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Jafrul Islam
 (Student), M.A in Education,
 Raiganj University,
 West Bengal

A Critical Analysis Of Sri Aurobindo's Educatinal Thoughts And Its Relevance To Contemporary School Education

Jafrul Islam

ABSTRACT

In this paper the researcher bring out the latent thoughts and contributions of Sri Aurobindo in various aspects. Here shows how education is a tool for choosing freedom, students will be guided by their own psychic being, then depression never comes to the students mind. This study discussed Aurobindo Ashram at Pondicherry and Auroville 'The City of Dawn.' It belongs to humanity as a whole and is conceived as the city of human unity. Beside school education it can bring about dynamic changes in the educational system. Here reveals the shake of Sri Aurobindo's yoga education and its importance in human beings. This study describes how Sri Aurobindo's political life transformed into an educationalist. This study disclosed the meaning of education, aims of education, curriculum, teaching methods, discipline, integral education, Place of teachers and child 3 A's system of education according to Sri Aurobindo.

Keywords: Sri Aurobindo, Philosophy Of Education, Integral Education, Auroville, Aurobindo Ashram, Present School Education System.

INTRODUCTION

From the distant past, many great personalities have made remarkable contributions to the Indian education system. They have played significant roles in the fields of education, philosophy, and in the social and political spheres. Sri Aurobindo Ghose, occupies a very important position among the contemporary Indian philosopher of education due to his wide knowledge of East and West, ancient and modern system of education. He has presented an Integral philosophy of education through his 'Ashram' At Pondicherry. He consider the fulfillment of Swadharma as the law of life and wants that every individual in a nation should fulfill his Swadharman. Hence, the purpose of education is to prepare the individual to serve their nation and humanity. His educational philosophy in the field of modern education is very important.

Sri Aurobindo Ghose, a famous sage, poet, patriot, philosopher and educationalist is known by the name Aurobindo, he was born on August 15, 1872 in Kolkata. The word 'Aurobindo' means 'Lotus' in Sanskrit. His father Dr. Krishnan Dhan Ghose loved the Western culture and he wanted his son to grow up into a fake Englishman. So, Aurobindo was send to England at the age of seven and he lived there for 14 years. He got education in London and Cambridge and he became a master in English, Greek and Latin. He passed the Indian Civil Service Examination in 1990 but he could not appear for the horse-riding test. As a result, he was disqualified for the job and he returned to India in 1893. He become a professor of English at Baroda College. He learnt Bengali, Gujarati and Marathi and delve deeply in the culture and philosophy of India. He practiced yoga in 1904. He launched the journal Vande Matram, Karma Yogi, Dharm and the Bengali daily Matram, Karma Yogi, Dharm and the Bengali daily yugantar to propagate his Yugantar to propagate his revolutionary ideas and arouse intense feelings of Nationalism among the people of India. He spent his retired life at his Ashram in Pondicherry. He preached his philosophy of Dharma, education, spiritual advancement and Brahmacharya across the country. He established Auroville as a city of Universal Culture for International cooperation and human unity. Sri Aurobindo propounded his major philosophy and published

Correspondence:
Jafrul Islam
 (Student), M.A in Education,
 Raiganj University,
 West Bengal

it in Arya a new journal in English from 1914 to 1921. Sri Aurobindo, the great saint, passed away on December 5, 1950. His demise put an end to a glorious chapter in the spiritual history of India. Current school education needs to explore how the contributions of Sri Aurobindo Ashram, Integral Education, and Auroville can be practically applied. These educational ideals emphasize the holistic development of learners by nurturing their physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual dimensions. By incorporating the principles and practices developed in these institutions into present-day school education, it is possible to enhance creativity, moral values, and self-directed learning among students. The effective implementation of these ideas in modern classrooms can significantly improve the quality and standard of Indian education and help in developing responsible, capable, and enlightened citizens.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

In this article revealed Teacher is to suggest not impose. He does not actually train the pupils mind, the only shown how encourages him in the process. Reveals about Sri Aurobindo's integral education which are not indirectly any particular religion. At least give a statement of Sri Aurobindo "that alone would be true and living education which helps to bring out to full advantage all that is in individual man". Chaman (2013) Here introduced Sri Aurobindo's latent thoughts toward education, like soul & dharma, man making, enrichment of nation, child psychology, practical, intellectual, moral and aesthetic capacities and to grow independently as an organic being. Srivastava (2015) In this article, Sri Aurobindo's appears to have made a considerable progress & development of spiritual world and potentialities of individuals for their spiritual development. Spiritual education consists many values, creative knowledge and such kind of thoughts are very need for our society. Rani (2017) Here explores the various qualities of Sri Aurobindo. His aim of education individual up to the nation. Sri Aurobindo's integral yoga helps to realized the super mind and the other realities of this world and that other word. Sri Aurobindo's integral yoga helps to realize the metaphysics, epistemology and axiology of philosophy. His integral yoga is very useful to realize curriculum, methods and aims of education perfectly for the welfare of mankind. Peesapati (2019) Sri Aurobindo was a distinguished philosopher and educationalist who formulate rich our educational system comprehensively. Such national system of education which is associated with his integral education. Through the national system of education we can achieve national integrity, preserve and promote our culture and tradition. As a result national reconstruction will be achieved. Ali (2020) So we can say, Sri Aurobindo's vision towards education as well as political vedantism. Freedom of indivisible India is the divine realization or the mostly desire spiritual emancipation. Passive & active these both kind of

