

COSMIC ORDER

श्रीमद आचार्य विजय वसोदेव सूरिश्चरणो
जैन संस्कृत वाठशाला संचालित

By

VASANTLAL KANTILAL ISHVARLAL

With a Preface by

H. E. SHRI SRI PRAKASH

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COSMIC ORDER

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February 3, 1962

Raj Bhavan

PREFACE

I was very happy to meet Shri Vasantlal Kantilal who gave me proofs of his book on "Cosmic Order" with a desire that I might write a few words about it. The subject and matter of the book is of absorbing interest. Man through the ages has stood struck-dumb at the mystery of creation that he senses around him, wondering on the whence, why, how, and whither of it all. Thinking men have tried to probe into the secrets of things; and have ventured such solutions as gave them intellectual or spiritual comfort. Still the heart of man has remained unsatisfied and the search continues. Philosophers and scientists have alike put their hand to the solution of the mysteries around us. The nineteenth century materialistic philosophers of Europe thought that these things were unknowable and so it would be best to attend to what was knowable and leave all that aside. Eastern philosophers, however, from the earliest times were not contented at this position; and continued to probe deeper and still deeper. The great Shankaracharya gave his own explanations and interpretations on the subject. Many of us have found that satisfying to the intellect. Most, however have received solace and comfort in offering their heartfelt devotion to some form of the Deity of their conception. This was their

answer to the great mystery—by whatever name we may call it: God or Paramatman or Unknowable—which seems to whirl us and everything around us inexorably and inevitably. They have soothed their souls by the hope that this offering of the self, will bring bliss and beatitude.

The problem of life and death, of joy and sorrow, will always attract us and puzzle us; and under whatever designation we might study it, the goal is the same, namely to find peace for the troubled mind and freedom from fear that the unknown—particularly after, if there should be an after, our short span of life on earth—invariably engenders.

Shri Vasantlal Kantilal Ishvarlal has in his own nice way studied the various facets of life and thought; and in the letters to a friend has explained here Nature and Science; has offered comfort to his correspondent in his sorrows and sufferings; and has cited beautiful stories from the scriptures, History and actual life to support his point of view. He exhorts all to ponder over the deepest mysteries of Nature for the receiving of the greatest amount of satisfaction. He feels that Meditations—thrilling and ennobling in their nature—about the marvellous structure of reality, can help to mould Human Destiny.

I wish the book will find a large number of readers who may profit by his line of thought, and receive comfort in the midst of the perpetual clash and conflict with which we are surrounded at all times, and at all places.

Sri Prakasa

Raj Bhavan,
Feb. 3rd 1962

(Sri Prakasa)

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NATURE

—SUPREME INTELLIGENCE

Dear Friend,

Today I am writing to you on my favourite subject—the Cosmic Order. My heart leaps with joy and my hands tremble. Everything begins to brim with lively fervour. You know how much I am in love with Nature! Within us are mysteries of Self and without, mysteries of Nature. Life is given to us to find out the final solution of these mysteries. The real life begins when one faces these mysteries and unfolds them with pure intuition. Meditate on these mysteries with the purity of heart and richness of mind, and life will be to you not a wasted dish, but a jar of nectar. The mysteries of Self are in fact included in the mysteries of Nature, for Nature excludes nothing. Really speaking, consciousness is a small screw in the cosmic machinery, and its mysteries are the minute fragments of the Great Unknown, Nature.

When we think of Nature sometimes, it looks like a great thought and not a great machine, as Eddington puts it. The more we think about it the more we feel that Nature is Supreme Intelligence. Whether this Nature is a living organism or a mere set of principles on which the whole cosmic machinery runs? What is its power? From where did it learn to act with mathematical subtlety and scientific precision? Is there mathematics and music in its colossal working? We have discussed long enough about the mathematical rhythm of Nature. I leave it to you to think over these questions and many more. In a silent corner, with your eyes closed and mind lost in deep meditation, try to probe these mysteries.

You do believe that there is not a chaos but a cosmos right before us. There is not a misty vagueness or a dusty storm all around us. There is music and mathematics in the heart of Universe. The Universe stands on concrete principles more subtle than mathematics itself, and more appealing than music itself. You can observe any part of the working of Nature and you will see there the stamp of its supreme intelligence.

The eternal principles on which the whole cosmic machinery runs have no limitations of Space and Time. They are true in all space and time. Nature is nothing else but such eternal principles, or Cosmic laws. There are no limitations in Nature, so do not believe that Nature is only that much which you can comprehend. It is a circle without a centre or a circumference. It is such a vast and infinite Thing, that it cannot be reflected in the small dark corner of

our mind. When we evolve to the final point we can truly evaluate Nature. Then only we can fathom the unfathomable and know the great Unknown.

I wish that you would go to a sea shore, and under the open sky, stand with a downcast head, and begin to think in silent whisper. Think about this Nature and its wonderful working, its greatness and might, and I assure you, that you will behold the greatest show on earth, and the greatest entertainment one can have.

Think about the different species of Life. Look at the different shapes and sizes, the various creatures have. Look at their forms, lines and colours, their physical anatomy, their habits, their family life, their different ways of attack and resistance, their struggle for existence and their different modes of living. Observe all these well and think over the law of maintenance, and you will find that there is a systematic machinery, and an intelligent plan behind the whole creation. It is the greatest proof of Supreme Intelligence, that rules without interference. I believe Nature not to be a living person but as a purpose and plan of Cosmic evolution. We seem to lose all our significance when we stand before the great and mighty Nature. If after all this pondering you can feel the greatness and might of Nature, you have found the true meaning of Life.

I recently read an article on the courtship of spiders. The spider has hundreds of species, and each one has its own method of courting its mate. In the article there is a detailed description of how

they all have their own methods of wooing. The male spider, whether he is a Wolf spider or a Black widow, dances before the female and if there is a mistake in the dance, the female would kill and eat the male.

