

## Dr. S. Radhakrishnan and his Geo-Educational Movements: *In a nutshell*

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### Abstract:

*Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan is a pathfinder of the nourishing and flourishing of the educational philosophy and he flagged it on the heart of educational sphere with summa-cum-laude. In his 86 years 7 months 12 days life, he ushered the class of education, the actual truth of education and the real mirror of philosophy. The becloud state of the history of education and its philosophy has been removed by the educational thought of Radhakrishnan. He was engaged not only in India but also in Xeno to express the actual means of education and travelled more than 16 countries (like: England, Romania, Soviet Russia, Japan, USA, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia, France, Honolulu, Rome, Bulgaria, China, Ethiopia etc.) of the world; i.e. his geographical movements bear a fruitful relevance to blooming the education as well as the philosophy of education in worldwide.*

*Present researcher is trying to underscore the geographical footmarks of Radhakrishnan; which was the base of the nourishing and flourishing of the actual meaning of education, philosophy and educational philosophy at worldwide.*

**Key words:** Education, philosophy, educational philosophy

## **Prolegomena:**

All history must be dealt with geography. This statement is more or less very true in all of our life. Like all sagacious persons Dr. Radhakrishnan's life also bears the geographical importance to nourish and flourish of his educational philosophy. Without the geographical movements of his footprints he couldn't shape his philosophy of life or philosophy of education. On the basis of his migration from intra country to inter country he expressed the actual mean of philosophy of education and lighted the need of actual education. He built a bridge between the East and the West by showing how the philosophical systems of each tradition are comprehensible within the terms of the other.

## **Objective:**

To underscore the geographical footmarks of Radhakrishnan; which were the base of the nourishing and flourishing of the actual meaning of education, philosophy and educational philosophy at worldwide.

## **Methodology:**

To build up the objective researcher mainly gave emphasizes on the literature review of different books of Radhakrishnan's life.

## **Educational Philosophy of Radhakrishnan:**

Radhakrishnan had had the rare honour of teaching at Oxford and occupying the Spalding Chair on Eastern religions and philosophy. What he achieved at that point of time, when the British rule was very intact would remain greatly in the history of India. Today after nearly a generation of changes, his

philosophy's impact remains debatable. Certainly, there would not be many to take his very highly rhetorical orations. Philosophical thought itself had undergone radical change. He sought to demonstrate that his Hinduism was both philosophically coherent and ethically viable. All this doesn't distract us from the historic role he played in raising India's image as a contributor of an ancient religion, Hinduism and certainly gave a new interpretation giving Indian thought a contemporary relevance. His was not an academic philosophy, nor was it only a religion with a theology of its own, like Christianity. One of his achievements in his time was to resist the many threats of Christianity to claim any superiority. Now, this needn't hold us, for the world is at a different level of religious conflicts and we all, everywhere, in the West and the East are encountering multicultural societies, there is massive migration of people across nations and continents, there is in every major country the conflicts of religions, ethnic identity crises and much more issues like environment, HIV/AIDS etc. Radhakrishnan's concern for experience and his extensive knowledge of the Western philosophical and literary traditions has earned him the reputation of being a bridge-builder between India and the West. He often appears to feel at home in the Indian as well as the Western philosophical contexts, and draws from both Western and Indian sources throughout his writing. Because of this, Radhakrishnan has been held up in academic circles as a representative of Hinduism to the West. His lengthy writing career and his many published works have been influential in shaping the West's understanding of Hinduism, India, and the East.

