

Education

“An Integral Education which could, with some variations, be adapted to all the nations of the world, must bring back the legitimate authority of the Spirit over a matter fully developed and utilized.”

The Mother

The sacred institution of Integral Education is missioned to bridge the gulf and sharp division between the two extreme ends of existence, the Matter and the Spirit which begins step by step obscurely and ignorantly, continues through diversity and culminates in an immense educational movement through inalienable unity, constant luminous reconciliation and triumphant harmony. It recognizes this mutable mechanical unintelligent bodily substance as the noble and fit material to inhabit the immutable, imperishable Spirit and the Soul; they are reconciled with each other either by objectively subjective method of analysis and observation applied to Life, Mind and Matter through knowledge by projection, confrontation and apprehension or by subjectively objective method of synthesis and illumination applied to Psychic, Spiritual and Supramental Self through knowledge by identity, harmony and comprehension and arrives at the repose of the ultimate unity without denying the energy of the expressive multiplicity. Objectively Subjective method of Education proceeds separately from all things to resultant unity and arrives at the knowledge of the Self and the Universe through the activation of the pure Reason, Intellect and Mind and Subjectively Objective method of Education proceeds from essential oneness to resultant multiplicity and arrives at the Knowledge of the Self and Universe through the activation of the triple Soul. Only by complete and catholic affirmation of both the method of Education known as Integral Education can all the multiform and apparently contradictory fact of existence be harmonized and Mind with its effort and the endeavour and the Soul with its spontaneity and the way of infinite enlargement will discover the true centre or the Central Truth, and Education will know its aim of objective and subjective self-fulfilment through apprehensive and comprehensive knowledge and integral human existence through infinite unity and serves the life with a serene and settled joy and light with rhythmically discursive Divine *Shakti* to support the growth of a diversified individuality.

The first object of Integral Education is discovery of its true centre which should be neither achievements, nor fame, nor success, nor power, nor material opulence, nor morality, nor attachment to mutable form. So the true centre of education must be always identified as the Soul, the Psychic being in the heart, the need of its growth and experience, its aspiration towards elimination of all imperfection. All that helps this Soul growth, Mental, Vital and Physical Education are identified as its accessory or a subsidiary helpful process; by the pressure of Soul force they are lifted out of their limitations and carried more

swiftly and profoundly to their absolute light in knowledge, integral completeness and their detailed and yet undreamed possibilities. The second object of Integral Education is the discovery of its second centre or second Soul, which is not a high intellectuality, not idealism, not an ethical turn of mind, nor moral purity and austerity, not religiosity or an exalted emotional fervour, not even a compound of all these excellent things, not an emotional aspiration, not a regulation of conduct according to religious and ethical formula. It is the discovery of the spiritual Self above the head, enters into contact with greater Reality beyond and pervading the universe; it is a turning, conversion and transformation of our whole being. This spiritual Self uncovers the passage to cosmic Consciousness where the Matter is real to the Spirit and Spirit is real to the Matter and both find their true reconciliation. The third object of Integral Education is the discovery of its third centre or third Soul, the discovery of a Supramental Self, the limitless Consciousness in which the Individual, the Cosmic and the Transcendent live eternally in each other; it has come for the adventure of the Soul lapsing into Inconscience and emerging out of its darkness and this adventure proceeds to capture all other sheaths without disturbing the poise which is kept firm from summit of Consciousness to its base; the experiencing Consciousness must preserve a calm balance and a high spiritual positivism. The fourth aim of Education must be all-inclusive perfection directed to resolve all the problems of existence including the ultimate, lasting and permanent solutions and utilize the Psychic, Spiritual and Supramental Education towards transformation of human collectivity and a journey towards the discovery of the source of *Ananda* from which this whole creation is originated. And the last aim of integral Education is the perfect self-expression of the Spirit in the material life of our terrestrial existence by purifying, perfecting and transforming the nether worlds through Subconscious and Inconscient Education or restoration of all-perfection of *Sachchidananda* Consciousness in the whole of humanity.

The Main Formula of Integral Education:

The main formula of Integral Education is derived from the main formula of Integral Yoga. They are as follows:-

1, All Life is Education. This whole external ordinary life is a very small fragment of vast inner living. This inner life is connected through a subtle link of union with our unnumbered past and future bodies and births, which is defined as All Life and the Timeless Spirit in us has thrown itself into All Life as the adventurer in Time to uncover self-knowledge and integral knowledge. Education is defined as the developmental urge discovered by the Mother-nature through many sided purposeful effort in Ignorance and spontaneous leap action by Shakti in Knowledge to arrive at apprehensive and comprehensive Knowledge. It begins with limited separative exclusive awareness and ends with integral awareness of integral knowledge. True education means to purify, expand and perfect the constitution of subtle physical, subtle vital and subtle mental which constitute our

inner life which is again veiled by outward appearance of phenomenal Education of training the surface mind, vital and body.