Nature gave to the spider such meaning of love. It gave a new and higher meaning of love to the legendary figures of Sohini and Mahiwal or Taramathi and Harish Chandra. Sohini, with only a broken pot as her support, plunged into a flooded river. Mira of Chittod, or Rabia of Iran, or St. Teresa of Italy, were given much deeper and fuller meaning of love than Sohini or Damayanti or the black spider. Nature has a special plan and purpose for everyone. Nothing is useless and purposeless in Nature. Everything is proper in its own place and serves a very useful purpose of maintaining the healthy existence of Universe. Even the different meanings of love Nature gave to all, serve a useful role to keep on running the whole show. There is a definite purpose in Nature and a very practical plan to carry out that purpose. This is the highest proof of its supreme intelligence. Do not believe that Nature is a gross product of visible elements only, like a mountain or a moon. It is not even a living person. Nature is the constitution, embodying the cosmic principles, true to all times and all places.

I will write to you more of the life-forms on this earth, so that it may be clear to you how systematically the law and order rule Nature and how the sovereign government of Nature maintains and promotes the welfare of one and all. I will give you

some instances so that the subject-matter may not be too heavy for you. I will write to you about the white ant, and the honey bee, the wasp and ants, and you will certainly feel the greatness and might of Nature.

Among the ants there are different species, each one having its own special function. There is a carpenter ant, a peasant ant, a harvester ant, a cowherd ant, which milks the little cow it rears. There is also the kidnapper ant which steals the eggs of the other ants, the acrobat ant and the soldier ant. There is a parasol ant which holds a leaf on its head to use as an umbrella. There are many such species of ants. Observe with what sincerity they do their duty. They would ration the food according to their numbers. Such is their social instinct. Who taught them all this? These are mysteries of Nature. Try to penetrate them. These ants come and go on separate paths, putting two different types of chemical substances on each path.

There are two types of energies in cosmos, the energy of mechanism and the energy of intelligence. When they are combined, a complex Universe is formed. Nest of a tailor bird, web of a spider, different shapes of conches and shells, all these represent energy of mechanism. The white ant tills the farm. It can eat wood and Nature has put five different germs in its stomach, so that it may digest the wood. Note how Nature has gifted every-one with some speciality so that it may maintain itself. Study the Socialism that exists amongst them. There is a division of work. A worker will put food into the mouth

of everyone. A soldier will only protect and do nothing else. It will fight to death to prevent anyone entering the ant hill. The soldier class consists always of two-thirds of the whole ant population, even though the population may increase or decrease. The work of the queen is also a special product of Nature. If we enter the royal chamber of the queen, you will find soldiers standing round her, guarding and protecting her. Workers produce royal jelly and give it to queen to eat, so that it may produce billions of eggs and yet remain fertile. Who gives them this training ?

The soldiers of ants and white ants form themselves in a wing and march in a batallion. Where there is a difficult road, they stand still. The captain then climbs the hill to view the position, and if the line is clear, it whistles. Who taught them all this except Mother Nature ? Is Nature a heartless tyrant or a loving Mother ? Are we mere passive instruments in a cruel drama, or is she training us all to some higher purpose ? Such questions would arise when we contemplate upon Nature.

The white ant eats all the trees, except the tree on its own ant hill. It would generate a new population, if necessary, to eat the large trunk of a tree. There are many such Life-forms, from microbes to Dinosaurs. All these facts take us to one important truth, that Nature is Supreme Intelligence.

Let me tell you about a wasp which gives injections to the nerve centre of a beetle, so that it may become unconscious but not die. If it dies, it is not fit as a food for the wasp. See how Nature has

equipped everyone with some special gift so that the wheel of life may move smoothly.

Observe well, my friend, that there is order and discipline in Cosmos. The cosmic machinery runs on certain principles. There is a purpose, a plan and some unknown, mysterious power behind this perfect functioning of Cosmos. Everything changes. Time and Space change; things and matter change. The situation and history always change. Everything changes, except these cosmic principles that are beyond the reach of Space, Time and Matter.

I know this letter is becoming too long, but the hours we spent together, would have no meaning if I could not speak my innermost thoughts to you. I am doing so in order that you may think of these things often. You once asked me, what is the purpose behind this colossal structure of Nature and its ceaseless working? The plan is so perfect that there must be a purpose behind it. Whether the purpose is of perfection and purification? Whether Nature aims at perfect knowledge and true joy? Is it possible that a handful of great men may have created a purpose in this world of chance, through their awakening and heroism? If such is the case, even the existence of such great men requires the sanction of Nature. As I said earlier in this letter, Nature excludes nothing. In this world the physical force and spiritual energy are in conflict with one another. With extraordinary vigour, these two forces keep on fighting for eternity. It is the fight of Good and Evil.

Which is more powerful, good or evil? We should not forget that Evil also contributes to the

goodness of Good. It plays an important role to promote and propagate good. If there had been no evil, how could we measure the strength and beauty of good? How could we know the power of good, if there was no evil? Good derives its strength from its fight against and conquest of evil. If there had been no evil, good would not have been strong, for its strength consists in seeing the evil, fighting it and then eradicating it.

When we study the whole working of Nature, one thing that strikes us most, is the power of life-force, its conquest of all obstacles and obstructions, its upward trend, irrespective of any hindrances in its path. Nothing could stop this upward trend, and anything that did so, would be destroyed. The purpose behind this entire scheme of things is, I think, that life-force should find its upward trend not only in a white ant or a honey bee, but also in man and all other living forms. Life-force is ceaselessly on a march and Nature itself could not stop it. It is a part of the Cosmic Design.

The upward trend of life-force finds greater impetus in human beings. Nature has endowed man with a will to grow, and by doing so, it seems it has washed out the sins of creating Evil. There is nothing in this world more beautiful and magnificent than this will and power to Grow. In a human being this power of growth gains enormous speed, and reaches its climax. Wherever man looks, he finds the inspiration to evolve. Even when he is looking at a fisherman's net, or a cluster of trees, or a well. Once there was a man who dug up a well.

When he looked at the heap of earth that he had dug out, he thought, there was a heap of wealth in his safe, so there must have been a deep hole elsewhere like the well he had dug up. He removed all his wealth from his safe and threw it in a river. Thus he drew inspiration from a well. Deep secrets lie behind the illustrations I am giving you, and I hope you will ponder over them.

Vinobha Bhawe was inspired by trees. Once, while he was having a walk, he saw some green trees. He wondered how the trees could remain so green in spite of terrific heat. He realized that the trees were drawing life-energy through the roots and even though their tops suffered in the blazing sun, they were green. This was the secret he found from the trees, and applied it to life by suffering the heat of penance, and drawing the joy of life-energy inwardly, and thus remaining ever-green and fresh, like trees.