### **Geographical Footprints of Radhakrishnan**

| Year                                 | Life scenario                                      | GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION |
|--------------------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| 5 <sup>th</sup><br>September<br>1888 | Birth Place  | THIRUTTANI            |
| 1896                                 | primary education was at Primary Board High School | TIRUTTANI,<br>MADRAS  |

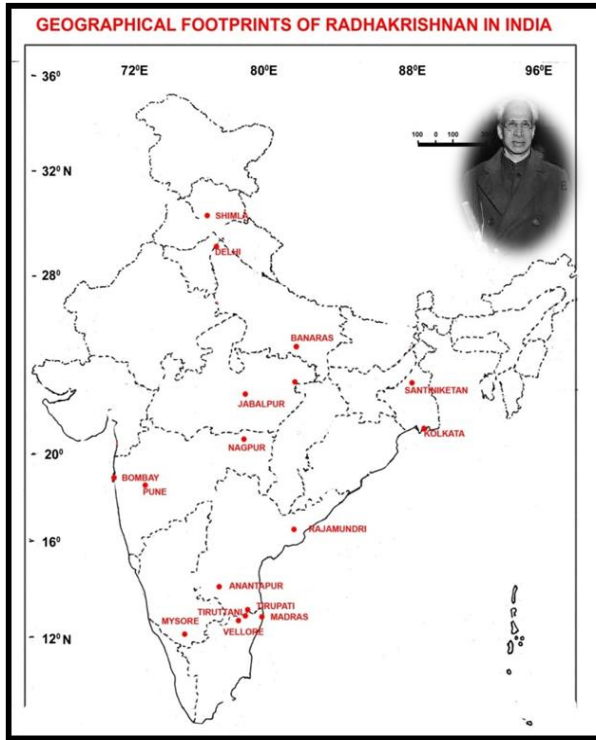
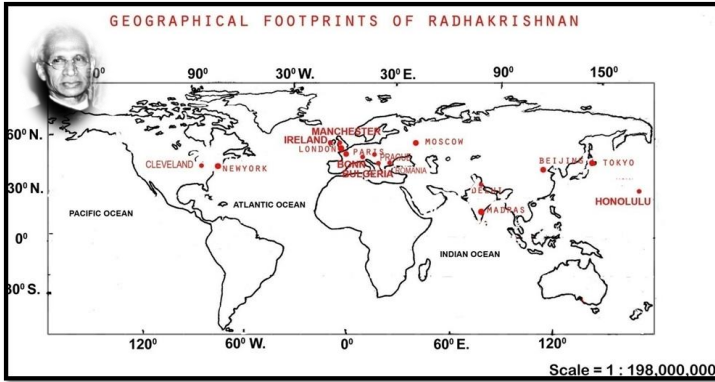
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|                   |   |   |
|-------------------|---|---|
| 1896              | moved to the Hermansburg Evangelical Lutheral Mission School  | <b>TIRUPATI, MADRAS</b>                                     |
| 1900-1904         | attended Elizabeth Rodman Voorhees College  | <b>VELLORE</b>  |
| April 1909        | was appointed to the Department of Philosophy at the Madras Presidency College  | <b>MADRAS</b>   |
| 1904-1908         | Madras Christian College  | <b>MADRAS</b>   |
| 1916              | For 3 months was posted to Anantapur, Andhra Pradesh  | <b>ANANTAPUR, ANDRAPRADESH</b>                              |
| 1917              | was transferred yet again, this time to Rajahmundry   | <b>RAJAHMUNDRY</b>  |
| 1918              | was selected as Professor of Philosophy by the University of Mysore   | <b>MYSORE</b>   |
| 1919              | Visited with Rabindranath Tagore  | <b>MYSORE</b>   |
| 1921-1932         | appointments included the King George V Chair of Mental and Moral Science at the University of Calcutta   | <b>CALCUTTA</b>   |
| September 1926    | represented the University of Calcutta at the International Congress of Philosophy at Harvard University  | <b>HARVARD, UK</b>  |
| 1929              | invitation to deliver the Hibbert Lecture on the ideals of life which he delivered at Harris Manchester College, Oxford   | <b>OXFORD, UK</b>   |
| 1929              | invited to take the post vacated by Principal J. Estlin Carpenter at Harris Manchester College  | <b>MANCHESTER</b>   |
| December 26, 1931 | Attended the seat of Chair person in Town Hall of Kolkata to accord a respectful reception for Rabindranath Tagore  | <b>KOLKATA</b>  |
| 1936-1952         | Spalding Professor of Eastern Religion and Ethics at Oxford University<br>1 <sup>st</sup> July, 1936 gave the speech on 'the supreme spiritual ideal the Hindu view' in the meeting of World congress<br>20 oct. 1936, gave the speech on 'the world unborn soul' | <b>OXFORD, UK</b><br><br><b>LONDON</b><br><br><b>OXFORD</b> |
| December 1937     | present in 13th session of the Indian Philosophical Congress held at Nagpur   | <b>NAGPUR</b>   |
| September, 1938   | Visit to Rabindranath Tagore  | <b>SANTINIKETAN</b>   |
| 1939              | Madan Mohan Malaviya invited him to succeed him as the Vice-Chancellor of Banaras Hindu University  | <b>BANARAS</b>  |
| August 7, 1940    | Sir Maurice Gwyer, Rabindranath Tagore, Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan come out from Sinha Sadan, Santiniketan after the Oxford University Convocation  | <b>SANTINIKETAN</b>   |
| 1942              | Came for the invitation of Calcutta University  | <b>KOLKATA</b>  |
| 1944              | Invited from China and gave the lecture on 'India and China'  | <b>PIKING</b>   |
| 1944              | Represented India in UNESCO   | <b>PARIS</b>  |
| 1946-52           | represented India at UNESCO   | <b>SOVIET UNION</b>   |
| 1950              | was called to the Kremlin to meet Stalin.   | <b>KREMLIN</b>  |
| on April 5, 1953  | presenting the Abhinandan Granth (Felicitation book) to Communications Minister Jagjivan Ram, on his 46th birthday..  | <b>NEW DELHI</b>  |
| July, 1956        | Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, being received by the President of the Council of Ministers, Mr. Anton Yugov, on his arrival for the reception held in his honour at Sofia during his visit   | <b>BULGARIA</b>   |
| 1956              | Got D Litt  | <b>OXFORD</b>   |
| 1956              | Represented India at UNESCO   | <b>PARIS</b>  |
| June 15, 1956     | Farewell from UNESCO  | <b>KREMLIN</b>  |
| 1956              | Member of Academic councilor of universities  | <b>BRASELOS, ROMANIA</b>                                    |













