A Study of Thinking on Education of Shri Vallabhacharya

Pallaviben Jayantibhai Dabhi
Assistant Professor,
Sardar Patel College of Education,
Bakrol, Dist:Anand, State:Gujarat

Abstract:
Shri Vallabhacharya was not only a Saint but a great philosopher. Both philosophy and religion are the steps to Reality i.e. God. Actually he was the founder of Pushthi Marg. He left his home and went for his first Prithvi Parikrama at a tender age of only 13 years. He lived for 52 years but completed many tasks which were not possible by mere mortals. In the present study the researcher studied various thoughts of Shri Vallabhacharyaji. The researcher presented his thoughts in the form of thought-units in adjacent with key words derived from each thought unit. It is followed by message and interpretation. The researcher tried to understand thoughts of vallabhacharyaji and put categorized his thoughts in selected components.

Keywords: Study, Educational Thoughts, Shri Vallabhacharya

1. Introduction:
India has been blessed with numerous ‘Avatars’ of God and honoured by birth of mahatmas, gurus and saints. Great thinkers are the beacon, inspiration and pride of our extremely rich culture, civilization and history. Such mahatmas have offered so much scientific and spiritual knowledge to the world. One special amongst these great souls is Shri Vallabhacharya Mahaprabhu, a scholar, philosopher and preacher of the highest distinction. He appeared for the upliftment of divine souls. In fact it is said that Shri Krishna Himself came into the world in the form of Shri Vallabhacharyaji in order to save Hinduism. He founded the Pushthi Marg: the path (Marg) towards the grace (Pushthi) of God.

During the times of Shri Vallabhacharya’s appearance, northern India had been conquered by the Mughals. The Vedic dharmas were in distress. Shri Vallabhacharya explained the situation precisely, —All the spiritual paths have been destroyed in India. Hypocrisy is rampant. The paths of loving devotion had become obscure, the holy places filled with business-minded people and the mantras ineffective. It was time for Shri Krishna’s face to appear as Shri Vallabh, the giver of the priceless award, the extremely generous one who would not be understood by those devoted to physical matter. The scene was ready and the time was ripe for the Beloved Sun of Devotion to arrive for the benefit of the pure-hearted.

2. Objectives of The Study:
1) To study information related to life of Shri Vallabhacharyaji.
2) To connect philosophical thoughts of Shri Vallabhacharyaji with Education.
3) To scrutinize epistemology expressed in thoughts of Shri Vallabhacharyaji in relation to Education.
4) To study value Education expressed in thoughts of Shri Vallabhacharyaji.

3. Research Questions of The Study:
1) Which information has been collected related to life of Shri Vallabhacharyaji?
2) Which are philosophical thoughts of Shri Vallabhacharyaji?
3) What is knowledge according to Shri Vallabhacharyaji?
4) What is the thinking of Shri Vallabhacharyaji about value Education?

4. Population of The Study:
Shri Vallabhacharyaji is the Acharya and Guru within the Pushhti sub-tradition, which he founded after his own interpretation of the Vedanta philosophy. Shri Vallabhacharyaji rejected asceticism and monastic life, suggested that through loving devotion to God Krishna, any householder could achieve salvation – an idea that became influential in western Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. In the present research the researcher has selected books of Shri Vallabhacharyaji with help of which the researcher and readers made familiar with thoughts of Shri Vallabhacharyaji.

5. Delimitations of The Study:
Delimitations of the present study are as following.
1) The present study is not only a case study but it is also a study of thoughts of Shri Vallabhacharyaji.
2) The present study is delimited to educational thoughts of Shri Vallabhacharyaji.
3) Study of only available literature of Shri Vallabhacharyaji was done.
4) Philosophical and educational aspects expressed in thoughts of Shri Vallabhacharyaji have been studied in the present study.

6. Area of The Research:
The area of the present study is Philosophy of Education.

7. Type of The Research:
The present study is Qualitative Research.

8. Research Methodology:
The present study is qualitative in nature so the entire study was carried out through content analysis method.

- Content Analysis:
- Steps of Content Analysis Method:
  1. Primary reading and sample selection
  2. Technique of noting down idea units
  3. Second reading and collections of thought unit
  4. Description of terms
  5. Classification of thoughts into thought unit and chronological arrangement
  6. Reading of reference books and third reading
  7. Findings and derivation of educational implication

9. Findings of The Study:
1) Shri Vallabhacharyaji believed that human being is a part of world animation and it is perfect. The attachment of human being with the nature is nothing but the attachment with the ‘self’. Hence human being should not believe himself different from God. He is the part of the God.
2) Moksha does not take birth or produce. Moksha of Aatma (Soul) is nothing but going far from Karm (actions).
3) God is everywhere. He is boundaryless, whole and identical. Due to him world gets energy and consciousness and make the world working. The philosophy of Shri Vallabhacharya states that without understanding God one cannot get perfection.

4) Shri Vallabhacharyaji believed that human being gets pain due to ignorance. Owing to ignorance he becomes egoistic. When human being gets real knowledge, he becomes free from all worldly bondages.

5) Shri Vallabhacharyaji believed in giving more importance to knowledge with having spirituality and Karm (actions).

6) In the literature of Shri Vallabhacharyaji, he put emphasis on value education. He insists inculcation values like love, liberality, courtesy, sympathy, service, equality, feeling of cooperation etc. in human being.

7) Shri Vallabhacharyaji suggested that be free from sorrows and anxieties concerning your future, as you are safe in my (Lord Krishna’s) hands.

8) His message about Pushti-Marga-the path of God’s Grace- universal religion of love embracing all kinds of people, was intended for all the rich and the poor, the Brahmins and the untouchables, the young and the old, the learned and the illiterate and even for those ostracized from society for immoral conduct.

9) He explained that suicide is the greatest sin against God. It cannot be justified under any circumstances. It is also violence against human nature for love of life exists in every man. There is no justification for suicide. It is self-inflicted, One’s body is the temple of God, and one is supposed to be its protector. Thus religiously and morally suicide is the biggest and the worst sin to God and the society.

10) He showed right path to many people who are in bad habits like drunkards, the wicked, robbers, thieves, and so on saving them from the evil way of living. He showed them the light of Pushti-Marga which led them to right path.

References: