

.
Jun 23, 2016 11:47am

'What is birth' is an interesting question. First, we must understand that the life energy is already there in the form of a seed to sprout life. It may be in the form of seed of a plant or semen and ova. But the energy is already there, unless you believe in a creationist God that builds life from a lump of clay. But in this concept also, once the human being was created (Adam) generations followed and is following. However, it does not explain other life forms, 8.4 million, as estimated; animal kingdom, marine life, and plant kingdom. There are three elements that forms life: Life energy, earthly ingredients, and the soul (which may insert from any past reincarnation, may be of a pious or sinful human soul, or another species). This third ingredient is unpredictable and that makes every human being different in nature and inclination. Common parentage, common upbringing and genetic code, or epigenetic and environmental influences determine gross, but not the individual nature. Development of inner nature is a complex phenomenon where many factors, including environmental stresses play a defining role. Thus, nature of even the siblings may be quite different. Remember Cain and Abel? Upon death what deserts is the life energy with karmaphala embedded, and what is left are the earthly ingredients that merges to where it came from. I agree 'thought jiva' and 'body jiva' are different, one is esoteric sense, the other gross earthly sense but in its combination, that is gross life form these two cannot be considered separately. When divine combines with earthly ingredients life sprouts, but earth has 'gunas' ; and when comes in the contact of pure consciousness, that is the divine energy, it tends to pollute/change the luminosity, and thus we get sattvik, rajasik, and tamasik inclinations. More when we meet, and after you have read the book on karma.Ashish.

June 23, 1016 on Facebook

Yes, it may need intense discussion. I shall be glad to discuss. May I suggest that you download and read my book "Karma its Applicability and relevance in day to day Life" where the aspect of mind and construction of individual nature has been discussed. It is not a medical explanation but has metaphysical dimension along with. Certainly, the 'sushuptaawastha' is blissful feeling of oneness with the universal consciousness but not reachable by all, in fact only few can reach this state. I hold that thought is an energy variant, and generator of action resulting in karma and its after effects. Dreams and kriya are energy instigated and infused with. There are umpteen examples where people commit acts while in sleep, without realising their existence at that moment, and being. Karma has three dimensions - manasa, vacha, and karmana. All these contain energy and leave imprints on the mind-conscious and subconscious. It also affects the conscience in one way or the other. We know something about gross mind but science has hardly reached explaining the

subconscious, the vast potential where we connect with the unbound universal consciousness. And, when one is able to immerse in the divine light result is oneness; what you have mentioned 'sushuptaawastha' . World is considered maya as for the creator Brahman one life cycle of human world is momentary, being enacted on the canvass of creation. One day of Brahman is 4.32 billion human years, and therefore for him the enactment is just a fraction in the time paradigm; it can be calculated by dividing 1 with 4.32 billion. Hope the book you are referring to is available on amazon, I would like to read it.

23-6-16 on Facebook

Sorry, I do not agree. Sense of want and desire gives birth to dreams, which is an energy variant and leaves not only marks, but also results in physical acts, such as ejaculation. Mind never sleeps, it is working all the time. During sleep, cognitive part of mind tries and takes physical rest as much as is allowed in a mind-body complex. Sleep is not necessarily a state of happiness, it may be harassing and harrowing experience if one gets a dreadful dream. Mind has three compartments, though interlinked, are different; one is the instinctive mind, one is rational mind, and the third is the intuitive mind, what we know as the individual consciousness. And, then there is the conscience or superego that tries to prevent from doing sinful acts. When individual consciousness becomes one with the universal consciousness one achieves moksha.' I thought is sense of awareness giving rise to ego and sense of individuality as a doer. Mind in fact, tries to suppress the 'I-ness' and engender us to dissolve the 'aham' into idam'. Subhash, If you have quoted from Maharishi, my obeisance to him, but with total humility, I differ.



Laljee Verma

April 7, 2011 ·

Plant at Okhla

Another public health issue! Waste to energy plant coming up at populated area at Okhla! Some time ago a study by an independent committee appointed by the Delhi Govt to examine health concerns voiced by residents of SukhdevVihar from working of a biomedical waste incinerator concluded that the health concerns were really not without basis and had found incinerator soot on all residence balcony etc. The committee had further recommended not to have the planned waste to energy plant there. But it appears the govt is hell bent upon having the plant there itself. Govt has said only biodegradable waste will be used at the waste to energy plant but one should realise that moisture content being higher it may not be a viable proposition unless the calorific value is improved - which is mostly done by adding plastic waste - a known source of dioxins, implicated with cancer and birth defects.

Think again!



Laljee Verma

June 20 at 8:11pm ·

Read in papers today that a large number of Muslim boys and girls are studying in RSS run schools as these schools are considered better in imparting inclusive education. That is good towards building ethos of nationhood. Clearly quest for education and knowledge has transcended religious dogma. It is a welcome step towards building cohesive Indian society.



Laljee Verma

June 20 at 8:06pm ·

Yoga is being practiced even in Islamabad. That shows strength of an idea, started by our PM Modi.



Laljee Verma

June 19 at 1:00pm ·

Read article 'Hesitations of History' by Swagato Ganguly on the editorial page in the Times of India, dated June 16, 2016. Nehru's failures as described are historical, no comments on that. No doubt Nehru provided plinth protection to India's democracy, but to say that 'Nehru's achievement stands out and dwarfs his failures' appears neither forthright, nor realistic. He may have been a great statesman in the world politics but failed India in many ways; and that way, in fact, his failures dwarfs his achievements as far as India is concerned. He was the person to shape the future of the country but perhaps was busier in world politics rather domestic needs and necessities to lay a strong foundation to secure geographical integrity, and national integration, apart from agrarian and rural development. His 'self-held' beliefs appear to have overtaken numerous warnings, advices, and trepidations on Indo- Chinese, and Tibetan political concerns of the time. He had a great responsibility and was very popular, not only with Indian masses, but also with world leaders. But he failed to cash on it for the sake of his country, and went on to seek personal glorification.

Laljee Verma

June 18 at 1:26pm ·

Very forthright letter to a CM who appears blind and deaf at the same time. He is blind as he did not see writings on the wall before aligning with a discredited party, and deaf as he does not hear woes of people of Bihar. He is called 'VikasPurush' but there is hardly any progress in Bihar that would make a Bihari proud. Law and order situation is bad, educational system has dived in abyss. It will result in deficient herd intelligence and quality, and steer the state to inferiority. Instead of blaming and always criticizing others, the CM should try and effect improvements in the state.

Karma its Applicability and Relevance in Day to day Life by Laljee Verma

Product Description

Every act is part of the karmic process; bound to have its effect.

Karma is considered the all-pervading, universal law of existence. It perhaps finds its greatest relevance in the sentient human mind. The karma doctrine cannot be viewed from a religious standpoint; it is relevant to all, regardless of sect, community or beliefs. No one can claim to live life without performing an action – from simple life sustaining activities to highly complex scientific or spiritual enquiry. What we do dictates what we get in this life...and the next...and the next...till we are freed of our karmic burden.

Genetic and transmigrating influences are, even today, subjects of research and discussion. The quantum and quality a living being brings from previous karma, if any, is a matter of intense debate, as is the effect that actions may imprint on our conscience. Deliberation on contentious issues is basic to human nature and has been part of human discourse from the dawn of civilisation. The attempt to define karma has consumed immense mental resource over the millennia, along with the search to understand the essential meaning of life.

In the vast literature which exists on the subject, pundits from almost every society and religious groups in the world, have attempted to explain the significance and validity of karma, or its lack. Though karma is basic to life, its purport remains veiled; deeply relevant yet poorly understood.

Self-awareness is a feeling of being in the universe; a substance dot in a life-process on the platter of existence.



Laljee Verma

May 2 , 2016

शून्यकीकोखसेजन्माथाअनादि
जबसंभावनाएं पिघली थीं
चेतनाकीहांडीमें,
निर्वस्त्र,
किन्तुप्रवाहमयीऊर्जा
स्वतंत्रहोखोजतीहैंदिशाएं,
आकारपाने, समर्थहोने,
बिन्दुओंकेआकारउभरनेलगतेहैं!

निराकार,

स्वाधार,

अशांत,

प्रतीक्षाकरो

सुबहउठकरजबमैंने
खिड़कीसेझाँका
धूपचढ़आयीथी
सूर्यअपनेपूरेरोषकेसाथ
ऊर्जाकेतीक्ष्णतीरबरसारहाथा
धरा,
सौन्दर्यउसकाम्लानपड़ताजारहाथा,
धरणीसोचमेंपड़ीथी
‘कैसेमिलूँअपनेमार्तंडसे
इतनाज्योतिर्मय—

बेचारीकुम्हलारहीथी

पासजानेसेभयलगाताहै',
औरक्योंनलगे
जबइतनीदूरसेइतनीप्रचंडज्वाला
इतनातीव्रतेज
तोपासजाकरतोजलहीजायेगी.
परतभीकिसीनेकहा:
“क्षितिजतोहै
क्षितिजपरजाकरहीमार्तंड
शांतहोताहै,
वहींमिलनहोगातुम्हारा
अपनेप्रियतमकेसाथ,
तबतककेलिए
प्रतीक्षाकरो, प्रतीक्षा!”
कलरातसपनेमेंदेखाथा
सुदूरअन्तरिक्षसे
ब्रह्मांडकेएककोनेसे
एकउल्कानिकलकर
बड़ेवेगसे
मेरीहीओरआरहीथी
कितनीहीदूधगंगापारकरती
इसीओरबढ़तीआरहीथी
किसआकर्षणसे, किसआकांक्षासे?
शायदकिसीनेकहदियाथाउससे
पृथ्वीबड़ीसुंदरहै,
सृष्टिकीअनमोलकृति
फिरउल्कापासआतीगयी
प्रकाशकाज्योतिपुंज
एकयानबनगया
उसयानसेनिकलकिसीने
स्पर्शकियाधराका
हिमखण्डकीवादियोंकोपरकरता
फिरमहानगरीपहुंचा
एकहीपलमें,
घनेवन,
फिरठिठका,
यहकहकरलौटपड़ाआकाशमें

कुछ

!

सरिता,

निर्झरिणीतयकरता;
औरमुझसे

“मैं फिर आऊंगा,
सहस्रप्रकाशवर्ष बाद,
तब तक के लिए
प्रतीक्षा करो, प्रतीक्षा!

On Speaking Tree:

Religion binds people but divides societies. Religion has been the greatest divider of the human societies. And, that is even when we do not know who or what may be the motivating force. Mankind has been busy in trying to find the creator since its inception but remains where it was thousands of years ago. In the process of this incessant search we have named the almighty by different names, built faiths on different paradigms, different rituals etc., and divided the social structure, for what gain? We spend huge time, money, and other resources in creating and maintaining places of worship and do everything possible to attract the unsuspecting laity and public towards a particular way/method of worship, a particular belief, and a particular unique god-perception. But we have not progressed much to unravel the mystery in known history of mankind.

On Speaking Tree:

Karmaphala is an invisible force and will have effects on other interconnected creatures; and if we extend the concept of interconnectivity we may then see the point that it may bear upon the immediate relations, the extended family, the society, and finally the nature and the environment. As discussed earlier energy can neither be created nor destroyed, it has to peter out. But the question arises what may be meant by petering out in the context of karma? The immediate answer would be karma vipaka that is ripening of the Karmaphala. Karmaphala is like an abscess and vipaka is when the abscess ripens, and pus starts oozing out.

Human beings live in two worlds: Material and Spiritual. Life is a combination of life energy (Universal Consciousness), earthly mass and matter, and the soul carrying embedded *sancita* karma. Which soul resides in a body, no one can say and that is why no two individuals, even if they are sibling or identical twin display the same individual nature. Science adopts reductionist approach and dissects the gross, but displays ignorance on metaphysical or spiritual aspects of life. The subconscious mind is storehouse of infinite energy as it is a part of universal consciousness; what is required is to attain a state where one connects to the infinite from finite. For a soul, birth is entering into the finite from infinite, and death is release from the finite.

On Facebook, June 23, 2016

Read the article by Sagarika Ghosh (Tof India, June 22, 2016). She certainly has not changed. She also can be called Congress Party's Chamchi (if you like). She has clearly alluded that people call themselves chamcha of Modi, like Pahlad Nihlani and the culture of being chamcha of Modi is growing. That be so, but she must also acknowledge that people who call themselves Chamchas of Modi have the courage and conviction to say so. Unlike thousands in the Congress sycophants (Chamcha or Chamchis in Hindi) who neither has courage nor conviction to say so. She should know that Nehru, in that vein, can be rightly called a Chamcha of Mahatma Gandhi, that is how he was preferred to be the first PM of independent India, and not the Sardar, though the Sardar got more votes for the PM's post. The episode is described in detail in a book by

Durgadas, the tall journalist. Nehru is reported to have threatened that he will destroy the Congress party. She should read that if not read yet.

Rightly said that Modi is the first PM who always thinks about the country rather self, has relentless energy, convincing power, great orator, and down to earth man. The way Indian pride has soared globally has not happened anytime in the past, not even during the (so called) visionary Nehru's era. If people declare to follow such a person like PM Modi, and in the process are called Chamchas, so be it! I am sure no one minds being an admirer of PM Modi and be labelled his Chamcha , not me, not many.

On Facebook, June 23, 2016

Laljee Verma ·

Former Dir Gen of Medical Services, IAF at Indian Air Force(iaf)

Someone needs to be reminded on Mulayam Singh Yadav's B'day bash and public money spent. How much money is spent on advertisements by different states? The fact that Yoga is being celebrated all over the world is a shining example that India has shown to the world. Idea of our PM Modi has gone viral. Obviously it is not only a slogan but there was a force of thought behind this idea conceived by a pious person. The bigger gain will be to bring the world together. That is what is required now. Yoga was also practiced in Islamabad!

On Speaking Tree Article in the Times of India, Jne 22, 2016: Mysteries of Matter, Energy and Microvita by Shri Shri Anandmurty:

Reading this article, I got totally confused. It says “mass and matter has got nothing to do with energy”. This goes against accepted fact that energy resides in even a speck of mass. If that was not so there could not have been any nuclear energy, no atom bomb! Further is says “microvita -smallest particle that is the silver lining is a thin line between the physical and psychic realms- is on this silver line of demarcation between matter and abstraction...”

My concept of mass and matter and energy is quite different. Universal energy creates mass and matter. That is how the universe appeared. Energy is all pervasive and is contained even in the tiniest part of a physical mass. This article tends to demolish all accepted concept of creation of universe that is abstract to material. Even if he is talking of microvita it is the energy spread in the void of space that is a part of universal energy, universal consciousness. Something akin to what the Jaina theology teaches, the *pudgal* spread in the so called, void of space. We all know that universe came into being from ‘nothingness’. But this nothingness, though many call it zero, is not in fact the mathematical zero, but has the potential to reach infinity. Zero and infinity are two points in the same spectrum of time and space. However, it is not correct to say that zero and infinity are not points; these are states in the timeless universe.

I feel the article lacks common knowledge in denying the accepted principles of the connection between energy and matter on one hand, and energy and mass on the other.

02-06-16 Times of India on article by Pavan K Varma “Global Village is a Myth”:

Read interesting and well documented and argued article today. Surely cultures of different countries and religious groups are and will remain different. But concept of global village is not only merging the different cultural streams into one river, it is different. Look at the history of Europe they learnt the lesson of peaceful coexistence after many wars and conflicts. True culture cannot be assimilated, or one culture cannot be dissolved into another but commonality can always be found, to have some governing machinery in common without disturbing the ethnic identity. One thing that binds people is sense of humanity, concept of whole mankind as one entity, '*vasudhaivakutumbakam*'. Clearly, what has been quoted in the article from "The end of History and The Last man" and "Trust: The Social Virtues and Creation of Prosperity"; reinforces the belief that mankind is in a self-destruct mode and one day only the last man will be left. That reminds one of the opening lines of '*Kamayani*' by Jaishankar Prasad, that pictures a lone lamenting man looking at the deluge.

Concept of Global Village is to live in harmony while retaining cultural identity and religiosity. Even the writer himself also suggests the same, though obliquely, in the last paragraph; that India is also something like EU, and one "must learn the limits of cultural homogeneity, and the importance of cultural diversity." Do we see a contradiction here? As stated above there is a subtle difference between culture, faith, and religion that a particular group follows, it is not common, nor will ever be common; unless one achieves religion of humanity. Mankind have devised a wonderful concept of 'Religion' that divides humanity. And, the way you look at the world, another country, another cultural group, think about another human being, another living species, or view the environment, all are attached to the umbilical cord called religion. Conscience and nature of an individual is greatly influenced by religion and culture.

But I must say to his credit that discussing the "Global Village" concept he could not restrain himself from showing his political colour to once again blame the Majority Community in India. I just want to seek answers to following questions, namely:

1. Islam is said to be religion of peace then why there is so much violence by the followers of Islam all over the world?
2. If culture is so important then why should not Hindus try and retain their cultural and religious identity, and why should one criticise the effort any time, and every time?
3. Do you have a solution to the cultural divide that tends to destroy cultural, ethnic, and religious identity?
4. Does he consider 'Hindutva' same as Hindu religion, or 'Sanatana dharma'?
5. Hindutva is the cultural identity of India that has emerged over centuries. Does he agree to this statement?
6. Would he suggest removing the concept of Hindutva from our mental dictionary, and still retain the Indian cultural identity as it exists today?

Laljee Verma

11-07-16, Comments to Umesh Chandra Prasad

Dear Prasad,

That is true but there are many thinkers and erudite, including Tasleema Nasreen quoting from verses from the Holy Quran believes, and rightly so, that violence is embedded in Islam. Violence, not only physical but in thoughts as well. When a faith asserts that his God is the only true God, all others are false itself has a connotation of violent thought buttressed by ego. When a faith professes kill and smite all those not following their way, and when it says punishment to leave the faith is death, is violence in the scriptural thought. When women are treated as a property it is ego and violence in thought, in whatever religion.

Moreover it is said by the deceitful preacher Zakir Naik that Allah created all, me and you and gave freedom to worship as they felt. It was also ordained that no other religion should be disrespected, then why Islamic fundamentalists disrespect all professing another way of worship; and why there be a dictate to kill those who renounce Islam? Why there should be a dictate to kill all non-believers? I tend to agree with Tasleema Nasreen that religion has something to do with violence among followers of Islam. Religious discussion is not encouraged in Islam. Christianity came out of it and look how well they have modified and progressed after they separated religion from governance. In Hinduism, and other Indic religions discussions and deliberation was, and is encouraged. Br Upanishads is nothing but a huge spread of religious discourse and discussion. If you want to see the video of interview with Tasleema Nasreen please visit 'satyvijay', it is there. Zakir Naik has been banned by many countries, including Muslim majority Malaysia! The Indian Government should immediately ban all clips that show and air his speeches and videos. Please read the books by Tasleema Nasreen, and Ayaan Hirsi Ali to know more about their views on fundamentalism in Islam. It is perhaps call of the day to walk the road to progress if discussions and deliberations are encouraged, and right thinking Muslims approach the religious discussions and discourses with open mind, and really consider in their mind and heart that all beings and non-beings are creation of God whatever name we may assign to Him; all societies, and all that nature contains. Religion is an idea, and followers are the mirror on which the idea shines!

Laljee Verma commented
Rana's post.

Jul 20, 2016 10:39pm

on [Sanjay](#) Laljee Verma commented on [Watch] Zee News' Report On 'Asli Kashmir' Is A Revelation That Every Indian Should See! - SatyaVijayi Great! There is no reason to demand Azad Kashmir, it is a perverted slogan raised by some funded by Pakistan. I ask what Pakistan has done to the part of Kashmir controlled by them. They have handed over a part of it to China on a platter. They have changed the demography. Do Indian side of Kashmiris want to have that? Moreover, what about Kashmiriyat and Jamhooriyat? It will be destroyed. Pakistan has been under the grip of Punjabi dominated army, and is destined to remain so. They have not learnt that religion and state should be separate. Only then you may get an egalitarian society. Pakistan is on the brink of disaster of its own making. And, I do not see them trying to come out of it. Theology and army run the country. They are against any other faith and religion, including different sects of Islam. Centre and state government have to come heavily on the separatists and fundamentalists. There may be no other solution. Otherwise such people like Beer Habibullah will never pardon India and the government machinery. Let us not fail the sentiments of such common people!

Laljee Verma ·

Former Dir Gen of Medical Services, IAF at Indian Air Force(iaf)

That is all very good but what about misdirected missiles in BJP? They are creating more problems for our PM rather helping him. American interest will

quickly wean away if they realise that BJP may not win the next national elections, and let me say that the way BJP leaders are opening their mouth wide to say filthy words, Chief Ministers of BJP ruled states appear interested only in acquiring personal clout, and the way they are attending to marginalised community is deplorable; and it appears they are losing the support of many. If BJP loses next election in UP their chances of winning the next parliamentary election will be slim; and, that will be the downfall of India, as BJP is the only hope. I would like to remind the PM that people of India have reposed faith in you, do not let them down, please.

Worth a repeat...

L: ZakirNaik, R: Maria Wirth

Hindus generally don't criticise other religions in spite of the fact that Christianity and Islam not only criticise, but demean Hinduism badly. ZakirNaik is only one example. Do Hindus know what is preached in the innumerable churches and mosques across India? I know for sure that Hindu gods are called devils by Christian missionaries. Yet Hindus neither defend their gods nor challenge the Abrahamic dogmas in spite of having a solid philosophical basis for their beliefs, which is lacking in Christianity and Islam.

Some years ago, ZakirNaik had ridiculed Ganapati and thrown a challenge to prove that Ganapati is God. I assume he means by God the Supreme Being that Muslims call Allah.

Now what do we know about Allah?

Foremost, Allah is great and merciful, and the faithful as well as the unfaithful are loudly reminded of it five times a day. He also knows what all human beings are doing, but is separate from them. It is claimed that Allah has communicated his final words to Prophet Mohamed. Those words are in the Quran. Allah declared that Islam alone is true. So, all human beings must follow Islam because other paths are wrong. And they must hurry up, because every human being has only one life.

Those, who do not accept Islam during their lifetime, will be thrown into eternal hellfire where "boiling water will be poured over their heads that not only melts their skin but also the inner parts of their bellies..." (Q22.19-22)

Clearly, here is where Allah's mercy ends. He does not brook any dissent. And the Azan, which started compassionately, ends with: "Oh Allah, guide us to the Right Way. The Way of those whom You have favoured, not of those who have earned Your wrath..." Al-Fatiha 1

This means, Allah is merciful only to his followers who are called Muslims and he is wrathful to those who are not Muslims.

Dr.ZakirNaik, I am confident that I got the concept of 'God' in Islam right because Christianity has a similar concept. And I dare to claim that it is not true. Can you prove (and this challenge goes also to Christian clerics) that Allah/ God is indeed so unfair and divisive? Can you prove there will be this huge cauldron of fire where billions of people will burn for ever after Judgment Day? Do these claims of "eternal hellfire for unbelievers" not rather have the purpose to keep the flock in check? To divide and rule?

There are about 2 billion Christians, who are told they have to remain Christians, otherwise they can't go to heaven. And then there are about 2 billion Muslims who are told that they have to remain Muslims, otherwise they can't go to paradise. Both religions had plenty of time to sort out which one is true, but they did not do it. Why? Because they cannot prove it. They can only make claims and counterclaims and fight among themselves, between Muslims and Christians and with heathens or infidels. They do this for the last 2000 years.

Under these circumstances, can anyone claim that Islam or Christianity is beneficial for humanity? Is it not time to have a thorough check of what REALLY is the truth?

In regard to the absolute Truth, Dr.ZakirNaik, your ancestors, the Indian Rishis, made valuable contributions and you can be proud of them. In ancient times, long, long before Christianity or Islam appeared on the

scene, the Rishis had a very mature understanding of Brahman which would be 'Truth' or 'Supreme Being' or 'God' in English. Brahman is not personal, not a superhuman entity somewhere in heaven, not male or female, not jealous of other gods, not revengeful if ignored, but it is Sat-Chit-Ananda, the conscious, one essence in all names and forms – like the one ocean is the essence of all the waves.

The Rishis realised that this universe is a wrong perception of Brahman. They called it Maya, not really true, only apparently true.

For anything to qualify as absolute Truth, it has to be always – past, present and future – and it has to be self-evident.

The Rishis came to the conclusion that nothing fulfils these criteria except pure (= thought free) consciousness. This consciousness is here and now, always, everywhere. Yet we miss it because we focus only on things or thoughts, emotions, etc. – like, when we focus a torchlight in a room only on the furniture and miss the empty space. Infinite space, which throbs with life and love is actually a good metaphor for Sat-Chit-Ananda – the highest truth that underlies names and forms (nama-rupa).

Science has meanwhile discovered the Sat-aspect of the truth. Oneness is there. To discover that this Oneness is also aware (Chit) and blissful (Ananda) scientists would need to turn to their own consciousness to research further instead of looking outside. Let us see whether the scientists will support also the claim of the Rishis that this whole manifestation is alive and full of bliss.

In one point, however, you are right, Dr.ZakirNaik: There is only one Truth, one God, which the wise call by different names. But the nature of it you got wrong. It does not send non-Muslims or non-Christians eternally into hellfire. The Supreme Being is indeed merciful and great.

But you wanted to know whether Ganapati is a deity.

May I explain a bit of your ancestors' tradition which struck me as most profound when I came to know of it?

Sanatana Dharma is not only about intellectually knowing Sat-Chit-Ananda, but about realising it. Since Brahman is all pervading, it must be also in us (AyamAtma Brahman). So we can tap and feel it. For this, however, we need to follow certain rules. We need to purify ourselves, lead a moral life, speak the truth, etc. To eat plenty of meat and have plenty of sex is not conducive for this purification. Yet one factor is very conducive: Bhakti – love for God.

Here Hindu Dharma brings in Ishwara.

The concept of Ishwara is close to the Abrahamic notion of a personal God but more benevolent. There is of course no eternal hell for unbelievers. Everyone gets chance after chance in life after life till he realises that he is not a separate wave, but one with the ocean.

Ishwara is God with attributes and has innumerable aspects, as this universe has innumerable aspects or human nature has innumerable aspects. These aspects are personified in different deities and the devotee can choose the one who is dearest to him. It helps to develop love for the invisible Truth – for example through Ganapati.