If you pick up a handful of barley from a heap, it would leave an empty space in the heap, but if you take a bucket of water from a tank, no empty space remains, for the surrounding water will fill up the empty space. Gaining level and harmony is a characteristic of water and we can get inspiration from it also.

Even from fire you can draw inspiration as says Vinobha Bhawe. The flames are always striving to touch the sky as if a part is craving to join the whole. There are two powers in fire, namely *Swadha* and *Swaha*.

Swadha is the strength to remain erect, and *Swaha* is the power to leap. If you can stand erect, then only you can know the art of leaping. Such inspiration you can have from the fire. From everything around you, you can get such inspiration. From every object we see and everything we touch, man has this power of drawing inspiration. By putting infinite will and strength in Man, Nature has tried to fulfil her dream of being a servant to him. Nature wanted to serve someone, someone that was great and superb, greater even than herself. In Man, Nature fulfilled her dream. Man is as eternal as Nature herself, and Nature found the true meaning of her existence by putting her head at the feet of Man. Nature put in Man poetry and music, vision and movement, pain and progress, achievement and fame. It seems to me that the whole cosmos is like a jewel box to preserve the treasure that is in the heart of Man. At midnight, sometimes suddenly I wake up and feel deeply, in my heart, that everything in cosmos serves as a footstool to human dignity. Human mind and human heart are the rarest and most valuable products in the grand bazaar of Nature. Nature has imposed no limits on the fall of Man and no limits on his upward rise either. Nature is in its true form and in highest spirit, when it meets a man fighting for his destiny. Nature so much loves and admires Man that she has put no limit to his rise and fall. It is the proudest moment for Nature when Man fulfills his destiny.

When you read the devotional songs of Mira or Anandaghanji, you will be convinced that there is no

limit to human evolution. When Jesus said, "This is my blood, take it", we were convinced that there was no limit to the power of growth in Man. Lord Buddha said, "I will not leave my seat under the tree unless I conquer you, O Mar! the Devil!". A flooded river rushed down, but the seat of Buddha, under the tree, remained dry as ever. The trees were uprooted, but not a leaf was shaken on the tree under which Buddha sat. He conquered Mar, the Devil. When we think of this conquest, we know what is human dignity. Such is the grandeur of Nature and the role of Man in its cosmic scheme. Contemplation is the greatest entertainment one can have. Think often about Nature, and you will find a new dimension in life. You will understand mind, life, and Universe, better.



THE LAW OF BALANCE

IN NATURE

Dear Friend,

Study well the great grand Nature, and you will find that there is a law of Balance in it. You will find the dual nature of Cosmos, which aims at this balance. You cannot imagine on what a colossal scale this balance is maintained. Everywhere we find pairs of opposites, boundless in quality and quantity. Nature has created this mathematical rhythm of the balance through these pairs of opposites or Duals. You will notice that Nature has created poison in snakes and scorpions, and on the other side to maintain the balance, it has created honey in flowers and milk in cows.

To maintain this balance there is happiness in heaven and its opposite, miseries, in hell. Happiness in heaven is in mathematical proportion to suffering in hell. Nature is so accurate in such matters that even Newman and Einstein bow in reverence at this

supreme intelligence. You can see in heaven and hell the balance between happiness and suffering.

There is also the balance of cruelty and compassion in Nature. On the one side, you can observe the relentless torture of a Nazi concentration camp like Eritseberg, and on the other, you find a loving atmosphere in Buddhist monasteries and Christian convents.

Nature always maintains this Balance, without one side getting on top of another. There is also the balance of luxuries and austerities. You will find, on one side, champagne and strip dance in night clubs of Paris, whereas on the other side there is Kailash and Mansarover, or the Seventh peak of Girnar. Everywhere this balance is maintained.

There is the divine madness of Mira and also the sensual voluptuousness of Cleopatra. There are Apsaras, and there are Yogis. There are prostitutes and there are nuns. You can always find an opposite for everything, and through it Nature maintains its balance.

There is also the balance between beauty and ugliness. Our eyes meet white lilies, the silent moonlight, the coloured birds and gems scattered in the sunset. We look at a rabbit or a squirrel coming out of a bamboo grove, quivering with some unknown vitality. All these are the beautiful aspects of Nature. But on the other side, we also find many ugly things. We can see the eddies in the monsoon rivers, a deceptive swamp, a cloud of locusts and the ugly rhinoceros and octopus. We see the terrible comets, with their long tails,

making the sky look like a sinister witch and not a romantic fairy.

You will also find a balance of heat and cold in Nature. There are volcanoes, erupting hot lava, and there are also icebergs and glaciers, floating across the Arctic Circle. From one end to the other, in this cosmos, you will find a mathematical rhythm, in each and every object of Nature to maintain the Law of Balance. Even in a nursery-book story or in a fairy tale there is this balance. A hero has his opposite in a villain. There is a prince on a flying horse, so also there is a giant with three eyes. Look anywhere you like, and you will find this balance in everything. Such balance is not only necessary, it is inevitable, so that Nature may function swiftly and smoothly for its own existence, and keep its power all afresh and inexhaustible. There is nothing in Nature that is without any purpose. This law of balance naturally serves some very useful purpose in the cosmic scheme.

There is also the balance of microcosm and macrocosm. On one side there are the Electron, Proton and Neutron—smaller than a two billionth part of an inch. Whereas on the other side there is Milky Way, Nebulas and Island Universe, covering billions of light years. On the one side, is infinity and on the other, a microscopic subtlety, maintaining the mathematical balance, so perfect that we are compelled to bow before this marvellous structure of reality.

On the one side there are Cactus and thorny bushes in a burning desert, and on the other side there are, Poyanas and chamelies on the slopes of hills, or a Parijataka in Nandanban. On one side there is

a seductive gypsy dancer filling a wine glass, whereas on the other side is a farmer's wife, helping her hardworking husband in the field. There are tragic scenes of battle bringing to us a major catastrophe, whereas there are beautiful scenes of homely life too, which strengthen our faith in life. There is a soldier lying on an operation table, struggling between life and death, and to balance this there is also a sweet newborn child kicking his legs in the cradle, and the mother lovingly responding with kisses. Then there is the balance of creation and annihilation, of integration and disintegration. Even in things we eat we find this balance of sweet and bitter.

