



Research Paper

## The Educational Philosophy Of Mahatma Gandhi And It's Necessity On Prsenet Context

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**ABSTRACT:** *Philosophy is a medium which provides direction to education. Mahatma Gandhi's life and ideas are still universal philosophy at the far end of this world. The educational philosophy of Gandhi is based on proper experimentation. He believed on literacy through learning by doing principles rather than literacy from books. The philosophical values are always associated with individual's up liftment as well as society's wellness. The numerical scores are high in expected way similarly the unemployment issue arising rapidly. In this paper, the researcher analyzing the educational philosophy of Great Indian Mahatma Gandhi and his educational philosophies relevance on present context.*

**KEY WORDS:** *education, Mahatma Gandhi, Basic education*

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### I. INTRODUCTION:

Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi is also known as Mahatma Gandhi and Father of Nation or Bapu for everyone. He was born on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1868 in porbandar in the state of Gujurat. Gandhiji was an eminent philosopher, lawyer, politician, author as well as researcher. Gandhiji worked for providing independence the native Indians from British control but he also associated with to give freedom to the masses from the narrow thinking and hardly works for to cultivate the own education system and follow the natural way of teaching as well as learning. In his own personal life Gandhi faces a lot of hurtful experiences in regards to cast, creed race etc. The 20<sup>th</sup> century's education as well as society always reflected the remarkable works of Bapu.

Gandhi's philosophical views were influenced by Upanishads along with Tolstoy and Ruskin Bond. 'The kingdom of God is within you' of Tolstoy and 'Unto this last' of Ruskin Bond is impressed deeply on Gandhi's mind. The main doctrine of the Gandhiji's philosophy is truth, non-violence and satyagrha. For Mahatma Gandhi truth is god and god is truth.

Gandhiji's educational philosophy is harmonious blending of major schools of philosophy like Idealism, Naturalism, Pragmatism, and a Humanist as well. Gandhiji's educational ideas were also the outcome of his tireless experiment of the philosophical monographs of Vedas, Upanishads Gita, jain, Buddhist scriptures. Gandhiji's philosophy of education was based upon harmony within man and harmony of other human beings. He was the first Indian who advocated a scheme of education based upon the essential values of Indian culture and civilization.

### MEANING OF EDUCATION ACCORDING TO GANDHI:

Gandhiji said that by education I mean an all-round development of the child in body, mind and spirit. He believed that education through life and for life, education will not be complete till one realizes self and the perfection. The true education is that which draws out and stimulates the spiritual, intellectual, physical faculties. Gandhi believed that the aim of education should be build the whole man and develop his integral personality. Education may become worthless when it fails to inculcate the spirit of service and sacrifice.

### FEATURES OF GANDHI'S EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY:

- i. **Composition of schools of philosophy:** Mahatma Gandhi designed his educational philosophy to take a model as a Naturalist, Idealist Pragmatist and a Humanist. As an idealist he stressed the dignity of man and significance of the values in life. He provide priority on all-round development of the person similarly cultivation of eternal values like truth, beauty and goodness. As a Naturalist Gandhi believed in goodness of child nature as well as provides importance on an environment. As a Pragmatist. Mahatma Gandhi gives remarkable ideas in the educational field. He propagate the concept of 'learning by doing' or creating a co-

relation with society and curricular subjects. As a Humanist, he emphasized on human freedom and great faith on the human beings.

- ii. **Introducing Sarvodaya:** It's a result of Gandhi's social philosophy. Gandhi always works for establishing equal role and regulations for everyone by breaking of monopoly. Caste distinction as well as centralization in the fields of economic, political filed should try to reduced through it. Establishing a Ram Rajya is dream for Gandhi, so he takes initiative from grass root level by providing educational opportunity to everyone and by reducing untouchability from society.
- iii. **Basic Education:** This is one of real existence of Gandhi's educational philosophy. All-round development of human personality should try to propagate through it. His primary emphasis is on the 3H's- Head, Heart and hand rather than 3R's- Reading, Writing and Arithmetic. The true development of head, heart and soul are necessary for a satisfactory system of education. The whole education imparted through some handicrafts or industry. Gandhiji believed that all-round development is not possible only in bookish knowledge, so it's a time to implement craft-center education.
- iv. **Treasure of values:** Humanity is the key principle of Gandhi's philosophy. He believed that 'where there is love, there is life.' Humanity, equality, non-violence etc are major instrument of Gandhiji's philosophy.
- v. **Women education:** Gandhi has faith on women's powers. He says that the establishment of Ram Rajya is truly possible where every man and women equally lived in a same society with equal rights and dignity.
- vi. **Craft centered or activity centered education:** The most popular Basic education scheme of Gandhi is actually based on the implementation of productive handicrafts as a school curriculum. Its helps to makes a machine-less society trend in real sense as well as making awareness regarding production processes like spinning, weaving, leather-work metal work etc.
- vii. **Training for leadership:** A good leader is like a torch bearer in any social movement, as well successful democracy. Education helps to cultivate good leadership skills among students and helps them to make it execute in real situations as well. Gandhi believed on that so he designed curriculum in such a way that through which the leadership skills should develop among child.
- viii. **Dignity of labour:** Basic education helps to break down the monopoly in every field. Gandhi's educational philosophy is designed in such a way that where learners should make themselves ready to do everything without hesitating anything. Every works of society should do respectively without discrimination. It's the motto of Gandhi's basic education scheme.
- ix. **Self-realization:** Believed in the goodness of own is the prime thing in Gandhi's educational philosophy. Needs , interests are all differ from each other, so in order to make success in educational as well as other fields its necessity for everyone to understand themselves very deeply.