Those Devas are mistakenly much maligned by Christianity and Islam. They are not separate entities but kind of access points to the one Brahman, which is otherwise unimaginable. It is possible to feel familiar with them, to love them, to talk with them. And the scriptures leave no doubt that devas are ultimately Brahman.

And here, Dr.Naik, you may get an answer to your question whether Ganapati is ultimately the Supreme Being.

The Ganapati Atharvashirsa Upanishad, which is part of the Atharva Veda, states: "Tvamevakevalamkartasi, tvamevakevalamdhartasi, tvamevakevalamhartasi.

Tvamevasarvamkhalvidambrahmasi, tvamsaksadatmasinityam."

It means: You alone are the creator, you alone are the sustainer, you alone are the annihilator. All this is Brahman and you are that Brahman. You are indeed the Atman eternally.

This declaration, however, is not unique for Ganapati. It is said for other deities, too.

Yet the fact that this is written in a sacred text, is not proof enough. There are plenty of sacred texts in this world and if everything in them is blindly accepted as true, we end up with all kind of proclaimed truths which are not true. We need to verify what is declared as truth on the touchstone of reason, intuition and experience. If it contradicts all of these, it is not worth believing it and certainly not dying for it.

The proof that all deities are Brahman is because only Brahman really exists. Brahman is like the ocean. The waves are not separate from it. The name with which one worships the Divine, does not matter. What

matters is how much devotion one feels. The greater the devotion, the more miracles can happen. Ganapati is loved by millions of Hindus worldwide. He is the door through which they try to access Sat-Chit-Ananda. Sanatana Dharma is very ancient. And yet the Rishis had such deep insights, for example that the world is a wrong perception of what is really true, like seeing a snake at dusk when in fact there is only a rope. Westerners who ridiculed Hindus because they believe that the world is an illusion keep now quiet as science supports the Hindu view.

Meanwhile NASA scientists have detected the building blocks of DNA in meteorites. The Max Planck Institute in Germany published the first picture of the whole universe. It had an oval shape. Could it be possible that those who ridicule Hindus for worshipping a Shiva lingam might soon rethink their attitude, as well, lest they embarrass themselves?

Great men have come and gone in India's ancient civilisation. Some have been made into gods. There is nothing wrong with it. The Divine is in all.

It should make you reflect, Dr.Naik that science keeps validating the insights of the Rishis, for example the mindboggling age of the universe, or the ultimate Oneness of all.

Attempts to vilify Indian tradition by you and others are successful because the British weaned Indians away from their tradition and most people know little about it. Yet if you are sincere, you will realise that the wisdom of your ancestors scores high over the worldview and the mind set of Abrahamic religions. The attitude of "We alone are right and you go to hell if you don't accept our religion" is doing great harm to humanity. It may be helpful for world dominion, but do you want to live in a world where everyone has to wear a straight-jacket?

If I were you, Dr.Naik, I would be worried especially about one thing: what if you wake up after death and there is NO paradise waiting for you? What if all those Jihadis, who were inspired by you, cursed you after realising there was no paradise for them? What if you are taking birth again in another form and reap the fruits of your actions of this life where you consciously or unconsciously distorted the truth? Rebirth is not only mentioned in the Indian texts. There is also plenty of evidence for it – over 3000 cases are documented in the archive of Virginia University.

Dr.Naik, I don't know how deeply you believe what you preach. I know from personal experience how effective brainwashing in childhood can be. But I also know that it is possible to get out of it, and it seems the older one is, the easier.

For me, it was a great relief to come out of the Christian religious straight jacket and I would encourage you to also genuinely enquire into the truth. Your concept of God is not Truth. You quote a book as support. Truth does not fit into a book. Truth is THAT WHAT TRULY IS.

Your ancestors, the Indian Rishis, spoke from experience, not from book knowledge.

Yours Sincerely

Maria Wirth

Note Added: Google Maria Worth for her blog.

Laljee Verma <lalji.lkv2007@gmail.com>

12:36 AM (11 hours ago)

to Gautam, AVM, P, Hari, manmohan, bcc: ACM

Great piece of wisdom said very truthfully and forcefully with reasoning and logic; and of course from ancient experiences of Sanatani Rishis.

However, I have few questions for Dr Naik,

1. Allah was there before Christianity and Islam came to be known as Allah/God created the universe and the human being, therefore He had to be there before we came in the universe. Right? If you accept this argument then please tell me I, as a Hindu was created by whom? Mind you Hindus existed before

Christians and Muslims. If those who do not follow your religion how he is labelled as a Kafir? Agreed, some may say the 'Kafir' denotes those who are atheists, but even Caravakas and atheists are also children of the same Almighty. Then why despise them?

2. It is clearly advocated in Veda 'kasmaydevayhavishavidhem' which God should I worship, and to whom should I offer supplication. The absolute truth remains out of the understanding of an individual unless one is enlightened, and then there is exhilaration.

- But that does not come easily. The ways to achieve are karmyog, dhyan yog, and jnana yoga. The deities are only to concentrate during worship, and one of the ways to try and reach the absolute truth, the universal consciousness, the boundless ocean of energy.
- We are only reflection of that absolute truth, and we merge on salvation into that absolute truth.
- The incarnations, Lord Rama, Krsna and the Buddha were humans, not gods. They were subject to birth and death.
- Please understand that sanatana dharma is much older and people conceived iconic interpretations in form and symbols since they could not, and did not know the form of the Almighty; we still do not know. He is formless Brahman-Nirgun, and manifestation is karmbrahman or sagun Brahman.
- Concept of *Parabrahman* or *Ishwara* is universal. And, if you believe in religion of humanity the Hindus appear to be the nearest. Ved Mehta, the author in his book "*Face to Face*" says it very aptly "...we as individuals might even venerate Mohammed or Christ, as prophets, and still remain Hindus. That was the power and pride of Hinduism for it tolerated all religions and embraced all ways of life..."
- I doubt whether dictums such as '*sarvebhawantusukhinah, sarvesantu niramaya*', or '*sarva dharma sambhava*', or '*vasudhaivakutumbakam*' exist and is practiced in thought and action in Semitic religions. Against this kind of egalitarian concept if a Muslim renounces Islam the punishment is a *Fatwa* of death.
- Baruch Spinoza was excommunicated for heresy through a *Cherem*, and it was ordained that no one should read his writings. But he was widely read, and later (Hegel, the famous philosopher said that '*either you are a spinozist or no philosopher at all*').
- To be a Hindu or adopt Hindu way there is no ritual like baptism. Would Dr Naik agree to this?

- 3. planetary Configuration described in *Bal Kand* of Valmiki Ramayan was fed into computer with a programme application so developed by a researcher, and the date corresponds to January 10, 5114 BC!. Before Abrahamic religions if we, the human beings were there was it not reflection of Almighty, by whatever name one may like to call Him; God Allah or Khuda. So, how one can denigrate another religion or way of worship and try to convert, Abrahamic religions teach piety and compassion for salvation but practically believe and profess that it may be possible only their way! Why is it so? Why cannot a Hindu also believe in universal brotherhood, piety, and compassion and try to reach salvation while remaining a Hindu?
- The Almighty created the universe and our world in diversity- 8.4 million life- species, and innumerable non-living matters. Look at the diversity, no two individuals look the same, think the same, and act the same way. No two fingerprints are identical; no two eyes are same; they are different. So, if we preach singularity in religion are we not theorizing against the diversity Almighty presents and nurtures in His creation? What Dr Naik has to say about it?

4. Dr Naik proposes that he is working towards finding commonality in religion, but in his preaching he appears different. Why?

5. Almighty is one, there cannot be any doubt on this. Then did He say that call me by a particular name in appropriated time frame? And despise all who do not believe in such a name?

Hope to get response/comments.

Regards,

And, Thank You Maria Wirth for the excellent mail to Dr Naik.

Laljee Verma

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Comments on Satyvjay and Facebook on 02-07-16

मानलियायहसत्यहैपरस्वतन्त्रताकेबादहमलोगजाति -
प्रथाकोसुधारनेयासमाप्तकरनेकेलिएक्याकररहेहैंमानलियायहसत्यहैपरस्वतन्त्रताकेबादहमलोगजाति -
प्रथाकोसुधारनेयासमाप्तकरनेकेलिएक्याकररहेहैं?
भारतकेसंविधानमेंपिछड़ीजातियोंऔरविजातियोंकेलिएरिजर्वेशनकाप्रावधानरखागयाजोकिकुछसमयकेलिएहीथा.
परयहविडंबनाहैकिकोईभीरजनीतिकपार्टीनेइसेसमाप्तकरनेकीकभीभीचेष्टानहींकी, औरनहीकररहीहै;
औरवोटबैंकपॉलिटिक्सऐसीहैकियहअबतभीसमाप्तहोसकताहैजबसामाजिक-बुद्धिजीवीहलचलयाविद्रोहपनपे.
मनुकोकोसनाकोईभीराजनैतिकपार्टीनहींभूलतीहै, औरकिसीकोनभूलनेदेतीहै,
परप्रश्नयहउठताहैकिआजकाराजनीतिकमहौलइसेसमाप्तकरनेकीदिशामेंक्याकदमउठानेकोतत्परहैं?
राजनीतिकपार्टियाँइसमनुवादीमूलअवधारणाकोभांजनेसेकभीनहींचूकते. 2010 कासेन्ससउदाहरणकेतौरपरलें.
शुरुमेंजातिकाकोईकॉलमनहींथा, इसेकुछपॉलिटिकलपार्टीकेदवाबमेंबादमेंडालागया.
तर्कयहदियागयाकिइससेकितनीजनगणनाकेऊपरआनेवालेसरकारोंकोकामकरनापड़ेगायहसाफ़होजायेगा.
परअंदरूनीबातसमाजकोविभाजितरखनेकीथी. अंग्रेजोंकोहमकोसतेहैं, सहीभीहैक्योंकिउन्होंनेभारतकोभूखा-

नंगाकरकेरखा.

परक्याइसकेऊपरकभीविमर्श,

याचर्चाहुईकीमुगल-

कालभारतइतनासंपन्नहोनेकेबावजूदविज्ञान,अन्वेषण,

याअन्यक्षेत्रमेंक्योंकोईयोगदाननहींकरसका?

मनुष्यकाकोईसमाजजबस्थगितहोजाताहैदूसरीसभ्यताकेलिएकाआमहोजाताहै;

औरअंग्रेजोंनेउसपकेआमकोतोड़ाऔरसदियोंखातेरहे.

दोहज़ारवर्षपूर्वमनुनेजिसभीवर्णऔरजातिव्यवस्थाकाउल्लेखकियाउसेसुधारनेकेबदलेआजकाभारतीयसमाज,

औरखासकरराजनीतिकपार्टियोंमेंइसेभाँजनेकीहोइलगीरहतीहै. भारतकेसंविधानमेंजनमत-संग्रह (referendum)

काप्रावधाननहींहै.

अगरहोतातोनिश्चितरूपसेरिजर्वेशनकाप्रावधानसमाप्तहोजाता.

मोहनभागवतनेजबइसेसमाप्तकरनेकीबातउठाईतोबवालहोगया.

केवलअंग्रेजहीनहींस्वतंत्रभारतकीराजनीतिपार्टियाँभीdivide and rule केतंत्रकोअपनाकरदेशकोकिसीतरहसेखींच-खांचकरचलारहीहैं.

भारतकेसंविधानकर्ताओंकोहमसभीदूरदृष्टिवालेमानतेहैंपरक्याउन्हेंयहनहींदिखाईपड़ाकीरिजर्वेशनकाप्रावधानएकबार,

अल्पसमयकेलिएही,

अगररखागया,

तोकभीभीसमाप्तनहींहोगा.

दूरदृष्टिअव्यक्तकोभांपनेऔरदेखनेकीक्षमताकोकहतेहैं (visionaries are those who see the invisible),

नकिव्यक्तकेसाथहीऔरव्यक्तकोहीउजागरकरनेकीक्षमताको.

हमेंअमेरिकनसंविधानऔरसंशोधनसेकुछसीखकीआवश्यकताहै.

लालजीवर्मा

03-07-16

Read the article (diatribe against BJP) : “BJP’s Faultline Stands Exposed” in the Times of India, July 30, 2016. I want to post my comments and expert opinions and views, including that of PavanVarma::

1. What is wrong in the concept of Hindu Rashtra? Is it not that all living this side of Sindhu river were called Hindus? Hindutva is a much maligned and very much misunderstood word, and certainly politicians, the sickularists, purposely refuse to understand what it means. Even in the present days in many Islamic Countries Indian Muslims are referred to as Hindus! During one of my sightseeing trips in Turkey we, and another Pakistani couple were allotted seats on the same table (just 4 of us) during dinner in the hotel we were staying.
2. Where did he pick up the idea that *vasudhaiva kutumbakam* is considered only for Hindus? It was said millennia ago and is for the whole world without any differentiation in religion, caste or creed, an egalitarian and universal concept which is not found in any other religion or its scriptures.
3. What we know is that Muslim Brotherhood (*Umma*) movement wants to convert the whole world to Islam. Is this concept true?
4. He is right when he says that Hindus are vertically united but divided horizontally. But what the politicians, especially to which he is affiliated done about it? All political parties are doing everything possible to further divide the society on religious lines. So the fault line is there, already existing in all parties more than one can say in BJP; even in his own party and the great (?) *gathbandhan*. All political parties play vote bank politics, Congress being the leader. But of late regional parties have taken the lead.
5. He says RSS has been consistently critical of Baba Saheb Ambedkar. But was it not the current sarsanghchalak that called for eliminating reservation policy? And, then there was hue and cry. Reservation was provided for in the constitution only for a limited period but the ruling Congress continued, and no party can now gather courage to eliminate it. Reservation policy pumps air in the

balloon of caste politics. Is he ready to take the courage and do something substantial to end the caste based reservation and policy? Is it not that the Modi Govt has paid due tribute to Ambedkar?

6. Yes, varna and caste system described in manusmriti (which may have been prevalent at that time) continues to cast its shadow in all aspects, but what have the great visionaries and politicians in Independent India done about it? By having the reservation policy and practicing caste based politics we are further fragmenting the society and keep the divide simmering. He has alluded that Manu treated Dalits and women with contempt, but same manusmriti also mentions “*yatranaryastupoojyanteramantetatradevata*”
7. Sanatan dharma, or Hindu Dharma as we know these days is the only religion that provides worship to *nari-shakti*. It may have developed some faults is another matter, but this is the only religion that recognises female power and worship in edicts and practice. Manusmriti does say that a woman is under the protection of father, husband, and son but it does not prohibit women going outside on their own, not necessarily to be accompanied with a blood related male. Indian women are making huge strides in the male bastion, and no one is against it.
8. Cow slaughter is banned in many states in India, and that is older law than the present government. Regardless of its veracity, the law must be stringent. Unfortunately, administrative echelon, as it is today, have succumbed completely to the political whims. Those who take law into their own hands must be taken to task, but here again we find political interference.
9. What happened in Gujarat recently is certainly deplorable, but what came out later was that they were selling the dead cow’s meat, apart from skinning. There is a video in circulation that shows meat packets on a vehicle. I do not know if what is being circulated is the truth; it is for the administration to unravel and there is no need to politicise it. It may be considered as a law and order issue.
10. Lastly, would politicians take the cudgels against caste reservation, the root cause of political and social aberration? Will such erudite people, like Pavan K Varma take the lead?

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08-07-16 on facebook



Laljee Verma

1 hr ·

- I. I feel we are living in a world which is not only difficult but full of improbability, venom, and inhuman in acts and approach. At the centre of all these is the human mind that weaves threads of disunion and discord. This is mainly because we, the humans have never understood what is god and godly intent, who is the 'self' and how to discover the 'self' in you. Let me assure to you that we have little knowledge not only about God (if there is one sitting in the skies above, and sending the shafts of wisdom to the mankind from His high abode) but also about ourselves. And, that creates problems. Over millennia of human existence innumerable systems to define the Almighty have developed in the form of religion and rituals. None helps if we do not discover ourselves.
- II. Religion binds people but divides societies! Our ignorance about the name, shape, and form (including the formless); that is **नाम-रूप** has led human beings to search for ways to define the Almighty, little realising that He resides within us, and not sitting on a high abode and directing happenings on the earth. Heaven and hell are not places, but within

our own mind. What we do, our doings and misdoings dictate how the human conscience reacts. Nothing remains veiled from our conscience, just as the ascetics say 'nothing remains hidden from the Almighty'. It is our conscience that decides good and bad acts in thought, deed, and the ensuing results, not the Almighty, if there is one. I have dealt with karma and its effects in detail in my latest book "Karma its Applicability and Relevance in Day to Day Life" available on amazon. in and other portals. In the ultimate analysis we, the humans have created the concept of God and named Him in many different ways. That became, and continues to remain contentious and cause of miseries, wars and conflicts even today, and will continue to divide the human society, unless we create and practice one religious doctrine, that is the religion of humanity.

- III. I would like to add one more point. That is that total failure of human being to define the Almighty has resulted in many religions, and many ways of rituals. Where will it end one does not know! However, life energy is something that we have just no idea from where it comes and sprouts life. That is the basis of the concept of 'Creationist God' or whatever name the humans may have assigned.

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Laljee Verma <lalji.lkv2007@gmail.com>
9:31 AM (1 minute ago)

Thanks, Gautam for sharing the army man's woes in very gentle words, but the same gentle behaviour can turn him to anger when frustration sets in. The nation depends on the armed forces to protect national integrity against all odds, and in most difficult situations/circumstances. Let the civil administrators and politicians not meddle with just demands, expectations, and honour of the armed forces personnel, let the government of the day see clearly the falsehood of civilian control beyond legitimacy. Armed forces is the first and last bastion to protecting national integrity, and with this national pride. No one cares for India's spiritual credentials and principles of democracy or egalitarianism without strength to follow these core concepts.

I hope the political masters wake up in time.

As expected I am sharing it with most of my acquaintances and colleagues.

Thanks, once again.

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Laljee Verma replied
to Aishwarya Narain's comment.

Aug 17, 2016 11:13pm

Another quip. People with heightened sense of ego, and those who have self-centric mind cannot achieve anything worthwhile for the society. Self-centric people do not know themselves. They like to see the world revolve around them, but fact is somewhat different. You have to adjust to the outer world, not the other way around. We, as individuals must adjust to the universal humming, and when we do not, it produces conflicts, mental and physical.

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[Laljee](#)

[Verma](#) updated his status.

There is a difference between knowledge and wisdom. Knowledge is what is informed to you by teachers, books etc., or what you gain in education, but wisdom is the innate manifestation of the knowledge, so gained; by churning it in your mind giving out applicable, replicable, and demonstrable outcomes. There have been any number of illiterates, or semi literates with immense wisdom.

Aug 16, 2016

12:10am



[Laljee Verma](#) updated his status.

Aug 10, 2016 11:46pm

There are certain things and situations which, when embedded becomes difficult, in fact, impossible to erode. Individuals are servants of mind, and many factors make up a mind. Mind, which is apart (but related in many ways with anatomical brain) is a much wider and deeper in its function and construct than the anatomical brain. Thoughts are results of these archetype image-constructs of the mind, and not only of the brain. This mind is a part of universal mind, you may call it cosmic intelligence or universal consciousness. And, this intelligence is present in every cell of a living species. The archetypes and constructs remain embedded somewhere in our system that influences our thoughts, and in turn the deeds.

Therefore, there appears a time when one has to discard certain archetypes and mental constructs to get on with life. There is nothing more fundamental than self awareness, of course with subdued ego. Self awareness with self -centricity is the demon which we all require to keep at bay..

Live your life as you feel fit. We are more concerned to other's opinion than our own assessment, that is because we do not know ourselves. It is easy to know another person, his or her nature etc., than oneself. That is why the dictum at Delphi 'Know Thyself'. Being ignoramus about self is most convoluted and warped winding around the straight staff of 'self'. Life is experiential, and one needs to veer to another direction if the need be. One needs to jettison thoughts that troubles you. Think positive, think how can you give more to the society, you will feel better. And, believe me changes do take place, if not stymied with preconceived mind and thought. Mind is like a sail on a boat where ideas get trapped, but the sail has to be strong enough to retain what was trapped.

At the end of this small musing I would say feel stronger in your mind, and keep busy, it may not always be for personal gain. One should not ask the question 'what is in it for me'.



[Laljee Verma](#) replied to [Aug 08, 2016 11:19am](#)replied to [Vijayveer Painoli](#)'scomment.

. I would like to add one more point. That is that total failure of human being to define the Almighty has resulted in many religions, and many ways of rituals. Where will it end one does not know! However, life energy is something that we have just

no idea from where it comes and sprouts life. That is the basis of the concept of 'Creationist God' or whatever name the humans may have assigned.

Religion binds people but divides societies! Our ignorance about the name, shape, and form (including the formless) ; that is नाम-रूप has led human beings to search for ways to define the Almighty, little realising that He resides within us, and not sitting on a high abode and directing happenings on the earth. Heaven and hell are not places, but within our own mind. What we do, our doings and mis... [See More](#)



[Laljee Verma](#) updated his status.

I feel we are living in a world which is not only difficult but full of improbability, venom, and remains inhuman in acts and approach. At the centre of all these is the human mind that weaves threads of dissualation, disunion and discord. This is mainly because we, the humans have never understood what is god and godly intent, who is the 'self' and how to discover the 'self' in you. Let me assure to you that we have little knowledge not only about God (if there is one sitting in the skies above, and sending the shafts of wisdom to the mankind from his high abode) but also about ourselves. And, that creates problems. Over millennia of human existence innumerable systems to define the Almighty have developed in the form of religion and rituals. None helps if we do not discover ourselves.

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[Laljee Verma](#) in reply to [Kishore Roy](#) on Speaking Tree (28-07-17)

Very true, how do we reconcile to people harbouring wicked soul? It is a difficult question and needs some explanation. I am not a spiritual master, but a common person. All the same, I want to air my views on this question. We have to understand what is life. Life is a combination of esoteric universal energy and earthly ingredients. Life occurs when the life energy accesses the earthly ingredients, or the other way around. Fusion of 'purush' and 'prakriti'. It generates the 'mahat' from which we get ahamkar, and the tanmatras, ego and awareness. We think we are the doers, we are the masters but that is avidya, or ignorance. When the pure celestial energy comes in contact with the earthly ingredients it acquires impurities, and loses some of its shine. In most it becomes the wicked soul that we harbor. That is why the philosophy of purifying the soul after death. The departed wicked soul is still a part of the Almighty and works towards purification before it can merge with the primordial source, that is the Almighty.

[Laljee Verma](#) I saw the video on satyavijay that Muslims have come out to provide food and assistance, including up medical to kanwariyas at different points.
dated his Great! This is India one would like to see. Salute to our Muslim brothers.

status. =====

Aug 03,
2016
10:26pm

updated his status. मानलियायहसत्यहैपरस्वतन्त्रताकेबादहमलोगजाति -प्रथाकोसुधारनेयासमाप्तकरनेकेलिएक्याकररहेहैं?
भारतकेसंविधानमेंपिछड़ीजातियोंऔरविजातियोंकेलिएरिजर्वेशनकाप्रावधानरखागयाजोकिकुछसमयकेलिएहीथा.

Aug 02,
2016
11:28am परयहविडंबनाहैकिकोईभीराजनीतिकपार्टीनेइसेसमाप्तकरनेकीकभीभीचेष्टानहींकी, औरनहीकररहीहै;
औरवोटबैंकपॉलिटिक्सऐसीहैकियहअबतभीसमाप्तहोसकताहैजबसामाजिक-बुद्धिजीवीहलचलयाविद्रोहपनपे.
मनुकोकोसनाकोईभीराजनैतिकपार्टीनहींभूलतीहै, औरकिसीकोनभूलनेदेतीहै,

परप्रश्नयहउठताहैकिआजकाराजनीतिकमहौलइसेसमाप्तकरनेकीदिशामेंक्याकदमउठानेकोतत्परहैं?
राजनीतिकपार्टियाँइसमनुवादीमूलअवधारणाकोभांजनेसेकभीनहींचूकते. 2010 कासेन्ससउदाहरणकेतौरपरलें.
शुरुमेंजातिकाकोईकॉलमनहींथा, इसेकुछपोलिटिकलपार्टीकेदवाबमेंबादमेंडालागया.
तर्कयहदियागयाकिइससेकितनीजनगणनाकेऊपरआनेवालेसरकारोंकोकामकरनापड़ेगायहसाफहोजायेगा.
परअंदरूनीबातसमाजकोविभाजितरखनेकीथी. अंग्रेजोंकोहमकोसतेहैं, सहीभीहैक्योंकिउन्होंनेभारतकोभूखानंगाकरकेरखा. परक्याइसकेऊपरकभीविमर्श, याचर्चाहुईकीमुगल-
कालभारतइतनासंपन्नहोनेकेबावजूदविज्ञान,अन्वेषण, याअन्यक्षेत्रमेंक्योंकोईयोगदाननहींकरसका?
मनुष्यकाकोईसमाजजबस्थगितहोजाताहैदूसरीसभ्यताकेलिएपकाआमहोजाताहै;
औरअंग्रेजोंनेउसपकेआमकोतोड़ाऔरसदियोंखातेरहे.

दोहज़ारवर्षपूर्वमनुनेजिसभीवर्णऔरजातिव्यवस्थाकाउल्लेखकियाउसेसुधारनेकेबदलेआजकाभारतीयसमाज,
औरखासकरराजनीतिकपार्टियोंमेंइसेभांजनेकीहोइलगीरहतीहै. भारतकेसंविधानमेंजनमत-संग्रह (referendum)
काप्रावधाननहींहै. अगरहोतातोनिश्चितरूपसेरिजर्वेशनकाप्रावधानसमाप्तहोजाता.
मोहनभागवतनेजबइसेसमाप्तकरनेकीबातउठाईतोबवालहोगया.
केवलअंग्रेजहीनहींस्वतंत्रभारतकीराजनीतिपार्टियाँभीdivide and rule केतंत्रकोअपनाकरदेशकोकिसीतरहसेखींच-
खांचकरचलारहीहैं.

भारतकेसंविधानकर्ताओंकोहमसभीदूरदृष्टिवालेमानतेहैंपरक्याउन्हेंयहनहींदिखाईपड़ाकीरिजर्वेशनकाप्रावधानएक
बार, अल्पसमयकेलिएही, अगररखागया, तोकभीभीसमाप्तनहींहोगा.
दूरदृष्टिअव्यक्तकोभांपनेऔरदेखनेकीक्षमताकोकहतेहैं (visionaries are those who see the invisible),
नकिव्यक्तकेसाथहीऔरव्यक्तकोहीउजागरकरनेकीक्षमताको.
हमेंअमेरिकनसंविधानऔरसंशोधनसेकुछसीखकीआवश्यकताहै.

