

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY REPORT/UGC MINOR RESEARCH PROJECT/ ON
SWAMI VIVEKANANDA/POLITICAL SCIENCE/DR. ALKA R GUPTA**

**Executive Summary
UGC MINOR RESEARCH PROJECT**

on

**“SWAMI VIVEKANANDA : THE RELEVANCE OF HIS VISION FOR YOUTH
PARTICULARLY IN CURRENT INDIAN POLITICAL SCENARIO - A CASE
STUDY OF VARANASI REGION”**

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OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT–

The main aim of research is to find the truth that is hidden and has not been discovered yet. Though each research study has its own specific purpose, the following are the thrust objectives for this project work-

- To highlight the main ideas of Swami Vivekananda in connection to youth.
- To understand the meaning and nature of youth in particular their potentials, problems and power for national development.
- To analyse the attitude of youth of Varanasi region regarding Indian politics, social issues, economic challenges, ethical perceptions, educational obstacles, youth power and the ideology of Swami Vivekananda.
- *To evaluate the relevance of youth-vision propounded by Swami Vivekananda in the current scenario.

RESEARCH DESIGN-

A research design is blue-print of the proposed research work. Changes in the design are permitted and are dictated by considerations during the operations of the project. The research design of the present project work is explorative-cum-descriptive. The emphasis of explorative research studies on formulating a problem for more precise investigation to discover the ideas and insights. While descriptive research studies are concerned with describing the characteristics of a particular individual or group.

Tenure- 02-04-2016 to 02-04-2018

WHETHER OBJECTIVES WERE ACHIEVED–

Yes. All the objectives of the said Project work have been achieved successfully. On the basis of whole analysis of variables and indicators concerning to the study theme and testing of its hypothesis and micro assessment of the objectives, it can be stated that the ideas and principles of Swami Vivekananda are still relevant and occupy central value for the betterment of youth , if in this concern few negative responses received then its number is very negligible.

ACHIEVEMENTS FROM THE PROJECT-

This project work has given the opportunity to observe and analyse modern youth from their point of views. As well this has clearly indicated and established to reassure and to reaffirm the relevance of Swami Vivekananda’s ideology in current Indian political scenario. Besides, Varanasi-a capital of spiritualism in the world-could have been understood in the light of contemporary issues and young opinions. The findings of the research work may pave the road towards new avenue for the enhancement and enrichment of Indian youth through the powerful principles of the Great Son of India-Swami Vivekananda.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE SOCIETY-

The findings of this project would surely open a new chapter for understanding the problems and prospects of modern Indian youth. The relevance of the ideas of Global-Guru Swami Vivekananda in today’s socio-political scenario has been proved as an Action –Plan for every young person ensuring national development.

This research work has been conducted in the context of Varanasi region, UP. The attitude and view-points expressed by its young community regarding Swami Vivekananda and other significant socio-political-economic current issues highlight the mental profile of Varanasi-Youth community. This may work as a pilot study for youth betterment in future at large.

A SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS

The present study titled “Swami Vivekananda: The Relevance of His Vision for Youth Particularly in Current Indian Political Scenario-A Case Study of Varanasi Region” has been an attempt to assess the relevance of the ideas of Swami Vivekananda for youth of Varanasi region.

There are five chapters in this research work. Chapter-Introduction highlights a Life Sketch of Swami Vivekananda, his main ideas, the nature of youth, the description of Varanasi region and the relevance of Swami Vivekananda’s ideas for youth, particularly in

current Indian political scenario. Chapter 2-Research Methodology, provides a clear outline of the research methods applied in this work. Chapter 3- 'Socio-Economic Status of the Respondents' deals with individual profile of all 140 young males and females (the sample) has obtained by observing various factors viz., age, gender, education level, political activism etc. by asking questions through interview schedule. Interpretation of Data is Chapter 4 that has analysed the answers given by the respondents with appropriate tables. Chapter 5 makes a concluding remark:

- All the respondents of Varanasi region have already been acquainted with the name of great visionary Swami Vivekananda and with his ideas to some extent.
- Further, the younger generation (18-23 years) in compare to the senior youth (24-29 years) and (30-35 years) has shown keen interest and more involvement to express their opinions on the current socio-political-economic issues.
- A fair lead by young ladies in comparison to young males in communicating their viewpoints on various significant current affairs and are very much alert about their career specifically in politics.
- Maximum number of Graduation-degree holders from different streams like Arts, Commerce, Science, Management in compare to higher degree holders .
- Youth from rural background is more in number than urban youth.
- 60% young community of this research project belongs to General category and remaining from Other Backward Class and SC/ST category.
- Almost one-third respondents are from Varanasi region. The difference in the origins of belonging a region is an indicator of mixed view-points. In fact, the views of respondents of outer regions help more effectively in comprehending Varanasi on its socio-political present state compared to the natives of the Varanasi region.
- Majority of the respondents are followers of Hindu religion.
- Around 83% youth are job less or aspirants for government jobs through competition. Here it can be drawn that economic stability determines one's opinion at large.
- Youth of middle class is 44.29 % whereas 40.71% is from lower class. Youth of these two classes forms a powerful group which strongly impacts the political platform.
- The difference between the active and non active Indian youth of Varanasi region has found to be only 6%.
- Around 89% of young respondents have no political background while only 11% young people access some such background.