The greatest balance in Nature is of Matter and Mind. In this cosmic scheme, if there had been Mind alone or Matter alone, then the Universe would have been of quite a different type—utterly unimaginable and colourless. Perhaps there would not have been such a thing as Universe.

Balance is the fundamental principle of Nature. Perhaps Nature gives a message to us, the human beings, the message to maintain a balance in our life. It seems that Nature expects from us only what she observes herself. Such is her boundless love towards Man. Nature maintains this Law of Balance, so that Man may learn to balance and synthesise the opposites. Between reason and emotion, work and rest, individual and cosmos, and between everything in life, Man should learn to maintain this balance like a mathematical rhythm. The Law of Balance in Nature gives us this message so very clearly.

From an individual's viewpoint, if a hand is lost in an accident, it is a great calamity, but from the cosmic viewpoint it is a process of purification. Human standard is not final in the arena of Nature. From an individual's viewpoint we lazily dream of autumn clouds, glistening dew drops, and feel happy, but from the cosmic viewpoint, our condition is as tragic as a rabbit which covers its eyes with its ears to avoid seeing a lion in front of it.

We should try to learn the cosmic standard, and never bother about the human standard. We should also learn to balance our period of work with our period of rest. Then only can we maintain our mental and emotional health. There are so many departments in life, that are lacking in balance, and Nature expects us to bring about that balance; and for that reason only, I think, Nature is so strictly observing the Law of Balance throughout its colossal system.



FOR THE WELFARE OF ONE AND ALL

Dear Friend,

I have heard you so much, and I know you so much. I know your sufferings. I accept it as a common fate of humanity. You cannot do anything about it, except that we must now and then reinforce our faith in Nature and its working. We are quite helpless against this common fate. Many will raise their fists against you, spit on you and kick you. Many things will happen, for it is the natural course through which life manifests itself, and there is no remedy for it. The show must go on. We have to play our part, however small or great it is.

In the evening you light a lamp before a newly grown plant, and in the morning you find that a storm in the night has completely uprooted it. People will laugh at us. There are stars and Moon in the infinite sky. They are so beautiful. But life is still the same, tragic and painful. Sometimes we feel

that the forces of Evil are much stronger than the forces of Good in Nature. It will appear that everything, from the little flower to a vast galaxy of stars in the sky, is smeared with blood and tears. The rising sun will remind you of the bloodshot eyes of a drunkard; you will come to believe that everything here is a universal conspiracy to make you forlorn and forsaken. All this will happen, but never for a moment come to believe that Nature is against you. Never for a moment does Nature want to torture you or ensnare you in some filthy trap. You must feel that Nature is doing so much to make you happy and healthy, though it has its own way of doing so. Nature always refills this canopy of air with different gases, so that you and I may breathe easily. The heat in our circulation of blood is supplied to us by its ingenious device. The little mirror of our eyes called the cornea, is like the lens of a camera so smooth and spotless and protected by the eyelash that it appears to be a miracle. Nature has showered such countless blessings on us. The forces of good are far stronger than the forces of evil. We cannot be separated from Nature for it works right inside us, interspersed with our every activity, small or big. Never, for a moment, are we free from its influence. We are merely a minute screw in this cosmic machinery. We are nobody and nothing in comparison to Nature, we are a microdot in a vast circle without a circumference or centre. Nature is wrapped in the immense vastness, whereas we have not a single leaf to hide our ugliness with. Just as we feel this sense of inferiority in comparison to

the super structure of Nature, we will create more and more faith in the goodness of Nature. We will come to know its design and try to tune with its pattern. We will try to relinquish all efforts to resist and cry out to Nature, "Let thine will be done! I accept!" You will then be reduced to absolute zero which, in a spiritual sense, means purification and perfection.

The good forces of Nature will overtake you. Nature does not look after your happiness only. It is concerned with the sum total of cosmic happiness. It is better to let her work upon us, for it knows much better about what is good for us and what is not. I am giving you two or three instances to support my statement that Nature is all benevolent.

In a small town of U. S. A. there was a small church where people used to pray at 7.15 a.m. every Sunday. For three years there had never been a break in this routine. One Sunday, however, nobody could reach the Church at 7.15 a.m. The priest was away at a nearby village where someone was dying. Something or the other stopped all the two hundred regular church goers from reaching the church in time. One gentleman, for example, could not get his clothes from the laundry in time. Another was delayed because he was compelled to help his son at his school homework. Two other people could not get a lift, as they had been promised by a friend; and so on. No one reached in time.

But it was a great blessing in disguise for, exactly at 7.15 a.m. there was an explosion in the gas pipe and the church was blown to pieces. Nature had

avoided a great disaster. It is in such manner that Nature protects and works for our good, though we sometimes fail to understand this.

There is another equally interesting incident. There was a football match between a Boston college and some other college. The Boston college had the reputation of not losing a single match. They would have won that match too, but for some noises of sudden firing in the air, which disturbed their play, and they lost. After the match a party was held in a coconut grove. The Boston team were so shocked by their defeat that they did not attend the party. But their defeat had saved them from death, for the coconut grove caught fire during the party. Everybody inside was burnt to death and no one was saved. Nature wanted to save the Boston team and so they lost the match.

There is a third incident also, which will prove that Nature works for the good of all, and the forces of Good are far stronger than the forces of Evil. A boy and a girl were in love, but could not get married due to circumstances. They were, however, planning to get married in two or three months. Suddenly the youth lost his job and the girl was called away to her home town, as her father was very ill. All their dreams were shattered. They had dreamed of happy days, and now fate had intervened and deprived them of it. They decided to meet at the seashore for the last time. They had just reached the beach, when suddenly they saw something floating on the waves. Perhaps it is a human being, they thought, and the boy at once jumped into

water. They both together dragged a drowning man to the shore in five minutes, and the man was saved. Had they been five minutes late in reaching the shore, the drowning man would have been dead. Who sent them there, at the correct moment to save this man? Was it not Nature, that protects everyone and looks after the welfare of all? They both reflected on this incident and came to the conclusion, that there is something in Nature that is always ready to help everyone, everywhere. They thought that the power that saved the drowning man, would help them too, in their marriage, for their faith in Nature was strengthened in the darkest hour of their life. In a couple of days they got married because the father of the girl consented, and helped the boy to get a better job.