लालजीवर्मा

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was A masterpiece; not only the music but the messages it carries. We all are interconnected in the universe.
mentione We are in way or another, remain thoughtful to others, be it a positive or negative. Of course, positive
d in thoughts are godly munificence, but human beings suffer from a disease, that is to compare everything
a post. and weigh every thought and happening in the skewed balance of individualistic mind. When we do not
get over our ego, and centrality of mind, not only we do not know others but do not seem to know
Aug 02, ourselves. The factor 'aham' has to dissolve into the universal factor, 'Idum' only then we will see other's

[2016 12:12am](#) thoughts in purity, and realise its significance, if any. We will then see excellence and brilliance of the nature, the results of human endeavour pursuing the esoteric while enjoying material world, magnificent nature; and what humans have, and can achieve in science and philosophy. The steps we have climbed and the steps that the human being is yet to climb.

Hope you like it. Being a paratrooper myself, whenever I strapped the parachute at my back I always prayed that it was packed faultlessly. Thanks to those unknown and unseen hands!.

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updated his status.

Jul 28, 2016 10:50pm

Laljee Verma · Former Dir Gen of Medical Services, IAF at Indian Air Force(iaf)
One must respect sentiments. Religion is an idea of sentiments. Plurality, tolerance, acceptance, and diversity in religious thinking is what India is. Religious sentiments must be respected

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updated Do
his status.

[Jul 23, 2016 8:27pm](#)

Do								Nothing
Just								nothing
Let		let		it				happen
Envelop		the		moist				fog
Let								you
Fill	the		songs		of			nature
Let			your					ears.
Sublime	the		fragrance		of			flowers
Do		you		with				essence.
Just		let		it				nothing
Let	the		ocean		currents			happen
Where		to		take				know
Let	the		sails		of			you
Fill		with		directionless				passion
Let	us	enjoy	the	limits		of		winds
If		there	is		one			horizon
								!

[Laljee Verma](#)

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updated hisसंकेत
status.

(यहएकलम्बीकविताकाअंशहै)

[Jul 23, 2016...](#)
[8:23pm](#)

विगतस्वप्नपलकोंकेपीछे
ध्यानमग्नकुछगुमसुमथी
प्रणय,
एकनिशाअतृप्तरही!

प्रेयसीकीफिरप्यासी

स्वाप्न,
केवलरिक्तहृदयमें
वायुथिरकतीछोड़गयी
स्पंदनबसपत्तोंमें

अरेहाँस्वप्नबचगया

!

हृदयशून्यभावनारहितहो
अपनेमेंहीखोयीथी,
रिक्तपात्र,
केवलवाष्पसंजोयेथी

घट-जलकारेअब

!

हृदयसंजोयेभारभावना
करुणासेऑखेंभींगी
बीतगयीफिरएकयामिनी
छोड़रेतपरपुनःनमी

ओसबूँदभीरहीकलपती
आसलगायेचातकसी
"अरीयामिनीछोड़मुझेतुम
यहाँअकेलेकहाँचली?"

इसतपतीधरतीपरकैसे
मेंजीवितरहपाऊँगी
स्वप्नदिएजोतुमनेमुझको
कैसेमेंढोपाऊँगी?"

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लालजीवर्मा

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ommente
d
on [Sanjay
Rana's po
st.](#)

[Jul 20,
2016
10:39pm](#)

Laljee Verma commented on [Watch] Zee News' Report On 'Asli Kashmir' Is A Revelation

That Every Indian Should See! - SatyaVijayi

Great! There is no reason to demand Azad Kashmir, it is a perverted slogan raised by some funded by Pakistan. I ask what pakistan has done to the part of Kashmir controlled by them. They have handed over a part of it to China on a platter. They have changed the demography. Do Indian side of Kashmiris want to have that. Moreover, what about Kashmiriyat and Jamhooriyat?

It will be destroyed. Pakistan has been under the grip of Punjabi dominated army, and is destined to remain so. They have not learnt that religion and state should be separate. Only then you may get an egalitarian society. Pakistan is on the brink of disaster of its own making. And, I do not see them trying to come out of it. Theology and army run the country. They are against any other faith and religion, including different sects of Islam. Centre and state government have to come heavily on the separatists and fundamentalists. There may be no other solution. Otherwise such people like Beer Habibullah will never pardon India and the government machinery. Let us not fail the sentiments of such common people!

[Laljee](#)

[Verma](#) replied

to [Umesh](#)

[Chandra](#)

[Prasad's comment](#).hierarchical.

Law is not only for reinforcing humanistic behaviour but also a deterrent. In that case provisions persons from committing such crime. Fear is the key. Law must change with changing times and These days there appears to be complete disregard to human values, and societal ordains. Also crime think that they can get away given the legal system in our country and with the help of hierarchical.

Jul 19, 2016

12:51pm



[Laljee](#)

[Verma](#) replied

to [Sheela](#)

[Datt's comment](#).

Yes, that is the million dollar question. But even if included in the law it will act as a great deterrent and instil fear in the minds of potential rapists.



[Laljee](#)

[Verma](#) updated

his status.

Jul 18, 2016

11:14pm

तुमनेक्योंकभीकहाथा
संगीतमुझेनसुनाओ
इनशब्दोंकीपरिभाषा
मेरेहितमतसमझाओ

अभिव्यक्तिनहींहोपूरी
अर्चनाअधूरीरहती
फूलोंकीसुरभितमाला
देवोंसेवंचितरहती !

[Laljee](#)

[Verma](#) updated

his status.

Jul 14, 2016 'सरकंडोंकेबीच'

सुमंगलमप्रकाशन

(1997)

से,

आजकेसन्दर्भमेंभी

सर्दहवा

अंगारे चढ़ आये हैं
चिनार की फुन गियों पर
लहलहार हैं
केसर के खेत
पर इस बार
यह सर्दहवा अभी भी
न जाने कहाँ से आ रही है

लाशों की नुमाइश

शहर सुनसान है
कुत्ते भी नहीं भौंकने को
सड़कें वीरान हैं
कोई साया भी नहीं
छाप छोड़ने

सड़कों पर टहल रही हैं बंदूकें
और,
गुम हो,

सिकुड़ कर जम गयी है

हवा बर्फीली घ

चिनार के ऊपर का सूरज
आगिरा है घाटी में
तपिश लिए,
ढुलकता जाता है
और जलाता जाता है सभी कुछ
अपनी गोलाई के रास्ते में

श्वास,
नासिकाओं में,
दृष्टि पथरा गयी है
इंतजार में,
मुस्कान बदल गयी है
होंठों की ऐंठन में,
सर्दहवा से जम गयी हैं
अश्रु-बूँदें,

आँखों के कोटरों में

जम कर

शहर सुनसान होता जा रहा है

और,
प्रताड़ितोंकाहुजूम,
तम्बुओंकीकतार,

लावारिसोंकादस्ता
खड़ाहोदीवारसेपीठसटाये
कहींसेआयेगाबन्दूक,
औरबींधजायेगा
एक-एकको
दीवारोंपरबनजायेगी
एकनयीकिस्मकीनुमाइश
लावारिसलाशोंकी

प्रतिध्वनि

घटीबियाबान,
काले-नीलेपहाड़ोंसेघिरी
मैंकहताकुछ
प्रतिध्वनिकुछऔरहीआतीहै

मैंचिल्लापड़ाथा—
आवाजलौटीथी—
मैंनेकहाथा—
प्रतिध्वनिआयीथी—
मैंनेगुहारलगाईथी—
आवाजलौटीथीगोलियोंऔरबमोंकी

अबतोनीलाआकाश
बनगयाहैताबूतकाढक्कन
जिसमेंआवाजगूंजतीहै—

जबमैंचुपहूँ,
तोयहप्रतिध्वनिकिसकीहै?



Laljee Verma Very nice article, Dr Ranade! Life is experiential. Objectivity undergoes through the beaker of subjectivity, and intermingling produces a feeling, an idea, a view so different in different individuals, as

the mental makeup and attitude differ from individual to individual; and this mental construction in a person depend upon many factors, not only on parentage and social influences.

Laljee Verma

July 9 .



02-06-16 Times of India on article by Pavan K Varma “Global Village is a Myth”:

Read interesting and well documented and argued article today. Surely cultures of different countries and religious groups are, and will remain different. But concept of global village is not only merging the different cultural streams into one river, it is different. Look at the history of Europe they learnt the lesson of peaceful coexistence after many wars and conflicts. True culture cannot be assimilated, or one culture cannot be dissolved into another but commonality can always be found, to have some governing machinery in common without disturbing the ethnic identity. One thing that binds people is sense of humanity, concept of whole mankind as one entity, ‘*vasudhaiva kutumbakam*’. Clearly, what has been quoted in the article from “The end of History and The Last man” and “Trust: The Social Virtues and Creation of Prosperity”; reinforces the belief that mankind is in a self- destruct mode and one day only the last man will be left. That reminds one of the opening lines of ‘*Kamayani*’ by Jaishankar Prasad, that pictures a lone lamenting man looking at the deluge.

Concept of Global Village is to live in harmony while retaining cultural identity and religiosity. Even the writer himself also suggests the same, though obliquely, in the last paragraph; that India is also something like EU, and one “must learn the limits of cultural homogeneity, and the importance of cultural diversity.” Do we see a contradiction here? As stated above there is a subtle difference between culture, faith, and religion that a particular group follows, it is not common, nor will ever be common; unless one achieves religion of humanity. Mankind have devised a wonderful concept of ‘Religion’ that divides humanity. And, the way you look at the world, another country, another cultural group, think about another human being, another living species, or view the environment, all are attached to the umbilical cord called religion. Conscience and nature of an individual is greatly influenced by religion and culture.

But I must say to his credit that discussing the “Global Village” concept he could not restrain himself from showing his political colour at the last para graph; to once again blame the Majority Community in India. I just want to seek answers to following questions, namely:

1. Islam is said to be religion of peace then why there is so much violence by the followers of Islam all over the world?
2. If culture is so important then why not Hindus should try and retain their cultural and religious identity, and why should one criticise the effort any time, and every time?
3. Do you have a solution to the cultural divide that tends to destroy cultural, ethnic, and religious identity?
4. Does he consider ‘Hindutva’ same as Hindu religion, or ‘Sanatana dharma’?
5. Hindutva is the cultural identity of India that has emerged over centuries. Does he agree to this statement?
6. Would he suggest removing the concept of Hindutva from our mental dictionary, and still retain the Indian cultural identity as it exists today?

Laljee Verma

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Posted on facebook on 29-08-16

I feel pained and anguished on irresponsible and unwanted comments from politicians, including ministers at the centre. They are making Modi's life difficult by these utterances. What has skirt to do with our culture. Culture of a society has no absolute value. It keeps changing. Samskar and samskriti keep changing. There are many factors that determine the change. Certainly erudite know it well. Indian culture underwent changes with Bactrians, Kushans, Zoroastrians, Greeks, and many others intermingling with Indians; including (most notably) the Christians and Muslims. Go with time, and do not waste your precious minutes on these issues, like what one should wear and what one should eat. Spend your valuable time in something more concrete, such as good governance. Bring in the changes, badly required: administrative, legal, and economic reforms; that way you would serve the country better. It is absolutely essential for the BJP to retain power in the next parliamentary elections to take the country forward and further build on what PM

Modi has been able to achieve in the international arena. Such actions and unsavory comments only reduces the chance. Domestic politicization only makes difficult the aim of developing India to the greatness it genuinely deserves among comity of nations.

PM Modi's idea about reforms is clear, that he wants grass root development, and not only lip service and policies and programmes, that is only for electioneering. He is one person who can take India to great heights, and all should support his efforts, instead creating irrelevant roadblocks. Heads of nations all over the world looks up to him not just like that but they realize that this man is genuinely resolved to take India to the greatness. In fact, they realize that he has the good of the whole mankind in his heart.

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Laljee Verma on Speaking Tree

Sorry for re -appearing on the site after such a long gap. I was busy in finalising a book on karma doctrine for the consumption of a common man, which is under publication. Coming to the discussion regarding dharma we had entered earlier I maintain that dharma is not faith or religion but the core principles and qualities encompassing concern for the humanity, in fact the creation is dharma. Each ethnic and religious group sees and interprets dharma differently but it is unique in essence and need is to recognise this fact and shape life and actions accordingly. Dharma for a warrior is to fight. If that was not so the whole teachings in Gita appears flawed. Dharma for a ruler is to look after the subjects. If that was not so the whole teaching of Chanakya would appear false. Dharma of a teacher is to impart knowledge and create wisdom among pupils. If it is not so then all Upanishads and Puranas may have no meaning. Creation is the marvel manifestation of the Almighty (by whatever name we may know Him), and the humans being the most developed creature of this marvel it enjoins upon every human being to care and nurture this gift from the Almighty. That is the dharma of each of us, whatever faith and religion one may follow. Killing an enemy in a battle for the sake of preserving the integrity and ethnicity of a nation is dharma, but killing because one does not follow a particular faith or religion is adharma. How can celibacy be considered dharma for a grihastha? Life has been defined to contain four stages- dharma, artha, kam, and moksha. These have its own explanations and what one should do at what particular point in life, or in a situation should be governed by inbuilt core value of dharma.

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Laljee Verma

54 mins ·



Read an article by Partha Sen Sharma, a serving IAS officer in Times of India, today, Aug 30, 2016. Good that he has voiced the concern on corruption. Punch paragraph is "The legislature should amend the PCA to make is mandatory to prove pecuniary benefit to a civil servant before he can be implicated in criminal liability" Great, he wants the legislation to be changed to take the position of a judge! Bureaucracy, in India has demolished itself, has become totally subservient to political masters. We all know the quality of these day's politicians. If required, they will sell the country to retain power. Their only aim appears to retain power.

Administrative cadre has been reduced to playing handmaiden to politicians The cadre has deposited their spine in a cold storage vault and thrown the keys into the Indian Ocean.

Partha Sen Sharma, since you are a serving bureaucrat my advice is simple, dive deep in the Indian Ocean, find the keys, and reconstruct the lost spine. Whatever is not in the national interest, and/or public good, just say 'No'. Prevent corrupt politicians, or anyone else indulging in corruption. That is the only way. Regain your lost spine which has been wilfully surrendered.

Or, is a subtle and insidious way of suggesting that judiciary be taken over by the legislative wing, as well, as has occurred with the administrative arm?

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Laljee Verma on facebook on 01-09-16

You are dead right. IAS needs to be downgraded, if not abolished (as no government can function without administrative arm. Unfortunately, they have become power centre with no responsibility towards public. They are supposed to orient towards doing 'public good' but what they do is their own good, and also the political masters whose interests are quite different than what public may want, or aspire for. I cannot accept the fact that nothing can be done on a permanent basis to remove the menace of flooding year after year. Why the drains get clogged is mismanagement of waste. Despite a forceful law, that is EPA Act 1986, and MSW Rules 2000, nothing appears happening on the ground. We, the general public do not have the authority to correct, and those who are endowed with the authority do nothing about it!

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · Just now

On wordpress (Maria Wirth)

18-09-16

Religion is nothing more than a thought. Power of thoughts determine actions and propensity. Religions that teaches parochial approach cannot be a true religion. The Almighty was there even before human existence. In other words, 'Allah' and God were there before Islam and Christianity came into being. That is because religious doctrines in Islam and Christianity do say that Allah or God created the world and created mankind in due course. Then how the earlier civilization and culture, including Hindus become infidels. If Allah or God has been since the beginning of creation, then even the older civilizations were created by Him; and allowed to flourish for tens of thousands of years. This concept that 'my religion is superior to yours' is the ugliest expression of ego. All religious scriptures are full of intent of the Almighty that one should discard ego and be egalitarian. But custodians of faith always try to veer people to follow one way and curse other ways. In fact, in my opinion religion is an industry where the custodians of faith are the manufacturers and public is the market.

Laljee Verma on facebook

1 min ·



Today, on Arnab Goswami's show MR Venketesh asked a very pertinent question. He asked the panellists to declare that they have not been taking any financial or hospitality benefits from terrorist organizations or the Pakistan Govt. Rahul Singh said it was ridiculous but I think it was a relevant point. One has to read Tavleen Singh's book 'The Broken Tryst' to know that many drawing room discussions in the lutyen Delhi revolves around finding solutions as the erudite see it, not as the common man suffers. Country's sentiments are not considered, but everyone is out to earn brownie points. They suffer from 'power of knowledge'. Power has many faces, and one of them is the power of knowledge, and the worse is that they remain convinced that they have the power, hence in a position to suggest a solution.

Writers and artists of all hues and colour represent the cream of a society, and if they are not outspoken, who will? These Pakistani artists must be packed up and sent to their own country if they cannot stand up against Pak sponsored terrorist attacks on India

Laljee Verma on facebook in reply to Ankita Shanker on September 24, 2016

All that you have mentioned are two edged swords, it can be used or misused. Take for example, intelligence. It can be used for public good, but if the greed is overpowering one will indulge in finding ways and means through his intelligence to sidestep sincere handling. Similarly, rationality can be used to warp a straight mind, objectivity can be rationalised or irrationalised, and objectivity is based on individual

mind., Acquisition of a gross or abstract objects is by sense organs, but how an individual mind views it will have two ends of the paradigm; one the object, and the other the mind. Mind construction is based on many factors, and no two minds are the same. Wisdom is the second step of development, first being the knowledge. All knowledgeable do not develop wisdom. Knowledge is what you gain, and wisdom is what you apply. There are many educated illiterates. And, integrity is how you look at it. Integrity towards self - advancement, is different than integrity towards humanity, or the nature. Thanks for the comments.

Facebook, Sep 24, 2016.

Rakesh Narayan Tavleen Singh has blown to smithereens the reputation of Vajpayee as a non congress PM in The Broken Tryst. What she says about others is well known. She is an iconoclast in professional and personal life. Edmund Burke concept of the fourth estate has gone to dogs in Indian. The media personnel by presenting adulterated news behave like leeches and cannot claim to be an educated lot. Pakistani artists are not terrorists. Demand for their ouster is an xenophobic outburst after terrorist attacks. Instead of suffering such Pak sponsored attacks why we don't adopt Israel and US border protection system. Probably the government procurement policy, bureaucratic system and corruption prevent the government from procuring technology being used by Israel and US.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 3 hrs · [Edited](#)



Laljee Verma In fact, in her book 'The Broken Tryst' she has taken on Nehru and Indira Gandhi much more than on Vajpayee. There is no doubt in my mind that some of these vocalists, somehow enjoy the largesse of Pak Govt or some terror outfits. The world knows Pakistan is an epicentre of terrorism, we know it as well. Some criticize when PM does not speak about a happening (the PM need not take on personally on many happenings as soon as it happens as there many others in government or the party), but we seem to accept the fact that these Pakistani artists may not utter a single word of sympathy, or show empathy to the sufferings of the country where they are hosted and feasted! People to people contact have two parts, and if commensurate response from one part appears missing, or not forthcoming how can it be of any advantage? If I want to give you a hug and you do not come forward how can I hug you? There are many options to buttress our defences and the armed forces are at it, there are many diplomatic options that are being considered by the MoEA, but here we are discussing why Pakistani performers cannot speak a word against Pakistan sponsored terrorism; and in that case why should they be allowed to have a work permit?

Rakesh Narayan There is an imperative need for the Pakistani artists to condemn unequivocally the dastardly attack on the brigade hq at Uri in which Indian soldiers lost their life but asking them to condemn Pakistan would not be fair without concrete proof. Only GOI can cancel their Visa/ work permit and any political party /group /vigilante must not threaten them to leave the country. Vigilantism is not justified when the government is there to do its duty. Taslima Nasrin is a case in point. Instead of asking them to leave India, would not it be better to protect our border by better technology. Acquiring state of the art technology like long range camera with night observation system, long range detection radar and web camera for surveillance as used by US and Israel. The post Bofors era has obstructed military procurement. It took 16 years to conclude the deal for Rafael fighter planes. I hurt me more as most of the slain soldiers of 12 infantry brigade belonged to my native district and neighbouring districts.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 hr · [Edited](#)



Laljee Verma You are right but there is no word from these artists who come here in people to people exchange programme. No remorse, no word of empathy! Fine, they may not be able to criticize Pakistan, their own country, as then they may face terrible backlash but was a message of condolence too much to expect from them? Was a word of empathy too much to expect? I see no advantage in such programmes

when there is no reciprocation in sentiments. Thus, those who ask them to leave are not practicing vigilantism but are being forthright as an Indian. We are not discussing cross border terror attacks here. That will continue so long as Pakistan does not change its behaviour; which to my mind will not as the authority to effect change does not lie with the elected civil government but the army and ISI supported elements who only believe in harbouring, nurturing and exporting terror, not only to India but many countries. Pakistan, considers itself as the champion of Islamic world whereas the truth is that many Islamic countries view it as an irresponsible terrorist country. Now Pakistan has warned against granting asylum to Bugti. What right have they got if India grants him asylum? And, please acknowledge that terror attacks have taken place even in the USA, whose armed forces, and security agencies are equipped with the best in the world. No country can prevent terror attacks if another country is hell-bent on infusing terrorism. It is like no society can prevent theft and robbery, 100 %.



Laljee Verma Thanks for contributing to the discussion. Most Indians would like them to be sent back, or the least not give them any priority and work, if the MoEA, Govt of India cannot, or do not want to cancel their work permit. They come here because music and art, including performing arts is viewed anti-Islamic, and Pakistan is a declared Islamic country where they consider only Sunni Muslims as the true Muslims, where such activities are frowned upon

On Wordpress.com posted on 27-09-16

I am addressing this to all who believe that Hinduism (Sanatana Dharma) must be strengthened. We must have seminaries like in Islam and Christianity. People of faith must go out of their way to teach the finer aspects of Sanatana Dharma. It has to take a form of people's movement. RSS and non-virulent Hindu organisations have a role to play here. Hearts have to be won. People have to be convinced that parochialism in religion does not lead anybody anywhere. As I have said earlier the Almighty existed before Hinduism, Islam, and Christianity; or for that matter any sect came to be known. Those who think that there is someone sitting in the heaven is directing all that is happening on the terrestrial world are highly mistaken. Heaven and hell are no two big halls or big cities outside the terrestrial envelop but are in our mind. These are not halls where students are collected to suffer or enjoy results of their worldly life. These are feelings in our mind. If the Almighty was there before creation, then any sect or any religion is just man made. It has no godly sanctity; it cannot have. Iconic worship developed due to fear and lack of confidence over happenings on which man had no control. But that does not mean that icons and symbols are of no value. Those who criticize Hindu icons must realise that icons and symbols are only representatives, these are not the Almighty, and worshipping is through these, not of these. Symbolism and icons are prevalent in Islam as well as in Christianity, as well. If that was not so what is the importance of 786 in Islam, and what may be the importance of canonisation in Christianity? As the mankind has progressed on the time avenue more and more religion and sects have developed, and will continue to develop, because man does know the force behind the creation. And, in that confused state keeps finding ways that may take him to the truth. But the truth is in the heart and mind, not in sects and religion. What is a temple, Church, or Masjid? It is an iconic representation. If that was not so there may not be any need to go on a pilgrimage. It is said that it is to cleanse the heart, but if humans refuse to clean their heart where all may be considered Almighty's creation. there will be no addition to the virtuous elements in a human being. No *vrata*, penance, or pilgrimage is going to of any benefit unless there is change of heart; and that change has to be to appreciate that the whole humanity, and whole creation is a marvel of the esoteric force that may have created the universe. To my mind, Almighty is nothing but a boundless sea of energy that needs to manifest, and what we are, and what we experience is the result of that manifestation.

Visit my website www.laljeeverma.com



Laljee Verma, 29-09-16 on Facebook

Thanks, I think there is need to understand clearly evolution of religions in humans. It started out of fear and lack of confidence. First, we did not have a theistic God, or Almighty, then we had individual gods for different functions in ancient religions, Sanatana dharma, Greek and Roman civilization. People started worshipping icons and not the Almighty through these icons. That created confusion and conflict of ideas. Then developed the concept of unique God, the first monotheistic were the Zoroastrians, then of course the Jewish, Christian, and Islamic unique gods. Mankind is nowhere near to finding the true concept of the existence of the Almighty. We did not know then, about two hundred thousand years ago, nor we know now whether He exists. We are as confused in the myriads of theistic, non-theistic, or agnostic concepts that mind always works to find the eternal truth. Therefore, logically, if this conflict in religion is to be removed (which has been the cause of most of human conflicts) the better way is to recognise human religion as the religion of man. Mankind has experimented with many forms and icons and come to naught, let them now realise and work towards achieving universal concept of Almighty that is benevolent for the whole humanity, and not only for a sect or followers of any particular religion. Let us accept that different ways to reach salvation will remain so long as the mankind is a sentient animal, and this fact needs to be accepted and reinforced. If that was not so many sects in every religion that exists today, may not have come about. Truth is one, saints know it differently, 'ekum sat vipra bahudha vadanti'. This old saying supports the concept of tolerance and acceptance that is so basic in Indian tradition (Indic religions).

01-10-16 posted on Facebook and AFNO, and to some friends through e-mail:

Last Sunday (Sep 25th) there were two articles, one by Karan Thapar, and another by Ramachandra Guha. Both, very well-respected writer and columnist. However, my inner self said to respond as a common man, common, but informed reader. Narendra Modi certainly has a tough job at hand, and I fully agree with Karan Thapar when he says in the concluding paragraph “The prime minister has a tough enough job deciding what to do. Let’s not add to his problem by pulling on unnecessary and thoughtless pressure” The other article by Ramachandra Guha is exactly what Karan Thapar has cautioned against. Guha’s article “Why we must Hear JP on Kashmir” is untimely, and unnecessary, putting pressure on the PM and expecting that he will abide by his advice. It is a thoughtless article not relevant in the present time. Guha has conveniently not mentioned about genesis of the ‘K’ problem. Kashmir problem may not have been there if Nehru had not stopped the Indian Army’s advance and declared a unilateral ceasefire, and that too without consulting the cabinet, and the army. It is a well-known strategy that when forces are asked to halt the top brass is consulted because there may be many units not well organised at different places in the theatre of conflict, and gains and losses are to be evaluated. Why Nehru did not pay heed to what JP was telling him was because of individual ego where one thinks that whatever he or she thinks is the right approach. Mind becomes refractive to outside ideas. In any case, one must realise that if plebiscite was to be held in 1948/49 it would have gone much in favour of India. The first condition that Pakistan withdraws all troops from the territory was never implemented and the UN, where Nehru went with great hopes, could not force it as he went to the UN under a non-enforceable provision of the charter, and not under the forcible one. JP’s advice and ideas were not acceptable then, is not acceptable now. To say that “it will be a suicide of soul of India if India tried to suppress the Kashmiri people by force” is a lopsided view. Where was the lamentation that he is expressing now when lakhs of Kashmiri pundits were tortured and hounded out of the valley? Where is his sympathy when many of our brave soldiers are being attacked, and killed by terrorists

supported by Pak government or Pak army? In any case, no untoward force is applied, whatever is done is to protect the national integrity. To say that it is suppression of people is travesty of thought.

