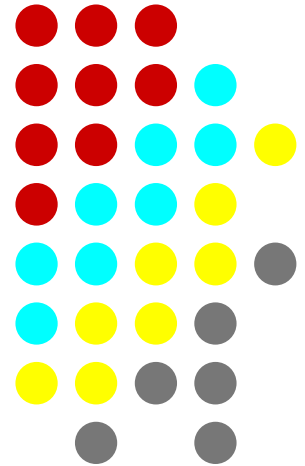


# Swami Vivekananda

## SWRK5003



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# SWRK5003

## Social Work Intervention

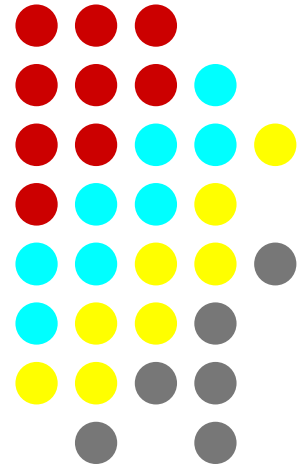
### Unit- V

## Bharatiya Approaches to Social Change and Development



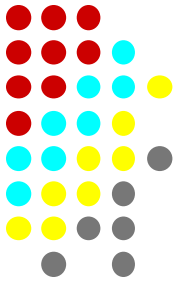
### Topic

## Approaches to Constructive Work: Swami Vivekananda



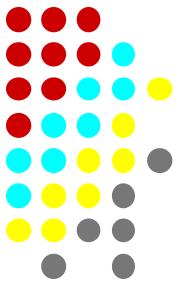


# Contents



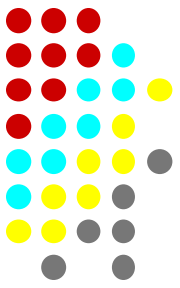
- Swami Vivekananda
- Birth, Childhood and Education of Swami Vivekananda
- Meeting with Ramakrishna Paramhansa
- New Philosophy of Work
- Philosophy of Swami Vivekananda
- World Religions Conference At Chicago
- Foundation of Ramakrishna Mission
- Precept of Swami Vivekananda
- References

# Swami Vivekananda (AD 1863-1902)



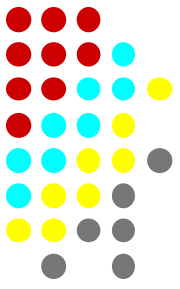
- The 19th century God-man of India was- Vivekananda.
- Vivekananda's philosophies moved around harmony of religions.
- Ramakrishna Mission was founded in 1897 by the favourite disciple of Ramkrishna Paramhansa i.e. Swami Vivekananda.
- The mission stood for social service.
- The best way to serve God is to serve mankind was its motto.
- Vivekananda had a character altogether different from that of his master.
- He was considered generous, and had a liberal and progressive outlook in social and religious matters.

# Birth, Childhood and Education of Swami Vivekananda



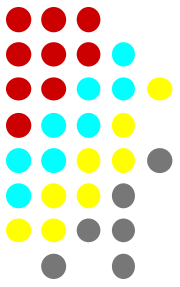
- Swami Vivekananda ji's original name was Narendranath.
- He was born in Shimla Pally, Calcutta on 12th January, 1863 (Swamiji's Jayanti i.e. birth anniversary is celebrated as the 'International Youth Day').
- His father Vishwanath Dutta was an attorney of Calcutta High Court.
- Right from childhood, two aspects of his behavior could clearly be noticed.
- One was his devout and compassionate nature and the other was his readiness to perform any act of courage.
- Since his whole family was spiritually inclined, he received an appropriate religious upbringing.

# Education of Swami Vivekananda



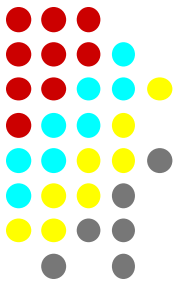
- *Swami* Vivekananda was admitted to the school founded by Mr. Ishwarchandra Vidyasagar in 1870.
- While in school he focused both on studies as well as body building.
- He had great respect for his mother tongue.
- Later he learnt English owing to compulsion.
- Swami Vivekananda stood first in his matriculate examination and added to the glory of his family and school.
- Then he joined the Presidency College in Kolkata and completed his M.A. in Philosophy.
- Narendranath had varied interests and a wide range of scholarship in philosophy, history, social sciences, arts, literature, and other subjects.
- He evinced much interest in scriptural texts, Vedas, the Upanishads, Bhagavad Gita, Ramayana, Mahabharata and the Puranas.