What is required of us, is an unconditional surrender to the cosmic system that looks after the welfare of all. I relate all these incidents to convince you that Good ultimately dominates Evil. Evil is nothing but the Good non-existent. There is no real existence of Evil, only the absence of Good is Evil. Nature is all benevolent, all Good. This faith makes us courageous and healthy, inwardly and outwardly.

A man may lose his industrial empire, his wife and son. His grandson may suffer from Polio, and even then he may go to the Cathedral and light a candle to show to God or Nature that he is not angry with Him. Such must be the deep faith in the goodness of Nature or God, which means acceptance of

everything that comes in the natural course, and refusal to escape from it. Deep faith in Nature will always teach us to accept and not to escape from Life and Universe.

COSMIC SYMPHONY

Dear Friend,

There is Music and Mathematics in Nature. It is the cosmic symphony, a mathematical harmony, that creates or destroys everything in the cosmos. There is a permanent and a transitory aspect of each and every object in this Universe. The process of creation and destruction, of integration and disintegration, goes on every moment around us. This is the mathematical rhythm of Nature, a cosmic symphony.

Art, Science, Mathematics and History are four footstools of Philosophy. By a living contact with these four subjects, a man can make his personal philosophy strong and beautiful. Observe how the cycle of season moves. The black clouds of Monsoon rush forth, and then comes a wintry moon shedding a dim lustre on a cold night. Then comes spring, full of singing birds, and coloured flowers. In this whole cycle

there is a mathematical rhythm, a combination of music and mathematics. This combination you will find in a mountain stream also. It leaps over rocks like a living symphony of Beethoven. Observe a living plant or a tree. See how a seed is buried, how the sprout comes out and grows into a tree, and how the buds, the flowers, and the fruits, all come in regular order! How from a dreamy seed comes a red and juicy fruit! The whole process of growth is a living proof that there is music and mathematics in Nature. Look at the evolution of Man! There is also music and mathematics in it. Every step that Man takes on this path of evolution, is well measured, well tuned, and ringing with mathematical rhythm and cosmic symphony. Man was in the hunting stage, then he came into the agricultural stage, and from there he went on to the industrial stage, and then to the push button age, and so on and so forth. We can feel and see, in all these stages, certain mathematical rhythm. When two lovers meet, their two hearts beat in rhythm. If you cut a vein of Laila, Majnu will bleed. This living intimacy between two lovers is governed by music and a subtle mathematics. In each and every object of Nature, I can prove, there is music, mathematics, rhythm, symmetry, harmony and symphony.

Look at the sky! There also you will find music and mathematics. The planets move round the moon, the moon moves round the sun, and the sun round the solar system, the solar system round the Milky Way, the Milky Way round the Nebula, and the Nebulae round the Island Universe. Thus, each one re-

volving round the other, a mathematical rhythm is maintained with perfect accuracy. Their motion is like a musical symphony, always in tune and never breaking the rhythm. Even in atom, like cosmos, there is this musical rhythm, wrapped up in mathematics. Electrons move round the nucleus, submitting to a subtle mathematics in such a rhythmic way that it is nothing else than music. I can prove to you that there is such mathematical rhythm in every object. Art and music help us to reach this mathematical rhythm that is in every object, and so are helpful to philosophy. Our drawback is that Truth can reach our head but not our heart. There is something wrong with our heart, and so it cannot penetrate truth. Music and art can help us to make the passage, between head and heart, swift for Truth.

If Shankaracharya would hammer us with his constant commentary on Brahmasutra, or if logical philosophers like Lock or Descartes, would argue with us on their ontological system for five or ten hours, we would perhaps, out of sheer exhaustion, submit to their pressure and accept that there is God. Our hearts, however, may not accept it. But if you hear, like Einstein, to the violin of Yehudi Menuhin, you would at once feel the presence of God, near you and up in the sky. If you are fortunate to see the rising sun, reflected on the golden top of the temples of Girnar, you will see the whole Nature with a smile on its face, and, somehow, without any effort on your part, something inside you will tell you, there is God. Heart has greater powers and is much richer

than head. All higher truths must be felt in heart, supported by head. Music, painting, sculpture, and all other arts, educate our heart so that it may receive more and more truth. Educating the head, without educating the heart, will produce dead and dumb results, like stumbling stones in a dark valley, and not lively results, like soaring eagles.

Art also gives us a sense of proportion. Out of art, Science is born. We get a scientific view and a comparative vision to know, how, when and where, and in what proportion, one should use one's time and energy. The sound proportion, in an artistic masterpiece, requires also mathematics and music. We would waste two or four hours waiting for a foreign dignitary to pass by, in the street, but we would not arrange books on our table, saying that we have no time. This means that we have no sense of proportion. If a man wears a turban and not a pyjama, we say that he has no sense of proportion, no sense of rhythm or mathematics and music. But we waste so much of our time, reading advertisements in newspapers, studying hair-styles, examining perfumes in show windows, and in a number of other purposeless activities. We never use our time and energy in self study, observing our own inner self, full of all types of psychological complexes. This is because we have no sense of mathematics and music in life, no sense of proportion, no scientific spirit, we are nothing more than prodigal sons of Mother Nature.

We are narrow-minded because of this lack of mathematical rhythm. We measure time by the pages

of a calendar and the swing of a pendulum. We measure space by the compound of our house, or the street, and the town, in which we live, thus reducing endless time and space into meaningless products of our wishful thinking. We must think over the eternity of time, and immensity of space, and thereby come to the true mathematics of life. We must change our concepts of happiness and unhappiness, of success and failure, of good and evil, of woman and man, of riches and poverty, by changing, first of all, our concepts of time and space. We will then get a new sense of proportion, which would connect us to the true mathematics and music, that pervade the entire cosmos. Our life will then be in tune with the pattern of Nature, which is the only aim of all religions and all philosophical systems.

