

## A Philosophical Study of the Applicability of Confucius Teachings to the Contemporary Sri Lankan Education System

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Confucius is credited for establishing the context and methods of teaching. This study mainly focuses on the educational implications that can be derived from the Confucianism teachings. The research problem of this study is to inquire whether Confucius teachings are applicable in Sri Lankan context. The objective of this study is to identify the applicability of Confucian teachings of contemporary Sri Lankan education system. Comparative and analytical methods have been used. For Confucius, anyone and everyone should be educated regardless of physical, mental and social inequalities. The methods of teaching are different from one student to another. Student centered learning system is being admired by Confucianism. The priority should be given to the student and they should be encouraged to assess knowledge on their own. These teachings can be used to improve the effectiveness of the contemporary education system. A textual analysis of Analects has done in this study and it reveals that Confucianism has admired critical and creative thinking. Confucianism emphasizes three principles; Li, Jen and Chun-Tzu. Li means that there is an order or the way that something should be done by respecting the socially accepted things. It provides the structure for human interaction. Jen is the virtue of virtue and benevolence. Li represents the customs as ideals. Confucianism teaches students to find the way (Dao) through humanity normative behavior. Confucianism use education to be in accordance with the culture of the country. Then only the process would be effective.

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