resistance have to be considered as either the final methods of realization or only the way of preparation for the ultimate aim through Sadhana. (Banerjee) In my view towards this article man can early serve the goal of physical education, vital education and even of mental education. Here explores Sri Aurobindo's philosophy acquaints the school social workers with the newer dimension of the child and equip them to deal with the children in a clearer and better way and help them discharge their duty effectively. His philosophy illumine the path and enlarge the scope of full thinking along the new lines. Sahadat (2018). Depicted the fact that Sri Aurobindo presented his idea in 1910, and 1937 it is still applicable to today's educational system. Ahmed (2021). In this article the author disclosed that learning should be unrestricted and organic for the students. And true educational goal must be humanity, spirituality and enlightenment of the individual. Ghosh (2023). Here reveals how students identify the connection between spirit and matter. And try to relate NEP 2020 and NCF 2023 goals to promote the contemporary educational framework. Kaur (2024) After reviewing such articles we conclude that we need to concentrate towards the school education system. And how Sri Aurobindo's educational thoughts are implemented in the contemporary school education system.

OBJECTIVES

1. In order to explore to investigate latent thoughts and contribution of Sri Aurobindo Ghose in various sections.
2. In order to investigate Sri Aurobindo was as a politician as well as educationalist.
3. To explain and reveal the shake of Sri Aurobindo's Yoga Education and its applicability and importance in human being, present day as well as in School Education system.
4. To reveals Sri Aurobindo's Spiritual and Physic thoughts. And its applicability in present day at school.

Methodology

In this research article the author mainly used Qualitative methods to complete the study. This study is based on secondary sources like Articles, Journals, Websites, Books etc. Here is the Descriptive, historical, philosophical, theoretical and analytical foundations. Here explores Sri Aurobindo's various aspects of educational contributions, thoughts like Philosophy of education, Auroville, Pondicherry Ashram. Specially focused on how Sri Aurobindo's educational contributions, thoughts are the bases of contemporary school education system.

Aurobindo's Educational philosophy

Sri Aurobindo Ghose is a true yogi, a great philosopher and an eminent educationalist. He starts his life as a political thinker but very soon he becomes a spiritual integralist. He show mankind they way to the highest spiritual growth. His philosophy of education directly emerges from his philosophy of life based on spiritual penance. He believed in a 'Supreme

Reality ' that enclose all creation, guiding and sustaining the transformational process. His philosophy is integrative, synthesizing elements from various spiritual traditions like Vedanta, Tantra, Bhakti, Yoga as well as western philosophical system like idealism, naturalism and evolutionary theory.

Meaning of Education

Sri Aurobindo Ghosh comes out against the educational system of his time. He believes that education should be according to mental and spiritual needs of the pupils and covered with whole life present day context. Integral education develop an integrate personality of both the pupils and the teacher. Education is a tool for chooses freedom, student will be guided by own psychic being, then depression never comes to the student mind. He doesn't actually train the pupil's mind, instruments of knowledge and express discipline, that should be inner and free discipline. Sri Aurobindo's types of Mind, Chitta or store house, Manas (Sensation or Senses) , Buddhi or Intellect. As per Sri Aurobindo, the subject is a manifestation of the divine, matters contains life. A successful education synthesizes spirit and matters .Through practice like meditation, mindfulness and contemplation, students are encouraged to develop self - mastery.

Basic Principles of Sri Aurobindo's Education

Education should be child – centered, mental aptitudes, psychological needs and physical purification of the child , Brahmacharya, develop the soul substance of an individual, present corruption in the country .

Contribution Of Sri Aurobindo To Education

National system of education, moral education, physical education, education of yoga, education of mind, education of senses, freedom for the child, international education, comprehensive curriculum, importance of teacher, education through practical experience etc.

Notes On Sri Aurobindo's Integral Education

Integral education is that education in which the human body , mind and intellect are combination together to form a magnificent machine . We can call it a machine for went to a better word and it is superior to any other equipment built by man . According to Sri Aurobindo , “ Integral education is that which helps to bring out full advantage makes ready for the full purpose of life and scope of all that is in the individual man . Which at the same time helps him to enter in to his right relation with life , mind and soul of the people to which he belongs and with the great total life , mind and soul of humanity of which he himself is a unit and his people or nation , a separate and in separate member . Sri Aurobindo has mentioned two bases for integrated education :

- Individuality is one whole .
- Humanity is one .