During the intervening period from 1948 many things happened. Islamic fundamentalism grew under the influence of Pakistan, terrorism took roots, separatists were created and funded etc. What one expects from a well-respected and erudite like Ramachandra Guha is that he will be objective, and give a complete picture of a problem when articulating his views. Article appears parochial. History is not one-sided story. It has to be presented in fullness. That appears missing from his article. His views are a sad commentary on his perceived thoughts. In any case now geopolitical situation has changed much in favour of India. Cross LOC surgical strike has been carried out. Bravo to the political will, and bravo to the armed forces. Pakistan stands isolated, politically, and in a short period, will be economically. SARC summit has been scrapped as five countries refused to attend the summit in Pakistan, and most importantly the world powers see Pakistan as a terrorist infested country. These are not small achievements by the present government, and that is why all parties have lauded the efforts which has brought out stunning results. I would very much like to await another article from Guha, in case he decides to write on what India should or should not do in Kashmir. Many advocate mutual dialogue with Pakistan. But to what end when they have a prejudiced view. And, I want to say just this: 'I want to hug you, but how do I, if you do not come forward?'

Laljee Verma in reply to Muthender Velishala on Speaking Tree

on 04-10-16

Thanks a lot for posing this quintessential question. I do not have a text book answer. There is no doubt that material world is veering the young ones away from human values. But we have to keep making efforts. Most do not understand karma and have no interest in reading voluminous books that abound libraries, they do not understand karma doctrine, nor the philosophy. But at the same time karma is relevant but poorly understood, regardless of age, position or the niche one occupies in a society. That was the reason I wrote the book I have referred. Karma doctrine and philosophy have been described in simple way with explanations and examples rather retelling and quoting copiously from earlier writings by the masters. It is told by a common man for the common people. Once you read it you will feel the impact and its relevance. To convince the young generation interactive sessions can be held, lectures can be organised, corporate houses can come forward to provide financial support, and many such like activities can be undertaken. If a person, even an executive in a corporate house understands karma doctrine and philosophy he will be a better person and better asset to the organization he or she serves. If my word has any value, my suggestion is that such lectures and interactive sessions can be held in colleges, as philosophy fills the gap between science and spirituality, and students should be exposed to metaphysics and philosophy, as it will broaden the mental horizon, and add to human values. I am not sure whether many of us know that philosophy is taught even in an institution like MIT, USA. These are some of the steps that a society can undertake to make a change

On Speaking Tree, dated 06-10-16

- Someone asked me today why some person is outgoing and mixing with people without reservation, and some are not. My answer was that how you project to the world is based on your level of confidence. And, this confidence has to be logical confidence, which one builds over a period with knowledge and wisdom. Therefore, the first and foremost requirement is to have a balanced and well nurtured confidence within self, but conditioned by outside social, spiritual, materialistic, and environmental factors and stresses. You must know what you are. Let me tell you it may not be easy to know yourself. Many ascetics and philosophers have tried to formulate it but have not reached to any conclusion. The best option is to know your strength and weakness. Best to know what you are

good at. Even a mason in lower strata of a society knows he is good at his work people respect him. If one poses to be spiritual, he has to have egalitarian concept and approach. My next project of research is how should one identify oneself? What methods, and with what parameters. I prefer to read and write as a common man. I know I have gained a lot of knowledge and wisdom during the past few years. That gives me confidence, and of course with good karma one is bound to concentrate more energy and be a better human being, besides helping the society. It is not only the material aspect that creates happiness, but also altruistic thoughts and acts. These days in school there is hardly any emphasis on teaching social and human values. That is one reason that social fabric is stressed these days to the point of breaking.

21 hrs ago



Muthender Velishala in reply to Laljee Verma

WONDERFUL THOUGHTS. I WOULD LIKE TO EXPECT A BEAUTIFUL BLOG FROM YOUR SIDE ON THESE LINES. IT IS VERY INTERESTING. THANKS & REGARDS.

[Laljee Verma](#) On Facebook on 12-10-16

14 hrs ·

I have to talk about the ownership of the Surgical Strikes, I cannot help it. Today, on the TV saw discussions on what Manohar Parrikar said on the cross LOC operation accomplished successfully by the Indian Army, with eventualities properly guarded by the IAF and IN. Those who are criticising government of the day to take credit for clear political mandate must realise that even in 1971 the political credit had been assigned to the Congress government headed by Indira Gandhi, where Atal Bihari Vajpayee had heaped accolades on her on the floor of the parliament for having been strong and unswerving in taking a political decision of great importance, and great consequence. To succeed, you have to take chance, which may not be that easy at times; and to imprint a success credit should go to all. If the political decision was taken what is wrong in that? Yes, I do agree that BJP should have been more circumspect in advertising the success. But that is Indian politics! in their enthusiasm they may have lost the effectual consequences. But I must admire our PM that he kept coolly away from politicising the event, and pulled the rug from beneath the feet of opposition.

Subhash Arora, posted on Facebook on 13-10-16

The actions of political parties are on predicted lines. For most politicians, the self-advancement takes priority over country's advancement. But people's priorities are definitely national advancement. The selfish politicians will soon realise their folly.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 5 hrs



[Laljee Verma](#) I agree, this time stakes are very high; if any party does not appear against terrorism, which is growing like a metastasizing cancer with tacit and obvious support from terror sponsoring countries, like Pakistan. they are doomed; and if they praise the present government, again they are doomed at the ballot. Sometime ago, the PM had said in the parliament "आप कहते हैं मोदी को यह नहीं आता, वह नहीं आता, ठीक है, पर आप यह तो मानेंगे कि मुझे राजनीति आती है. And this time he has accomplished both, राज धर्म, और कूटनीति एवं राजनीति. His speech at Lucknow on Vijayadashami was totally devoid of politics. He only centred his speech on terrorism. That, pulled the rug from beneath the feet of opponent political parties. जय हिन्द!

Posted on Facebook on 13-10-16, in response to posting by VV Painoli

Let us limit ourselves to intellectual discussion. I will advise all to read my book "Indians in Mirror View of a Common Man...."available on amazon.in I have mentioned there that letting off Pakistan without retribution was a political blunder. Many of our soldiers laid down their lives to gain an unprecedented victory, and their sacrifice came to a naught. The least which could have been done was to reclaim POK, the unfinished agenda (1948) forced by the then PM, Jawahar Lal Nehru. And, I am not sure, but he took the decision without consulting the cabinet, or the defence, or the home minister. Bhutto must have argued that it will lead to such upheaval in Pakistan that the civil government may fall, that happened in any case, and even his life was not spared, he was hanged by the military government of Pakistan. Sometimes severe surgery is required to find lasting peace.

Great Post, hope you carry on, regardless.

Posted on Wordpress, Maria Wirth Page on 21-10-16:

Those professing superiorities of religion should answer why, then, there are many Nobel Laureates among the Jewish, Christian, and Hindu communities? How is it that Western countries have raced ahead by leaps and bounds in inventions and discoveries? How is it that ancient Hindu and Greek civilizations were allowed to flourish despite being polytheistic, when God or Allah have been conceived to be there before the creation? Religion is basically a belief, or faith, the way one wants to perceive the source of life energy, and not what one must follow to realize salvation. Rituals, and teaching by custodian of faith have hijacked religious philosophy in any religion. As I have said earlier, religion is an industry, custodians are the manufacturers, and the people are consumers.

There is no religion superior to another. Mankind was in awe at the beginning, and remains in wonder about life we all are relentlessly trying to find and see the Almighty! We want to transform an abstract to the gross!

Yes, I do agree that there is only one God. There is no doubt. We call him with different names. "Ekum Sat, Vipra Bahudha Vadanti!"- there is only one truth the ascetics call it differently. That is all, and that is all there to it!



Laljee Verma

27-06-17, 12:23pm ·

We need to have a Waste Management Authority, India. And, please do not misread me, I am not pushing for the job. But believe me it is required; ably empowered. Health of individuals (and in turn of the society) is a national responsibility, and when one pays taxes as ordained by central or state governments one expects commensurate services, it cannot be one way traffic. Do we wonder why the developed countries present so clean cities etc? Do we envy them? But do we do anything on ground to catch up? The answer is a big NO. If my rudimentary knowledge of law is intact I feel the municipal authorities can be sued in consumer courts for deficiency of service. Any suggestion

What Ails Indian Healthcare System

Public health system must take into account what may be necessary for the teeming impoverished population in the rural and urban areas. Unfortunately, Indian healthcare system so far has not shown initiatives, or steps to improve and achieve national or universal healthcare coverage. In fact, primary healthcare based on the concept of PHCs, etc., needs to be strengthened, only then comprehensive national healthcare will be visible. There are many models of public healthcare system working in perfect harmony to the need of the population intended to be under universal coverage. While the healthcare delivery system of the UK is in the public domain, that of the US is primarily insurance-based. China follows a system of universal coverage with composite technical capacity with doctors of the modern medicine as well as the indigenous system. They clearly visualized need based public health system and

filled the gap with a system of 'Barefoot Doctors' to take care of the need in the rural areas, and now with integrated ISM and modern medical systems.

No system can sustain itself only on policies; and without worthwhile fundamental and applied research. Clear cut demarcated areas of research should be enumerated, so that there is no confusion and overlap. Most of the research projects have a bottom-top approach, whereas in certain areas like the environmental pollution and its adverse effects on human health may require top-down approach; in other words, some may have to be directed research. In any case, continuous research will be required to identify public-oriented appropriate systems in healthcare delivery. Periodic applied research may be undertaken to recommend best way to ensure universal public health coverage, and to apply mid-course interventions and corrections.

People participation is important for achieving the targets in healthcare. And in that context health education among the masses may be one of the most essential features. Though health as a subject may be taught in some schools, the percentage of children who go to school may be low, and dropout rate remains high in economically marginalized communities. Universal coverage in healthcare includes universal health education to the masses; it is a social responsibility. Many ways have been experimented for inculcating knowledge about health, maternal safety, childcare, immunization, universal hand washing, hygiene and sanitation, water conservation, nutrition, and other aspects of human resources development. In this context, one may think of the following initiatives:

There is a large congregation of patients and their relatives in hospitals OPD, and other places. It would be of immense benefit to the patient population and their relatives, if healthcare programmes are continuously run in local language at the OPD of hospitals, railway stations, and other areas of gathering emphasizing upon:

- Hygiene and sanitation.
- Universal hand washing.
- Water conservation.
- Nutrition and healthy food habits.
- Ill-effects of open defecation.
- Method to construct DTL in villages, and semi-urban areas.
- Immunization programmes.
- Waste management, including care of sputum of TB patients on domiciliary treatment.
- Care of household waste.
- Care of used plastic syringe waste generated from domiciliary patients of insulin dependent diabetes, and some other longstanding ailments where hospitalization may not be a must.
- HIV and AIDS prevention and safe sex habits.
- Family planning and its importance emphasizing upon bringing up healthy children rather many children with malnutrition.
- Care of expectant mothers and tips on motherhood.

The above list is only illustrative. More number of topics may be added depending upon local conditions and necessities.

Healthcare in India has many shortcomings; it needs a general revamping. Specific weaknesses must be identified, and strengthened. There are weaknesses in the statutory provisions, regulatory policies, and control mechanisms. These need to be studied and corrected. I would venture to append below some suggestions on improving universal healthcare coverage in India:

- There should be a national debate to decide on development of public health services not influenced by private healthcare industry. Primary care should remain within public health domain.
- Consider public health a topic under central responsibility and bring in necessary amendment to the constitutional provisions, if required.
- There is a wide variation in the health status in different states as evident from targets and indicators. National strategy should be developed to iron out the differing statistical indicators by focusing on states with lower performance.
- District Health Boards may be headed by medical professionals well versed with public health administration, and independent of bureaucracy. One point control where a district magistrate or its equivalents practically control every aspect of administration must give way to multi-pronged administrative set up.
- Plan and programme implementation should be totally under the control of medical professionals with administrative and budgetary control.
- All healthcare initiatives should be headed by competent medical professionals.
- Public health administration may be recognized as a separate post graduate specialty for medical graduates.
- Appointing and empowering public health inspectors, initially in the urban areas. It is true that municipal bodies have public health officers but they may not be of the required qualification and/or properly empowered.
- Starting an all-India medical service cadre of public health administrators.

Different exercises to find ways and means to fill the gap created by abolishing a well-run and competent LMP cadre has been mooted, latest being a proposal of the Min of H & FW to start a bachelor course in rural medicine. The proposal was considered by the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare. After deliberating on it for over three years, finally in March 2013 the committee shot down the proposal which was mooted with the approval, and at the instance of the Minister of Health and Family Welfare himself. That appears unfortunate! The committee was of the opinion that half-baked doctors may not be able to differentiate in 'simple fever and jaundice'. It seems that the policy makers have not been able to distinguish between curative and preventive aspects of healthcare. Firstly, such suggestion may be far from reality, and secondly, healthcare delivery is not only diagnosing fever and jaundice, but much more. In the larger public interest, it may be in tune to provide healthcare personnel at the village level. Composite and comprehensive healthcare includes health awareness about personal hygiene, sanitation, and nutrition among the masses. Nutritional care of expectant mothers is crucial to reduce and eliminate low birth weight in a new-born; a predisposing factor to a host of diseases. But such skewed perception - 'not to produce half-baked doctors' is mainly due to failure to comprehend that preventive aspect is the core strategy in overall healthcare. The Committee was also of the opinion that it will generate 'second rung practitioners', and amount to providing 'two different sets of health facilitators for urban and rural'. These arguments appear fallacious as providing grass root preventive strategies are a part of overall healthcare. There is no question of producing second rung practitioners so long as these graduates are considered paramedics, but such perception may have been guided as planners and policy makers failed to distinguish curative and preventive

aspects; and think medical care only includes curative aspect. And the perpetual question in my mind is why not restart education of Licentiate Medical Practitioners (LMPs), which may already have a teaching syllabus to refer to rather looking for separate syllabus for something similar?

In the last six decades, the policy makers and planners of healthcare delivery in India have not succeeded in instituting a durable and need-based healthcare system. May be, it exists on paper but certainly not on the ground. A task force on healthcare delivery system oriented towards 'public good' is the call of the day. Let there be brainstorming amongst policy makers, budget providers, administrators and professionals, and representatives of the public. One requires seeing the situation in real time frame; and on the ground, ponders over deficiencies, and search for viable and long-term solutions to overcome the apparent and not so apparent problems in the healthcare delivery in India. Ability to deliver should be the overriding consideration. Whatever policies are made it has to be in the public interest. And, lastly there has to be a well-focused political will.

Laljee Verma

Air Mshl (Retd)

Ex Dir Gen Medical Services, Indian Air Force

Laljee Verma Swachh Bharat Abhiyan cannot succeed so long as we see such pictures depicted in my previous posts Cleanliness is not only building toilets, but total cleanliness, including solid waste and healthcare waste management; and of course taking care of inert and industrial wastes.

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· [Reply](#) · 27-06-17, Yesterday at 12:29pm



Rajesh Saxena Honble Sir...I dont know how..there needs to be petition floated for this concern of yours.. U have been Father of Hospital Waste Mnagaement in India..Sir during my PhD Thesis you were great help and guide...U must be in PMO... for this issue...i find ...[See More](#)

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· [Reply](#) · 18 hrs



Laljee Verma Thanks, Rajesh, Thank you very much. But I am over 75, and deeply in writing and publishing books as a full time author. Kindly visit [amazon.in](https://www.amazon.in) and [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and search by Laljee Verma where you will find list of my books. If interested you may purchase my latest "karma-its Applicability and Relevance in Day to Day Life" and if you do read it leave a review comment on these sites.

Ashish!

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Laljee Verma added 6 new photos.

Yesterday at 12:11pm ·

While we are making great strides in foreign relations, getting befitting response we have to focus on domestic issues. Law and order is declining by the day, policing is ineffective because administrative bosses play handmaiden to their political masters, many being corrupt to the core and only worried about their vote bank. Wastes in any

urban, semi-urban or rural place remains mismanaged, one can see heaps of waste and stinking garbage lying anywhere on any street, nook and corner waiting to be washed away with rains choking the drains and causing water logging; and there is no systemic development to deal with this menace. Hospital waste, remains a matter of grave concern.





Laljee Verma

May 14 ·

कुछ मुक्तकः
1. क्यों न समय के अथक अश्व ने
उलटे पांवों चलना सीखा,
रिन्ध्र अनूठा जीवन घट में,
आयु बढ़ी पर जीवन घटता।
2 हृदय शून्य भावना रहित हो,
गुमसुम हो कर बैठी थी,
रिक्त हुआ जल-घट के रे,अब
केवल वाष्प संजोये थी।
3. स्वप्न, अरे हाँ स्वप्न बच गया,
केवल रिक्त हृदय में,
वायु थिरकती गयी छोड़
स्पंदन बस पत्तों में।

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11Rajesh Saxena, Susmita Sinha and 9 others

Comments



Laljee Verma Swachh Bharat Abhiyan cannot succeed so long as we see such pictures depicted in my previous posts Cleanliness is not only building toilets, but total cleanliness, including solid waste and healthcare waste management; and of course taking care of inert and industrial wastes.

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· [Reply](#) · 18 hrs



Laljee Verma Thanks, Rajesh, Thank you very much. But I am over 75, and deeply in writing and publishing books as a fulltime author. Kindly visit amazon.in and amazon.com and search by Laljee Verma where you will find list of my books. If interested you may purchase my latest "karma-its Applicability and Relevance in Day to Day Life" and if you do read it leave a review comments on these sites. Ashish!

· [Reply](#) · [Remove Preview](#) · 34 mins



Write a comment...

Vinita Sinha I have a suggestion if you agree every village gram panchayat , municipalities, corporations should arrange for the waste carrier vehicle as we have in here and every week they should be moving in their respective area to collect waste. Every day they ...[See More](#)

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Laljee Verma Thanks! What you are suggesting is perfectly fine, and this is what we should also do. Unfortunately, authorities do not have the time and patience to develop a system of waste management. Every time public pressure is built up they go for costly equipment, study tours etc., and not for public education and system approach.

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Bikash Mohanti Municipal waste is everything collected and treated by municipalities. Only part of it is comes from households, the rest is generated by small businesses, commercial and other municipal activities. So it is produced from both consumption and productio...[See More](#)

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Laljee Verma replied · 1 Reply



Vijayveer Painoli I'm no expert in waste mgt but simple logic says that amongst the various steps : waste generation, waste storage, waste collection, waste transportation and waste disposal ; it is the last one that is most important and most problematic. The first one may be the next in importance and will require local self govt support, policy formation and education. To begin with plastic carry bags and packings need to be completely banned.

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Laljee Verma A system needs to be developed. Door to door collection, keeping different streams separate, transportation, treatment and disposal. It is intriguing that even if degradable and non-degradable household waste is collected separately the municipal waste handlers mix it together, wherever they collect the waste, if at all, but mix it together and take all waste, to waste dumps. Food waste is also sent to land dump (it is not supposed to as per MSW rules), source of methane emission and environmental pollution. Methane is 21 times more powerful and damaging than carbon dioxide. The government needs to wake up before things go out of han

Laljee Verma <lalji.lkv2007@gmail.com>

7:50 PM (0 minutes ago)

to Gautam

Gautam, thanks for calling.

You raised a very pertinent point today. How is duty related to dharma? I can only say that duty is a part of karma, in fact it is the external face of karma. Karma is a theme that becomes revealed when one acts. Now action can be good or bad. So long as one performs his duty he will be doing good karma. Krishna also sermonizes Arjun to do his duty. But what is duty? It is what is legitimately expected of you. It is sum total of all that is within you, your thoughts, your actions, and many more. A municipal waste handler does not do his assigned duty, that is taking care of municipal wastes, but indulges in collecting illegitimate gratification, that way he would be not doing his duty, and in turn, collecting bad karma. That would be adharm. That would mean he is not following the dharma. There are four prurushartha - dharma, artha, kama and moksha. Look at the epistemology. Dharma is the first. One has to acquire dharma, first. Dharma is something that one wears like a clothing. Only difference is that you take clothing to cover your anatomical body whereas you wrap dharma around your inner-self, manasa (मनस). Once that is done you know the finer aspects and nuances of dharma. Only then you take on other steps, such as the artha, or commercial earning. So, the commercial part of your life has to be guided by dharma that you have acquired as the first step. If it is not you indulge in acts not in tune with essence of karma, and earn bad karma which has its own effect, one day or the other. Therefore, duty is not only dharma but in essence, it is karma.

Hope I have been able to clarify.

Cheers! We are enjoying the salubrious weather here and will be back to Delhi some time in Aug.

Doc

Air Mshl (Dr) L K Verma AVSM (Retd)



09-07-17 on facebook

Laljee Verma Are not events the resultant effect? Nothing happens without a cause. Even natural disasters have a cause at the initiation. What goes in our mind is the effect of the process of thinking, thoughts get converted in action, or karma. Events are culmination of a process, be it man made or natural. I think, what you mean by events is the composite effects that is presented. But there may not be a disconnect between action and event. Unless there is an action there may not be any effect, or event. In the absence of a doer, firstly it is not possible as there is always someone, some thought, some godly/natural intervention that causes an action or event, and secondly seeing natural calamity around man posited such events or effects on gods or some superhuman power that engineered such happenings-birth of the concept of religion, initially in form of symbols and then culminating in deities, and massive and beautiful temples. Human beings continue to shape more beautiful structures. Thus there is always a cause behind an effect or an event, even if we do not know its epistemology.

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Laljee Verma Desire, destiny, and fate have different meaning. One may desire wealth, which most of us do, and do right and wrong things to achieve. The desire may get fulfilled or may not. In the former one gets a sense of satisfaction, in the latter disappointment. Once again, pleasure, joy, and satisfaction have different connotations. To achieve one needs to do and act earning good or bad karma. In my humble opinion, it is the purushartha on which one needs to focus, and one may shape a destiny. Of course, fate is something over which one may not have control in time and space conundrum. But one should never be a fatalist, and leave everything on fate. A fatalist will leave everything on fate whereas a person with confidence will do things to turn a dream into a reality. Destiny can certainly be anticipated, seen, and achieved.

10-07-17 **Laljee Verma** Mahesh, My email is lalji.lkv2007@gmail.com and ph is +919312626462. On karma doctrine. On Karma doctrine I suggest you read my book 'Karma its Applicability and Relevance in Day to Day Life' available on amazon.in If you read it we may be in a better common understanding for mutual discussion. I will quote from Oscar Wilde: "Every saint has a past and every sinner has a future". If there is no balancing of karmaphala there is no question of a future. Karmaphala is not absolute, though, in Jaina philosophy it is said to be so. In Sikhism grace of the Almighty is one factor in the determination of karmaphala, but it may be due to inability to decipher the cause. With objective introspection, it is possible to know the cause of a suffering, that most of us try to posit on fate and destiny; weakness of human mind. Balancing of karmaphala may not follow a mathematical formula but it does make difference. Therefore, there is no substitute to doing good karma. I am active on Speaking Tree, not so much on youtube



Laljee Verma (On Facebook, 25 July 2015)

Excellent article, Deepak, congratulations! Your article is close to my way of thinking. Ego is the basic flaw among the followers of a religion.

"Fear of the unknown was paramount in the human mind, as was anxiety about the future. In temporal speculations, man sees himself as the doer and identifies himself as the cause of events. He acted an agent of events and therefore he assigned the cause of happenings to some agent responsible for that event. When it rained he assigned it to some godly feature, like Indra in Hindu mythology. But man, always posited the cause of unknown happenings on some divine hand, over which he had no control. Gradually this precept led to the development of multitudes of icons and symbols, and religious streams. It is natural for streams to merge into rivers, and rivers into oceans, but here the ocean of the collective conscious of mankind diversified into many (rivers) religions, sects and beliefs. Hence, we need to turn the pages in reverse to capture the essence of collective consciousness and find religious commonality, where rivers merge into the ocean, and not the other way around. The discerning human mind likes to forage in the dark caverns of the past, as well as peep into the unknown future. What may happen in the next moment, the next day, the next year, has engaged the mind since the first human settlement. However, the future remains veiled in the shadow of improbability and the past is a distant and faint tale of the millennia of human existence. The dust of time has collected over its surface and it is difficult to scrape off all the mire to clearly read the imprints of the past. In such situations, when neither the past nor the future was clear, man manufactured a symbol – the divine, reposing faith in it to overcome his own ignorance. He squarely posited uncertainties on the divine and freed himself from the burden of trying to fathom the cause of uncertainties."

