

Reference

There have been some great men in the world who have shown a new path to the entire human race through their lives. One of them was the great Vibhuti Gautam Buddha, popularly known as Mahatma Buddha. Mahatma Buddha, who showed the world the new path (middle path) with his thoughts, was a great philosopher, social reformer and founder of Buddhism from India. The evils that had gradually developed in the Indian Vedic tradition were first given a concrete challenge by Mahatma Buddha.

The Buddha hit hard on the rituals of the Vedic tradition, but incorporated some degree of philosophical subtleties in the Vedas and the Upanishads in his philosophy, thus creating room for innovation in the Indian cultural heritage by shifting it from a structured pattern. Of. In the medieval period, a revolutionary thinker like Kabirdas has a deep influence on the thoughts of Mahatma Buddha. Dr Ambedkar also converted to Buddhism shortly before his death in 1956, and explained on the basis of arguments why he found Mahatma Buddha to be more democratic than the rest of the apostles. In modern times, leftist litterateurs like Rahul Sankrityayan, influenced by Buddha, spent a long time of life reading Buddh.

In this article, the life story of Buddha, the positive and negative aspects of his philosophy and the relevance of Buddha's teachings will be discussed

Mahatma Buddha: Biography

- Mahatma Buddha was born on the day of Vaishakh Purnima in 563 BC in Lumbini, located in the lowlands of Nepal.
- It is well known that in his youth he saw the miseries of human life like sick person, old age and death. On the contrary, influenced by a happy sannyasin, Buddha at the age of 29 renounced worldly life and set out in search of truth.
- Mahatma Buddha attained self-realization while meditating under a Peepal tree in Bodh Gaya on the day of Vaishakh Purnima in 528 BC.
- On the day of Vaishakh Purnima, in 483 BC, Mahatma Buddha attained Nirvana at a place called Kushinara.
- After his death his disciples called a council at Rajagriha, where the main teachings of Buddhism were codified. Four Buddhist councils were organized to synergize these teachings in the form of pitakas, after which three main pitakas were formed.
- The Vinaya Pitaka (the rules of order for Buddhists), the Sutta Pitaka (the teaching principles of the Buddha) and the Abhidhamma Pitaka (Buddhist philosophy), are collectively referred to as the Tripitaka. All these are written in Pali language.

Positive aspects of buddha philosophy

- The most important idea of Buddha's philosophy is 'Atma Deepo Bhavah' which means 'Be your own lamp'. It means that the person should decide the purpose of his life or the moral-immoral question himself. This idea is important because it

challenges the monopoly of a small intelligentsia in the field of knowledge and morality and provides an opportunity for everyone to enter it.

- The second major idea of Buddha's philosophy is known as the 'middle path'. At the subtle philosophical level, its meaning is somewhat different, but at the level of cosmic it only means that any kind of extreme behaviour should be avoided.
- The third major idea of Buddha philosophy is 'sensibility'. Sensitivity here means the ability to feel the suffering of others. At present what psychology calls empathy, is often what has been called sensitivity in India.
- The fourth major idea of Buddha's philosophy is that he places more emphasis on philosophism than on the afterlife. Significantly, in the philosophies prevalent during the time of Buddha, apart from Charvaka, almost all the philosophies were paying more attention to the after world. The essence of his thoughts was that this world is false and the hereafter is the real truth. This encouraged unnecessary rituals and rituals.
- Buddha deliberately rejected most of the transcendental notions.
- The fifth major idea of Buddha Darshan is that he advises one to be free from ego. Ego means the feeling of 'I'. This 'me' is the root of most conflicts. That's why it is absolutely pointless to have ego on personality.
- The sixth major idea of Buddha philosophy is related to the belief of change of heart. Buddha was highly convinced that every person has the potential to become good, it is important to believe in him and provide him with the right conditions.

Negative aspects of buddha philosophy

- Buddha's weakest idea is his belief that all life is miserable. Out of the four noble truths he has told, the first is 'Sarvam Dukham' i.e. everything is miserable. At this point the Buddha appears to be one-sided, while life can be said to be neither just sad nor just happy. The truth is that the desire for happiness is the only motivation that excites a person towards life.
- Another important flaw in the Buddha's ideas is seen in the context of women's rights. Like not allowing women to enter the Sangh in the beginning. It is believed that he had told his disciple Anand that if women had not entered the Sangh, this religion would have lasted for a thousand years, but now it will be able to last only 500 years. Whereas at present we see that women are able to walk shoulder to shoulder with men in every field.

Relevance of thoughts of Mahatma Buddha

- Mahatma Buddha is a great figure of Indian heritage. He showed a new path to the entire human civilization. His thoughts, almost 2500 years after his death, remain relevant to our society even today.
- In the present time, the importance of Buddha's idea of self-determination increases, in fact, today a person takes important decisions of his life at his home, office, college etc. The Buddha's principle of 'Atma Deepo Bhavah' emphasizes on the individual becoming an individual.

- The Buddha's Middle Path doctrine is as relevant today as it was at the time of Buddha. His views are corroborated by the statement that the string of the veena should not be stretched so much that it should break or it should not be loosened so much that it does not produce vocal sound.
- In fact, today there are all kinds of fights in the world like communalism, terrorism, naxalism, racism and casteism etc. The fundamental philosophical problem at the root of all these conflicts is that no individual country or institution is ready to back down from its point of view. From this point of view, whether it is an extremist group like Islamic State or any group that accepts the mob lynching ideology in a fanatical form or any other group, the basic problem with all is the attitude itself. Our moral outlook becomes better once we accept the middle way principle of Mahatma Buddha. We start to believe that having too much of anything is fatal. This idea leads us to reconcile different points of view and achieve consensus.
- Mahatma Buddha's view that desires are the root cause of suffering, seems relevant to today's consumerist society. In fact, for the satisfaction of every desire, natural or social resources are required. In such a situation, if the strength of desires increases among all individuals, then natural resources will start getting destroyed, as well as tension will arise in social relations. In such a situation, it becomes imperative for society and morality to control one's desires. This is corroborated by the recent Earth Hour Shoot Day report, which shows that the resources that were supposed to last a year have been exhausted within eight months.

Conclusion

Like every thinker, Buddha attracts at some points and at some points does not. The sign of prudence is that we choose the things of our work and discard those which are useless. What should be learned from the Buddha is that the essence of life is in balance, it is wrong to take it on the path of any extremism. Every person has creative potential, so instead of blindly imitating, one should forge one's own path.