

## GS Mains Daily Answer Writing

Week 8 - Day 3

### Model Structures

#### 1. Elaborate following quote in regards to present context

“Lack of knowledge confuses the intellect, while education provides the knowledge to the true soul” - Rabindranath Tagore

10

#### Model Structure

##### Introduction

- The given statement implies that lack of knowledge (avidya) is detrimental to intellect and wisdom. Self-realization is the aim of education for Tagore. It means the realization of the universal soul in oneself. The aim of life is to achieve this status. It is a process, which cannot be realized without education.

##### Main Body

- Tagore was dissatisfied with the regular system of education and called the schools as factories of rote learning. He advocated the principle of freedom for an effective education.
  - He said that the children should be given freedom so that they are able to grow and develop as per their own wishes. A man through the process of education should be able to come out as a harmonious individual in time with his social set-up of life.
  - In Tagore's philosophy of education, the aesthetic development of the senses was as important as the intellectual; and music, literature, art, and dance were given great prominence in the daily life of the school.
  - For Tagore, the highest education is that which does not merely give us information but makes our life in harmony with all its existence. The ultimate goal is to improve the conditions of people who are marginalized.

- **Relevance in Present Context**

At present the education system is concentrated more towards surfeiting pupils with knowledge and skills that could make them earn good livelihood, inculcation of moral

wisdom and spiritual self understanding isn't being given adequate leverage. Thus the following aspects of Tagore's ideas on education are needed to be included in the existing education system:

- Self Realization: Spiritualism is the essence of humanism; this concept has been reflected in Tagore's educational philosophy. Self-realization is an important aim of education. Manifestation of personality depends upon the self realization and spiritual knowledge of an individual.
- Intellectual Development: Tagore also greatly emphasized the intellectual development of the child. By intellectual development he means development of imagination, creative free thinking, constant curiosity and alertness of the mind. Child should be free to adopt his own way of learning which will lead to all round development.
- Physical Development: Tagore's educational philosophy also aims at the physical development of the child. He gave much importance to a sound and healthy physique. There were different kinds of exercises. Yoga, games & sports are prescribed in Santiniketan as an integral part of the education system.
- Love for humanity: Tagore held that the entire universe is one family. Education can teach people to realize oneness of the globe. Education for international understanding and universal brotherhood is another important aim of his educational philosophy. The feeling of oneness can be developed through concepts like the fatherhood of God and brotherhood of man. All creatures are equal on this earth.
- Establishment of relationship between man & God: Man bears the diverse qualities and potentialities offered by God. These qualities are inborn and innate. The relationship between man and God is strong and permanent. However the dedication to spiritualism and sacredness will lead to the harmonious relationship with man, nature and God.
- Freedom: Freedom is considered as an integral aspect of human development. Education is a man-making process, it explores the innate power that exists within the man. It is not an imposition rather a liberal process that provides utmost freedom to the individual for his all round development.

- Correlation of Objects: Correlation exists with God, man and nature.
- Moral and Spiritual Development: Tagore emphasized moral and spiritual training in his educational thought. Moral and spiritual education is more important than bookish knowledge for an integral development of human personality. There must be an adequate provision for the development of selfless activities, co-operation and love for fellow feeling and sharing among the students in educational institutions.
- Social Development: According to Tagore, "Brahma" the supreme soul manifests himself through men and other creatures. Since He is the source of all human-beings and creatures, so all are equal. Rabindranath Tagore therefore said, "service to man is service to god". All should develop social relationships and fellow-feeling from the beginnings of one's life.

## Conclusion

- Thus, Tagore envisioned a holistic education that was deeply rooted in one's culture and surroundings but also connected to the wider world. His ideas on education would be valued in every age because they are based on inculcation of morality and spiritual understanding, intercultural understanding and peace, respect and intimacy with nature, social engagement and artistic abilities and creativity.

---

**2. What are the factors responsible for gender inequality in India? In this regard, discuss the contribution of Savitribai Phule. 10**

## Model Structure

### Introduction

- Gender inequality is reflected in India's 112th rank in the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Index 2019-2020. *Or*
- Gender inequality is the social phenomenon in which men and women are not treated equally.

## Main Body

- Factors Responsible for Gender Inequality in India
  - Preference for Sons: From time immemorial, a girl child has been considered as an unwanted entity and a burden whom the parents would not mind doing away with.
    - Discrimination against women begins even before their birth.
    - The gruesome evils of female feticide and infanticide prove how brutal the world could be to women.
  - Role of Cultural Institutions: Cultural institutions in India, particularly those of patrilineality (inheritance through male descendants) and patrilocality (married couples living with or near the husband's parents), play a central role in perpetuating gender inequality.
  - Assumed Role of Women: It is believed in the Indian Society the primary responsibility of taking care of the family and bringing up the child is still on the women.
    - Many women due to family pressures have to retreat from the workforce.
  - Pink-Collarisation of Jobs: The women are mostly deemed fit for "pink-collar jobs" only, such as teachers, nurses, receptionists, babysitter, lecturers, etc. which have been stereotyped for women. This denies them opportunities in other fields.
  - Discrimination at Work: Companies are interested in hiring more young women because it has been generally seen that the work and the family environment, marriage, and maternity generally forces a married woman to resign.
    - Women receive a lower amount of wages compared to men for the same work.
- **Contribution of Savitribai Phule**
  - Savitribai Phule, the social reformer is considered to be one of India's first modern feminists.
  - She, along with her husband, Jyotirao Phule, recognized that education was one of the central planks through which women can get liberation from centuries of injustice.

- They went on to found India's first school for girls called Bhide Wada in Pune in 1948.
- Their efforts led to women developing a voice and agency of their own, at a time when women were suppressed and lived a sub-human existence.
- Due to the role Phule played in the field of women's education, she is also considered to be one of the "crusaders of gender justice."
- Through her poems, she advocated values such as humanism, liberty, equality, brotherhood, rationalism, and the importance of education among others.

## Conclusion

- For India to maintain its position as a global growth leader, more concerted efforts at local, national levels, and by the private sector are needed to bring women to parity with men. OR
- While increasing the representation of women in the public spheres is important and can potentially be attained through some form of affirmative action, an attitudinal shift is essential for women to be considered as equal within their homes and in broader society.