an aim of Indian education that education should not be only job-oriented but it should be a method of life. Krishnamurti presented his views on education very comprehensively and analytically. He has synthesized education and the significance of life. He has also emphasized that we should provide such type of education that can create harmony between religious and scientific minds for inculcating values in students. Krishnamurti's views aim at the development of

integrated human beings, world peace and holistic education. He gives his views on every aspect and element of education and shows the relevance of these views. The relevance of these thoughts is found in the present-day education system and contemporary society.

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