2, All Education is a synthesis of all developmental methods discovered by the Mother-nature through age-long many-fold effort of Science, Arts, Religion, Ethics, Occultism, Spiritual thought and Spiritual experiences. The evolutionary endeavour of Nature has experimented on all lines and every possible way in order to discover her primary education of enlarging the bound of surface knowledge, deeper and larger teachings of true inner education and the widest and highest boundary of whole education which are combined as Integral Education.

3, All methods of Education are the synthesis of dispensable and indispensable self-discipline. Education cannot confine itself to dispensable method of an outwardly acquired and learned knowledge of the existence or exclusively preoccupied with its immeasurable outlook on the world and uncovering the secrets of the material worlds, but an unveiling and revelation of an inward and upward self-unfolding and would awake to an indispensable awareness of Self's vast in look, (1) a clear and complete knowledge of the Self, (2) a direct knowledge of others and surrounding world, (3) a direct knowledge of hidden forces of Nature and (4) a direct knowledge of the occult mechanism of mind, life and matter, which are beyond our present immediate attainment.

4, The methods by which the largest time saving development in the shortest possible path can be pursued are identified as indispensable self-disciplines of Integral Education which are Psychic, Spiritual and Supramental Education, responsible for evolving the capacity in man to become the (1) master of himself, (2) master of the forces of consciousness, (3) master of the energies of Nature, (4) master of his instrumentation of mind, life and matter. These indispensable self-disciplines are subordinated by all other lines of developmental urge of Nature, identified as Psycho-physical discipline, which is further fragmented as Physical, Vital and Mental Education; its utmost mission is to educate the obscure consciousness emerged out of the dark prison of Matter, to enlighten the dull inertia, blind instincts and vague perceptions till it shall be capable of opening towards higher Light. When the dispensable self-discipline of education learns consciously to become the subordinate of the indispensable self-discipline, then the essential truth of the Integral education is known and not at all ignored.

5, All the dispensable self-discipline or objectively subjective approach towards education is defined as development of higher or highest faculties through the formulation of lower mental methods of 'educate thyself' and its indispensability is felt till the higher methods or soul's methods of 'know thyself' are evolved and it asks indispensable presence and help of physical guide. Mind has the capacity to enter large effort to gain small result and even if with this struggle to limit the action of our capacities and even then uses with a much less sure rapidity, the mind is treated as our first conceptive potentiality and highest available faculty at our immediate disposal and to fully utilize the mental faculty of exclusive concentration is identified as the best beginning and sure promise of

integral emergence of an underlying truth which is an uncovering of higher faculties other than mind, and acquisition of scientifically minute knowledge through long mental culture.

6, The need of Integral Education is felt primarily to enlarge our knowledge on the World, Self and God and increase our mental, vital, physical and spiritual existence; secondarily reconcile, integrate, transform and perfect them; where the former is enforced on each student of Integral Education in order to make him fit to enter the main stream of life and world and the latter is a special opportunity of voluntary choice among the privileged few.

7, As Integral Education is the utilitarian aspect of Integral Yoga, Integral Evolution, Integral Shakti and Absolute Shakti, so all developmental aspect of the former will draw its strength, innovation, expansion and guidance from the latter. Education has its root in Yoga; Yoga has its root in Evolution of Nature; Evolution has its root in Consciousness; Consciousness has its root in *Shakti*; *Shakti* has its root in *Chit or Sachchidananda*. What Sri Aurobindo wrote in *The Synthesis of Yoga* for a *Sadhaka* in terms Integral Yoga and strong declaration that ‘All Life is Yoga’ (through consecration), the same thing He restated with greater precision and enlargement in *The Life Divine* for mere man or all humanity in terms Integral Evolution, hence we can rename it as ‘The Synthesis of Evolution’ and He asks all humanity to train the mind towards the realization of the mantra ‘All Life is Evolution’ (of Consciousness). The same objective He restated in ‘The Mother’ book for Her all children in terms of Integral *Shakti* where all the Powers and Personalities of The Mother are synthesized to which we can rename as ‘The Synthesis of Overmental *Shakti*’ whose mantra is ‘All life is the possession of the Truth and the Divine *Shakti*’ (through increase of faith, *Sraddha*). The same objective He restated again with greatest intensity in *Savitri* for Her dearest children or Integral Yogis in terms of absolute or virgin Mother Power, *Maya*, which we can rename as ‘The Synthesis of Supramental *Shakti, Maya*’ and Her Mantra is ‘All life is possession of Virginity and Supramental *Maya*’ (through intensification of purifying and all embracing Divine Love). So now the method of Education is to be restated in the form of profound developmental urge of learning for all students from above four books in terms of Integral Education along with the mantra ‘All Life is Education’ (through practice of concentration, *samyama*) and the evolution of the new book can be renamed as ‘The Synthesis of Education’. Now it is time to intensify education through four powers of the Mother-nature that of the Yoga, Evolution, Truth and Virginity and weld them strongly to the One, the Divine, *the Sachchidananda* who stands above as the Lord of Yoga, the Lord of Evolution, the Lord of Truth Power, *Shakti* and the Lord of absolute Virgin Power, *Chit Shakti* and also the Lord of Integral Education.

