

Awareness Of Swami Vivekananda Among Young Generation

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Abstract: -

Swami Vivekananda's educational philosophy continues to inspire teachers and students around the world, emphasizing the holistic development of individuals and the role of education in promoting a harmonious and enlightened society. His ideas still motivate and direct people towards social and personal change in the twenty-first century. In modern age, many history books of school curriculum do not include Swami Vivekananda's work and teachings for society and nation, so young people are deprived from gaining knowledge and information on this great Hindu monk. But many families in India maintained the culture of sharing knowledge about him to their children by buying books and sharing literature on him. Many educational organisations conduct educational programs, workshops, or events aimed at promoting awareness of Swami Vivekananda among young people. Due to these initiatives, many young children are influenced and developed interest on Swamiji's work and teachings and at the same time many young generations have not developed interest. This paper aimed at understanding the awareness of Swami Vivekananda among the young generation, do a comparative study of awareness on Swami Vivekananda between young and older generation and between boys and girls.

Introduction:

Swami Vivekananda (born Narendranath Datta) was a Hindu monk and a key figure in introducing Indian Vedanta and yoga philosophy to the West. He was born on January 12, 1863, in Calcutta (now Kolkata), India and died on July 4, 1902. Swami Vivekananda played a decisive role in the revival of Hinduism in India and the spread of Vedanta and Yoga teachings throughout the world. He had a profound impact on various aspects of life, including education. His educational philosophy was rooted in the idea of holistic development and the unification of spiritual, moral and intellectual growth. Swami Vivekananda's spiritual

journey began when he became a disciple of the famous saint Sri Ramakrishna Paramhansa. Under Ramakrishna's guidance, Vivekananda deepened his understanding of spirituality and the many paths to God. One of the defining moments of Vivekananda's life was his speech at the World Parliament of Religions in Chicago in 1893. His opening words: Sisters and Brothers of America, captivated audiences and introduced Hindu philosophy to the Western world. He spoke about the universality of religion and the tolerance inherent in Indian culture.

Swami Vivekananda was not only a spiritual leader but also a social reformer. He spoke against caste discrimination, poverty and social injustice. His teachings emphasized the importance of selfless service and uplifting the masses. Vivekananda's writings and speeches had a profound impact on philosophy and spiritual thought. His famous works include Raja Yoga, Karma Yoga, Bhakti Yoga, Jnana Yoga.

The life and teachings of Swami Vivekananda and continue to be celebrated and his birthday on January 12 is celebrated as National Youth Day in India. His messages of religious tolerance, harmony and the pursuit of knowledge continue to be relevant and inspiring to people on their spiritual and personal journeys.

Character Building Training:

Vivekananda emphasized the importance of education in developing strong personalities. He believed that education should not only focus on mental development but also on cultivating virtues and moral values.

Connecting Science and Spirituality:

Vivekananda advocated the integration of scientific knowledge and spiritual wisdom. He believed that a well-rounded education should harmonize the advancement of science with the timeless principles of spirituality.

Practical training:

Swami Vivekananda emphasized the need for practical education to prepare people for the challenges of life. He encouraged the creation of a curriculum that would be applicable to real-world situations and promote problem-solving skills.

Stress for self-actualization:

At the heart of Vivekananda's philosophy was the idea of self-realization. He believed that education should make people discover their true potential and inner self. It involved understanding yourself and your strengths, weaknesses and purpose in life.

Education as a means of liberation:

Vivekananda saw education as an opportunity to free people from ignorance and self-limiting beliefs. He believed that education should enable people to break free from the shackles of ignorance and lead a fulfilling life.

Service to Humanity:

Vivekananda emphasized the concept of seva (selfless service) like an integral part of education. He believed that education should create a sense of social responsibility and commitment to the service of humanity.

Generalization of education:

Swami Vivekananda advocated universalization of education and making quality education available to all regardless of caste, creed or gender. He believed that education was a powerful tool for social change.

Developing willpower:

Vivekananda emphasized the development of strong willpower and perseverance through education. He believed that strong-willed people can overcome challenges and achieve success in life.

Harmony of Faith:

Vivekananda promoted the idea of religious tolerance and harmony between different religions. He believed that education should promote understanding of different religious and cultural traditions and promote unity and respect for all.

Educational institutions as centers of change:

According to Vivekananda, educational institutions should function as centers of change that foster character development and spiritual growth in addition to academic excellence.

Swami Vivekananda's educational philosophy continues to inspire teachers and students around the world, emphasizing the holistic development of individuals and the role of education in promoting a harmonious and enlightened society.

