



Science, Religion and Spirituality

Sublime Aspects

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“SUBLIME” LEVEL

- As we move from ‘basics’ to intermediate to advanced to ‘sublime’ levels, we ask the same question we asked at the very beginning:

What do we want?

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What do we Want?

- 1. Pleasure: We all want to enjoy and be happy
- 2. After some time, we feel we want more than Pleasure: Pleasure + Wealth, Power, Name and Fame
- 3. Allegiance to “community”, social service
- 4. We want something “infinite” because all the preceding three work with “finite” things and have not made us happy.

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What do people want (continued...)

- This leads to Sanatana Dharma's Claim:
What we want so badly, to be with the "infinite", we can have.
Not only that, we already have That, we are That!
 - "*Tat Tvam Asi*" (*That Thou Art!*)
 - "We are all potentially divine" – Swami Vivekananda

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Sanatana Dharma

- Emphasis on Dharma
- Not opposed to going after pleasure:
 - it says, go! By all means!!
 - SD, however, tells us: don't be stupid, do not cheat or rob!! - do it intelligently, 'Dharma' always!
- Rishis know: persons would want more than pleasure!
 - after few years or after few births!!
 - will graduate from steps 1, 2, 3 to 4

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Sanatana Dharma

- Uses 2 terms “Bala” and “Dhira”
- Bala: youth, immature, not well-thought.
- Dhira: intelligent, mature, well-thought
- both terms not chronological but psychological
- Re-incarnation, many births
- Bala or Dhira: age considering ‘past births’

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Sanatana Dharma – Bala & Dhira

- Maturity differences in this birth itself
 - two 30 yr olds, 30 & 50 yr olds etc.
- *'bahuni mey vyatheethani, janmani tava chaarjuna, tanyaham veda sarvani, na tvam vethya paranthapa'* - Bhagavad Gita (4.6)
- 10 past births & 30 yr old this birth
 - 4 past births & 50 yr old this birth
 - Who is older? Who is more mature?
- This explains why we have child-like-Dhiras and/or geriatric-but-Balas

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“SUBLIME” LEVEL

- We, sometimes, emphasize ‘material success’ as our ‘only’ goal - goal always is ‘climb the ladder’ - however high, we want to go to the next step – instead of living, enjoying peace and happiness at whatever step of the ladder we are!)
- Lord Yama says what will happen to such people:
*‘na saamparayah pratibaathi balam
pramaadyantham vitthamohena moodham
ayam loko nasthi para iti maani,
punah punah vasam apadyathey me’* - Katha Up

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“SUBLIME” LEVEL

- SD teaches us to pause, reflect and ask “what do we want?”, try to get there with ‘dharma’, and enjoy bliss
- Our Rishis have shown ‘multiple paths’ to suit intellectuals, emotionalists, doers – firm footing on ‘dharma’ always – scientifically thought thru and experienced by them, want us to ‘experience’ (*anubhavam eva shastram*) – and not at all opposed to science, reason or logic

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“SUBLIME” LEVEL

- Remember:
- Solar System – Sun, Earth & other planets
- Sun – one of hundreds of billions of star in our Milky Way’s galaxy
- Milky Way is one of billions of galaxies in the Universe
- ‘Intelligence & Awareness’ all around
- Let us stay in “Sat-Chit-Ananda” always!