

Educational and Philosophical views of the ShrimadBhagwadGeeta

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Abstract:

ShrimadBhagwadGeeta is a wonderful scripture which is revered by Indian spirituality. This book highlighted various topics such as spirituality, philosophy, politics, science, management and education. As the Lord Krishna has said, it is shining Deepak.

The study of the Geeta has been done with the educational point of view by the researcher, who has tried to find out some matters from Geeta which can be useful in education. After finishing study, the prime matters have come into knowledge are that about 5000 years ago what Geeta has said is as relevant today as it was then. Like Arjuna, today's student is also confused. What kind of teacher should be answering these questions could be understood from the personality of the LordKrishna.

From the study of the Geeta, we can find that knowledge, karma and devotion are three main supporting pillars of the human being. Human life is very precious and therefore it is very important to develop and cultivate human qualities in education to prevent human from becoming an animal. Imagination of healthy and pure society is futile if the next generation is not cultured properly. Such a society can't be formed only by the knowledge of the books. The idea should be absorbed into the blood, and only then the Rama Rajya can be established. But seeing the reality of today's society, it seems that today's society is heading on a path of decline. Ultimately, the purpose of the education has been to create a moral society and that is why researcher believes the knowledge and the guidance of Geeta is very necessary.

Introduction:

We have derived the concept of making the education excellent in our heritage from the ancient period. The Ramayana, the Mahabharata, the Geeta, the Vedas, the Upanishadas and the Puranas are working as the light house to direct the human life as well as to provide proper education. The philosophers of the modern age such as Swami Vivekananda, Swami

Dayananda Saraswati, Rabindranath Tagore and Mahatma Gandhi have tried to give priority to the education. If we are to derive the common idea among those which have been presented by the philosophers and the books of philosophy, we find that the education stands at the top of it. And education is such a necessity as is wanted by child, youth and old. This need of them has been satisfied by above noted idealism with the passage of the time. Among these the philosophy and idealism of the Geeta is able to guide, direct and shape the failing values of human being.

Even in this 21st century the ideas and thinking of the Geeta can be given to the world. There is no exaggeration in saying the Geeta; the unique book because it contains the entire philosophy of life.

It seems that there is a necessity of the education and ideas of the Geeta in the present times of that the idea of studying the educational and philosophical views of the Geeta.

What is Geeta?

The dictionary meaning of the word 'Geeta' is a song or poem containing an inspired doctrine and the word 'Bhagavad' means a blessed or adorable or venerable or divine One. Hence Srimad Bhagavad Geeta is variously called as 'The Song of God', 'The Divine Song', 'A Song of Fortune', 'The Lord's Song', 'The Holy Song of God', 'The Song of the Lord.' The noted English poet, journalist and a Principal of the Government Sanskrit College at Pune, Sir Edwin Arnold (1832-1904) called his famous poetic version of the Bhagavad Geeta as 'The Song Celestial'. The Bhagavad Geeta's another title is 'mokshashastra' or 'Scripture of Liberation'. However, it is more popularly known as "The Geeta".

The content of the Geeta is the conversation between Lord Krishna and Arjuna taking place on the battlefield of Kurukshetra before the start of the war between the two clans of brothers - the Kauravas and the Pandavas. Responding to Arjuna's confusion and moral dilemma about fighting his own cousins, Bhagavan Krishna explains to Arjuna his duties as a warrior and prince and elaborates on different Vedantic concepts.

Necessity and Importance of Geeta in Education:

In this modern age education means to be literate. But which kind of education we need today and showing it Swami Vivekananda says, "Today we need such type of education which can build character, can awake slumber abilities, can expand the intelligence and can give man emancipation that he can leave dependencies and becomes self-reliant." The true education is the education which can build the character of man, or

can blossom the virtues of dignity, curiosity and gratefulness lead him to the self-developed path. Today our institutions are providing only livelihood based education but it is necessary to provide life oriented education and it is also demand of the time. And the strength of this foundation to make the human life higher lies in the Geeta.

Today we need service oriented education not self-oriented. The Geeta says, today there is a race to over take without hard or less work. The Geeta advice this type of man in the sense of Goddism, that in failure success is delayed and not to denied. We should not lose heart on failure but we should work with more vigorous power. Education should give man a goal. Aimless life is like a ship without captain. This type of man is always trembling, tumbling and was tingh is strength and gets nothing in the end through out his life. The Geeta abides this type of man with goal and suggest him to do karma. According to Geeta, "The medium of education is Karma". And quoting the purpose of the Karma the Geeta says, Today the study of the books and other literature is based on personal selfishness but the Geeta tells that is the way leading towards the direction of development. We have to abandon ourself-oriented study and to gain the pure education to be righteous is the true education. In the above noted sense the Geeta, in the chapter 12 in shloka 12 says that the knowledge is better than the study done without understanding meaning. Along with the education, the Geeta also reveals the virtues of the teacher and tell the preachers should be the knowledgeable and philosopher. The teacher should be equipped with knowledge and. There should be penance of feedback, profound knowledge and essence of experience in his knowledge and life. He should be learned in thinking and of good conduct. In accordance to the Geeta these qualities of the teacher should be direction indicating.