-----Excerpt from my book: "karma its Applicability and Relevance in Day to Day Life". Available on amazon.in

27-07-17 (on Facebook)

Laljee Verma

It is the individual conscience that decides what is good and what is bad, not the God, nor anyone else. Whatever one does is always under the watchful eyes of the doer, and what is not in line with the built individual consciousness will create negative vibes and affect psyche of the individual. Br Up says that it is the soul who is the 'sarva sansarinam karmphala vibhag karta' and thinkers have therefore posited this function on the Almighty. But there is a difference, and that is when the universal life energy enters a body (mind and matter) it comes in contact with the earthly attributes that affects its purity, and that is why it has to purify before it can merge with the universal life energy, or the universal consciousness; and in that case in its worldly form it is not the same as the absolute pure, absolute truth, that is the Almighty (Brahman in Hindu religion). What is the soul? It is the individual consciousness, and therefore it is the individual consciousness (which envelops individual conscience) that is really the 'sarva sansinam karmphala vibhagkarta' and not the god almighty. If you closely and logically examine the issue you will find that individual conscience is built around many factors, such as the genetic and epigenetic influences, environmental factors and stresses, experiential updates etc., and therefore individual thinking and behaviour etc., are so different in different individuals. The point I am trying to submit is that right and wrong is identifiable by individual conscience, and not by Godly intervention. No one is sitting high up in the heavens noting every individual actions and deciding its quality, it is the individual conscience alone that decides it in the mind of an individual. If everything was preordained and decided by the heavenly intervention then there will be no meaning of 'purushartha'. It is perfectly right to say that a sinner may commit a crime and still feel he or she may have done such an act correctly, but if the individual conscience does not accept it as such it will keep on agitating his mind for all time to come. All of us experience such phenomenon, and all experience negative vibes at a point of time or the other. Good or bad act create good or bad waves in mind, supportive or not supportive to a psyche



Laljee Verma (blog on Speaking Tree)

07-08-17

For each effect there is a cause, and when you go in for incessant search of cause you reach a point of absoluteness, that gives out vibes and energy but remains constant. That is Brahman. Radiations emanating from the absolute comes back on eday and that is the collapse of creation. Energy wraps itself in a esoteric seed to sprout once again in creation. Creation is the effect and cause is energy, or universal consciousness. Mind-body complex inherits a part of it, that is individual consciousness. Life is infused and remains manifest till we live.

Laljee Verma (Blog on ST, 08-08-17)

We try to look at the world with Western mind and eyes. There is no doubt that many things in ancient scriptures cannot be proved but that way even existence of an esoteric power, that infuses

life cannot be proved with known science. So, one is forced to have a blind faith on the religion he follows. Science has tried to unravel the molecules and atoms of the blind faith but has not succeeded. Scientists have broken down matter to its minutest particle but have not been able to identify life, the energy that resides in every speck, living or inanimate, where does it come from? My point is that we cannot pass a substantive judgment on things just because we cannot see and feel it with our gross senses. That would not be right approach. In fact, psychology and parapsychology all are part of a life; and so is the mind. Mind can be seen in three dimensions. The instinctive, the rational, and the intuitive. It is the intuitive mind that transgresses the bound of rationality, and not only that, it is the connect between individual and universal consciousness.

The ones who train their mind to go beyond known barriers of rationality connect to the universal consciousness, thus capturing immense mental and spiritual power. Mind and body complex is bundle of energy and earthly ingredients; it causes radiation. And, people with greater radiance have the power to influence others, be it another person, society, or a nation of people. That is how you have great souls that walked on this earth who changed the destiny of many thoughts. I call it thought as to my mind, religion is a thought, and it does not respect rationality, otherwise there would not have been so many religions and so many sects. It only shows the quest to find most suitable religious doctrine has not been found, and the quest continues. Hopefully it will end in finding religion for the mankind.

Religion is central to human thinking. Animal and bird kingdoms do not practice religion but they still live, thrive, and survive. Fear and uncertainty in human mind can be said to be the basis of development of religions. It may have started first as symbols, and then these symbols have culminated in huge investments in the form of beautiful and artistic deities, temples and what not. Religion and symbols are so deeply ingrained that our mind cannot divest it. At one side one tries to get free from the fetters of religious dogma and beliefs, and the other one falls at the altar of fear and uncertainty, as one does not know the origin of life energy; hence accepts religious beliefs as that shows him a possibility, possibility of an explanation.

In essence, we cannot eject all that is contained in religious beliefs, need is to develop scientific parameters to examine the esoteric.

Comment on ST (12-08-17)

I wonder what is being secular? If it is regarding all religions in the same verve and respect all must follow this principle. Unfortunately, that is not so. That is where troubles start. Principles of religions must follow the first rule of existence, that is do good to humanity, only thereafter anything else should matter. If the meaning of being secular is to follow practice of appeasement, I am not for it. If it means what it means, I am for it.

Blog 24 on ST (18-08-17)

Further to what I said in earlier comments I would also point out that we see the world with our human eyes and senses. We are in the world as a part of it and try to perceive the infinite, from within the infinite. We want to capture the infinity with our mind and sense organs. We make images in mind based on collected archetypes in mind, and consider it to be the truth. Our capacity to think is shackled within the thinking realm of our mind. Howsoever hard we try we cannot capture a thought, or an image other than what our mind has preserved, in actuality or in potentiality. Those who break the shackles float in the universe in their thoughts, reach spiritual heights, and connect with the unbound and limitless expanse of the universal consciousness. That is the beauty of spiritual consciousness, we see colours, feel vibrations, hear sounds which we cannot with human agencies. It is well known that there are colours and sounds that our eyes and ears cannot perceive as these are beyond the spectrum of perception by human sense organs. Therefore, there is much in the universe than what humans can perceive. And, what is beyond is spiritual world.

Blog 27th on ST, 29-08-17

Self- preservation is an in-built mechanism that protects a life, and life is divine. All cells in a body is intelligent. A small example: if you get a cut or a boil white blood cells without cognizant command rush to the spot to repair the damage. You are not conscious of the rush. Once this concept is extended procreation is also a cascade of the same principle.

Ojas is a part of the universal energy that pervades the whole universe. It is there all over. It is there for the taking, and those who can assimilate can do so as much as one can. It is like the solar energy that is available for assimilation, it does not undergo any reduction despite having been captured and used. Universal energy is boundless. Those great souls that assimilate higher quantum of ojas influence others through radiance. Spirituality can be practiced not only through yoga but also by living a pious life and positive karma. In a fast-moving world, it may not be possible for all to devote time to practice yoga but all can devote time in karma as that does not entail on available time. You can close your eyes and practice kriya yoga, and you can practice kriya yoga in your day-to-day routine.

Laljee Verma on Facebook on 01-09-17



So, the inevitable has happened. We have heard of snow avalanches, landslides, and now it is waste avalanche! Once again, I suggest to the government to create a separate nodal agency, that is Waste Management Authority of India, and similar authority at state level. Waste is going to engulf human population. It is not only what has happened at Ghazipur landfill, but any waste is not being managed properly. We keep crying hoarse on deaths due to communicable diseases but pay no heed to the need to manage our water bodies to prevent mosquito breeding, do nothing to keep the drains clean, hardly do anything to replace landfill sites that are overflowing. Ghazipur landfill outlived its capacity in 2002 but nothing was done to find alternatives. Waste to energy plants have been thought of but not implemented as required. Food waste is not supposed to be sent to landfill but reality is that it is dumped in the landfill (in fact, land dumps). Sometime ago last year I was invited by East Delhi Municipal Corporation to make a plan for waste management. I submitted the plan, but heard nothing thereafter. It is unfortunate that with bureaucratic attitude and bone deep ego and arrogance, those in the authority do not take any substantive action, and worst is 'chalta hai' attitude. I wonder when will governments wake up and find sometime from politics to public oriented initiatives. Look at flooding due to rains at Mumbai and Delhi. It is horrendous that there is no planned effort, year after year. And, life goes on!



Laljee Verma's Blog on ST (04-09-17)

Human being is the under confident lot. It always thinks he is under some sort of ill-fated destiny. That is the reason we all lean on something that may give us strength, and religion is one of the pillars on which we all lean. And, in that vein we try to capture spirituality, and since we cannot on our own we find someone who can do it for us and thus we land up being blind followers. Spirituality is not transferable, it has to be gained by oneself.

Blog on ST (05-09-17)

Ego and awareness are essential parts of a personality. It is destructive only when one compares and says 'look I am better person than others'. That is where ego becomes destructive. Man is a mix of good and bad. Thoughts are accordingly good and bad. When we suppress bad thoughts we restrain bad deeds, and come closure to the true self. Mind you, Almighty is not an iconic figure, we worship the Almighty through these iconic figures. It is not easy to reject ego and its influence on our minds. But it is doable. It is not destruction but sublimating the ego and self-awareness.

Blog 30 on ST posted on 14-09-17

Joy and sorrow are the two faces of the same template of life. And, so is the pleasure and joy. The difference in pleasure and joy is substantial. Pleasure is a moment of happiness whereas joy is durable. When you indulge in worldly acts it may give you pleasure but when you achieve esoteric excellence it gives you the joy which is more lasting than momentary pleasure, and at times may

become permanent feeling in you. Let me explain. A sexual act and accomplishment is a pleasure that lasts for few moments. But when you indulge in spirituality and attain a spiritual platform it gives you a feeling of permanent joy; it tends to change a life and style of living.

Sorrow is a feeling of despondence, but it is a feeling only. It can be momentary or lasting depending upon how you look at it. It is necessary to identify the cause of such feeling and correct or eliminate it at the earliest. And, who can identify it if not you yourself? Therefore, it is essential to introspect and apply corrective measures. It is necessary to know yourself

[Laljee Verma](#) ST, Blog 31, dated 15-09-17

Real and unreal is a great dilemma. When we observe there are two elements, one the observer, and the other the observed. Both are relative to each other, and the surrounding. The surrounding is ever changing, and so will the object's appearance. Moreover, capturing the image and trying to determine its genre is also influenced by the observer's mind, and mind is different in each individual, and gets affected by time and space and its relativity. Therefore, what we observe is not the truth. Truth is when it does not change with time and space, is free of relativity, and lasts forever. People think that mind is real. That is not truth, as mind's construct are factors that change with time, and educational or spiritual background, which modifies with each passing moment of time.

Laljee Verma, ST 23-09-17

One does need to go into sadhana for self -appraisal. It should be a continuous mental process. One need not set aside a time slot for self -appraisal. Even while writing this piece I am appraising myself. If one performs an action one should think about its pros and cons. Resultant effect is more important to consider. Without self -appraisal one turns to be ego-centric and self-centric. Such minds cannot achieve anything worthwhile as the thoughts are limited to the self, and does not connect with outside. We must not forget that every creature - animate or inanimate is interconnected. A self-centric mind is like the frog living in a well who thought the well was the biggest water body.

Knowing yourself is difficult as one has to dissect his own mind, but is not impossible. The only requirement is to practice detachment, put your mind outside and look at yourself from outside. In the whole exercise, be objective. Look at recent actions that you may have performed and examine objectively whether it was right or wrong to have done what you may have done. If it was wrong then you must try and discern the reason that may have engineered you to do the act, and try to wipe out such factors that may have generated thoughts to such actions. Purifying the mind is eliminating such factors, and this can be achieved if one is open to criticizing, or appraising his own actions.

[Laljee Verma](#) on Facebook, 23-09-17

There has been a spate of violent acts, including murder in the recent past. Most are senseless, killing on minor tiffs, road rage culminating in killing etc. These days violence is disproportionate to misdemeanour, and the cause. It is not normal behaviour. Is there a factor not yet recognized? Or, are we facing behavioural change? Violent reactions to minor incidents are on the increase, no doubt. Take for example, killing of a child in Rayon International School, or double murder at Mohali. These are not only due to stressful living, but there is more to it.

Mercury has been implicated in mental disorder, and mercury waste gets mixed with food and water that we consume. There are umpteen research reports to indicate that minimal mercury ingestion may not manifest as clinically identifiable disorder but affects the mental behaviour. Small percentage of mercury in human body may not be discernible enough to warrant admission and treatment in a hospital but causes changes in behaviour, mostly violent behaviour. ICMR is required to do some research on this but they are mostly busy in researching on known life style and communicable diseases. ICMR must do a cohort study on mercury poisoning (in apparently healthy individuals) among population. That will throw some light on the changing behaviour pattern that we see these days.

Blog On ST, 23-09-17

Debates and discussions on religious beliefs is important for human social development as religion and religious beliefs are held very close to the heart and mind of every individual; and apart from building culture; religion, to a large extent determines individual and social behaviour. The fact remains that much of what may have been in a religion – beliefs, scriptures and written texts etc., may be mystical to a common man. This in fact, justifies debates and discussions. At one side we find reasons to debate and at the other side custodians of religion tend to shun discussions since what has been said in a religious scriptures and text etc., cannot be explained with known hard logic. In a way, religious scriptures tend to bind the mind, and discourage free thinking. But unless mind is allowed to wander in the universe of science and spirituality newer dimensions of science and religion cannot be discovered. At a point in time, those who established new religion also broke the shackles of prevailing religious doctrine. Therefore, it is of utmost importance that mind is allowed to break the shackles of religion for the sake of free thinking.

Laljee Verma (on ST 11-10-17), Blog – 38.

Self- awareness is something that is very difficult to sublimate. Self - awareness is at the root of ego and considering oneself as the doer. There is no doubt that one performs actions that he considers his own and thus, for him, the work done appears from him. But there are many outside factors that determine success of an act. Point is that personal ego must dissolve into universal ego. We are all part of a cosmic system where individuals do not count. Universe is a vast arena of existence and appearance where everything is interconnected. In the earthly world also, all animate and inanimate are interconnected. We cannot think of any situation where we stand alone and do work only ourselves. If there be no object subject-object relationship cannot establish. If there are no audiences there may not be any speaker. If there is no sin virtue will have no value. Cosmic relevance establishes interconnection among all the being. Take simple or complex living for example, we cannot live a life of even a single day without help of many earthly and esoteric factors, such as the sun, air, water, plants, vegetation, trees, and many others. One has to be grateful to the godly force and intent that endows life on the earth.

Laljee Verma, on 15-10-17 (ST Blog 39)

In response to an editorial by Maulan Wahiduddin Khan on Speaking Tree:

Death is not a compulsory eviction but a transfer station, the soul changes the covering as we change a train at a transfer station, or a junction; that is it. Rebirth is in accordance with what one may have done in his or her earthly life, the 'karma'. I know Islam considers doctrine of karma an anathema, and does not subscribe to the philosophy of rebirth. But when a resurrected soul faces Allah He decides whether to assign heaven or hell based on what if not his or her earthly doings and misdoings. Those who think that earthly life is only once for the soul are sadly mistaken, the cycle of death and birth goes on, and will continue till the universe collapses and waits for regeneration of srishti. But that is also a temporary phase, though greatly elongated (Brama's one night), but destruction and regeneration is the truth since the Almighty is truth and does not annihilate. Unbound energy does not, or better to say cannot destroy itself, it is swyambhu (self- born) and cannot be destroyed. It does not have a beginning, nor middle, nor an end; nantam na madhyam na punastwadin, pashyami vishweshar vishwaroopam. That may be the basis of regeneration of srishti time and again.

Laljee Verma in reply to Prasad (ST31-10-17)

Samkhya is attributed to Kapila, and Sankhya philosophy did not have any God, so it was अनीश्वरवाद. But that is not to say that he did not believe in soul. Difficulty is that human mind tries to imagine a figure close to human figure as the God or the soul. If you discard this basic approach, and consider soul to be energy, confusion recedes. Buddhism does not believe in soul but believes in karma philosophy in the scale of cause and effect transmigrating to another life. I believe in both, the soul and the Almighty. Difference being that I consider the Almighty not in the form of deity, or icon or non-icon, but unbound universal energy in the form of universal consciousness, a part of which is in every living species, including the humans. Individual consciousness is the soul; being a part of universal consciousness which is timeless, self - born, and indestructible, it transmigrates upon death of a being as energy can never get destroyed. Hope I have

somewhat
Regards,

answered

the

question.

Laljee Verma in reply to Prasad (ST 02-10-17)

Thanks, and no doubt the Buddha was a tall figure and that is how Buddhism spread in large part of China, Japan, and SE Asia; and that too without conflict or religious wars, or coercion. History of mankind is rather long, and we have had different thoughts regarding life and spirituality. Essentially, we do not have the answer to some basic questions, like what is life force and how is life infused, what are we here for, where we have come from, and where are we bound to. Religion and development of religious doctrine is simply an effort in the search of an answer. Saints and spiritual leaders went in the quest and different religions developed.

As far as these basic questions are concerned man is at the same place he was millennia ago!

On ST (12-11-17)

Shiva and Shakti are entwined to make the world. Shiva denotes the spiritual power, and Shakti the earthly gunas. Together these form earthly life. Life energy, by itself cannot manifest, and gross matter cannot materialize as living objects in the absence of life energy. Purity of universal consciousness when comes in the contact of earthly ingredients, which sprouts life it carries both, the purity of universal consciousness and defects of earthly matter. That is how in the manifested world we have a mixture of both, the virtuous and sinful attributes. Mankind is a combination of virtue and sin. To attain all purity one may have to jettison impurities, curb individual uniqueness, ego, desire, and aspiration in the mortal world. That is how one may attain all purity. But then in the process the genre of a being is somewhat lost. Shiva is only one of the names the mankind has found to define the Almighty. Host of godly figures are the same. Almighty is one, whatever we may name him. Assigning a name is for our understanding Him, not what He is. Names are assigned and gods are conceived in human figure, gross or abstract, but that may not be the reality. Reality is that there is an esoteric force that dwells in a living object, and departs upon death of a being. Religions erupted in the search of that esoteric force, and will keep on surfacing till we find that force; and that may take eons!

Blog on St (02-12-17)

There is no doubt that religious scriptures talk about God and people, but such deep rooted belief develops in ego-ego of being special; takes man away from the path of search for truth. In other words away from the religion for the man. Religious dogma has resulted in conflicts and wars, and continues to create conflicts, physical and mental. Religion binds people but divides societies. Custodian of faith do say it is possible to reach the God, the Almighty, the absolute truth; but they also say it is only through their way. This idea itself is conflicting, as there are streams that merge into ocean. And, that should be the philosophy of religion. Saying that words of any scripture is the word of God is to dupe ignorant mankind into believing a precept about which he has no idea, no knowledge; and so believes blindly. Religion for the man is the ultimate but we do not have religion for the man. It is an irony.

Blog 47 on ST (07-12-17)

There can be no life without ego. Ego is realizing the individual in you. Ego wraps the human mind from birth to death. Indeed, is present in all animates. But inflated ego has its own shortcomings. When man starts thinking that all that happens around is because of him, he considers himself as the doer, whereas there are many things happening outside his control. Ego generates individual "I"ness. That is where it is harmful. Man develops self-centric mind set and thinks the world revolves as he or she may think or want, and if it is not the person develops reactionary feelings, which is again not good. Ego cannot be destroyed, nor, one should try to do it. As Rene Descartes said "Cogito Ergo Sum" - I think and therefore I am, reflects a deep philosophy. In the reverse, it is the ego which makes a person think in individual capacity, birth of scientific, physical and metaphysical, and philosophical ideas taking mankind on to higher platform. But, hypothetically consider that the universe also has an ego, the creator, Brahma has an ego. That ego will be

universal, looking down upon the whole creation. Now if you merge individual ego into the universal ego how beautiful it may be! Therefore, individual ego has to spread out like a flowering of a bud for the creation, starting with immediate family to society, to mankind, to all animate and inanimate on earth, and finally a concern for the universe.

On ST (Blog No 48, dated 22-12-17):

Democracy is or should be the ideal instrument for governance. But we have all shades of democracy model, one is Indian or parliamentary where the chief functionary of the country, that is the PM is elected by the winning party or the coalition, at times nominated by the high command, as a magic wand taken out of pocket. It is a rule by proxy. Moreover large section of people remain bystanders to governance. Hankering after winning elections throws all sorts of malpractices. People's representatives have no basic qualification laid down to stand for election. Thus, we have a situation where brilliant minds are ruled by those who may not have passed even school, or the dropouts.

About religious democracy it is evident that so long as ethnicity is the basis of a society differences will remain. It is the ego that does not permit confluence of religious ideas. Each religious precept teaches emancipation is possible, but they also add that it is only through their way. It is illogical to think that only 'my religion' is true and all the others are false. Religious dynamics is such that unless humanity adopts 'religion for man' as the true religion and discards all others, religious dynamics will not permit confluence and homogeneity.

On ST (Blog 50) 02-01-18

There are three elements that constitute a life. One is the earthly ingredients, second is life energy, and the third is the transmigrated soul, which may be from any past life of any species. Third factor that is the transmigrated soul that makes all the difference in the persona of a being, and is totally unpredictable. Life energy is the same, part of universal consciousness, and the earthly energy also remains the same in each individual but the transmigrated is the factor that endows individualism and uniqueness. Genetic and epigenetic factors shape mental attitude of an individual. Genes not only bring with it the formula of life of a particular species but is also records events in the extant life, and mutation adds to the complexity of life.

It is true that life is evolutionary, culminating in human being. Each species tries to evolve, so is the bacteria and so is the human species. We have super bug already, and we await arrival of super humans.

Comment on ST in response to a blog by Yogacharya Goswami on 14-01-17

Laljee

With due respect to Yagacharya Goswami may I express myself? I think I will. It is not possible to enjoy material world without developing attachment. After all, how attachment develops? The first stage is cognition, that is recognizing an object that is captured by senses, be it through eyes (Visual), or through ears (hearing). A beautiful flower or a beautiful song can be enjoyed only if its presence is cognised. Once your mind likes an object one develops attachment. Reverse is also true. If one does not like an object, material or abstract, one develops hatred, indifference, or disdain. But cognition is a must for enjoying what may be presented to the senses. The second point where I differ is about karma balance. All karma in extant life is not carried to the next life, but it is possible to neutralize bad karma with good karma. Oscar Wilde said "The only difference between a saint and sinner is that the saint has a past, and the sinner a future". Thus it may be realized that if there is no neutralization of bad karma there may not be any future for a sinner; in that if karma is considered absolute and once a sin has been committed its effect will be everlasting, which may not be true. Take any religious scripture there are many mythical stories to say that with virtuous deeds one was able to wipe out effects of sinful actions. Karma is invisible energy which determines fate and destiny of man. It is only the balance of karma that is karma not satiated that transmigrates with the soul to another reincarnation. Regards,

Blog 51 (ST) dated 16-01-18

Brain is anatomical structure whereas mind is abstract attribute in mind-body complex. It may be dwelling in consciousness, a part of mind-body complex or outside but remains connected to the brain. Any action

initiates in mind, and then brain comes into action directing the karmendriyas. That way any act is accomplished. Mind needs to be trained where individual consciousness finds a way to connect with the universal consciousness. If that is achieved one becomes enlightened. Thoughts can be of three types; the instinctive, the rational, and the intuitive. Instinctive thoughts generate in lower brain, the rational in the brain, and intuitive in the higher mind. Mind also exercises control through superego, where rationality prevents us from doing harm to ourselves or others.

Reply on ST (11.02.18)

There is no doubt, concept is difficult to grasp but one must endeavour to understand. Many great minds believe that it was field of energy with consciousness that may have been there before universe came into being; and when the energy concentrated within itself it burst-what is called the 'Big Bang'. Energy field will once again fold at the end of world to regenerate once again. That is the cycle of creation and destruction. Many wonder where the energy goes at destruction of universe. Firstly, it is not destruction as generally understood but only folding in creative womb. Scientifically, one may put it this way: there are matter and antimatter, energy and dark energy where manifested matter and energy dissolve at folding of universe. The Almighty may be an outside force creating universe (creationist God), or we may believe that the force in every atom of matter is the manifested energy. Energy without restraint is of no use, nor it can result in manifested world like electricity needs to be arrested with appliances to be of any use. Thus, energy has to be retrained to manifest. That is the universe.

Log 53, Speaking Tree, 22-02-18

Mind is the unending reservoir of energy residing in a mind-body complex. Mind is an abstract not situated in any particular part of body but in all parts, even in the minute cells. Mind can be appreciated in three different parts, one, the instinctive mind, two, the rational mind, and three, the intuitive mind. The first two are easily comprehensible but the third is rather difficult to understand. It is the mind that exhibit intuition in many forms. Intuition is something that transgresses rationality and achieves end result in a jiffy. Every individual is a repository of energy and radiates. But quantum of radiation will depend upon purity of a soul, one may not be able to achieve in one life time. If you believe in a soul and transmigration it is easy to comprehend that such radiance can be accumulated over more than one reincarnation. Radiance will flow from higher to lower gradient and thus a person with higher radiance will be able to impress persons possessing lower radiance, just like 2nd thermodynamic law where heat energy travels from higher to lower temperature. However, here we must understand that we are not talking about measurable energy but abstract energy which cannot be quantified, unlike heat energy etc, with known scientific instruments or mathematical calculation. It is this radiance possessed by preachers who made vast impression on the masses bringing in durable material change in human living and human thoughts.

Log 54, Speaking Tree, 23-02-18

Mind is an abstract residing in mind-body complex as well as outside. It is an extension of universal consciousness. Universal vibrations are continuous ripple in the cosmos. Any human thought and action create vibrations, negative or positive. But what is negative and positive? These are vibrations either in tune or against with universal vibrations. Universal brotherhood, concern for everything that is in universe, are some that align with universal consciousness and will always create positive vibe in the mind. Hatred, envy, deceit and self-centric approach to life creates oscillations and ripples in mind that does not sync with universal vibration and cause cross currents cutting across ripples caused by universal vibrations; and adds to negativity in mind leading to despondency, misery and suffering immediately, or in the long run. Karma is action, and initiates in mind. If the intended action is good to universe, humanity, and nature it can be said to be good karma, but if it is the other way, it will constitute bad karma and cause negativity in mind. Our mind is always conscious, and nothing remains hidden from our consciousness. Consciousness is

always awake, never sleeps, and maintains a constant watch over our thoughts and actions. All our thought processes, and actions are known to it; and this consciousness records all abstract thoughts arising in the mind, and forms abstract or gross images casting long shadows over thinking process of the mind.

20-03-18 (on Facebook)

Finished reading Shashi Tharoor's book "WHY I AM A HINDU". Readable book but in the later part he appears as a spokesperson of the Congress Party. He narrates different communal conflicts and riots in a manner as to appear all having been engineered by Hindutva faction. While berating the BJP for Gujarat riots of 2002, he conveniently ignores to mention the Godhra episode of premeditated burning of returning 'Kar Sevaks' from Ayodhya by Muslim fundamentalists-the root cause of Gujarat Riots. He questions why MF Hussain was troubled for painting a naked painting of Goddess Durga, and naming the painting as such, little realising, or perhaps wilfully ignoring that no one may have raised objections of nude painting of a female but naming the painting 'Durga' was deplorable, and hurt the sentiments of any who consider themselves as a Hindu. He says at p-236, that unlike the Danish Cartoonist who caricatured Prophet Muhammed (should be Prophet Mohammed) no insult was intended. But intent was the nude painting itself; and was insulting to those who worship the Goddess. Nowhere in any pictures in Hindu pantheon the Goddess has been depicted nude. So, what is he arguing?

At p-250 he narrates incidents of cow vigilantes (which any right thinking and intelligent Hindu will not support) but he has no word for lakhs of Kashmiri Pundits massacred, raped, uprooted from their home just because they followed a different faith than Islam.

