

An Analytical Study of Rajneesh's Philosophy Regarding a Teacher's Role and Responsibility

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Abstract

Rajneesh was one of the most versatile thinkers who has given spontaneous lectures on a wide range of topics, most of which are being converted into books, tapes and CDs. Being a teacher and philosopher, he examined the present education system and challenged to our customary ways of looking at education. He has given new insight for education. He has not only critically analysed the present education system with his excellent logic but also shared his revolutionary ideas regarding education which can make education 'real education'. In this paper, the researcher had studied only Rajneesh's philosophy regarding a teacher's role, responsibility and development using content analysis technique of Quality research. For that researcher had selected the book with purposive sampling method.

Keywords

Analytical, Rajneesh, Teacher, Role, Responsibility.

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Introduction

Rajneesh was one of the most original versatile thinkers in India. He has given the talk on almost all subjects of life. His lectures have the power of convincing as he is very logical in his argument, and he uses illustrations here and there during his lectures. Being a teacher and a philosopher, he has also examined the present education system and challenged to our traditional ways of looking at education. He has not only critically evaluate the education system but also shared his original and revolutionary ideas regarding education. He has studied all spheres of education to make it 'real education'. In this paper, the researcher had studied only Rajneesh's philosophy regarding a teacher's role, responsibility and development using content analysis technique of Quality research.

Objective

- To study Acharya Rajneesh's ideas regarding teachers' role.
- To study Acharya Rajneesh's ideas regarding teachers' responsibilities.
- To study Acharya Rajneesh's ideas regarding teachers' development.

Question

- What are Acharya Rajneesh's ideas regarding teachers' role?
- What are Acharya Rajneesh's ideas regarding teachers' responsibilities?
- What are Acharya Rajneesh's ideas regarding teachers' development?

Importance of the Study

- This study will be helpful to the students of philosophy to understand the ideas of Rajneesh regarding a teacher's role, responsibilities and development.
- It will be helpful to the teachers and all people involve in education field to understand the role and responsibilities regarding teachers.
- It will also give insight to the education ministry to understand and to change teachers' role and responsibilities.
- It helps the society to understand and change the way we prepare the teachers.

Research Method

As this study falls under the area of Qualitative research, the content analysis method was used. Content analysis is defined as a procedure for the categorization of verbal or behavioural data for the purpose of classification, summarization and tabulation.

Sample of the Study

Sampling poses the most complicated problems in the method of content analysis. The researcher carefully selected the books of Rajneesh which have required data. The data were collected from Rajneesh own available works.

The Collection and Classification of Data

The adequate data were collected to carry out the analysis and derive conclusions. The researcher went through the reading of Rajneesh available written communication twice. The first reading led to the conceptual understanding and determination of possible idea-groups which leads towards a judgment about relative importance and intensity of ideas. Along with the second reading the researcher used the recording format and collected idea units in the form of sentences. They were recorded in such a manner that the classification of them under the idea-groups was simultaneously available. These idea units were scrutinized on the basis of their adequacy of representability of the whole content.

Analysis of the Data

The researcher had adopted the method of content analysis. According to the method, following stages of content analysis were utilised in the study.

- (A) Thought Analysis
- (B) Concept Analysis
- (C) Linguistic Analysis

Major Findings

Rajneesh discussed the different roles of a teacher in details. Rajneesh believed that one of the important roles of a teacher is to correct the mistake of a student which can take him on the wrong path. But he emphasized that teacher should judge the action done by a student but not the student as an individual. He also warned the teacher that when a teacher needs to correct the mistake of a student; he should not judge the action according his/her tradition, convention, morality or prejudice, because then he/she can't judge the action neutrally. He suggested that teacher should lead the student towards the right path through love and compassion. He said that now, instead of teachers, we need guides who help the students to find the latest information. For him, it is also a role of a teacher to know where and how to channelize the excessive energy of students. Now in the era of technology, there are all technological instruments available to make teaching learning process interesting and easy. Instead of teaching them words only, now teachers should guide them for the right channel to watch on T.V. , how to use the computer for getting right information, how to find the latest book etc. Rajneesh focused light on one of the most important role of a teacher which is missing in today's education; to awaken inquisitiveness and make children fearless and courageous enough to find solutions for themselves. The teacher should help the students with new answers, new knowledge so that his doubts can be disposed of. A teacher should be there as a