COSMIC DEBT

Dear Friend,

Reverence for life, is the principal cause in the constitution of Nature. At the root of this reverence, is the idea of cosmic truth. We are indebted to everyone and everything, good or bad. Our physical and mental life is quite impossible without the contribution of each and everything, in different ways and manners. The green grass, the dewdrops, even tuberculosis and Cancer germs, are all constructively contributing to the healthy existence of the Universe. It is due to this, that we are living in the healthy atmosphere of the world. We drink water and so are indebted to the life in it. We cook food and so are indebted to the life in fire. We walk on earth and so are indebted to the life on earth. We breathe and so are indebted to the life in air. To all these we are indebted in some way or other, for the contribution they make to our life. We are indebted even to our enemies, who

make us fight with greater force, against our own weaknesses and drawbacks.

This idea of cosmic debt must take deep root in you. You have a reverence for all, for you are deeply indebted to all. In the past births you may have come into contact with all the beings; they might have been closely connected with you, as your relatives and friends. You have had in the past births all types of relations with everyone. You may have been a hungry soul, and someone may have given a few pieces of bread. You may have been a blind person in one of your previous births and someone may have helped you to cross a road or to read or write. There are innumerable obligations of others, towards you in your countless births and that is what we call cosmic debt. There are so many from whom you may have received love and sympathy, which has made it possible for you to carry on this struggle for existence, till eternity. The cosmic debt means that you owe each and everyone, some obligation in one form or other. Each and everything in this scheme of Nature is ordained to help you, to promote your higher interests, and so we are under direct obligations. We ignore this fact and our cosmic debt goes on increasing. If there had not been a postman, a milkman or a school teacher, or a bus driver, our life would be difficult to live. They help us to live smoothly and so we are under their obligations. Not only is a child under the obligation of its mother, but the mother is also under the obligations of her child, for without a child she would not enjoy the sweetness of motherhood. The employees no doubt are under the obli-

gation of the employer, but the employer is also under the obligation of the employees, for it is only through their co-operation that he prospers. A poet, an artist, a scientist, a philosopher, a businessman, all try to keep the world moving. They give their best to the world and make it fascinating and smooth-going. All these persons and things are contributing their best to keep us strong and active.

And so our cosmic debt goes on increasing every moment. The true religion consists in giving more than we receive. A true philosopher is always eager to give more than what he receives, thus trying to pay back his cosmic debt, and thereby feel deepest reverence for life. Psychologically this is possible only when we feel, within our hearts, the obligations of this cosmic debt. How can we pay back this debt, to the sky, the air, and light, the fire and water and to the earth, and to all things, small and big, that keep the show going? How can we pay back this debt to innumerable souls, who from time immemorial, have given us love and sympathy, right from the beginning of our evolution? How can we pay back this debt to the great souls, who have sacrificed everything they had to keep the lamp burning, so that the world may not be wrapped in darkness of ignorance? How can we pay back this debt to our mothers, fathers and friends, of our past births; to teachers who enlighten us, to writers who inspired us, and to artists who opened new frontiers of beauty for us? We are indebted to a musician who gave a song radiant like a pearl with a thousand rainbows inside it; to a mathematician with his formulae and equations open-

ing up new horizons and creating new dimensions in Mind and Life, to a saint who with a lighted smile on his face, dispersed the gloomy prospects and created a rosy garden full of dreams and songs. All these persons have contributed greatly to the Man in us. There is a Devil and a Man in all of us. They have encouraged the Man in us, so that the Devil may die a natural death. Everything in this manner constitutes the cosmic debt, and our only thought should be to pay back this debt, by having complete Reverence for Life.

THE FORCES OF NATURE

Dear Friend,

This is the age of Science trying to assault and conquer Nature. We have taken from Nature electricity, gravitation, magnetism and other forces, but still we have not yet reached the inner sanctuary of Nature, but are standing only on the threshold. We have always remained on the circumference, and never reached the centre, wherein are buried all the mysteries of Nature. The deepest secrets, and the real mysteries, of Nature are in the safe-deposit vaults of Nature, where only Yogis, and not scientists, could aspire to reach.

There are two kinds of forces in Nature, the gross force and the subtle force. The gross forces, like electricity, magnetism and gravitation, can be mastered while standing on the threshold. But the subtle forces, could only be contacted in the inner sanctuary. Such subtle forces are like the force of prayer, of

silence, of resolution and concentration, of love, of detachment etc. A scientist should turn to a Yogi, to contact such subtle forces of Nature. There is only a curiosity in a scientist, whereas a Yogi has a yearning for the truth. Scientists can reach to the gross force, but subtle force is beyond their reach and cannot be mastered in the laboratories, full of glass tubes and chemical solutions.

To reach subtle forces of Nature, one has to cultivate active receptivity. And to be properly receptive, one has to become still and strong-willed. It should not matter if one has to forsake his beloved at midnight, and go to a desolate spot, to break the rocks of ignorance. No matter if unfavourable circumstances hinder you, or burning meteors fall down upon you, nothing should deviate you from the path of search. You should face things cheerfully and calmly, then only you can contact the subtle force of resolution, or determination in Nature.

What is required, is not physical strength, but a love for spiritual adventures, and moral expeditions. We do not understand where the real courage lies. What we mean by bravery and courage, is only the use of an outward force, amounting to external strength and courage. If one can put his head in the mouth of a lion, or if one can make a lion stand on an elephant, as Clyde Betti did, we say he is brave and strong. If one can drive a car in a motor race at a speed of 300 miles an hour, like Mr. Campbell, with the chances of death at four out of five, we call him a great person. If one shoots down twenty Nazi planes in a day, like Eddie Becker, we

call him a brave man. But real courage is quite different from this external force. It may not even be connected with any external incidents. From a worldly viewpoint, a man may appear to be idle and lazy, but it is possible, that he is creating something very much real, and valuable, wherein he is showing his true strength and courage.

In a dark corner of a broken temple, Chandidas the great poet-saint of India, said to a stone idol, "I do not know what is sin or virtue, nor good or evil; I know only thy Feet". Was it not real courage to throw away good and bad, sin or virtue, likes and dislikes, and everything else, just for the sake of a stone idol, which symbolized all his dreams?

Was it not real courage when Lord Buddha spoke with a smile, the soft words, "I am prepared to be roasted in the fires of hell, if only I could make some one happy in the world." What a courage one must have to speak such words!