#### **GANDHI'S WAYS OF IMPLEMENTING PHILOSOPHICAL IDEAS:**

- i. Introducing the Basic education scheme in society is a primary way of implementing philosophical ideas. Free education for all child, development of productive skills, cultivation of moral values all are developed in basic education scheme.
- ii. Nai Talim (New Education) is also way of building a new society. The syllabuses of nai talim were framed in such a way to eliminate narrow nationalism and emphasize the ideal of Sarvodaya. The cost of education in it was brought down by compulsory manual work. In regards to Nai Talim Gandhi himself said that 'My Nai-Talim is not dependent on money. The running expense of this education should come from the educational proceeds itself.
- iii. Gandhi's philosophy of education was fully based on his major findings derived from scientific research of theories of economic political and child development and successful experiments in South Africa. He believed in the 'An investment in human capital'. Through his Nai Talim scheme he worked for providing food shelter and clothing as well as completes security.
- iv. Another major strategy Gandhi was taken during the implementing of his educational philosophy was using mother tongue as a medium of instruction. Its helps both learners as well parents to makes attachment in what to teach, how to teach and what the motto of teaching. Mother tongue is easy medium to transfer the message with touching the heart.

#### **RELEVANCE OF GANDHI'S EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY:**

**Educational perspectives:** In regards to education system, Gandhi provides priority on free and equal education for all. During that period it's a great need of universal education because several superstitions were prevailed in the mind of people. Till now free and quality education is relevant for up gradation of lifestyle and promotion of economic condition of society. Gandhiji's views on education is always special, because he was first Indian who designed curriculum and methodology by providing priority on pragmatic ideology and awaken the mind of

people through 'Learning while Earning' concept. Knowledge is not what we preserved in our scorecard but knowledge is that which we do for welfare of others. So, from educational perspectives we can say that Gandhi's philosophy is sound and effective and its relevance in today's society as well.

**Economic perspectives:** Gandhi has a dream to build a Ram Rajya makes well being of all. For this he believed in the promotion of socio-economic conditions must be needed to improve. Gandhi's economic thoughts have great impact on Indian economy. Gandhi makes all plans after analyzing whole Nation in an eagle eye. In today's globalization and privatization period, Indian society is facing many socio-economic problems on account of large scale industries. So, it's a time to think again Gandhi's economic ideology. Gandhi always concerned with village environment and care about small industries. Because both are major impact factors in upgrading of economic conditions in India.

**Political perspective:** Today we can pronounce 'We are the citizen of the Independent India'. This is possible for major contributions of some Great Indians. Among which the ideologies of Gandhi's also. His ideology of non-violence, truthfulness, honesty, brotherhood etc are great need in today society, without harming others he win the war through his polite and loyal attitude.

**Ethical and behavioral perspective:** In today society the materialistic up gradations are unable to promote values and ethical principles. There is lots of example which proved that in 21<sup>st</sup> century people improve their outer appearance but till degradation of moral values happen. Gandhi's virtues of self-control are much needed in a materialistic world driven by the desire to achieve and acquire more. The Government as well as educational institutions must inculcate Gandhi's moral qualities like punctuality, duty boundness, honesty etc.

**Society and social issues:** Socialism is another basic philosophical entity of Gandhianism. Gandhi's vision is very clear about classless society, reducing poverty, reducing hunger, makes employment opportunities and equal rights of education, upgrading health conditions of Indians etc. These ideologies are relevance for today's society. So, the Government of India implements Sarva Shikha Abhiyan for universal education and Ayushman Bharat for universal health care etc.

In regards to reducing various social issues like discrimination, women education, sex ratio etc from our society it's time to properly implement Gandhi's philosophy. Gandhi's ideologies are relevance for every time and every situation. So, to make a Real Independent Nation we take the principles of M.K.Gandhi whole heartedly.

Conclusion: Mahatma Gandhi educational philosophy is evergreen philosophy. After analyzing his philosophical ideas and principles we can say that his philosophy is like a foundation for build a new Nation. He observed our nation in an eagle vision, and formulates his basic education scheme. Gandhi's educational philosophy is criticized due to lack of priority on English language, lack of priority on physical education, ignoring technological development, improper attitudes towards child's evaluation, excessive priority on crafts rather than emotions etc. But when we rethink his plans and policies in repeated manners it helps us to overcome such out comings. At our present time, technical and scientific up-gradation also sometime prove to failure to reducing some burning social issues like scourge of terrorism, unemployment, gender discrimination, mental disability, moral value crisis etc. M.K. Gandhi's life and ideas are still an universal philosophy in every sphere of the world.

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