There is no doubt that India boasts of an inclusive social structure and many Muslims, Christians, and others feel integral part of the country but there is a large section who consider India dominated with a heathen society and are trying to cleanse it by proselytizing, aggressively, and that poses a big question mark on their intent. He is on spot when he says Hinduism stands for acceptance and tolerance of all other faiths. Nevertheless, the reverse is not true, and there is a danger here that Hinduism and Hindu ethnicity may be in danger. Moreover, if such a great, inclusive social structure and philosophical thought that has stood the test of time, and has endeared many upheavals is wiped out by attack on its faith, world will be poorer, no doubt.

It appears he was commissioned by the Congress Party to write what he has written!

31-03-18 (on ST)

Laljee

Ironically, man remains full of anger, envy, deceit, and sinful demonic thoughts more than ever. Do we need another re-appearance, or incarnation to instil humanity in mankind? Do we need another for salvation and emancipation? Almighty tries in every age and eon but man does not change, remains glued to demonic thoughts and sinful acts. In fact, deterioration in human values is on the ascent, instead of declining. So, how any religion, any scripture, any incarnation has helped the mankind? Man will not change unless there is a change of heart!

31-03-18 (on ST), and Blog No. 55

Laljee

Ironically, mankind remains glued to demonic thoughts, anger, deceit, violence etc. Almighty tries to wean mankind away from inhuman thoughts but human values are on the decline instead improving with religion and religious practice. The desired change will be possible only when human beings undergo change of heart, and practice human religion instead of sects of religion which tends to divide societies rather than strengthening. Whenever a society undergoes a religious change there have been immense suffering, much more pronounced in the ancient Middle East societies, cradle of monotheistic god-concept. Religion is an addiction with which mankind remains glued for the whole life. Mankind needs to change to practice religion of humanity, the only universal god-concept that may bring about peace and salvation.

13-04-18 Blog no. 56 on ST

No doubt, it may be difficult to deal with people who do not understand you, but please remember interpersonal relation is a two way traffic. Object and subject relationship. The highway of this relationship needs to be made smoother. How you understand another is greatly influenced by your own inner self, your mind that constructs its own feeling and propensity and views outside according to this self-construct. No doubt, such persons should be ignored but that may not be the end of story as we cannot sever all ties more so when we remain connected with every other, and the world. One needs to evolve formula that is understood, there may not be any immediate outcome, but perseverance will pay. For example we cannot sever ties with a son, or a soulmate as it may be not only difficult but impossible. I know many who tried to cut off ties with an errant son, and declared it publicly, but had to eat humble pie, and revert to a healthy relationship. Mantra is patience and perseverance.

13-04-18 Blog no. 57 on ST

With the discovery of Higgs Boson particles, science may be closer to unravelling the mystery as to how matter may have been created (and that may be the secret of creation). Please refer to Shloka 51 1nd 52 in Vishnu Purana, chapter 2. Translated, it says, "In the creation, the Almighty is just an intent dispenser, and its main cause is energy. In construction of matter, nothing more is needed than the intent, (dispensed by the Almighty) as energy is capable to construct mass and matter on its own." Now turn your mind to Lord Shiva's celestial Dance, where you see ignorance, in the form of Apasmara impinged beneath his feet. Ignorance is not dead, not killed but remains forever, but subdued under the feet of the Lord. At the beginning of creation, the centre of the universe may have undergone tremendous spin capturing cosmic energy and creating mass and matter. That is how we presume creation of mass and matter from the field of energy. Experimentation at CERN is to discover this celestial secret!

21-04-18. Posted on FB in response to Govt's intention to constitute a committee for Defence Planning where NSA will head the committee with Service Chiefs as members, apart from reps of Defence and Finance Ministries:

Political masters have not taken any lesson from history. Political meddling during 1962 resulted in the well -known debacle, and when the armed forces is not able to defend legitimate national interest on borders the nation suffers, not only the armed forces and politicians. Politicians must leave the armed forces alone. Our defence forces are headed by very competent and experienced Generals/equivalents, let them do their job without interference. They have a Chiefs of Staff Committee (COSC) where strategic planning policies, and higher coordination is formulated. What is the idea of having a 'Super COSC' above this? And, for lower coordination Integrated Headquarters of Defence Staff was instituted. Proposal, that NSA will head the Committee is nothing but showing off power and position, and to an extent nursing under confidence on our Chiefs of Staff; and God save the country if the three Chiefs are not able to enunciate appropriate policies and plans. I am not a defence strategist, nor a part of fighting echelons of defence services (I was an AMC officer) but I have a thinking mind, and I do not hesitate to put on record that this move will only interfere in planning and coordination of the defence forces, apart from creating confusion and situations of conflict. Hope someone puts on a rethinking cap.

13-05-18 (posted on ST, and on FB)

एक	बूढ़ा	मिला	मुझको	था	कहीं	सागर	किनारे,
चला	जाता		था	सदा		गर्दन	झुकाए,
दृष्टि	अपनी	जमीं		पर	हर	पल	बिछाए
रूठ	कर	आकाश	से	ज्यों	कह	रहा	वह,
बहुत	आशा		स्वप्न	रे		तुमने	दिखाए,
अब	न	तेरी	बात	में	आने	लगा	में,
धरा	ही		मेरी	रही		है	जन्मधात्री
पंचभूतों	के	कणों	का	ही	रहा	है	अब
अब	न	आँखें	कभी		भी	ऊपर	करूंगा

क्यों विवश हो और तड़पूं देख सपने देख तारे!
एक बूढ़ा मिला मुझको था कहीं सागर किनारे!

लालजी वर्मा -----वातायन (१९८६) से

धरती माँ को समर्पित; On Mother's Day (2018)

Laljee in reply to Cyrus Immanuel Ahmed at ST on 18-05-18.

It depends! It depends what one visualizes as God (generic term). There is certainly a force that sustains the universe, universe came about by creationist God or otherwise is difficult to unravel through science or spirituality. Mankind suffers from ego of religious superiority, and all the differences, and religious clashes is due to the names mankind has assigned to the Almighty. Having faith on such a force is a quintessence, but basing philosophy of religion on a man-made concept would be a folly. Religion stands on three pillars, the philosophical concept, the rituals, and the people who follow a religion. It is the third, which is the root cause of all problems we face in the paradigm of religion. It is the energy, that binds and sustains the universe, and it is the individual conscience that is the personal God (generic term). In fact if we discard God-Concept humanity will be more peaceful.

Posted on FB a portion of “womb of Time” on 18th May 2018.

The Resolve

Under faint starlight I proceeded
Making path in the dense forest
Bent the wild forests in supplication
Predators eliminated or conquered.
I walked across to the river bend
Where reflection of moon was serene, beauty
Only eyes could capture, mind could conjure!
Serenading night adding to the delight
Of having found a way out to such
Marvel, beauty of nature, music esoteric,
A void singing ethereal songs
And, hermits dancing in shadowy glint!
Moon dancing on the ripples, bending, shuffling
Dissolving, and reappearing; tiny hands
Of reflection somehow trying to reassemble
Shattered mirror pieces together!
River water flows without remorse, beneath
Leaving serenading moonshine on the surface;
Having collected the nectar moon showered
Flow relentlessly to quench thirsty oceans!

Thanks, very well-articulated. Truth is the absolute truth, that is Brahma, and we aspire to discover this Absolute Truth with the help of science and spirituality. We all are in the search of this Absolute Truth which transcends epochs, like Shiva is referred as 'KALPANTAKARI', that is remaining awake even at the end of this 'KALP'. This Absolute Truth assimilates itself into Nirguna concept, to reappear at the start of the next cycle of creation as Shaguna Brahma. So, it is the energy that was at the beginning of the creation and will outlast its destruction. That is my concept, and I seek pardon in advance from all those who may not agree to this view. Naman!

03-06-18 on ST in response to a Blog by Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudev

Spiritual or cosmic Nothingness, really is not a 'no-thing'; it has potential to develop into a thing, in fact in many things. Energy vibrations cause things to appear when energy is arrested just like a bulb lights when electric energy in its flow meets a resistance. Mass and matter has ability to arrest flowing directionless energy that is how life and non-living species appear and take shape. If there was no assimilation of energy, there may not be any mass and matter. This assimilation is the start of creation of gross from abstract. One may refer to Shiva's cosmic dance at the centre of universe; or perhaps centre it makes around which universe revolves. Energy is capable of making mass and matter on its own as said in Vicnu Purana. In this context one may consider revolutions of the universe at the periphery, and compare it with revolutions at the centre. While rate of revolution remains the same, spatial, or lateral displacement in time and space may be huge at the periphery and infinitesimally small at the centre, in fact there may be zero spatial displacement at 'SHUNYA', but the revolutions will be the same as at the periphery. Now consider cause and effect; energy that drives the universe must have an effect. At the periphery and within it is the lateral displacement, force of gravity, attraction and repulsion keeping the stars and planets on a determined path, manifest energy in the stars, such as our sun, appearance and disappearance of massive cosmic bodies, dwarfing of stars, creation of black holes etc. Now confabulate on the huge infinite energy of the universe, and you will find that this energy results in changes and sustenance of universe where changes are taking place every moment. Now consider quantum of energy at the centre, or the SHUNYA, will it not be the same as energy contained in the gross universe? Obviously, it will be the same. But then what about effect? Energy must have an effect, and since at the centre or SHUNYA there is no lateral displacement effect is creation of mass and matter.

04-06-18 on ST in response to aBlog by Jaya Row

Blind faith is dangerous not only for self but for the society as well. Blind faith on a religion is the most dangerous, and the custodians of faith take full advantage of it. Rational discussions were usual in ancient India. And Hindu religion never shunned rational discussions on faith and religion. Similarly, one should never follow a guru blindly, but apply his conscious mind on what he or she preaches.

Good quality of a student is not only the three described by Ms Jaya Row, but if I am correct, there are five qualities described in Panchtantra; that is 'kakcheshta, vakodhyanam, shwan nidra tathaiv ch, alpharee, grihatyaagi, vidyarthee panch lakhnama'- effort like a crow where not able to lower his beak in the pitcher the crow brings pebbles after pebbles and puts in the pitcher to bring up the water level, concentration like heron, light on sleep, frugal in eating habits, and ready to renounce homely comforts for the sake of knowledge gaining. A teacher must be prepared to face questions from pupils, howsoever foolish it may appear, and a pupil must respect his teacher. A teacher must always keep in mind that knowledge generates ego but this ego of knowledge must not be allowed to creep and become a barrier in imparting knowledge. Such a teacher is wise to translate knowledge into wisdom.

Letter response to Paro Bhaiya, dated 6th June 2018:

Dear Paro Bhaiya,

Pranams!

It was nice talking to you today. Glad to learn your welfare. But something you said forced me to write this letter. You said even when you get free from the Care Home where will you go? You also said you cannot go home, and have nowhere else to go. That is sad. Anyway, what I wanted to say is that interpersonal relationship has two opposing pages, and adjustments are needed to bridge the gap, a glue is required. Inability to find a workable situation may be due to maladjustment from each side. It may be that you are not able to adjust in other environment, or may be others are not able to adjust to your requirements. Either way it breaks the cord. Since I do not know internal matters I would like to desist from making any further comment. 'Know thyself' and know your mind objectively, perhaps may help to quieten you mind. Whenever things do not happen as your mind may like it to, tranquillity of mind gets disturbed. Ensuing vibrations (thought processes) cause further disturbance, and thoughts in mind keeps revolving around with no objective, or with unattainable objectives. Try to bring your mind to objective analysis. Let me

assure you that most of us are not objective, and thus, do not know our own mind. It is difficult to know yourself, but is not impossible at any stage in life.

The other point I wanted to mention is that be aligned with reality. Buddha, when he saw so much suffering wondered how to get out of sufferings. He realized that suffering in life is inevitable, one cannot get away from it; but one can accept it as a fact of life. He viewed joy and suffering, both as 'things' and prescribed that once you accept that suffering has dawned upon as a matter of reality contradiction in mind vanishes, and tranquillity restored.

Whatever happens in the world around creates vibrations, and much of it may not be in the sync with your own vibration. When that happens, it creates contradicting waves in mind. Subjective minds suffer most because it thinks that the world should revolve according to its desire, which you very well know can never happen. Such minds are self-centric and subjective, and shun objectivity in a prejudicial manner as it does not suit its subjectivity, which it holds very dearly.

Hope I am making a sense.

Affly Yours,

Lalo

PS; And, thanks for the appreciative words about my work, it encourages me to go ahead.

On ST (12-06-18)

We have to understand that the universe is not a void but is always humming with vibrations. Physicists have discovered a peculiar phenomenon known as the 'String Theory'. Whenever we do anything not in tune with universal vibration it creates negative vibes in our mind which torments time and again. Lesson is that one should not do anything which may be against the natural laws.

On ST (15-06-18) in reply to a comment:



Yeshua Is My Lord And My God **SILVER**

1 day ago

It is appointed unto men to die once, after that the Judgement... To explain away the judgement with karma and rebirth is the trick of the satn ... who successfully planted such knowledge since his fall from the ancient of age to till now... we will be given a new body if we knew the Creator and be with Him .. otherwise we will have to go to a place prepared for the de mons and fallen angels.

There is no point in entering into an argument with prejudiced people, they will never understand human religion. Religion of humanity stands on higher platform than any religion. Can someone tell me what is the basis of assigning heaven and hell to the departed soul if not what he has done and achieved during his or her earthly life. Certainly, it cannot be on face value. What one may have done in earthly life is karma. So how karma philosophy is anathema and work of Satan? Why all-powerful God allowed Satan to stand in competition? Many may not know but concept of Satan originated as a concept known as concept of duality, as custodians of faith could not define the cause of human suffering, as for them all pious God could not have engineered sufferings in human life. Therefore, a causative factor, concept of Satan was created. And, when one says 'My God' he accepts that there are other gods, and in that case singularity of one God for all stands in question. There is clear contradiction, as God cannot be sectarian. If we believe in one Almighty

concept it has to be for all humanity, in fact for the whole universe. But when you say 'My God' you indicate a contradiction. Evangelists and missionaries have a job to do, that to spread the Gospel, and convert people to Christianity. They cannot succeed unless they denigrate other religious doctrines implying that others live in darkness. Religious propagation has been a sad commentary in the history of Sapiens. That is why I say that religion binds people but divides societies.

Laljee Verma says:

Posted on website of Dr Alexander on 'suicide' topic discussion

August 9, 2018 at 6:52 pm

Dear Dr Alexander,

You are on spot when you say "spiritual vacuum exists in our secular culture". Indeed, that is the case. Suicide rates are on the rise all over the world. Farmers and students in India are mainly the victims due to unrealised dreams and aspiration. Hope is essential in life, but with hope desire takes birth, and when it acquires demonic shape of expectation it becomes a passion. If expectations are not met negative vibrations dominate a mind. To my reckoning mind can be considered in three dimensions; the Instinctive (basic faculty acquired from animal kingdom), the Rational (specific attribute which flowers in human mind), and Intuitive (a faculty specific to human mind). Development of human mind is rather a complex phenomenon inclusive of genetic, epigenetic, experiential, and environmental stresses and contribution. Thus, every individual mind is unique. Human mind is like a wandering wild horse, and when a disappointment is conceived disproportionately in some individuals it leads to apathy where one feels life not worth living. Struggle to survive and face challenges dives into abyss. Family and societal support is relevant, which unfortunately is dwindling by the day in a fast-moving material world. I totally agree that objects that may be used to commit suicides must not be at hand. It will reduce the risk of emotional suicides at the spur of a moment. Importance of spirituality in life cannot be underestimated. Spirituality adds to positivity of mind. Most important is to understand that you are not the sole owner of your body. It is a divine gift. Divinity and nature, all are stakeholders, all have a share in the property we call a body. Since we do not own it wholly we only have partial rights over it. Such concepts can develop if one tethers to spirituality in whatever form or concept. And, being spiritually inclined may not mean being only religious. Conceptually, it means being an important and relevant part of this ardently interconnected world, and indeed the universe.

Regards,

Posted on website of Dr Alexander on 'suicide' topic discussion

September 27, 2018

Laljee Verma says:

September 27, 2018 at 1:55 pm

Dr Alexander, I am convinced that what you have described in your book 'Proof of Heaven' is real description of what you felt, and what you saw in abstraction. As I have said somewhere else there is another universe beyond material universe, and that universe is of universal consciousness. A part of this universal consciousness resides in each living species, that is life energy, and source of mind. Mind is not brain; whereas our science deals with brain we have little knowledge of mind. Science has not discovered source of life yet, and that is the reason of 'The God Delusion' – quoting from one of the book titles of Richard Dawkins. Moreover, we all preserve archetypes in our collective unconscious, and thoughts, either in woken state or in sleep does not usually transgress boundaries of collected images and ideas. A dreamer cannot dream of an object to which he or she has had no exposure, either gross or abstract. If you were not exposed to the knowledge of 'Aum' and its sound description it may not have been in your subconscious or collective unconscious, and therefore, its appearance at the time you were in deep coma only indicates that your deeper mind was in action. That may be one of the reasons for your recovery from this grave disease, and of course the proof of heaven.

Much work is required to unravel mysteries of mind, and your writings may be just a humble effort in that direction. Science and spirituality may belong to different spheres but one day, I am sure, the fusion is bound to take place. Man has to research into common moorings, the fountainhead of life, like ongoing research on 'M theory'.

Regards,

Comments on ST (29-09-18)

Laljee (Commenting on editorial of Narayani Ganesh, dated 28-09-18)

Retirement in fact, is beginning of another innings in your life. One does not become irrelevant. There are many things one can do after retirement, such as reading books of your choice, just lying and looking at the full moon whenever possible, playing with grandchildren as a friend and a child, just sit and think, and reminisce past events, think about what you have achieved and what may have gone horribly wrong in your life. Indulge in literature and spirituality for which you may not have had time in your active career. In essence, I believe one does not really retire.

Laljee Verma · October 8, 2018 - 1:15 pm · Reply → mariawirthblog.wordpress.com

Interesting question! Is there a God? A personification of un- appeared? A whiff of thought? After all, god -concept is only within human consciousness. If at all, it is in other species, well, it is not attempted to be defined. There is no doubt, and no one should have any doubt that there is a force behind birth of a sustained universe. We are all trying to unravel the mystery. God is life and the life energy resides in all animates and in-animates, alike. It infuses intelligent design that keeps universe on its keel, and indeed, the anatomical and physiological intricateness in every living species. Mankind has been fighting over the differences. Conflicts, and wars etc., fought over only the name, and doctrinal differences as we perceive the Almighty. Is He a figure, or is He only figurative? Since human science have not been able to unravel mystery of life mind veered towards the unknown, and many names, shapes and doctrines developed in the past and continues to develop in the travelogue of mankind. What is the universal force that keeps billion of galaxies and stars on its keel? That force to qualify to be labelled 'universal' has to have a universal pith. That is what known religions of mankind fails to describe. Mankind tried to construct different religions starting from 'animism' to 'polytheism' to 'monotheism' to 'atheism' but have failed to reach any rational consensus. Baruch Spinoza tried to answer with the doctrine that 'God is nature' but fell short to explain what sustains the nature? Obviously, it is the universal energy, and therefore energy is God. If we take this concept forward all religious differences become irrelevant. It is spread in whole of the universe, resides in every living and non-living object, it is self-born as energy cannot be created, and is indestructible defying birth and death, it is the cause and effect of universe, and sustains it; and therefore, universal energy qualifies to be the Almighty. But human mind is peculiar, it cannot contend with anything which may not be figurative in abstract or gross. Be as it may, one fact comes out clearly that any religion which cares for the whole humanity is closest to the quintessential quest, and that is Hindu Religion or Santana Dharma as it is for the whole humanity, and not parochial in doctrine, or approach.

Laljee Verma · October 8, 2018 - 12:28 pm · Reply → mariawirthblog.wordpress.com

Excellent exposition! Extremism is against humanity. Any religion which distances from humanism cannot be for whole of humanity. Hinduism is closest to humanity and nature, and that is its beauty!

Laljee in reply to Prasad on ST on 11-10-18

Thanks for raising the question. Let me explain. There is no proof of God the Almighty in any religion, it is only a thought through which we understand any religion, and live by it. Whereas there is scientific proof of existence of energy field. There is no doubt that there is some energy by which we talk and walk. Upon death something departs making the body dead. Life is a combination of energy and nature. Soul is that cosmic energy, and body is just flora and fauna nature offer. Now what may be this cosmic energy. That is the basic question. But when we consider energy itself may be the cosmic energy provided by the cosmic field confusion recedes. There is no proof of Almighty in any religion but there is scientific proof of the energy field in the universe. It is the dark energy that sustains the universe. It is the force of attraction and repulsion with which planets and stars move on a predestined path. It is the force of gravity with which we remain glued to the earth within its atmosphere, and one needs to attain a particular velocity to penetrate the earth's attraction to get into space. It is the weak nuclear energy which is relevant in the existence of the universe. Therefore, one way or the other energy is the basic force through which universe may have appeared and is sustained. Now, one may ask who created the energy but then who created God? An effect has to have a cause. One may turn around and say that nothing created God it is self-born; but then energy is also self -born. And, there is tangible proof of this whereas there is no proof of existence of God. Thus, I think that energy is the God, and not a iconic or non-iconic idea.



Laljee in response to 'Why our lives filled with sorrow' by Swami Tejomayananda on ST on 01-11-2018

Nice blog. It is important to know oneself. Rightly said feeling of sorrow and despondency is matters of self. Therefore, knowing yourself is vital. It may sound weird but most of us do not know our mind, and the self. Happiness and Sorrow are things each of us face in life. Once it is accepted as things, effects of suffering lessen. Root cause of suffering is expectation. Unfulfilled hope and desire lead to dissatisfaction and desire is continuously arising. Life is real and abstract, we devote immense energy and time thinking about afterlife, that is abstract scenario after death. But that is how life is. Therefore, to say that preaching etc., is nonsense is not right. Obviously, such people lack insight.

In response to a blog on ST (15-11-18), about Nehru and Children Day:

Such political blogs may best be avoided. About JLN there are many, including me who will not agree that he was a true visionary. His mistakes in formatting India in its baby steps far outweigh his achievements. India is suffering from many mistakes committed by him. In the words of Huston Smith in his book "Religions of Man" published in 1958 : He was out of place everywhere, at home nowhere. Let us not get into a political debate. 14th Nov is celebrated as children day because it happens to the birthday of JLN, the first PM of India. Certainly, he loved children, but he also loved his cigarettes, and wine. We, Indians by and large love to 'Hero Worship', and if someone is so worshipped, we ignore anything negative in his or her personality. We are, generally not objective. Rural development, and healthcare are two most important areas that were neglected, apart from disdainful attitude towards the armed forces.

On ST as a blog 19-11-18

Let us think logically but differently. Everyone knows and it is universal fact that energy cannot be destroyed, it remains even with the destruction of any contraption housing this energy. Now what is life? It is a combination of cosmic energy and ingredients of the nature. Cosmic energy is vast and it never exhausts eve after having been used. The nearest example is of sun, it keeps emitting life sustaining rays even if we capture 90-100 percent of it and use it as alternate source of energy. When a person dies this cosmic energy leaves the body and the body becomes inert. A talking and walking person cannot talk and walk as the energy has left, though all bodily ingredients are there, a body is inert. Therefore, we have to admit that there is some energy that leaves the body. Now the question is where does it go? Obviously, the answer would be from where it came. That would be the cosmos. Physicists and philosophers agree that cosmos is full of energy manifesting in four fundamental states, electromagnetic, gravitational, strong and weak nuclear energy, at least this is the view of physicists. Philosophers agree to presence of vault of cosmic energy which never exhausts.

Laljee Verma says: at <http://ebenalexander.com/is-there-proof-of-a-spiritual-universe/#comment-13600>

[November 20, 2018 at 1:11 am](#)

Dr Alexander, I have read your book 'Proof of Heaven' and now reading 'living with a Mindful Universe'. To the question whether there is afterlife I would say that it is, and well discussed in Hindu scriptures, I am sure you may have researched. Existential body is mind and matter composite, source of life is cosmic energy that leaves the body when one is pronounced dead. Soul is the life energy and never dies. This, rebirth, and karma philosophical attitude is well described in the Gita, the most popular Hindu scripture. One needs to appreciate that life is a combination of mind and matter, and mind is not the brain, but something beyond. I consider mind to be a part of universal consciousness that pervades the whole universe, in fact the multiverse, and spiritual universe. But then one may question what is the necessity of this universal consciousness to manifest? That may be the core question for which science and philosophy, alike, search the answer. We are nowhere near! we may untie the knot with such NDE experiences. Quest to unravel the Absolute Truth must continue by combining scientific and spiritual realms of investigation. Investigating tools wholly based on gross world needs to change as abstracts cannot be discovered with gross, one needs to go into the world of 'Abstract' to know more about abstract.

16-01-19 (On ST)

Being conscious is when one is aware of the surrounding. But there are many things happening in the subconscious (C.G.Jung says it as unconscious) that dictates our actions. Mind-brain complex can be known in three stages, one the consciousness or

awareness, second is involuntary activities which always is taking place in the body, but one is not consciously aware of it, and third is the subconscious or unconscious thought process that transcends awareness. There are moments and thoughts that transcend our awareness (rationality), that is what is intuition. The collective unconscious is the stored images and archetypes in our mind that shapes thoughts and feelings, and it transgresses at rebirth. There are pieces of knowledge and wisdom one exhibits from birth, most likely carried from the past lives. Connectivity and interrelatedness are the absolute truth of terrestrial life.

21-01-19 (posted on FB and Twitter)

Watched a debate on 'rich becoming richer and poor the poorer' today on Mirror Now, and decided to air my views. Rich becoming richer and poor becoming poorer is a concept based on a comparison of how much money one has, that is Ambanis have billions whereas the poor in a village in India may have just a few hundred that may be just sufficient for two squares meal a day. The concept is flawed since it does not give an indication of the spending capacity of an individual in the present-day market. If rich have billions, they will certainly become richer in comparison. Consider you have Rs 100 and invest in a fixed deposit you will get Rs 110 after a year but the poor who has only Rs 1 to invest will get only Rs 1.10 after a year @ 10 % of interest. But to say that poor are getting poorer is only by comparison. It does not indicate a capacity to spend, and thus presents a false image. Maybe in the present market situation, he may be able to live comfortably. So, instead of basing the concept on how much money one has it should be on purchasing power, that is PPP model, in fact, I would say on the purchasing (or better still, on spending) capacity of an individual. That would describe the poverty in a correct paradigm. Money is only a means to an end. End is living and means is the money one has. In prioritization of purchases the luxury items are the last and filling one's stomach is the first. Spending habits get adjusted accordingly. When we consider richness or poverty of a country it is based unknowingly, or knowingly of the country's capacity to buy items from the international market, or the market capacity to absorb the purchases without constraint. Therefore, purchasing or spending capacity is better yardstick than what is the bank balance or monetary worth of an individual.