The real courage does not necessarily express itself through external circumstances. Sometimes it is in the inner self of man, that nobody knows, except the man himself. The courage and strength of Lord Mahavir, for example, is beyond our understanding. Our mental makeup is so narrow that a true conception of strength and bravery is beyond its reach. Our shortcomings, limitations, and restricted understanding, have made our words and thoughts the slaves of dead habit, and so the growth of meaning and truth has stopped. The words bravery, strength or courage, convey to us only a part of their vast meaning and substance. We are satisfied with empty words,

and do not even know that the meaning behind these words grows like a living organism.

Take for example the word 'Cleverness'. We are satisfied with its superficial meaning. Cleverness, to us, means winning of a bridge game. A Shylock who can squeeze life out of poor peasants, is to us a clever man. We have distorted the meaning of the word cleverness, just as we have distorted the meaning, that lies behind words like, sin, merit, evolution, devolution, prosperity, adversity, success and failure. It is a violation of truth, because misinterpretation of truth is a sin against oneself and against others. Words are like living beings. They grow. Their tendency is towards evolution. Each word is a world in itself, with different meanings for different occasions and different people. Even the meaning, that we give to the word 'spirituality', does not cover the fields of religion or culture. The meaning should grow like a living plant. Then only can this search for truth be completed. The superficial surface must be penetrated and the unknown depths must be reached, for the spirituality lies, not on the surface, but in the depths.

Once we find the real meaning of words like bravery, strength and courage, we will be able to know the spirit of Lord Mahavir. Nandisen lived in a house of a prostitute and, yet, daily weaned away ten persons from sin. Was this not real courage and strength? Even a fallen man, if only he has a feeling of awakening, is more courageous than a man, who is on the point of victory.

Such internal courage and strength, give us licence to enter the inner sanctuaries of Nature, and win over the subtle forces of silence, resolution, prayer, detachment and such other things. The forces that science invented are gross like electricity, but the forces of religion are subtle. The subtle is always more powerful, lasting and more valuable than the gross, and so religion is more suitable and advantageous to man, than science. One should turn to a Yogi for lasting peace and happiness and not to a scientist.



REVERENCE FOR LIFE

Dear Friend,

Reverence for life is the principal clause in the constitution of Nature. You cannot progress spiritually unless you fulfil this prime condition of reverence of Life. The true meaning of love is this reverence for life. All other types of love are mortal. It is not sufficient to love your family, your society, your country, or humanity. We should love the whole cosmos where dwell different species of life. There is an endless variety of life with different shapes, sizes, habits and ways. But the life-force in all of them is one and the same. We should try to revere it. To waste or harm or disrespect this life-force in others, is against the pattern of Nature, and a violation of its holy constitution. To genuinely love each and every form of life that is manifested in the whole cosmos from one end to another, is the true religion, philosophy and ethics.

A king became a hermit, leaving behind his kingdom, a prince renounced his claims to a throne, a prin-

cess turned away from the man she loved most, a general parted with his strong and royal army, a prostitute put an end to her life of shame, an artist destroyed his world of colourful dreams; all because they wanted to lead a life by which they could do some service to other living beings. Today what matters to us, are only our own joys and sorrows, our pleasure and pain. Our aim should be to create joy, not for ourselves alone, but for all. All our thoughts and actions, all our instincts, our intellect and intuition, should be made to function for the joy and good of all. It does not matter whether we succeed or not! What matters is that our soul will be elevated from physical to mental level, then to moral level, and ultimately to spiritual level, where one treats all living beings as a part of his own existence.

The creation of maximum pleasure, devoid of all worldliness, would be possible, more and more, as the level changes from mental, to moral and spiritual, and pleasures are turned into joy and joy into bliss. Such a change can only come when one has profound reverence for life. The more reverence you feel for life, the more worthy of higher levels you become.

Reverence for life means a strong and deep longing to be one with all. It is vast and limitless and never ceases till it attains its goal—a feeling of universal brotherhood. This deep love is naturally born when a person becomes spiritually mature, a stage in the growth of one's inner self. A few instances regarding this would not be out of place here.

A newspaper editor in an American town, received a phone call from a hospital, asking him, to announce in his newspaper that some ABRH factor blood was required immediately, within an hour, for a foreign tourist who was injured in a motor car accident. The newspaper was already out, so the editor phoned a radio station and the news was broadcast. When the announcement was received by the public, hundreds of people telephoned the hospital offering their blood. A man heard the announcement in his car and drove straight to the hospital, to offer his blood. A man from New York came in a chartered plane to find if his blood could be suitable. A large crowd had gathered by midnight outside the hospital to find out how the patient was keeping. Nobody asked whether the patient was yellow or black, or from what country he was? Everybody thought of him as a human being, and everybody was prepared to help. There could be no better example of reverence for life.

During the Korean war, thousands were killed and many children became destitute. It was a tragic sight to look at these children, crying for food and shelter. The American soldiers, sometimes, distributed toffees amongst them. Once a Korean saw this and was moved by the compassion of the American soldiers. He felt he was doing nothing for the children of his own country. So he opened a school for the shoeshine boys with a black board and a few chinks, in the middle of a street. With his back towards the children, who had gathered around him, he started telling them stories, never turning his

back, lest he be disappointed to find no one there. But more and more children came to listen to his fairy tales, and his stories about new countries and new people. This new experiment in child education became so popular, that he had to open many more schools all over the country. It was out of reverence for life that the Korean soldier did something for the children of his country, who, without education would have added to the number of rogues and vagabonds. We find many such instances when we look around us. This reverence for life is so natural to the human heart that each one of us feels so often, somewhere deep down in the heart, a strange feeling of nearness to others. It is mostly because of such reverence that the world has become a place worth living for.

An immigrant boy from Hungary had no one to support him in Britain. He could find no work and turned to nobody for help. It was Christmas and a duke took pity on him, and sent him to his home to deliver a present to his wife on New Year's Eve. The boy had to walk many miles before he reached the duke's house. The duchess took pity on him, gave him a bath, clothes and some money. The whole incident gave the boy a faith in himself and also faith in others. He got a new personality and progressed gradually, till he became minister for refugees and rehabilitation. In one of his departments, a sub-committee was appointed for some purpose, and the names were forwarded to him for his consent. He was startled to find the name of the lady, who had helped him in his childhood, on the

list. He wondered at the working of Nature and thanked the lady profusely, for just because of her little present he had attained such a high position. Such sense of mutual help is always born out of reverence for life.