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|                           |  |                                  |
|---------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 1956                      | Added his name in the list of Charls university  | <b>PRAG, CZECHOSLOVAKIA</b>      |
| October 3, 1956           | Elected representative for International Congress Of Fellowship Of Faith   | <b>TOKYO, JAPAN</b>              |
| 1956                      | Visited at Columbia university , speech on Gabriel   | <b>COLOMBIA, NEW YORK</b>        |
| September 1957            | Chairman Mao Zedong hosted a welcoming banquet for the visiting Vice-President of the Republic of India Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan                                       | <b>BEJING</b>                    |
| March 27 ,1958            | Speech on council of Newton Bekar  | <b>CLEAVLAND</b>                 |
| November 17,1958          | Speech on metaphysical quest   | <b>BONN, SWITZERLAND</b>         |
| July 10, 1959             | Attend East And West Conference  | <b>HONOLULU</b>                  |
| July 22, 1959             | Speech in International P E N Congress   | <b>FRANKFOOT</b>                 |
| c1960's                   | Meet with Éamon de Valera and Prime Minister of Ireland Seán Lemass  | <b>IRELAND</b>                   |
| December 22, 1962         | Radhakrishnan visits the Institute of Social Service at Nirmala Niketan in Bombay on   | <b>BOMBAY</b>                    |
| July 27, 1962             | President of India Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan is being garlanded by an elephant at Sri Venkateshwara temple on  | <b>TIRUPATI (ANDHRA PRADESH)</b> |
| June 03/04, 1963          | The History of Special Frontier Force-Establishment No. 22. President Radhakrishnan's visit affirms the appreciation for American support during the 1962 India-China War. | <b>USA</b>                       |
| June 5, 1963              | With peen president P.Harnwell walking across the Penn campus  | <b>PENN</b>                      |
| October 02, 1963          | with D N Khurody, Dairy Development Commissioner and former Congress President U N Dhebar, visits "cows unit"  | <b>AAREY IN BOMBAY</b>           |
| 1964                      | Speech in the favour of neutral unity  | <b>SOVIET UNION</b>              |
| 1964                      |  | <b>ETHOPIA</b>                   |
| 1964                      |  | <b>VALICAN CITY, ROME</b>        |
| 8th Dec 1965              | published 'Parmarth Sopan' book at the hands of the Vice-President of India Dr. S.Radhakrishnan and in the presence of Gurudev Ranade                                      | <b>SANGLI</b>                    |
| May 9, 1967-17 April 1975 | spent his last years happily at his house "Girija"   | <b>MYLAPORE, MADRAS.</b>         |