Aurobindo Ashram At Pondicherry

Sri Aurobindo's Ashram School was established near the sea – shore at Pondicherry in 1943 . It started functioning with twenty children of Sri Aurobindo's

disciplines . The Ashram School was inaugurated in 1952 by the mother (Sri Aurobindo's close spiritual collaborator , Mirra Richard 1878 – 1973) a French woman , was known as “ The Mother .“ She played an active role in the merger of the French Pockets in India and according to Sri Aurobindo , which helped to make Pondicherry a send of Cultural exchange between India and French as the “ Sri Aurobindo International University Centre .“

Auroville

Auroville , “ The City of Dawn “ five miles away from Pondicherry was inaugurated by the mother on February 28 , 1968 . It is a landmark in the history of Aurobindian Education . The character of Auroville was signed by children from 121 Countries who poured soil from their respective lands into a lotus shaped urn symbolizing the utility of the human race . According to the character of Auroville , “ Auroville ” belongs to nobody in particular . It belongs to humanity as a whole and is conceived as the city of human unity . It is world university centre , a university in which continuing education from infancy to old age will be offered .The Auroville Project has the support of the Indian Govt. and of UNESCO. Auroville wants to be the bridge between the past and the future .

RESULTS

After reviewing the related literatures on a critical investigation into Sri Aurobindo's Educational thoughts and its applicability in the school education system . Sri Aurobindo's educational thoughts has a great relevance to the present – day inside school or outside school and it can bring about a dynamic change in the educational system , not only of the country , but also the world . The spiritual gain of light bliss and power and its impact in the field of education . Sri Aurobindo recognized that ‘ to bring out the real man is the first business of education ’ and ‘ education is the discovery of the inner soul , under the influence of a face and creative environment ; fulfill the individuals mind with spiritual growths and powers . He recognized an autistics activities in the curriculum towards the development of individual mind , heart and spirit and also essential part of the spiritual curriculum .

The most dominant features of strengthening spiritual education is the introduction of a new idea the ‘ super mental education ‘ which is the highest level of education – achieving after one develops physical , vital, mental and physic , sensitiveness of the soul , sensitiveness to metaphysical thoughts and action and allow freedom to the mind into face and creative environment . In such articles reveals the scope of Yoga that is covered with Sri Aurobindo's whole life, advantages and how to developed among the pupils such type of thoughts reveals from his mind . And what are the applicable scope in curriculum , during classroom communication situations such kind of features are indicated . Here explores that pupils is

allowed to study by his own capacity or interest, the works of teacher as a helper or guider. We may taught the pupils through the various types of audio – visual aids and mass – media. He discloses about the contribution of super mind, that ordinary mind can become super mind by Yoga practices. Although Sri Aurobindo's synthesis the East & the West culture. Education is a tools for chose freedom. Student will gained by own physic being, then depression never come of their mind. A unique features is Sri Aurobindo's Pondicherry Ashram the International Centre of education with experiment on education with the help of his discipline, mirra, alfassa, a French lady allow came known as the 'Mother'. The chief aims of education to draw out the soul and potentialities of the pupils. In every articles I found the contribution of integral education of human being, So that will be a implementation in curriculum. Sri Aurobindo explores the Vedanta, Upanishads and Gita and their contribution in human life. Present day context the pupils achieved highest stage of life divine through the process of the Sachchi – dananda. In In such articles explores that Sri Aurobindo Suggest, how to overcomes social issues, unemployment and degrading values to ensure. Sri Aurobindo gave direction how will be free discipline and related to real need and applicability. Here reveals spiritual education truly shows us the path of human being arising to the ultimate level of the super man.

DISCUSSION

Our current situation in the field of education purely based on new educational technology, but if we feel deeply and then compared the past and the present educational system. Sri Aurobindo Ghose was a significant figure in the area of modern education as well as a national and political leader. He offered the greatest advices towards the educational system. As shown by his educational philosophy and deep thinking. Basic educational goals, curriculums, holistic education, genuine education and rational education. From the preceding explanation of educational philosophy. It is apparent that this is a novel experiment in education with a solid philosophical basis and psychological believability, as stated by Sri Aurobindo. He saw that Indians were progressively moving away from idealism and towards naturalism, resulting in the waning or their innate divine light. He was out spoken in his condemnation of the Western materialistic education, claiming that it was incapable of sustaining and developing Indian principles, values and culture. The primary contribution of Sri Aurobindo, to future education is to prepare for future life. National integration, international integration, value education and non – formal initiatives for rural and unorganized sectors were also prioritized by Sri Aurobindo.

CONCLUSION

In hence, Sri Aurobindo Ghose was a great modern thinker, whose thoughts and contribution towards

education is unique for us. He stresses child centered education and allows freedom to the child for his natural development. Also once upon a history he has become a freedom fighter of our country. So, Sri Aurobindo's life is very unique for ours, that how his turning point of his own life and how he become an ideal educationalist this facts of journey is unique of our mind. We know that his educational thoughts and insights is applicable of our present educational system. And how can apply in a whole educational system, this types of direction are we take from Sri Aurobindo's philosophy of education. Hence, we say that this type of investigations is conducted from many philosopher & educationalists then we applied in school or higher educational system. And we practice such types of great educationalist's thoughts, insights and concepts of different ways good things, then we can make a better world for future. From my opinion, this types of investigations done by others like me then we bring out about such types of qualities. And at least we may can realized and applied in our educational system.

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