helper who can help them to raise the questions and then facilitate them to find the answer. He also believed that a teacher should create the right atmosphere to gain self-respect and to give students an acquaintance with the methods for going inwards. According to him, a good teacher is a good listener. A teacher should listen to his/her students patiently. To make the students more creative is one of the main objectives of education so, according to Rajneesh, a teacher should help the students to be more creative. But here Rajneesh asked teachers not to bring their criteria to judge students' creativity. He also wanted teachers to help students to be completely lost when they are doing any creative work. A teacher should forget to order, should not be strict but they should persuade the students as a friend or an elderly brother, then also if students don't understand, teachers should not get angry. He believed that a teacher doesn't have to inform the meaning of words and just teach words and words, but he/she should use all kinds of living situations to provoke awareness in students. He suggested teachers and students to change their roles once in a while and see the whole process from other's perspective which brings changes in the whole education system. The aim of education, according to Rajneesh, is never to earn bread and butter. It is to prepare the student to live a life joyously. So, a teacher should help students to be alive, authentic, loving, flowing.

Rajneesh believed that a teacher should take the work as a service, a prayer, worship which will be finally resulted into good quality education and it is a teacher who can show the right path to a child as well as to the society. The major responsibility of a teacher, according to Rajneesh, is to lead a child towards enlightenment which should be the ultimate aim of the man's life. For that a teacher should awaken students' conscious part, should help students to bloom into a new understanding and finally lead him towards the path of a higher consciousness. He strongly believed that each student's development is the responsibility of a teacher. He suggested a teacher to recognize the hidden potentialities of a student and help him/her to draw it out. When a student is doing something wrong, it is a duty of a teacher to correct it and put the student on the right path. Students should not be put into categories to create the same type of individual. Teacher should give the children curiosity, thirst for knowing. He asked the teacher to create a longing in students to explore the existence. Rajneesh believed that the aim of education should not be to make a student like others. So, the duty of a teacher is to make students aware about themselves, their inner potentials so that students can be 'themselves'. The responsibility of a new teacher is not to make his students knowledgeable, 'pundit', but to provide the readymade answers but to arouse curiosity in their minds so that they can enter in the unknown. He advocated teachers to destroy the present education system which is based on

competitions. He said that to give birth to a new society, new virtues are needed because old values, virtues cannot create the new society. So it is a responsibility of a teacher to inculcate new virtues like courage, enterprise, risk taking in students who, at an end, will create a new society. He expected teachers should save themselves from the people who want to be successful by every means. Rajneesh saw the teacher as the agent of change, hence, he suggested that it is a responsibility of a teacher to destroy old things, which is based on hatred, jealousy and ambition, to create 'new'.

Rajneesh believed that to become a teacher, he/she should be rebellious in his/her attitude. Teacher should be a great rebel in this world. To become rebellious, teachers should not blindly accept the belief and values taught by the society because where there is logic, thinking and intelligence, there is rebellion. Along with rebelliousness, teachers should have the quality of meditative awareness and alertness. Teachers should not have desire to dominate the students simply because he/she is superior in age and in knowledge which creates a gap between a teacher and a taught. According to him, teachers should be free from any prejudices regarding values, moral, tradition and past so that s/he can lead the students towards a new society. Rajneesh believed that to fulfill the responsibilities attached to teaching profession, a teacher must be totally dedicated, with full of devotion. He firmly believed that a person should be honest in order to be a teacher, means s/he should have courage to accept himself/herself with all its limitations. Teachers should not behave as 'perfect' as no one is perfect in the world. They should present themselves as they are without pretending anything. He believed that the important quality for a successful teacher is the playfulness. For him, teachers should not be serious but playful with students. He strongly believed that the best teacher is the best learner. Life-long learning is an important aspect of being a teacher. To win the heart of students, a teacher should be loving, humble and polite in his/her behavior. Teachers should be happy, they should not be sad. They should be able to see the humour of the children so that they can laugh with them. They should be full of bubbling energy which makes them to dance with children. Teachers should be creative.

Conclusion

Thus, in this paper, the researcher discussed the ideas of Rajneesh regarding the role, responsibility and development of a teacher. For him, the present education system has been rotten. New education system is the need of the hour. He focuses more on teachers' role, responsibilities and development. If the teacher can get changed, the whole education system has new light to shine. He also guides us how to prepare such torch barrier teacher which shows light to the society. He is very

original and revolutionary in his ideas regarding education. In this paper, all points regarding teachers have been discussed thoroughly.

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