The Synthesis of Education:

The theory of **complete Education** pursued through all life or long succession of rebirths can be realized through the Synthesis of Education which

has four legitimate motives of development of educational capacity in all Time, that of firstly a period of education and preparation that will make us able to satisfy the basic needs and requirement of life and **a concentration of surface education** to develop separate individuality and in it the unity of all aspect of life is lost on the surface; secondly a period of normal living to satisfy the human desires and interests under the moderating rule of ethical and intellectual part in us, to educate all our human capacities of force and knowledge and enjoyment so that we may turn them upon the world with more and more mastery and force, **a concentration of potential education**; thirdly a period of inward turn of the mind and spiritual preparation, **a concentration of subjective education** and lastly the period of complete fulfillment of Supramental living, fulfilling and perfecting the objective living by transforming and Divinizing it, **a concentration of comprehensive education**. This educational Synthesis also arrives at the reconciling equation between the Matter and the Spirit where (1) the existing human mind and intellect are considered as its **nodus and subjective turn of phenomenal education**; (2) the knowledge on the cosmic and terrestrial surface world which is the **field and circumstance** of physical and vital education; (3) the knowledge on the Supraterrestrial or other worldly or occult plane which is a **condition and connecting hidden link** and which forms the basis of intermediate Psychic and Spiritual Education and not to have the experience of the great regions of the Selves, not to know and manifest their law in ourselves **is to fall short of the height and fullness of our being**; (4) the knowledge and integration of the Supracosmic Reality is the highest reach of Integral Education which is the almighty **source, support and highest remote origin of our existence**. The Synthesis of Education can be satisfying which ends in its aim of uniting the imperfect Matter and the perfect Spirit in a liberated, ecstatic and fulfilled human existence.

In the past **the theory of complete education** through **the Synthesis of Education** was attempted with little success due to the exaggeration or exclusive importance on either of the four or in most cases the first two Schools of thought. In the recent development of Integral Education, all the four stairs of human development have been fully recognized as the knowledge within the power and capacity of humanity and attempted within the framework of its existing infrastructure. The perfect learning of secret of existence through material Science, Arts and Literature are to be rightly related with the limited superficial enjoyment of existence, material success and satisfaction of human desire. This objective entry into opulence of existence must take a subjective turn and search for unlimited source of beyond sense enjoyments and seeking towards the Knowledge of the One and finally discovery of the Knowledge of the One is to be rightly related with the knowledge of the Many and movement towards the source, the Supracosmic existence, from which the unending riches of the Spirit will pour down on the Matter to bring completeness of Integral Education.

So we can define Education in its totality beginning with the surface mental, surface vital and surface physical education which builds strong material foundation. Behind it there is large ocean of subtle mental, subtle vital and subtle physical Education extending over all life. At its core there is true mental, true vital and true physical being. Then behind these planes there are still greater planes of Psychic, Spiritual and Supramental worlds, whose dynamisation can lead towards entry into the dark subconscious sheath and discovery of subconscious Self, which is identified as another important achievement ‘whose priceless value **could have saved the world.**’ Then subsequently entry in to inconscient sheath and discovery of Inconscient Self is identified as the one of the last and most profound spiritual experience, ‘**the grand solution**’ in which the height of mortal effort end. All these worlds and planes have their influence on our earthly substance and can mould the earthly living into Divine living and Divine perfection. Our objective is to establish an equal fourfold concentration of Education or to explore all the planes of Consciousness and call down their full manifestation in our earthly life. We will realize that the Spirit is not only the cause, supporting power and indwelling principle of the Matter but also its material and sole material. In this context the present approach of surface phenomenal Education with its unequal concentration can be considered as right beginning.

Integral Education foresees the immediate inclusion of all students to the exposure of higher Subliminal, Psychic and Spiritual Education and can include Supramental Education after much arduous self-conquest and self exceeding, at the end of many long and trying stages of difficult self-education of Nature. They can follow and verify in themselves deeper Spiritual experiences, only when they have acquired the capacity to follow the inner method, confirmed by regular experiment, practical analysis and constant verification as they have trained now their mind to follow the mathematics and difficult operations scientific truths. Spiritual force can take possession of the mere students and Truth shall dictate their life, thought, effort, endeavour and action and a spontaneous truth awareness, truth-will, truth feeling, truth movement and truth action can then be the integral part of his education.

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