Caveat: I am no economist, and have a very rudimentary idea about economics. Comments are based on simple logic.

Laljee in reply to Loveendures on ST on 01-03-19

This means that every saint has a past where he or she may have made mistakes and earned bad karma, but at the same time, we should not forget that every sinner has a future like any other human being, and if he or she wants can change the karmic force acting upon his or her future by doing good karma. In other words, a bad karmic effect can be mitigated/neutralized. Please understand that no pooja, supplication, chanting of mantra etc., is going to help unless there is a change of heart. Moreover, no one is perfect, we all nurse pious and sinful thoughts. A thought is a priori of action, and therefore what a person accomplishes as a doer will be good or bad karma. No one can vouch to have done all good karma, and such a person exists and claims of not ever having indulged in sinful thought or act is either god incarnate or an ardent liar.



Laljee Verma on Face Book on 01-03-19

13 hrs ·

Sometimes I wonder do the Pakistanis realize what kind of legacy they are creating. Every country has limited resources and if that is used to produce jihadis, and terrorists and terror camps certainly it will affect the next generation, the youth of the country. They will turn out to be radicals and will take the country further down the hill. Excellence in science and humanity is the call of the day, and certainly, the present generation owes it to the next to leave a purposeful legacy.

Posted on Facebook (29th April 2019)

I want to ask few questions to the Congress Party:

1. Why did Nehru stop the advancing Indian Army in Kashmir and declared ceasefire without consulting his cabinet, and later intent to plebiscite?
2. Why did Nehru decline to accept offer of permanent membership to UNSC, offered by the USA, and later by USSR?

3. Why did he accept Tibet as an integral part of China without trying to find a solution to the border problem with China?
4. Why was article 370 added much later in the constitution? What was the need when J&K had integrated with India by an instrument of accession without any condition?
5. Why was article 34 A added much later? Was it not creating two nations in one nation?
6. He is reported to have said to the then British C-in-C India that he felt there was no need of the armed forces, and security will be looked after by Police? Is it a fact and core reason of 1962 debacle, as the army was never equipped well?
7. After winning the war in 1971 and capturing more than 94000 POW of the Pakistan Army we were in a towering bargaining position. Why did Indira Gandhi agree to release these POW without any precondition after a private meeting with Bhutto, and that too without consulting her core advisors?
8. Why Rajiv Gandhi's Government amended the constitutional provision in Shah Bano case upturning the Supreme Court Judgment?
9. How and why the 1984 anti-Sikh riots were initiated, and perpetrated by the Congress party members?

All these abovementioned actions seem to me that the Congress governments always considered the country as their fiefdom, and had hardly any concern for the people of the country. Maybe I do not know complete facts but that is what I know of. I shall be grateful to be enlightened with truthful answers, or some sort of logical explanation.

Laljee Verma

29th. April, 2019

lkv1941

April 26, 2019 at 7:45 pm on <insightful.co.in>

It is not quite right to say that terrorists have no face. They have a face and a religious teaching to back it, howsoever twisted. Religious seeds ingrained in mind overtakes logic and what is logic in this whole discussion? It is concern for humanity. We must consider the whole humanity as one, as gift of the Almighty, and most valuable asset of creation. The world over we are witnessing terrorist activities, and audaciously the perpetrators gleefully own it after a terror act has been committed. It clearly indicates lack of concern for the humanity. Attack on the mosque in New Zealand, and (retaliatory) attack on Christian Churches in Sri Lanka are few recent examples. Now there is a backlash in Sri Lanka where Muslims are being targeted, mostly they are Ahmadiyya refugees from Pakistan, not considered Islamic and vilified in Pakistan forcing them to flee and seek shelter in another country. Intolerance in Kashmir has forced more than 5 lakhs Kashmiri Pandits to seek refuge in other parts of India due to terror activities. They are living in refugee camps in their own country! What has been their mistake? Only mistake one can think is that they are not Muslims, that is all! Kashmir remains a thorn in the bilateral relations between India and Pakistan, but it is incorrect to say that repressive tactics are being adopted by India. Terrorist activities, wherever has to be curbed, it must be prevented. Violence is not an answer to any unsolved problem in the world. Violence only contributes to further violence. Ego of religious superiority is the worst

type of ego. It leads to religious and ethnic conflicts. About Pakistan, I had written in my book "Indians in Mirror..." published in 2013 that the people and government of Pakistan do not realize where they are leading the next generation. Resources are limited and Pakistan has used most of its resources in training and exporting terror the world over, and look at where it stands today! If a child is taught terrorism instead of science and technology tell me where it will lead the present and the next generation. Such indoctrinated children will think, and act in the support of terrorism. There is no doubt that India and Pakistan share a lot in common, but religious bigotry has played the spoil- sport! One must come to grips with the reality, and the reality is that the world is fed up with terrorism, it wants peace, 'live and let live' is the mantra. We have to live by the maxim 'Vasudhaiv Kutumbakam' if the humanity wants to achieve peace. Violence, intolerance, and terrorism are not the answer!

lkv1941

April 23, 2019 at 4:47 pm on <insightful.co.in>

Great article, well researched and well-articulated. In fact, birth of Pakistan was on falsehood. History of Islam clearly indicate hatred to democracy, not love for it as Jinnah said just after getting his cake! Religion, alone, could not keep the binding together, and Bangladesh separated. Basically, Pak-Punjab dominates everything in Pakistan, primarily the militarism. It was ego of Bhutto backed by Army that led to the birth of Bangladesh. Their hatred towards India stems from the fact that Britishers did not hand over power to Muslims from whom they had usurped India. This mindset has not changed, and most likely will not change so long Pakistan remains a viable country. I say 'viable country' as the future is well seeded where Sindh and Baluchistan provinces are likely to secede and are already a proven thorn. Pakistan economy is crumbling. China has very skilfully affected an 'economic colonization' and further tightening their stranglehold. All other sects except the Sunnis have been declared to be 'non-Muslims'. So, a religious conflict is very much in the making. Most of the resources are under the command of military dominated by Punjabis and all others are considered second grade citizen. How long this facade of a nationhood is going to last, I cannot say but certainly days are not far.

Laljee Verma

January 03, 2021

Posted on Facebook on July 01, 2019

India's healthcare delivery has not found its feet yet. Our focus has remained on the curative aspect whereas preventive strategies are more important and more rewarding. For this, the first step would be to refurbish rural healthcare which, at present is not even rudimentary. Just adding AIIMS like state-of-the-art hospitals is not going to solve the problem. Given the lackadaisical attitude towards healthcare delivery in the states like Bihar, such initiative is going to meet the same fate as many others. After all, one must realize that to keep a hospital clean one does not need a higher budget, or additional professionals and non-professionals. If we cannot maintain the present resources how we expect that state-of-the-art hospital proposed by the central health minister to be built in North Bihar will solve the problem? Hospitals undertake curative aspect of healthcare and are not geared to undertake the preventive aspect. Primarily it is a matter of lack of holistic perception, lack of positive attitude and focused administrative approach.

Healthcare waste is causing havoc with the health of the people, but we hardly see any positive step being taken in the management of healthcare waste. Surely, we know that healthcare waste is infectious and if left uncared the bacterial flora flourishes spreading the infection far and wide and with the passage of time acquires resistance making it more lethal. Moreover, when disposed of in municipal bins, or just thrown on the streets (which is the usual practice) the volume of the infected waste multiplies many times. Instances can be quoted where epidemics have taken place due to improper disposal of infected waste. And wherever some groundbreaking work has been done in India, professionals and the governments have not followed it up. The main reason, as I see it is 'chalta hai' attitude. Why waste time on 'waste management'? Human life is cheap. But why the authorities do not care much can be explained as the brunt is largely born by the poor and underprivileged, and therefore not an issue of importance. I was commissioned and supported to develop a monograph on the subject by the Ministry of Science and Technology, and a book "Managing Healthcare Waste, A Practical Approach" was published in 2007, but regretfully, no further action was taken after the published book was submitted to the ministry.

The country has large deficiencies of doctors' nurses and paramedical staff. PHCs are poorly equipped and managed. Such a situation has existed for decades. Bhore Committee abolished LMP Cadre and Mudaliar Committee reaffirmed it. It was argued that since WHO recognized MBBS as the basic qualification we must also adopt such a mandate forgetting that a country needs to have its own strategy based on ground realities and logical perception. Thus, we lost a large part of the professional bank without any substantive plan to make up the loss. These LMP doctors were generally posted and practiced in rural India. They were a professional bunch of composite healthcare delivery as they also automatically functioned as a family doctor (a system regarded highly beneficial in the overall strategy of healthcare delivery). We seem to suffer from a lack of visionary approach and tend to tackle a problem when the chips are down. There is an urgent need to have a perspective and futuristic plan to strengthen our healthcare delivery. Niti Ayog can undertake such exercise involving health departments of all the states. The health of citizen is important to build a healthier India.

With due research on the subject (along with other issues of national relevance) I wrote a chapter '(Unhealthy) Indian' in my published book "Indians in Mirror View..." and sent detailed advice to the MCI on my viewpoint and measures not only to improve the healthcare delivery in the country but also how to bridge the gap of professional manpower. I did not receive even an acknowledgment. The book is available on amzon.in

Lastly, the budget for healthcare has to be improved. We must have healthcare cess like Education Cess to improve healthcare in the country specially to look after the health of downtrodden and underprivileged. That would be a service to the nation.

Air Mshl L K Verma, AVSM (Retd)
Former Dir Gen Medical Services (Air Force)
July 01, 2019

Dear Shiv,

My comments on the VIF paper is as follows:

1. It will bring better integration and synergy between various services.

Comment: In fact, I think It will bring in more conflicts. Each service chiefs will have the same responsibility as before, that is safeguarding the security of the country. That will not change. So if we add another decision-making body it will cause resentment in the majority of situations.

2. It will optimize the capability development efforts.

Comment: How ill that be achieved unless the CDS is given overawing powers over service chiefs. What is not being done by the COSC today that the CDS will be expected to achieve in this regard?

3. It is said that CDS will be a 4-star officer.

Comment: At par with service chiefs...once again the question is what function will the CDS be expected to perform over COSC. And, any intention to dismantle COSC will not be in the interest of the functioning of the armed forces.

4. Considering the nature of job...what will be nature of the job has not yet been stated anywhere. First, the govt must decide on the nature of job. I am sure when they do this exercise, they will know the futility.

5. Deep selection: Another portal for sycophancy! And, avoidable conflict. It is said that the selection panel would include even the Cs-in-c, a 3-star officer. In case a c-in-c gets selected for the job who may be currently under one of the chiefs, how will that be acceptable to the respective chief?

6. Will be the principal Military Advisor.

Comment: Is not the COSC currently the Principal Military Advisor to the Raksha Mantri? If it is not COSC then who?

7. CDS will be accountable to the Parliament for the expenditure of all public money allotted to MoD.

Comment: Thus, we will be adding another hurdle in the procurement procedure. Is this not being done by the Defence Acquisition Council? Whosoever controls finance perhaps controls functional procurement also. That would be the scenario in the case of CDS.

8. Rules of Business should be revised.

Comment: As per my understanding the Raksha Mantri has this responsibility maybe through the Defence Secretary. RM carries the warrant on behalf of the President. Needs to be checked.

9. CDS will be higher in the order of precedence than the Def Secy.

Comment: Respective chiefs are higher in precedence to the Def Secy, already. So, what is the big deal?

10. Head of military vertical.

Comment: In other words, the CDS will be a super chief. A scenario of conflicting situation!

11. Single file maintenance.

Comment: Will never be acceptable to the MoD.

12. Dynamic Role by the CDS.

Comment: This role is already being performed by the COSC.

13. Exercising operational and administrative command over ANC and cyber and space command.

Comment: No command will be fully viable without resource support from service chiefs. In the present-day scenario, all elements of a fighting force have to come into operation for even a single initiative. That is the basis of integrated command. No operation can be stand-alone.

14. Exercise administrative control over SFC.

Comment: Perhaps doable. But then what will be the role of C-in-C Strategic Command? Will he stand replaced with CDS?

15. Building future operational contingencies...

Comment: Long term perspective planning is syncretic, and best known to successive generation of COSC. Even what the DRDO should focus on cannot be any better suggested by any other agency than the COSC. Whosoever may be the CDS he will have a bias towards his own service on his own or under the influence of respective chief if junior to him. The moot point is what the COSC is not doing at present that the CDS will be expected to accomplish?

16. Overseeing and approving ...prioritization for acquisitions.

Comment: Is it not being done by the COSC?

17. Establishing Defence University, foreign language training, etc.

Comment: You do not need a 4-star officer for such functions.

18. Conduct joint exercises:

Comment: It is currently being done by the service Hqs. Why take it out? There has to be a reason for a change. It appears that the CDS concept has been formulated first and now the exercise is to find justifications. Putting cart before the horse!

Concluding remarks:

Concept of CDS, a 4-star officer appears to be a poorly thought ill-conceived idea. It will possibly generate a conflict of interest with service headquarters, and delay in decision-making portal. The paper by VIF appears to me to be a staff college exercise without appreciation.

Laljee Verma

16-09-2019

[file:///C:/Users/L%20K%20Verma/Downloads/Incognito The Secret Lives of the Brain%20\(1\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/L%20K%20Verma/Downloads/Incognito%20The%20Secret%20Lives%20of%20the%20Brain%20(1).pdf)

Accessed October 26, 2019.

So who, exactly, deserves the acclaim for a great idea? In 1862, the Scottish mathematician James Clerk Maxwell developed a set of fundamental equations that unified electricity and magnetism. On his deathbed, he coughed up a strange sort of confession, declaring that "something within him" discovered the famous equations, not he. He admitted he had no idea how ideas actually came to him—they simply came to him. William Blake related a similar experience, reporting of his long narrative poem Milton: "I have written this poem from immediate dictation twelve or sometimes twenty lines at a time without premeditation and even against my will." Johann Wolfgang von Goethe claimed to have written his novella *The Sorrows of Young Werther* with practically no conscious input, as though he were holding a pen that moved on its own. And consider the British poet Samuel Taylor Coleridge. He began using opium in 1796, originally for relief from the pain of toothaches and facial neuralgia—but soon he was irreversibly hooked, swigging as much as two quarts of laudanum each week. His poem *INCOGNITO "Kubla Khan,"* with its exotic and dreamy imagery, was written on an opium high that he described as "a kind of a reverie." For him, the opium became a way to tap into his subconscious neural circuits. We credit the beautiful words of "Kubla Khan" to Coleridge because they came from his brain and no else's, right? But he couldn't get hold of those words while sober, so who exactly does the credit for the poem belong to? As Carl Jung put it, "In each of us there is another whom we do not know." As Pink Floyd put it, "There's someone in my head, but it's not me." Almost the entirety of what happens in your mental life is not under your conscious control, and the truth is that it's better this way. Consciousness can take all the credit it wants, but it is best left at the sidelines for most of the decision making that cranks along in your brain. When it meddles in details it doesn't understand, the operation runs less effectively. Once you begin deliberating about where your fingers are jumping on the piano keyboard, you can no longer pull off the piece.

No one watered this seed for four hundred years, until the polymath Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz (1646-1716) proposed that the mind is a melding of accessible and inaccessible parts. As a young man, Leibniz composed three hundred Latin hexameters in one morning. He then went on to invent calculus, the binary number system, several new schools of philosophy, political theories, geological hypotheses, the basis of information technology, an equation for kinetic energy, and the first seeds of the idea for software and hardware separation.⁴ With all of these ideas pouring out of him, he began to suspect — like Maxwell and Blake and Goethe — that there were perhaps deeper, inaccessible caverns inside him. Leibniz suggested that there are some perceptions of which we are not aware, and he called these "petite perceptions." Animals have unconscious perceptions, he conjectured — so why can't human beings? Although the logic was speculative, he nonetheless sniffed out that something critical would be left out of the picture if we didn't assume something like an unconscious. "Insensible perceptions are as important to [the science of the human mind] as insensible corpuscles are to natural science," he concluded.⁵ Leibniz went on to suggest there were strivings and tendencies ("appetitions") of which we are also unconscious but that can nonetheless drive our actions. This was the first significant exposition of unconscious urges, and he conjectured that

his idea would be critical to explaining why humans behave as they do. He enthusiastically jotted this all down in his *New Essays on Human Understanding*, but the book was not published until 1765, almost half a century after his death. The essays clashed with the Enlightenment notion of knowing oneself, and so they languished unappreciated until almost a century later. The seed sat dormant again.

If you simply have to respond that you've seen a flash or a bang, you can do so quite rapidly (190 milliseconds for flashes and 160 milliseconds for bangs). But if you have to make a choice ("tell me whether you saw a red flash or a green flash"), it takes some tens of milliseconds longer. And if you have to name what you just saw ("I saw a blue flash"), it takes longer still.

Biologists knew that it took time for signals to be processed in the eyes, travel along the axons connecting them to the thalamus, then ride the nerve highways to the cortex, and finally become part of the pattern of processing throughout the brain.

Thinking, however, continued to be widely considered as INCOGNITO something different. It did not seem to arise from material processes, but instead fell under the special category of the mental (or, often, the spiritual). Cattell's approach confronted the thinking problem head-on. By leaving the stimuli the same but changing the task (now make such-and-such type of decision), he could measure how much longer it took for the decision to get made. That is, he could measure thinking time., and he proposed this as a straightforward way to establish a correspondence between the brain and the mind.

By carefully examining his patients, Freud came to suspect that the varieties of human behavior were explicable only in terms of unseen mental processes, the machinery running things behind the scenes. Freud noticed that often with these patients there was nothing obvious in their conscious minds driving their behavior, and so, given the new, machinelike view of the brain, he concluded that there must be underlying causes that were hidden from access. In this new view, the mind was not simply equal to the conscious part we familiarly live with; rather it was like an iceberg, the majority of its mass hidden from sight. Freud's intuition about the unconscious brain was spot-on, but he lived decades before the modern blossoming of neuroscience.

Your brain is in the dark but your mind constructs light. The apparatus reminds us that we see not with our eyes but rather with our brains.

By two and a half months, an infant will express surprise if a solid object appears to pass through another object, or if an object seems to disappear, as though by magic, from behind a screen. Infants show a difference in the way they treat animate versus inanimate objects, making the assumption that animate toys have internal states (intentions) that they cannot see. They also make assumptions about the intentions of adults. If an adult tries to demonstrate how to do something, a baby will impersonate him. But if the adult appears to mess up the demonstration (perhaps punctuated with a "Whoops!") the infant will not try to impersonate what she saw, but instead what she believes the adult intended.¹⁴ In other words, by the time babies are old enough to be tested, they are already making assumptions about the workings of the world. So although children learn by imitating what is around them — aping their parents, pets and the TV — they are not blank slates.

William James realized the hidden nature of instincts and suggested that we coax instincts into the light by a simple mental exercise: try to make the "natural seem strange" by asking "the why of any instinctive human act": Why do we smile, when pleased, and not scowl? Why are we unable to talk to a crowd as we talk to a single friend? Why does a particular maiden turn our wits so upside-down? The common man can only say, Of course we smile, of course our heart palpitates at the sight of the crowd, of course we love the maiden, that beautiful soul clad in that perfect form, so palpably and flagrantly made for all eternity to be loved! And so, probably, does each animal feel about the particular things it tends to do in the presence of particular objects. ... To the lion it is the lioness which is made to be loved; to the bear, the she-bear. To the broody hen the notion would probably seem monstrous that there should be a creature in the world to whom a nestful of eggs was not the utterly fascinating and precious and never-to-be-too-much-sat-upon object which it is to her. Thus we may be sure that, however mysterious some animals' instincts may appear to us, our instincts will appear no less mysterious to them.^{2 – 0}

Consider memory. Nature seems to have invented mechanisms for storing memory more than once. For instance, under normal circumstances, your memories of daily events are consolidated (that is, "cemented in") by an area of the brain called the hippocampus. But during frightening situations—such as a car accident or a robbery—another area, the amygdala, also lays down memories along an independent, secondary memory track.³⁰ Amygdala memories have a different quality to them: they are difficult to erase and they can pop back up in "flashbulb" fashion—as commonly described by rape victims and war veterans. In other words, there is more than one way to

lay down memory. We're not talking about a memory of different events, but multiple memories of the same event—as though two journalists with different personalities were jotting down notes about a single unfolding story. So we see that different factions in the brain can get involved in the same task. In the end, it is likely that there are even more than two factions involved, all writing down information and later competing to tell the story.³¹ The conviction that memory is one thing is an illusion.

He discovered that Whitman's brain harbored a tumor about the diameter of a nickel. This tumor, called a glioblastoma, had blossomed from beneath a structure called the thalamus, impinged on the hypothalamus, and compressed a third region, called the amygdala.² The amygdala is involved in emotional regulation, especially as regards fear and aggression. By the late 1930s, researchers had discovered that damage to the amygdala caused emotional and social disturbances.³ In the 1930s, biologists Heinrich Klüver and Paul Bucy demonstrated that damage to the amygdala in monkeys led to a constellation of symptoms including lack of fear, blunting of emotion, and overreaction.⁴ Female monkeys with amygdala damage showed inappropriate maternal behavior, often neglecting or physically abusing their infants.⁵ In normal humans, activity in the amygdala increases when people are shown threatening faces, are put into frightening situations, or experience social phobias. Whitman's intuition about himself—that something in his brain was changing his behavior—was spot-on. I imagine it appears that I brutally killed both of my loved ones. I was only trying to do a quick thorough job. ... If my life insurance policy is valid please pay off my debts . . . donate the rest anonymously to a mental health foundation. Maybe research can prevent further tragedies of this type. Others had noticed the changes as well. Elaine Fuess, a close friend of Whitman's, observed, "Even when he looked perfectly normal, he gave you the feeling of trying to control something in himself." Presumably, that "something" was his collection of angry, aggressive zombie programs. His cooler, rational parties were battling his reactive, violent parties, but damage from the tumor tipped the vote so it was no longer a fair fight.

KNOWING THYSELF "Know then thyself, presume not God to scan. The proper study of mankind is man." — Alexander Pope. On February 28, 1571, on the morning of his thirty-eighth birthday, the French essayist Michel de Montaigne decided to make a radical change in his life's trajectory. He quit his career in public life, set up a library with one thousand books in a tower at the back of his large estate, and spent the rest of his life writing essays about the complex, fleeting, protean subject that interested him the most: himself. His first conclusion was that a search to know oneself is a fool's errand, because the self continuously changes and keeps ahead of a firm description. That didn't stop him from searching, however, and his question has resonated through the centuries: *Que sais-je!* (What do I know?)

So what does all of this mean for the Greek admonition *γινώσκειν ἑαυτόν* — know thyself — inscribed prominently in the forecourt of the Temple of Apollo at Delphi? Can we ever know ourselves more deeply by studying our neurobiology? Yes, but with some caveats. In the face of the deep mysteries presented by quantum physics, the physicist Niels Bohr once suggested that an understanding of the structure of the atom could be accomplished only by changing the definition "to understand." One could no longer draw pictures of an atom, true, but instead one could now predict experiments about its behaviour out to fourteen decimal places. Lost assumptions were replaced by something richer.

In the same way that the cosmos is larger than we ever imagined, we ourselves are something greater than we had intuited by introspection. We're now getting the first glimpses of the vastness of inner space. This internal, hidden, intimate cosmos commands its own goals, imperatives, and logic. The brain is an organ that feels alien and outlandish to us, and yet its detailed wiring patterns sculpt the landscape of our inner lives. What a perplexing masterpiece the brain is, and how lucky we are to be in a generation that has the technology and the will to turn our attention to it. It is the most wondrous thing we have discovered in the universe, and it is us.

Copied from Wikipedia (20-02-2020)

In rabbinical writings[[edit](#)]

Tannaim[[edit](#)]

See also: [Tannaim](#)

Rabbinical writings often show more hostility towards gentiles due to frequent persecution of the Jews by these nations. [Eliezer ben Hurcanus](#) writes that the mind of every gentile is always intent upon [idolatry](#).^[3] He believed that gentiles only perform [animal sacrifice](#) to

make a name for themselves. He further believed that gentiles have no share in the [world to come](#).

Other rabbis show a more positive attitude towards the gentiles. [Joshua ben Hananiah](#) believed that there are righteous men amongst the gentiles who will enter the world to come. He believed that except for the descendants of the [Amaleks](#), the rest of the gentiles will adopt [monotheism](#) and the righteous among them will escape [Gehenna](#). There is also a story about a dialogue between Joshua ben Hananiah and the Roman emperor [Hadrian](#) in which he tries to demonstrate that God deals with Israel with greater punishment for similar crimes.

[Eleazar of Modi'im](#) wrote that Jews, when guilty of the same sin as gentiles, will not enter [hell](#) whereas the gentiles will.^[3] [Eleazar ben Azariah](#) believed that the rulings performed by a gentile court are not valid for Jews. [Rabbi Akiva](#) believed that Israel's monotheism is far superior to the ever-changing beliefs of the gentiles. [Jose the Galilean](#) criticizes Israel for inconsistency compared to the faithfulness of the gentiles to their ancestral beliefs. He believed the good deeds of the gentiles will be rewarded as well.