The famous Indian philosopher and spiritual guide Swami Vivekananda's innovative theories and teachings have had a lasting impact on humanity. His ideas still motivate and direct people towards social and personal change in the twenty-first century. In modern age, many history books of school curriculum do not include Swami Vivekananda's work and teachings for society and nation, so young people are deprived from gaining knowledge and information on this great Hindu monk. But many families in India maintained the culture of sharing knowledge about him to their children by buying books and sharing literature on him. Many educational organisations conduct educational programs, workshops, or events aimed at promoting awareness of Swami Vivekananda among young people. Due to these initiatives, many young children are influenced and developed interest on Swamiji's work and teachings and at the same time many young generations have not developed interest. This paper aimed at understanding the awareness of Swami Vivekananda among the young generation, do a comparative study of awareness on Swami Vivekananda between young and older generation and between boys and girls.

Objectives:

1. To gain the understanding of awareness of Swami Vivekananda on young generation.
2. To do a comparative study of awareness on Swami Vivekananda between young and older generation.
3. To determine the extent to which young people are familiar with Swami Vivekananda, his life, teachings, and contributions to society.
4. Evaluating educational initiatives: Assess the effectiveness of existing educational programs, workshops, or events aimed at promoting awareness of Swami Vivekananda among young people.
5. To Determine the level of interest among young people in learning more about Swami Vivekananda and his teachings, as well as their willingness to engage with related resources and opportunities.

Hypotheses:

1. There is no familiarity with awareness on Swami Vivekananda with their gender.
2. There is no familiarity with the interest in learning more about Swami Vivekananda with their age.

3. There is no relation between reading books on Swami Vivekananda with their gender.

Methodology:

Primary data is collected using interview and questionnaire method.

2. Sample size: 148

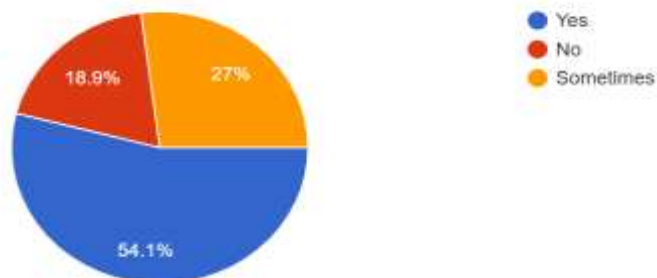
3. Diagrams and Graphs are used for pictorial representation and comparison.

4. Descriptive Statistics (Mean, Variance, Skewness, Kurtosis) are calculated.

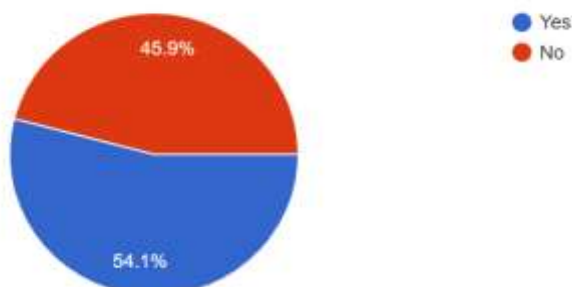
5. Statistical tests (like, chi square, t tests) are used for checking the null hypothesis

Analysis 1: Results of graphs

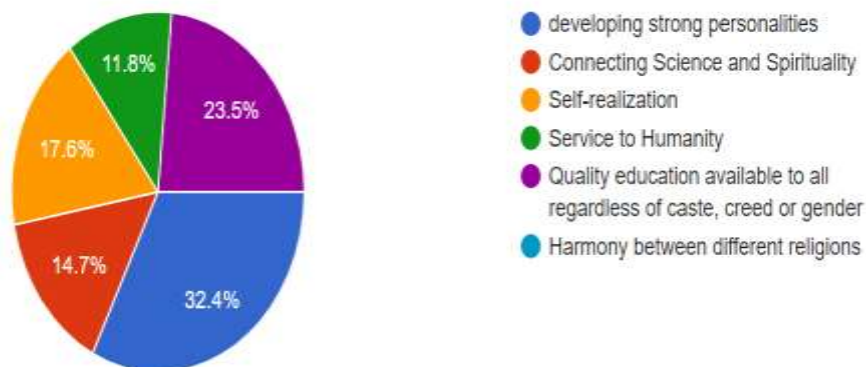
Graph 1: Percentage of respondents encountered the teachings or ideas of Swami Vivekananda before: 54.1% people have heard about Swami Vivekananda in some books or in some lecture or documentaries.



Graph 2: Percentage of respondents read books on Swami Vivekananda before: 54.1% people have read books on Swami Vivekananda.