- Young community is well aware of their problems like unemployment, scarcity of proper guidance and lack of self-confidence, no support from family and government, misuse of reservation policy, corruption in education system etc. which are main hurdles in their overall growth.
- The area of study is Varanasi region. Young people of the region has discussed in detail about the unique characteristics of the region like; Temple, Holy river Ganga, Ghat, BHU, religious and spiritual place, narrow Streets, Saree, Paan, Food variety, Salvation Point, Lord Shiva-City, its crucial role in Indian National Movement and its live people and its challenges too like - over population, traffic jam and filthy roads and streets, problem of sewage, lack of civic sense, and lack of strict maintenance of law and order, etc.
- On the issue of today's politics prevailing in India, young community opined very openly that casteism, corruption, communalism, dynasty-based politics, deprived ethical values, absence of political ideology, lack of educated politicians and role model are foremost causes of its present downfall, while youth, in good number, is hopeful too, taking them as natural phenomenon of any democracy.
- According to youth of the region there are clear ways to modify and bring positive changes in Indian political system e.g., greater focus on morality and transparency, to involving young educated leaders into its rim, strictly banning the criminalisation of politics, banning the casual and unhealthy comments made by the leaders in public on sensitive issues, amending the constitution for compulsory voting by common mass, by determining age and educational qualification for conducting election at any level in the federal form of government and promoting honest and clean image holders on political platform.
- The young community has depicted a miserable picture of the region's political scenario. Tea-Shop politics is given undue importance and serious attention.
- Majority of the youth of this region is active in party politics but are misguided by the so-called politicians and money-mafias for their vested interest.
- The 60% youth has demanded the need of change in Indian caste system for its fruitful impact on the society.
- Youth of the region has cited the evaporation of joint families, political reasons, globalization, westernization, fashion-rush, mobile-laptop hangover, downfall in value

norms, over population as causes of the deterioration of moral values in the city recently.

- On the a status of women , traditional mind-set, lack of education, passive role of position-holders women, insecurity of women, girl-foeticide and domestic violence are seen as major barriers in their progress in the region. Besides, lack of self-confidence and courage among women in general dwarfs them down.
- Varanasi is popular as a religious city. There are variety of opinions received by the young community on the meaning and importance of religion in one's life like; it is a Supreme power, truth is religion, to listen inner voice, humanity, morality and traditional values of our ancestor, self-duty, etc. A small percent does not opine on it.
- On the health issue, almost 99 percent youth agreed that a good health is very-very important for a fruitful life .
- More than 90% of youth strongly feel that incorporating meditation and yoga in daily routine play vital role to minimize tension and anxiety of the modern times. Nearly 7% youth did not agree on this point. They think lack of engagement is the cause of stress and a proper engagement can remove it.
- Varanasi is well known for its giant educational institutions. However, a big segment of youth are of opinion that there are many problems in educational sector. They cited high fees, corruption, bribery, lack of awareness, lack of proper information regarding admission, result or academic activities, lack of sufficient teaching faculty and experts, excess of student politics as the common problem faced by them. But a small group told that they face no problem here in obtaining education.
- More than 50% youth considers Varanasi as an economically backward region because of lack of Industry, lack of work culture, lack of financial supporting systems. But a fairly big group opines that there is sufficient scope of earning by counting the fields of tourism, education, religious activities, cultural activities, and the like for economic growth. Also a small section of youth could not give any clear opinion on this issue.
- 50% of youth defined humanity as national religion whereas others have various opinions on this issues. The varied definitions of national religion which are observed in their answers are hindu Dharma, ideal citizenship, education, national security and development, justice for all, service to nation, to obey law and order while a small segment maintain that there is no need of any national religion.

- Maximum youth contemplates youth as national power whereas other opine women, common mass, political leaders, unity in diversity, ancient history and culture, farmers, military as national power. A few of them have no idea of the question.
- A big number of young community of the region very confidently agreed that Swami Vivekananda is the Global Guru in present national and International scenario. But 17 out of 140 respondents do not accept it with their own explanations.
- Maximum youth evidently consider the ideas of swami Vivekananda as important, useful and relevant for the development of Varanasi region only few people does not accept it.
- On the role of youth in developing Varanasi as a prosperous and powerful region, most of them agreed, citing Swami Vivekananda's ideas, that youth must be involved for this social cause keeping aside their individual interest.
- According to youth of the region there are various ways in the canvassing of Swami Vivekananda's ideas in Varanasi like; to add his ideas in the curriculum of school, by playing the drama on stage, by organizing Seminar and Rally, through talks with friends and common people, through the public platforms, by social media, by self empowerment, by conducting quiz, essay/speech contest on the ideas of Swami Vivekananda. There is a small number of youth having no idea regarding this .
- To be successful, every youth must have an action-plan for the next five years, regarding this many youth have presented their action plans like; to make career in education, administration, finance, dance, music or a good salaried job in social service. Some has shown their concern for the safety of animals, plants and forest. Many of youth has believed to be good, to do good work and to lead good life for nation's pride. A small number of young people do not yet have any plan developed for future. It is analyzed that majority of young community wants to have a salaried job first and then they would go for social service to nation and parents.

CONCLUSION-

To sum up, on the basis of analysis of all variables and indicators concerning the theme of the study and testing all the hypothesizes and micro assessment of the objectives, it can be concluded that the ideas and principles of Swami Vivekananda are still relevant and occupy central value for the betterment of youth. And, the few negative responses which have been received in this context is very-very negligible.
