

JOHN AMOS COMENIUS



John Amos Comenius (1592 - 1670) was a Czech teacher, scientist, educator, and writer. He was a Moravian bishop and one of the earliest champions of universal education. He is known as "The Father of Modern Education." Here are some interesting facts about Comenius:

Comenius was asked to be the first President of Harvard College --- and declined.

Comenius was the first to use pictures in a textbook.

Comenius wrote 154 books in his lifetime. Many were banned and burned by the Roman Catholic Church.

Comenius was the first to promote continuing education, and the first to advocate equal education for all, including women and the poor.

Read the following quotes from Comenius. Then write in your own words what his ideas mean to you.

"No reason can be shown why the female sex...should be kept from a knowledge of languages and wisdom. For they are also human beings, an image of God, ...(and) in their minds they are equally gifted to acquire wisdom."

"Not the children of the rich or the powerful only, but of all alike, boys and girls, both noble and ignoble, rich and poor, in all cities and towns, villages, and hamlets, should be sent to school."