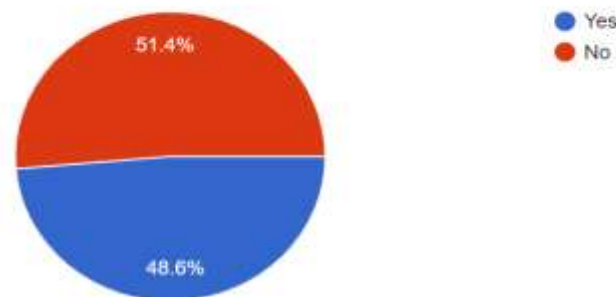


Graph 3: The philosophical ideas most appeals to the respondents:



Graph 4:

Percentage of respondents attended any lectures, workshops, or events related to Swami Vivekananda or his 51.4% people have not attended any lectures on him.



Analysis 2: Results of chi square tests

1. Relation between familiarity with awareness on Swami Vivekananda with their gender.

Test 1: H0:- There is no Relation between familiarity with awareness on Swami Vivekananda with their gender.

H1:- Awareness on Swami Vivekananda depends with their gender

Test: Chi square test

Result: P value = 0.6828

Since P value > 0.05, so we do not **reject** the null hypothesis at 5% LOS. We conclude that, awareness on Swami Vivekananda does not depend on their gender.

In case we find that null hypothesis is rejected and find that a higher percentage of males or females are very familiar with Swami Vivekananda compared to females or males, then this could prompt further investigation into factors influencing awareness levels, such as cultural upbringing, educational background, or access to information.

2. Relation between familiarity with awareness on Swami Vivekananda with their age.

Test 2: H0:- There is no relation with the interest in learning more about Swami Vivekananda with their age.

H1:- The interest in learning more about Swami Vivekananda relates with their age.

Test: Chi square test

Result: P value = 0.0074

Since P value < 0.05, so we reject the null hypothesis at 5% LOS. We conclude that, awareness on Swami Vivekananda depends on their age. This is because older generations are more aware of Swami Vivekananda as they have studied in books, many of them have studies in their school History books, attended some lectures on Swami Vivekananda or gathered knowledge from their parents or grandparents.

Nowadays school curriculum does not include teachings and philosophy of Swami Vivekananda, so young generation may not be aware on Swamiji. The other reasons of lack of knowledge may be due to young generation are too much occupied with social media, and they don't have time to read any good knowledge enhancing books, parents are so occupied in regular work that young generation don't have any mentors or role models who will guide them on Swamiji's teachings and philosophies. The other reason may be: Changes in societal norms and values over time can influence the interests and priorities of younger generations. As cultural attitudes evolve, the appeal of historical figures like Swami Vivekananda may diminish for some individuals.

3. Relation between reading books on Swami Vivekananda with their gender.

Test 3: H0:- There is no significant differences in the likelihood of reading books on Swami Vivekananda between different genders.

H1:- There is significant differences in the likelihood of reading books on Swami Vivekananda between different genders.

Test: Chi square test

Result: P value = p-value = 0.07971

Since P value > 0.05, so we do not reject the null hypothesis at 5% LOS.

We conclude that, there is no significant differences in the likelihood of reading books on Swami Vivekananda between different genders.

In case we find that null hypothesis is rejected and find that a higher percentage of males or females read more books on Swami Vivekananda, then this could prompt further investigation into factors influencing reading levels, such as cultural upbringing, educational background, or access to literature.

4. Relation between reading books on Swami Vivekananda with their gender.

Test 4: H0:- There is no significant differences in the likelihood of reading books on Swami Vivekananda between different age groups.

H1:- There is significant differences in the likelihood of reading books on Swami Vivekananda between different age groups.

Test: Chi square test

Result: P value = p-value = 0.03079

Since P value < 0.05, so we reject the null hypothesis at 5% LOS..

We conclude that, there is significant differences in the likelihood of reading books on Swami Vivekananda between different age groups.

Conclusion:

In analysis, we found there is significant difference in Awareness and reading books on Swami Vivekananda age group wise and no significant difference when compared gender wise. This is because older generation have studied on him in school curriculum and must have developed interest from their parents and grandparents. There can be many reasons for which young generation are less aware on Swamiji's work and teachings.

1. Young generation do not study in their school curriculum.
2. Some young people may find Swami Vivekananda's teachings as outdated or irrelevant to their modern lives.
3. In today's digital age, young people are bombarded with information from various sources, including social media, entertainment, and news outlets. With so many competing interests and distractions, they may not prioritize learning about historical figures like Swami Vivekananda.
4. If young people do not have positive role models or mentors who promote the teachings of Swami Vivekananda, they may not see the value in exploring his ideas further.

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