# Meeting with Ramakrishna Paramhansa



- He studied Indian and Western philosophies but could not find peace of mind until he met Ramakrishna.
- He was, however, not content just with spirituality.
- The question that constantly agitated him was the degenerated condition of his motherland.
- After an all-India tour he found that “poverty, squalor, loss of mental vigor and no hope for the future were prevalent everywhere.

# New Philosophy of Work

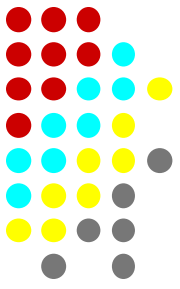


A new Philosophy of Work: Swami Vivekananda has given a new philosophy of work for the modern world. All work is done on the basis of philosophy of work, which is based upon:

- All Work is sacred
- Work is Worship
- Service to Man is Service to God
- Focus on Service to poor and downtrodden
- Work is a spiritual Discipline

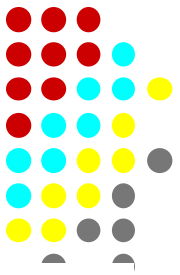


# Philosophy of Swami Vivekananda



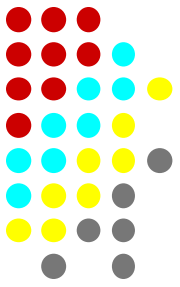
- Vivekananda frankly stated, “It is we who are responsible for all our misery and all our degradation”.
- He urged his countrymen to work for their own salvation.
- So he took upon himself the task of awakening his countrymen and reminding them of their weaknesses.
- He inspired them *“to struggle unto life and death to bring about a new state of things -sympathy for the poor, and bread to their hungry mouths, enlightenment to the people at large”*.
- Vivekananda’s philosophies moved around harmony of religions. And this harmony is to be realized by deepening of Individual’s God-consciousness.

# *World Religions Conference At Chicago*



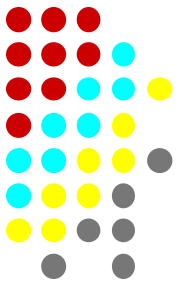
- In the year 1892, Narendranath Datta traveled through the Western Coast and South where he took the name of Swami Vivekananda.
- He was very eager to attend the World Parliament of Religions at Chicago. The Maharaja of Khetri, who suggested him to take the name of Swami Vivekananda, helped him to reach Chicago.
- Swami Vivekananda left Bombay on 31st May, 1893 and arrived at Chicago on 11th September to participate in the *All World Religions Conference* (Parliament of Religions) .
- His address there made a deep impression on the people of other countries and thus helped to raise the prestige of Indian culture in the eyes of the world.
- During his stay in the abroad, he was very much impressed with the institutions and wanted to establish an organization in India.

# Foundation of Ramakrishna Mission



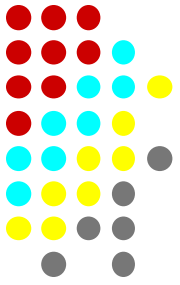
- Swamiji wanted an organization that would be an example for India.
- Through this organization the message of Sri Ramakrishna and its activities would spread and create a new society based on Sri Ramakrishna's teachings.
- *Ramakrishna Mission was founded in 1897 by his favourite disciple Swami Vivekananda.*
- The best way to serve God is to serve mankind was its motto.
- Ramakrishna Mission, since its beginning, has grown into a very powerful centre of numerous public activities. These include organizing relief during floods, famines and epidemics, establishing hospitals and running educational institutions.

# Precept of Swami Vivekananda

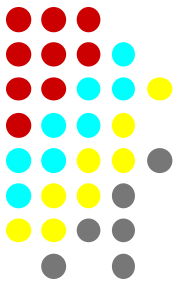


- Swami Vivekananda's philosophy is shaped by the influence of Vedanta.
- He may be regarded as the profounder of 'Practical Vedanta' or 'Neo-Vedantin' as he redirected Vedanta from strict philosophy to practical life.
- Though Vivekananda is an idealist but he interprets the spiritual idealism of Shankara with dynamic spirit.
- Vivekananda observed that though apparently the Vedas speak of a host of God and Goddesses, there is always a tendency of monotheism involved there in.
- Vivekananda was inspired by monotheistic nature of Vedic God all through his life which
- ultimately gets maturity in his practical Vedanta that asserts oneness of all creatures.

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**THANK YOU**