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SWAMI VIVEKANANDA : THE ICON BEFORE THE INDIAN YOUTH

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Swami Vivekananda : The Icon before the Indian Youth

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Abstract – The modern mind frowns upon hero worship. Worshipping an ideal man, historical or mythical, is perceived as a psychological weakness that has to be outgrown sooner than later. The trainer asked the participants whether they had a personal idol and then went on to explain that no man is perfect and that looking up to a role model for perfection is a naive belief!

This attitude of cynicism towards ideals is undoubtedly at the root of the degeneration of personal values we see all around us today. I don't think it is necessary to mention the depressing long list of problems plaguing humanity in general today and in Indian society in particular, to convince ourselves that we are in the midst of a crisis of values and leadership.

The Indian youth are restless for change today. They have had too much of theoretical philosophising and hair splitting discussions. They are thirsting for leadership, for a man of action who can bring the change they much desire. They are fed up of the ubiquitous hypocrites who talk too much and do too little. They are thirsting for an icon, a leader who can walk the talk and reverse this steep fall.

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INTRODUCTION

If we go by newspaper reports, what draws our attention at first is the enormous increase in crime, violence, immorality, corruption and other dark aspects of life. It is necessary to protect our youth from the deleterious influence of these dark faces. The Indian Youth are restless for change today. Youth are seeing an ideology which satisfies their moral sensibilities and senses of justice. They are tired of the ubiquitous two-timers who talk excessively and do too little. They are yearning for an Icon. Swami Vivekanand turned into a reference point light of seek and inspiration after a large number of people over the world. His message should achieve the present day Youth at all strata of society. Swamiji influences colossal sacrifices to have a life loaded with energy, enthusiasm, free spirit of the intense and daring sannyasin, prepared to challenge death itself. This is the thing that makes the life and teaching of Swamiji, such a hazardous combination of inspiration and motivation for the Youth. Swamiji's fearlessness bids to the Youth and makes him a strong Icon for the Youth.

It was Swamiji Courage to Defy Death itself, live for other people and unfurling the Real man out of man and so on that make him Icon before the advanced youth. The uncompromising duty to the Truth, caring spirit, exceptional empathy attracts the youth. He stated, "Life is short and vanities of the world are transient. Only they alive who live for other people, the

rest are more dead than alive." Swamiji's idea of serving man as God gives modern people the right attitude in dealing with marginalized people. Knowledge Revolution has opened countless opportunities for youth to acquire wealth and enjoy life but the increase in wealth without an increase in wisdom or Spirituality is generally seen to lead a person to immorality and ruin.

Swamiji said, "The education which will get more delight, more food, will end up glorious at first then that will corrupt and degenerate. Competition and merciless cruelty will turn into the watchword of the day." Along with secular education and training, the youths should be given spiritual knowledge and training. It helps in maintaining good health, in reducing tension & stress and making the mind calm for taking correct decisions.

Swamiji is the awakener, Pathfinder and Prophet of this new age. He stands, like a Statue of Liberty, holding aloft the light of knowledge, power, and love. He said "Deluge the country with spiritual Ideas i.e. Truth, Justice, Love, peace, harmony and so on. According to him, Growth was possible where there was freedom. Do not spend your energy in frothy talk rather found practical solutions, give help to needy rather than condemnation.

He believed in the younger generation, they will work out the whole problem, like lions. Love, Sincerity, and

Patience are vital for improvement. Have confidence in oneself. He said who thinks himself weak will wind up weak.

Three things are important to make each man great, each nation great.

- 1) Conviction of the forces of goodness.
- 2) The nonappearance of Jealousy and suspicion
- 3) Helping all who are attempting to be and do great.

The inspiration of somebody like Swamiji is overwhelming to the point that, amusingly, it is by all accounts a wellspring of insinuation. Vivekananda Kendra provides purpose to the lives of many commits and sacrificial young fellows and women. He needed his supporters to end up Vivekanand and not straightforward worship or worship him. His emotionally independent and generic methodology requests to the youth.

We should embrace a positive methodology the Easiest method to make ourselves healthy is to see that others are healthy and to make ourselves happy is to see that others are happy. Negative feelings and emotions like annoyance, contempt or unbridled enthusiasm and so on redirect consideration from the objective, break nerves, debilitate the supplies of internal energy, and prompt physical and mental afflictions. It is the quiet, sympathetic, equable, well-balanced mind that does the greatest measure of work.

Inner peace nurtures love and compassion dissipates bias and improves the quality of relationships, leaving little scope for petty disputes and quarrels. The light of love ignited by spiritual discipline dispels the darkness of anger and hatred in the human mind and makes one peaceful. Swamiji provided many more nuggets of wisdom like getting up early morning hours, practicing yoga, Pranayama, nurturing the mind with noble ideas observing silence. He is the real inspiration behind the Laughter yoga.

He told his pupil "In the event that you surmise that infinite power, infinite learning, and unstoppable energy exist in you and on the off chance that you can bring out that control, you can likewise end up like me. Go and lecture all, "Arise, Awake, Sleep no more; inside every one of you, there is the ability to remove all wound and all tragedies. So with the earnest want to work to help other, that power and strength of a lion will consequently come. Young people today are starting to feel how pressing Swamiji's call is, young people must be prepared to serve a worldwide society. He said one should live one's life in such a way that one's action inspires others. One should live for others. His words stop not till the Goal is reached will continue to echo through the corridors of times for decades and centuries to come.

Swamiji believes that the future will be more glorious still. India will rise with the power of the spirit, with the flag of peace and love. Right now is an ideal opportunity to work with the goal that India's spiritual thoughts may infiltrate profound into the west. We should go out, we should overcome the world through our spirituality and philosophy. Youth should feel that burden of Society is on their shoulders and they must understand that this world needs lions to lead it – not sheep. Youth must remain firm in moral Principles. Swamiji ideology draws youth today toward him like bees to honey.

In the year 1986, the Govt. of India declared 12th January, Swami Vivekananda's birthday as National Youth Day. His widespread message cuts over all barriers of identity and his teachings address the most profound problems of human presence. His personality has an everlasting charm and bid for the modern Youth everything being equal. As we commend his 150th Birth Anniversary it would not be a misrepresentation to demand that it is presently time to proclaim Swami Vivekananda's Birthday as International Youth Day.

Sister Nivedita, Anna Hazare, Girijana Babar Ali, Eknath Ramkrishna Canada and many more all are inspired by Swami Vivekanand's selfless services. True happiness does not lie in worldly possessions or high positions. The light of life ignited by spiritual discipline dispels the darkness of anger and hatred in the human mind and makes one peaceful. Swamiji said that one should live for one's spiritual growth and for the good of others.

Give New India a chance to arise – Let Her Arise – out of the worker's cabin, getting a handle on the furrow, out of the hovels of a fisherman, the shoemaker and the sweeper and so forth. Further India, must be much greater than ancient India. But have me made Swamiji an Icon, an inspirational figure, thereby bypassing the many facets of his personality which are significantly pragmatic.

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