ABSTRACT

The purpose of this qualitative research study, which uses mainly qualitative content analysis method with observation as well as unstructured interview technique, is to investigate the way out from the present educational crisis, locally as well as globally, under the aegis of Tagore’s as well as Krishnamurti’s educational philosophy.

It is generally acknowledged that the main concern of educational ideas of great thinkers are to direct the education according to its local as well as wider environments. Educational thoughts work as guide for all aspects of education as well as for all stakeholders of education. It is very difficult to cover all aspects of educational thoughts of two great educationists in one Thesis. The researcher confines himself to the study of the eight aspects of educational thought and their applications in present time in their schools. This comparative study of educational thoughts of both Indian born world philosophers, one is Jiddu Krishnamurti and second is Rabindranath Tagore, suggests how mixing of two beautiful stream of thoughts can help to achieve the ultimate goal of education especially when other way of thinking could not produce effective result in context of ultimate goal of education.

In order to investigate eight aspects of their educational thoughts, I analyzed available texts related to their educational thoughts and drew interpretations. All those eight aspects were: Meaning, Aim and Function of Education, Alternative schooling system, Teacher-Taught Ratio, Language, Role of Teachers and Parents, Teacher and Teaching, Methods and Pedagogy, Education and Role of Nature. After analysis of educational thoughts, I searched similarities as well as differences between their thoughts. In order to inquire how present education system differs from the line of thinking of both philosophers, I searched all policy related texts. My last step was to visit two schools i.e. Patha Bhavana, Santiniketan and Rishi Valley, Andhra Pradesh. I went there to see the actual implementation of Tagore’s as well as Krishnamurti’s educational ideas in their respective schools. Principal, Teachers and students of both schools were interviewed unstructurally.

The findings of this study uncovers that there are more similarities between educational thoughts of Krishnamurti and Tagore than differences. The findings of this research further show that educational philosophy of both philosophers is still implemented in their schools. The findings of this study also reveal that solution of present educational crisis lies in the both philosophers’ approach towards wholeness.