The most famous of the anti-gentile teachers is [Simeon bar Yochai](#). He is often quoted by [antisemites](#) in his sayings: "The best among the Gentiles deserves to be killed", "The most pious woman is addicted to sorcery" and "The best of snakes ought to have its head crushed".^[3]

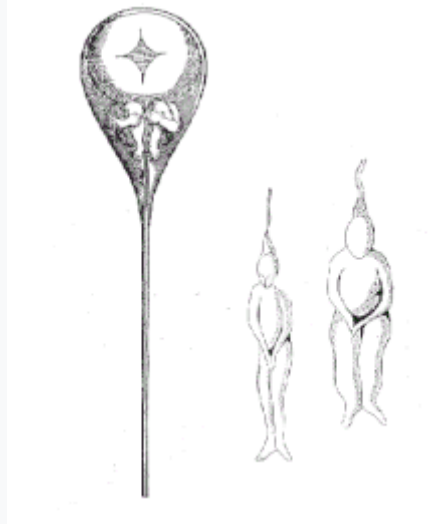
April 12.020.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_genetics

In the [Charaka Samhita](#) of 300 BCE, ancient Indian medical writers saw the characteristics of the child as determined by four factors: 1) those from the mother's reproductive material, (2) those from the father's sperm, (3) those from the diet of the pregnant mother and (4) those accompanying the soul which enters into the fetus. Each of these four factors had [four parts](#) creating sixteen factors of which the [karma](#) of the parents and the soul determined which attributes predominated and thereby gave the child its characteristics.^[4]

In the 9th century CE, the [Afro-Arab](#) writer [Al-Jahiz](#) considered the effects of the [environment](#) on the likelihood of an animal to survive.^[5] In 1000 CE, the [Arab physician](#), [Abu al-Qasim al-Zahrawi](#) (known as Albucasis in the West) was the first physician to describe clearly the hereditary nature of [haemophilia](#) in his [Al-Tasrif](#).^[6] In 1140 CE, [Judah HaLevi](#) described dominant and recessive genetic traits in [The Kuzari](#).^[7]

Preformation theory (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_genetics)



[Sperms](#) as preformed humans. Painting of [Nicolaas Hartsoeker](#) 1695

Main article: [Preformationism](#)

Preformation Theory

The preformation theory is a developmental biological theory, which was represented in antiquity by the Greek philosopher [Anaxagoras](#). It reappeared in modern times in the 17th century and then prevailed until the 19th century. Another common term at that time was the theory of evolution, although "evolution" (in the sense of development as a pure growth process) had a completely different meaning than today. The preformists assumed that the entire organism was preformed in the [sperm](#) (animalkulism) or in the [egg](#) (ovism or ovulism) and only had to unfold and grow. This was contrasted by the theory of [epigenesis](#), according to which the structures and organs of an organism only develop in the course of individual development ([Ontogeny](#)). Epigenesis had been the dominant opinion since antiquity and into the 17th century, but was then replaced by preformist ideas. Since the 19th century epigenesis was again able to establish itself as a view valid to this day.^{[8][9]}

April 13, 2020

Phenotype[\[edit\]](#) <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Genotype>

Main article: [Phenotype](#)

Any given gene will usually cause an observable change in an organism, known as the phenotype. The terms [genotype and phenotype](#) are distinct for at least two reasons:

- To distinguish the source of an observer's knowledge (one can know about genotype by observing DNA; one can know about phenotype by observing outward appearance of an organism).
- Genotype and phenotype are not always directly correlated. Some genes only express a given phenotype in certain environmental conditions. Conversely, some phenotypes could be the result of multiple genotypes. The genotype is commonly mixed up with the

phenotype which describes the end result of both the genetic and the environmental factors giving the observed expression (e.g. blue eyes, hair color, or various hereditary diseases).

A simple example to illustrate genotype as distinct from phenotype is the flower colour in pea plants (see [Gregor Mendel](#)). There are three available genotypes, PP (homozygous dominant), Pp (heterozygous), and pp (homozygous recessive). All three have different genotypes but the first two have the same phenotype (purple) as distinct from the third (white).

April13, 2020

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Epigenetics>

Development^[edit]

Developmental epigenetics can be divided into predetermined and probabilistic epigenesis. Predetermined epigenesis is a unidirectional movement from structural development in DNA to the functional maturation of the protein. "Predetermined" here means that development is scripted and predictable. Probabilistic epigenesis on the other hand is a bidirectional structure-function development with experiences and external molding development.^[87]

Somatic epigenetic inheritance, particularly through DNA and histone covalent modifications and [nucleosome](#) repositioning, is very important in the development of multicellular eukaryotic organisms.^[86] The genome sequence is static (with some notable exceptions), but cells differentiate into many different types, which perform different functions, and respond differently to the environment and intercellular signaling. Thus, as individuals develop, [morphogens](#) activate or silence genes in an epigenetically heritable fashion, giving cells a memory. In mammals, most cells terminally differentiate, with only [stem cells](#) retaining the ability to differentiate into several cell types ("totipotency" and "multipotency"). In [mammals](#), some stem cells continue producing newly differentiated cells throughout life, such as in [neurogenesis](#), but mammals are not able to respond to loss of some tissues, for example, the inability to regenerate limbs, which some other animals are capable of. Epigenetic modifications regulate the transition from neural stem cells to glial progenitor cells (for example, differentiation into oligodendrocytes is regulated by the deacetylation and methylation of histones.^[88] Unlike animals, plant cells do not terminally differentiate, remaining totipotent with the ability to give rise to a new individual plant. While plants do utilize many of the same epigenetic mechanisms as animals, such as [chromatin remodeling](#), it has been hypothesized that some kinds of plant cells do not use or require "cellular memories", resetting their gene expression patterns using positional information from the environment and surrounding cells to determine their fate.^[89]

Epigenetic changes can occur in response to environmental exposure – for example, maternal dietary supplementation with [genistein](#) (250 mg/kg) have epigenetic changes affecting expression of the [agouti gene](#), which affects their fur color, weight, and propensity to develop cancer.^{[90][91][92]}

Controversial results from one study suggested that traumatic experiences might produce an epigenetic signal that is capable of being passed to future generations. Mice were trained, using foot shocks, to fear a cherry blossom odor. The investigators reported that the mouse offspring had an increased aversion to this specific odor.^{[93][94]} They suggested epigenetic changes that increase gene expression, rather than in DNA itself, in a gene, M71, that governs the functioning of an odor receptor in the nose that responds specifically

to this cherry blossom smell. There were physical changes that correlated with olfactory (smell) function in the brains of the trained mice and their descendants. Several criticisms were reported, including the study's low statistical power as evidence of some irregularity such as bias in reporting results.^[95] Due to limits of sample size, there is a probability that an effect will not be demonstrated to within statistical significance even if it exists. The criticism suggested that the probability that all the experiments reported would show positive results if an identical protocol was followed, assuming the claimed effects exist, is merely 0.4%. The authors also did not indicate which mice were siblings, and treated all of the mice as statistically independent.^[96] The original researchers pointed out negative results in the paper's appendix that the criticism omitted in its calculations, and undertook to track which mice were siblings in the future.^[97]

Transgenerational^[edit]

Main article: [Transgenerational epigenetic inheritance](#)

Epigenetic mechanisms were a necessary part of the evolutionary origin of [cell differentiation](#).^[98] Although epigenetics in multicellular organisms is generally thought to be a mechanism involved in differentiation, with epigenetic patterns "reset" when organisms reproduce, there have been some observations of transgenerational epigenetic inheritance (e.g., the phenomenon of [paramutation](#) observed in [maize](#)). Although most of these multigenerational epigenetic traits are gradually lost over several generations, the possibility remains that multigenerational epigenetics could be another aspect to evolution and adaptation. As mentioned above, some define epigenetics as heritable.

A sequestered germ line or [Weismann barrier](#) is specific to animals, and epigenetic inheritance is more common in plants and microbes. [Eva Jablonka](#), [Marion J. Lamb](#) and Étienne Danchin have argued that these effects may require enhancements to the standard conceptual framework of the [modern synthesis](#) and have called for an [extended evolutionary synthesis](#).^{[99][100][101]} Other evolutionary biologists, such as [John Maynard Smith](#), have incorporated epigenetic inheritance into [population genetics](#) models^[102] or are openly skeptical of the extended evolutionary synthesis ([Michael Lynch](#)).^[103] [Thomas Dickins](#) and [Qazi Rahman](#) state that epigenetic mechanisms such as DNA methylation and histone modification are genetically inherited under the control of [natural selection](#) and therefore fit under the earlier "[modern synthesis](#)".^[104]

April 13, 2020

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Behavioral_epigenetics

Behavioral epigenetics is the field of study examining the role of [epigenetics](#) in shaping [animal](#) (including [human](#)) [behaviour](#).^[1] It seeks to explain how nurture shapes nature,^[2] where nature refers to biological [heredity](#)^[3] and nurture refers to virtually everything that occurs during the life-span (e.g., social-experience, diet and nutrition, and exposure to toxins).^[4] Behavioral epigenetics attempts to provide a framework for understanding how the expression of [genes](#) is influenced by experiences and the environment^[5] to produce individual differences in [behaviour](#),^[6] [cognition](#),^[2] [personality](#),^[7] and [mental health](#).^{[8][9]}

Discovery^[edit]

The first documented example of epigenetics affecting behavior was provided by [Michael Meaney](#) and [Moshe Szyf](#).^[23] While working at [McGill University](#) in [Montréal](#) in 2004, they discovered that the type and amount of nurturing a mother rat provides in the early weeks of the rat's [infancy](#) determines how that rat responds to [stress](#) later in life.^[4] This stress sensitivity was linked to a [down-regulation](#) in the expression of the [glucocorticoid receptor](#) in the brain. In turn, this down-regulation was found to be a consequence of the extent of [methylation](#) in the [promoter](#) region of the glucocorticoid receptor [gene](#).^[1] Immediately after birth, Meaney and Szyf found that [methyl groups](#) repress the [glucocorticoid receptor](#) gene in all rat pups, making the gene unable to unwind from the histone in order to be transcribed, causing a decreased stress response. Nurturing behaviours from the mother rat were found to stimulate activation of stress signalling pathways that remove methyl groups from DNA. This releases the tightly wound gene, exposing it for transcription. The glucocorticoid gene is activated, resulting in lowered stress response. Rat pups that receive a less nurturing upbringing are more sensitive to stress throughout their life-span.

This pioneering work in rodents has been difficult to replicate in humans because of a general lack of availability human brain tissue for measurement of epigenetic changes.^[1]

April 13, 2020

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Psychoactive_drug

Psychoactive drug

A **psychoactive drug**, **psychopharmaceutical**, or **psychotropic drug** is a [chemical substance](#) that changes [brain](#) function and results in alterations in [perception](#), [mood](#), [consciousness](#), [cognition](#), or [behavior](#).^[1] These substances may be used medically; [recreationally](#); to purposefully improve performance or alter one's [consciousness](#); as [entheogens](#) for ritual, spiritual, or [shamanic](#) purposes; or for research. Some categories of psychoactive drugs, which have therapeutic value, are [prescribed](#) by [physicians](#) and other [healthcare practitioners](#). Examples include [anesthetics](#), [analgesics](#), [anticonvulsant](#) and [antiparkinsonian](#) drugs as well as medications used to treat [neuropsychiatric disorders](#), such as [antidepressants](#), [anxiolytics](#), [antipsychotics](#), and [stimulant](#) medications. Some psychoactive substances may be used in the [detoxification](#) and rehabilitation programs for persons dependent on or addicted to other psychoactive drugs.

Psychoactive substances often bring about subjective (although these may be objectively observed) changes in consciousness and mood that the user may find rewarding and pleasant (e.g., [euphoria](#) or a sense of relaxation) or advantageous in objectively observable or measurable way (e.g. increased alertness) are thus reinforcing to varying degrees. Substances which are [rewarding](#) and thus [positively reinforcing](#) have the potential to induce a state of [addiction](#) – compulsive drug use despite negative consequences. In addition, sustained use of some substances may produce [physical](#) or [psychological dependence](#) or both, associated with somatic or psychological-emotional withdrawal states respectively. [Drug rehabilitation](#) attempts to reduce addiction, through a combination of [psychotherapy](#), support groups, and other psychoactive substances. Conversely, certain psychoactive drugs may be so unpleasant that the person will never use the substance again. This is especially true of certain [delirants](#) (e.g. [Jimson weed](#)), powerful [dissociatives](#) (e.g. [Salvia divinorum](#)), and classic psychedelics (e.g. [LSD](#), [psilocybin](#)), in the form of a "bad trip".

Psychoactive drug misuse, dependence and addiction have resulted in legal measures and moral debate. Governmental controls on manufacture, supply and prescription attempt to reduce problematic medical drug use. [Ethical concerns](#) have also been raised about over-use of these drugs clinically, and about their marketing by manufacturers. Popular campaigns to decriminalize or legalize certain recreational drug use (e.g. [cannabis](#)) are also ongoing.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Advaita_Vedanta

Accessed April 30, 2020

Main article: [Mahāvākyas](#)

Several *Mahavakyas*, or "the great sentences", have Advaitic theme, that is "the inner immortal self and the great cosmic power are one and the same".^[91]

Sr. No.	Vakya	Meaning	Upanishad	Veda
1	प्रज्ञानं ब्रह्म (prajñānam brahma)	<i>Prajñānam</i> ^[note 8] is <i>Brahman</i> ^[note 9]	Aitareya V.3	Rigveda
2.	अहं ब्रह्मास्मि (aham brahmāsmi)	<i>I am Brahman</i> , or <i>I am Divine</i> ^[94]	Brhadāranyaka I.4.10	Shukla Yajurveda
3.	तत्त्वमसि (tat tvam asi)	<i>That thou art</i> , or <i>You are that</i>	Chandogya VI.8.7	Samaveda
4.	अयमात्मा ब्रह्म (ayamātmā brahma)	<i>This Atman is Brahman</i>	Mandukya II	Atharvaveda



Sent the following to the letters to the editor, the week:

"Another piece of wisdom from the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), general bipin Rawat. he has advocated that aircraft carriers are not required as the same job can be done by the submarines, hotly contradicted by, and rightly so, by Admiral Arun Prakash, the erstwhile chief of the naval staff (Sail or Dive, The Week, November 22, 2020). General Bipin Rawat seems to have forgotten his army lessons. Strategically, there are two distinct arms, offensive and defensive. Submarines are the defensive arm whereas the carriers are the offensive arm of the forces where the air and naval power can be perpetrated upon the enemy, simultaneously. You cannot capture an island with the help of only the submarines, you need to use the offensive aircraft carriers to subdue and occupy, or to thwart any attempt by the enemy with an aircraft carrier. It is like advising the Air Force not to procure fighter jets as one may say that the same job can be accomplished with surface to air missiles, or to say that tanks may not be required as the same task can be performed by surface to surface missiles.

The country has entered an era of conflicts with the appointment of the CDS. The government may be making the same mistake as the Nehru Government during the early 60s meddling into the affairs of the armed forces leading to the Chinese debacle of 1962. That time it was through V K Krishna Menon, now it appears through the CDS!

Laljee Verma

November 16, 2020

Letters to the editor The Week,

I could not agree more with Sachidananda Murthy (Power Point, The Week, December 27) that it may invite a spate I couldn't agree more with Sachidananda Murthy (Power Point, The Week, December 27) that it may invite a spate of demands for justice if the Emergency is declared illegal. But the larger question is whether there was any external aggression or severe internal strife in 1974? There was no external aggression, was the internal strife of the degree to warrant declaration of emergency? Severity will have to be adjudicated and decided by the courts. But even the general public decided against leading to the downfall of Indira Gandhi's government in the next elections. Moreover, Was the Cabinet in total agreement and unequivocal, if consulted? If we ignore to examine the past many politico-bureaucratic, bordering to autocratic over-activism cannot be questioned. Public will be the mute sufferer and the executive arm not much bothered of the consequences as it will feel secured under the garb of authoritativeness. In the meanwhile, the victim suffers. Authority and accountability are two faces of the same coin, it cannot be separated. Authority must also be accountable, that is the essence of a democratic set-up. And India claims to be the largest democracy! We do not have a specific legal provision on 'tort' but have provisions to sue the state through other provisions. However, the legal process should be swift considering the individual as the weaker of the two.

If accountability of past actions cannot be questioned then Nuremberg trial was wrong, questioning 1984 anti-Sikh riots is wrong. If a person or a group of people have wrongly suffered at the hands of the state or central authorities, they deserve compensation.

Laljee Verma

Retired Air Marshal

December 21, 2020

Laljee Verma <lalji.lkv2007@gmail.com>

12:27 PM (0 minutes ago)

to

letters@hindustantimes.com

Nowadays it has become fashionable to denounce capitalism. But you just have to analyse how the world has progressed. Communism is hardly a social order now after the Russian and the Chinese economy have changes to capital intensive markets. They may profess to be communist countries but their economic system is capitalism now. That is the secret of their economic progress. Even Indian economy picked up after restrictions were eased in the 1990s, and thereafter. Now, India is booming with the fruits of the free market economy. And, those who denigrate free market economy just because some do it have to confabulate and take an objective view. Economic order is not, or should not be limited to an ideology, instead ideology should spring from the prevailing social order. To say that the government of the day is under the influence of some business houses is not true, as all big business houses are in the nation building, together. They not only strengthen the country's economy but also provide millions of job opportunities, and process the culmination of research and development. A rethink is required!

Laljee Verma

January 3, 2021

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January 05, 2021

Interrelatedness:

It is great to be born in the material world, and experience the vastitudes life offers. But the individualistic attitude tries to rob all of this. That is where it is vital to understand the interrelatedness in the universe. The universe consists of billions of galaxies, stars, planets, and other celestial objects. Each of this, even the most distant galaxy or a star is essential for us to, experiencing life on the tiny planet, earth. One may wonder what the connection between many galaxies and stars and our life on earth is. One just has to contemplate to find the interconnection. Just to cite an example, if all celestial objects were removed will the earth be a viable planet to sustain life, in fact, will it be possible for the planet to exist? Definitely not. Unfortunately, man is not aware of his finitude.

Within the earth imagine yourself, a tiny finitude in the vastness of space and time. Then you focus your mind on the society you live in. Essentially, man feels a master of all that we see around. That is due to the inherent ego of man. We think all that is in nature is for us, for our sustenance. There is no argument that we draw our sustenance from nature, but whether it all exists only for us is questionable.

Similarly, whether the society exists for us or we exist as a part of the society we live- in? Most of us will agree that we exist as a part of the society we live- in. Therefore, between the two one has to know his place. That is where most of us falter. We think superior to others. Sometimes true, but mostly falsely. We recollect our achievements, ignoring the accomplishments of others and feel superior. In the web of interrelatedness, one needs to identify his place. Only then he will be able to find a proper equation. Otherwise, he will always live in a world of his own, and his world view will remain individualistic.

Life is multi-faceted. One is good in one aspect; another may be good in another aspect. One needs to respect all. And, this you may be able to do only if you let go your sense of superiority, and individual ego. Upanishads tell us that personal ego is the motherboard of envy, avarice, desire, greed, and selfishness. It may not be possible to eradicate these completely, but it is always possible to subdue these. If you eliminate ego, completely, progressive

life may just not be possible. If you eradicate desire, you eradicate hope to advance in life, as well. That way, one may be a lump of clay that acquires shapes only with the intervention of a potter's hands. Indeed, no one wants to live as such.

Our mind is individualistic, hence subjective and finite. But then there is another mind above the materialistic mind we all possess: our inner consciousness, which is truly objective. To explain it further, imagine you are walking in a garden. Your eyes see a flower and conclude it to be a rose flower. Then you see another flower, maybe a sunflower. Your gaze shifts, and so does your mind because to identify an object, the mind has to come into the play. Without the mind, one may not be able to distinguish objects. Shifting perception causes a shift in mental acuity or mental visuality. But the inner consciousness remains aloof watching the sense perception, and the analysing brain-mind complex.

Therefore, you have to evaluate yourself not with your material mind but with inner consciousness. Mind you; individual consciousness is a reflected ray of the cosmic consciousness. Only then you will be able to find your place in the social and temporal order.

Laljee Verma

Air Marshal (Retd)

18 January 2021

Corona vaccination and waste generation:

India has proudly produced corona vaccine and entered into mass vaccination (Dose too Far, the Week, January 24, 2021). Many guidelines have been issued, but no specific guideline on how to take care of the huge quantity of plastic waste that would be generated from the vaccination programme. One-time used plastic syringes, PPE kits, gloves, etc., will be required to be disposed in a scientific and eco-friendly manner. For this, the authorities-CPCB and SPCB and Committees must issue guidelines and strictly enforce it. It is well known that unscrupulous unauthorised vendors are just waiting in the wings to lift the syringe waste, wash, repack and sell it in the market. There are many such vendors all over to exploit the weakness in the healthcare waste management system. Therefore, a hundred percent assured collection will be required to be enforced.

Most of these wastes are likely to be generated in the rural (PHC) and suburban areas where disposal technologies are not in place. Plastic waste needs to be disinfected (disinfection can be carried out by putting the syringe waste in boiling water as the virus is heat labile), and shredded at the earliest opportunity so that it cannot be recycled. For this, a mechanism to collect and transport it to a designated centre, be it a larger hospital or a Common Biomedical Waste treatment facility (CBWTF), will be required to be laid down. Policy directive is important but more important is its implementation, which appears lackadaisical in the country in the management of healthcare waste. Viruses are known to survive for days, and even longer when in the contact with body fluids, which the used syringes and needles will contain.

The authorities must act now or else another even more lethal epidemic may blow on our face!

Laljee Verma (Air Marshal, Retired)

Former Head of Medical Services, Air force

And Founding President, Indian Society of Hospital Waste Management (ISHWM)

07 March, 2021 (posted on Facebook)

Watched a long TV interview of the Chinese Foreign Minister. He kept harping on sorting out the problem of LAC through dialogue in reference to the recent confrontation at Finger 4 in Eastern Ladakh. He first should apprise the world as to how did the PLA come to Finger 4, which is clearly known as India's from Indian perspective, or 'not yet

sorted out' in the Chinese perspective. Was it not an act of aggression? Did they not try to change the LAC to claim it till Finger 4 thereafter? LAC is a dangerous terminology. One can forcibly or surreptitiously change the Line and later claim as LAC. LAC has fluidity, whereas LOC has a semi-permanent connotation. Did the Chinese come to Finger 4 surreptitiously, or with the well-known tactics of 'salami slicing'? These are some questions the Foreign Minister of China needs to answer.

He further kept harping that India and China are not adversary but friends. But all actions of the Chinese point in opposite direction, like trying to change the status quo of the LAC, opposing India for permanent seat in UNSC with the lame excuse of saying that even Pakistan may have a claim knowing fully well that world powers would just laugh at such suggestion. The Chinese design has been expansionist. They apparently do lip-service which clearly gets exposed whenever one examines in depth. Our previous governments have gone extra mile to accommodate Chinese ambitions, and India continues to pay the price. Tibet has paid a heavily, and India is paying. Conflict costs a lot in the days of developed and sophisticated war machinery.

March 12, 2021

A country is identified not only with a geographical boundary but also with its core ethnic culture. If you go into the history of the development of democracies in the European countries, you will find that language spoken by the majority population demarcated the nations; that is the basis on which many countries are known today. Every country has a core culture within itself, which governs the perception. India and its Indian culture also follow the same norm for its identity. Indian culture has developed and matured over the centuries; seen as an admixture of Hindu (Sikh, Buddhist, and Jain culture included), Muslim, Christian, and Parsee culture- the culture of immigrated people from outside. But, as every country has a dominant cultural background, so does India, and that predominant Indian culture is the Hindu culture. Expressions contained in the Vedas, the Upanishads, and other well-known scriptures, their message, and teaching determine the unique Indian culture.

But what is so great about Indian culture that the world is in awe? It is a culture nearest to humanity; it is a religion nearest to human understanding and human survival. That is the elemental beauty of Indian culture. That is one of the reasons why different countries and ethnic groups are attracted to Indian culture. It may not be the religion, but it is the spiritual content that attracts. Religion and spirituality are two different schools. Religion and faith are what one grows with, and therefore becomes somewhat parochial, whereas spirituality is a doctrinal thought that is much deeper and beyond religion. Religion encompasses a group, whereas spirituality tends to encompass the whole of humanity. After all, what is the purpose of religion? It is to take humankind to a higher platform. But, being ethnic-group-based, it fails to achieve its goal; in fact, it fragments society and causes human shards to fly away in different directions with improbability to mend. In fact, I will not be much farther the mark if I say, "*religion (as practiced), is an unintelligent expression of human wisdom*".

India has been under foreign dominance for over 1000 years but fortuitously retained its ancient culture only due to the force of thought. And, that force comes from the spiritual content of the ancient Hindu culture. It has to be retained and nurtured for the sake of humanity at large. Religious parochialism only fractures society, and it will continue to do so unless we gather a clear understanding of religiosity and spirituality.

-----Laljee Verma

15-03-21

One Shia Muslim has approached the Supreme Court of India with a prayer that 26 Ayats of the Holy Qur'an inimical to humanity should be removed. He has averred that these were not the originals (which is supposed to be direct from Allah) but added by first three caliphs of the Islamic rulers just to provide jihadist force for Islamic expansion in the medieval period. There is a hue and cry. Fundamentalists are after his blood, literally. But if we get down to the basics it appears logical to point out the contradictions as some parts of the holy book talks about tolerance in religious diversity, whereas these impugned parts talk about eliminating and extirpating any opposing doctrine, view, or religion.

Long ago I had written that if a tolerant Islam is to develop it will be from India, and it appears the process may have started.

-----Laljee Verma

March 16, 2021 (Posted on FB):-

Nikola Tesla said if you want to experience the cosmos try and hear the cosmic vibration. Eben Alexander, a well-known neuro physician who was in coma for two weeks due to a brain infection, when recovered, described his Near-Death Experience (NDE) saying that all over he heard the sound of 'Om' when he had no prior knowledge of its existence, chanted or written. Lord Shiva is known to be Mahadev, Devon ke Dev. Unbound cosmic energy gives mass and matter through the infinitive revolution, known as the cosmic dance of Shiva. We gauge the revolution of any body by lateral displacement. Imagine the periphery of the universe. The lateral displacement there would be infinitive, whereas the same would be zero at the Centre of the universe. Same phenomenon can be seen in a revolving top, the peripheral top appears to be revolving at great speed whereas the bottom pin appears stationary. From infinity to zero, and again to infinity is the story of the evolution of the universe. The cosmic dance of shiva also appears somewhat similar, and the infinity revolutionary speed at the centre of the universe gives rise to mass and matter in its minuteness, aggregating to gigantic stars, planets, and other cosmic objects. That is how energy produced matter in the universe, which governs itself with the force of attraction and repulsion. Now with the discovery of Higgs-Boson particles that appears a plausible explanation. At the end, with Tandava dance of Shiva, once again the mass and matter dissolves in the energy field of the cosmos to take a rebirth at the next epoch. The Hindu concept of Kalpa is the same, and that is why Lord Shiva is known as 'KalpantKari' that is transcending from one kalpa to the next. Origin of the universe remains an enigma!

Laljee Verma