Source: Sen A. (2010). Sikshaguru Dr. Sarbapalli Radha Krishnan A Biography of Dr. Sarbapalli Radha Krishnan. Gitanjali Pub. Kolkata. Pp.128



**Photographic Representation of Geo-International Movements**

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <p><b><u>IN SANTINIKETAN</u></b><br/>           Sir Maurice Gwyer, Rabindranath Tagore, Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan come out from Sinha Sadan, Santiniketan after the Oxford University Convocation on August 7, 1940</p>    | <p><b><u>MADHYA PRADESH</u></b><br/>           HITKARINI SABHA Press Complex, Civic Center, Jabalpur</p>    | <p><b><u>BOMBAY</u></b><br/>           Radhakrishnan (centre) visits the Institute of Social Service at Nirmala Niketan in Bombay on December 22, 1962</p>                                   |
| <p><b><u>IN RAJASTHAN (JODHPUR)</u></b><br/>           With Maharajadhiraja Kameshwar Singh and Bihar Zamindars</p>   | <p><b><u>NEW DELHI</u></b><br/>           presenting the Abhinandan Granth (Felicitation book) to Communications Minister Jagjivan Ram, on his 46th birthday, on April 5, 1953</p>                                        | <p><b><u>TIRUPATI (ANDHRA PRADESH)</u></b><br/>           President of India Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan is being garlanded by an elephant at Sri Venkateshwara temple on July 27, 1962</p>  |
| <p><b><u>IN BULGARIA</u></b><br/>           Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, being received by the President of the Council of Ministers, Mr. Anton Yugov, on his arrival for the reception held in his honour at Sofia during his visit to Bulgaria in July, 1956.</p>  | <p><b><u>IN CHINA</u></b><br/>           In September 1957, Chairman Mao Zedong hosted a welcoming banquet for the visiting Vice-President of the Republic of India Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan (center in front)</p>  | <p><b><u>IN USA</u></b><br/>           With American President John Kennedy, 1963</p>   |
| <p><b><u>IN IRELAND</u></b><br/>           (Middle) with President of Ireland Éamon de Valera (Left) and Prime Minister of Ireland Seán Lemass (Right) - c1960's</p>    | <p><b><u>IN PENN</u></b><br/>           With peen president P.Harnwell walking across the Penn campus (June 5, 1963)</p>    | <p><b><u>MYLAPORE, MADRAS(CHENNAI)</u></b><br/>           Residence after completion of his term of presidency in 1967. He prefers to read while relaxing in his bed</p>                   |

### **Annotation:**

Physically our nation's teacher isn't present among us. But his vision, mission, ambition and perception about education and philosophy are still now present in our heart, mind, work, and daily life geographically. For example in his 125 years birthday, we are giving our respectful time for his respect and our Vinaya Bhavana, our Visva-Bharati arranged a National Seminar in this 51 years Teachers Day.

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**Photo source:**

All photos of Radhakrishnana have been collected from websites.