Preface

The thesis is divided into five chapters, followed by the conclusion.

The first chapter, the 'Introduction', focuses on some major concepts and approaches about social change in Indian society, such as the endogenous and exogenous factors of change, the conditions in Indian society, that inspired reformist activities, the nature and impact of these activities, with a brief account of the contributions made by some important social reformers, such as Raja Rammohan Roy, Dayananda Saraswati, Gopal Krishna Gokhale, Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, along with a brief account of the contribution made by Swami Vivekananda towards the regeneration of India.

It tries to show how the reformist activities attempted to assimilate the better elements of Western culture with the finer elements of Indian culture.

The second chapter focuses on the concept of education as necessary for the development of a scientific attitude, which is necessary for the progress of man and society, and especially for the progress of Indian society. The chapter attempts to examine Swami Vivekananda's concept of man-making education as one that leads to total human development through the unfolding of the spirituality within man.

The third chapter attempts to consider the relevance of man-making education through the inculcation of social and ethical values in man. It tries to convey that education in social and moral values is essential because these values bring the humanizing touch, the spirit of universality at the level of human existence, as economic prosperity alone does not the have effect of 'man-making'.
The fourth chapter focuses on how the traditional elements of Indian society converge with the elements of modernization of the West, through the ideas of Swami Vivekananda. The attempt is to show that the convergence of tradition and modernity in Indian society was the effect of the system of new education and that the cultural modernization of Indian society persisted along with the dissemination of traditional values.

The last chapter attempts to study and analyze Swami Vivekananda's concept of humanism. It attempts to focus on his philosophy of Practical Vedanta through which Swamiji envisaged the integration not only of Indian society, but of humanity as a whole.

The conclusion summarizes the analyses of the preceding chapters and attempts to provide an insight into the value of the renaissance activities for Indian society of that time and of today. It tries to bring out the enduring element in the efforts of Swami Vivekananda to revitalize Indian society, and its perennial value.

The present research is a theoretical analysis of the concept of social change and the philosophical ideas of Swami Vivekananda, in order to bring out the significance of Swamiji's ideas for the regeneration of Indian society. The research is based on data available from the speeches and letters of Swami Vivekananda compiled as 'The Complete Works of Swami Vivekananda' in nine volumes and from secondary sources, written by Swamiji's disciples and scholars of Sri Ramakrishna Vivekananda movement, which contain an in-depth analysis of his contribution towards the regeneration of Indian society. Data has also been gathered from books on Indian culture and values and from lectures and talks delivered by learned monks of the Ramakrishna order,
and from newspaper articles from the Indian Express, and the journal of the Ramakrishna Order - Prabuddha Bharat.

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