Such type of special Geeta gives the man qualification, proprieties the education. Education is not related to the wider world only but it also related to increase man's natural internal beauty and to gain positive outlook toward the person and life. The Geeta has changes the outlook of Arjuna. Same as today we need to change the outlook of current educational system. By referring this the ancient Gurus have told to gain this unique element. Education works on making the man. The Geeta emphasises on person's physical, mental, moral, social, economical, philosophical development and aims at to free him from the worldly problems.

It is considered as a concise, practical, self-contained guide to play the game of life. The Geeta tries to build up a philosophy of *Karma* based on *Gyanand* supported by *Bhakti* in a

beautiful manner. The real meaning of education is to impart knowledge. True education provides children not only an intellectual stimulation, but also are all purpose in life. The Bhagwad Geeta is called the king of education because it is the essence of all doctrines and philosophies. It is the purest knowledge and because it gives direct perception of the self by realization.

Education According to BhagwadGeeta:

In order to formulate the principles of education the divine teacher Lord Krishna has not imparted his wisdom to his student as meredictationlikeothers. The Geeta answer the 'why' of such education. The human child in the world is not a tabula rasa or an empty being. He inherits the certain tendencies, instincts, propensities of character, mental disposition etc. from his past life. Parents give to child only his body but his physical apparatus and soul's doing are his own. This explains individual differences. The Bhagwad Geeta reconciles metaphysics and physics, nivritti and pravritti, physical entity, and here ditary and environment of men and gives the principles of education clearly indicating that education is spiritual-social necessity. It is a value and its edifice cannot be built on sand.

The teacher must teach his subject with great competence but when the issue of judgment is involved he should let the student free as Arjun was finally left to decide himself whether to fight or not. The concept of the teacher in the Geeta is that he must be most balanced. The true teacher not only teaches truth but also demonstrates it. In short, the teacher is vigilant enough to keep the soul and body of his student as well as his own together. The student, according to the Geeta, is not a disciple but a learner. But the first and the last characteristic of an ideal student are to surrender before the teacher accepting his ignorance of the subject he wants to know. Genuineness, humanity, obedience, faith in his teacher is the essential characteristics of a good learner. He must also possess an intense urge to know without which he will not be able to digest what the teacher gives. Humility, obedience, faith etc. towards the teacher imply that the student should be virtuous. The student, according to Geeta, must shun three great vices - *Karma*, *Krodh* and *Lobh* in his personality. Obedience means respect to the teacher; however, it does not mean the foolish obedience in which every thing is accepted by the student blindly. The eager intellect of the student must be satisfied.

Objectives According to BhagwadGeeta:

- Development of Self respect

- Achieve the real goal of life
- Gain and development of virtual knowledge
- Development of personality
- Adjustment in individual, social and educational aims
- Development of internal consciousness
- Development of intellectual and reasoning ability
- Establishment of importance of duties in life
- Change the outlook about *Karma* and *Bhakti* (worship)

Curriculum according to Bhagwad Geeta:

There are two types of knowledge (*Gyan*). The physical knowledge and the Spiritual knowledge. Art, Science, Engineering etc. includes in physical knowledge and the knowledge of body and soul are included in Spiritual knowledge.

The Geeta teaching stands not for renunciation of action, but for renunciation in action. It is emphatically stated that *Samnyasa* does not mean the renunciation of action, but of interest, desire and attachment; it means the giving up the fruit of all work. Actions are our sphere; fruits are not our concern. We should never be attached to the fruits of action and at the same time we should never be inactive.

Method of Teaching according to Geeta:

- Question-Answer method
- Conversational method
- Demonstration method
- Learning by Doing

Conclusion:

The moral of Bhagwad Geeta entails upon the discipline of the life and performance of one's duty without attachment to the result in *satvik* way. Geeta rightly strikes at the root of the problem. Ideal personality of teacher and deep scholarly effort can save the untracked indiscipline among students. Faith on the instructions of Geeta can remove the problem of indiscipline and anomie that are prevailing in Indian education,

In this age of intellectual capital you are busy acquiring the latest skills and expertise in the belief that it guarantees comes only when you put all the knowledge tous. The Geeta introduce you to your inner personality. The intellect, which reasons and discriminates the mind, is the center of emotions and impulses. So go ahead, connect with Geeta. Embark on a journey to transform your life from one of mediocrity to that of excellence.

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