A man had opened a cafe but the business was dull and he suffered great loss. One day he was sitting gloomily looking out of the window. He looked at the bus stop where seven or eight Negro women and children were standing. He did not know why, but he suddenly felt a great love for them, and sent his servant to give them all ice cream cones, free of charge. There was no selfish motive, but this act was born out of reverence for life; hence it had a great effect. The Negro women and children spoke well about the owner of the cafe to their employers, who in turn gave all their orders for their household necessities to the same cafe, and so the cafe became more and more popular.

During world war, General Eisenhower was once in Paris, having a drink with his wife in his car. Some German plotters waited nearby to throw a bomb at the car. When the car passed, they threw the bomb, believing the occupants to be the General and his wife. But the General was not there in the car, nor his wife. They had got down, a little earlier, to help an old couple, sitting on a stone bench in a very depressed mood. It turned out that the old couple could not find the residence of their son, whom they had come to visit, for the first time, in Paris. The General offered help, and said that he would take them to their son personally. Then they took ano-

ther car and went away and were saved thus. It was out of reverence for life that the General offered help, and was saved from a great danger.

History is full of such instances. In Jataka tales there is a story about Buddha. Buddha, in a previous birth, was a prince. He had a white elephant which was believed to bring prosperity and happiness to all. As long as there was the elephant there could be no famine or war. In a neighbouring province there had been war and famine and its people came to him to beg for the elephant. But if the prince gave away the elephant, his people would get angry and rise in revolt against him. But Buddha did not mind all this. He gave away the elephant. His people rose against him in revolt, and banished him to a forest, where he lived with his wife and family. One day an old man came there and asked for his two children whom he wanted to employ as his servants, as his young wife refused to work and threatened to divorce him, if she had no servant. Buddha just smiled, and gave away his two children, so that the old man and his young wife could be happy together. The moral of this story is reverence for life. All great men have done, and proved so by their great deeds.

The instances merely cover the field of human relationship. But, in fact, the reverence for life should touch all the life, that exists in the Universe

Once, Lord Mahavir visited Sindh with his 500 disciples. They had to travel barefooted and bareheaded in the scorching heat of the desert. Their throats were parched with thirst when they came to a well.

Lord Mahavir could not permit them to drink from the well, because the water had many germs in it. All the 500 monks died due to the fatal thirst. It is very easy to argue against this behaviour of Mahavir; but higher truths are always misunderstood. If we ponder over the incident deeply, we will be convinced that Lord Mahavir wanted to set an example of absolute reverence for life, no matter what the circumstances are, and whether the life involved is important or not. His reverence for life was not limited only to human beings, but included the complete range of life that inhabits the Universe. We should not only believe in humanism, but, like Lord Mahavir, be the guardians and believers of cosmicism. Humanism merely covers the interests of human beings, but cosmicism circumscribes a vast arena, which accommodates each and every species of life. Reverence for life, in its true sense, is a climax of cosmicism. Its fully matured stage implies love and reverence, not only for human beings, but for all the living beings, and even the plant life.

COSMIC EVOLUTION

Dear Friend,

The whole Nature strives to evolve every soul to purification and perfection. Perfection is reached through purification and purification comes through sufferings. Pain, purification, and perfection, are the three fundamental things on which cosmic evolution is based. No purification is possible without pain or suffering and no perfection is possible without purification. Man's story on this earth is a story of sufferings and struggle. His civilizations are the stories of his patience and courage shown in face of dangers, and hardships. But if there had been no pain, there would have been no progress. Sufferings and hardships have played the greatest role in man's progress. Nothing is borrowed or stolen in Nature. One has to buy it, by paying the price. 'Pay the price', is the motto of Nature, and one has to accept it. The whole cosmos is moving towards purification and perfection, and that is called cosmic evolution.

If we do not evolve on our own, Nature has its own methods to evolve us in a very painful and yet loving process.

The cosmic evolutionary theory implies that if you do not move forward you have to move backward, but you cannot stay any longer on the ground where you stand. The constant movement is the destiny of life, and the greatest command of Nature is to grow. The greatest gift of Nature to man, is the power to grow. If we do not grow, we must wither away. If we do not climb, we must fall down. If we do not evolve with the good, we must get involved with the evil. This law is the same for all, and works like other cosmic laws, infallibly and indefatigably. The place where the souls rest after the final evolution, is symbolised in a crescent moon. The crescent moon is the symbol of cosmic evolution. It proclaims that evolution is always spiral and never circular. Evolution has no end, no point to stay. It never fails at any stage, in fact it has no station; just as there is an endless scope for evolution for the crescent moon, so also the human soul has endless scope for improvement and progress. Even when a man reaches the final stage, it is not static, but dynamic. In that final stage knowledge and joy are not still like a painted picture, but rich and real, like a natural scenery. Knowledge and joy, therein, are ever expanding and ever multiplying, reaching no end, for there is no end to the endless. The creative understanding, and the creative movement, are the two main phases of cosmic evolution. The creative understanding is the perfection of mind, and the creative movement is

the perfection of heart. Creative understanding visualizes the truth, and the creative movement experiences it. Reason and acquisition of the truth are the main division of cosmic evolution. Movement follows vision automatically, and is the natural result of vision. Conscious effort is done to cultivate inner vision, but a moment comes naturally, when there is no need of any hard conscious labour. The sub-conscious paves the way for the movement which follows vision, just as day follows night. It is the natural process of cosmic evolution.



COLOUR SCHEME OF NATURE

Dear Friend,

The sovereign government of Nature is politically perfect, economically expert, scientifically supreme and constitutionally correct. To add one thing more, it is aesthetically unique. There is a sense of beauty in Nature, it beautifies everything. Look at a garden, or a sea-shore or any countryside scenery, everything is arranged to suit the atmosphere peculiar to that garden, or sea-shore, or scenery. This is Nature's law of beautification. Everything is made, and arranged in such a fashion that beauty is created. But the greatest proof of Nature's aesthetic sense, is colour schemes it creates. If you observe how bountifully and beautifully Nature has distributed colours, you would be convinced of its immaculate sense of beauty. Just look at a sunrise or a sunset. Yellow, orange, red and golden colours are so skilfully mingled together, that one feels there is some power, some artist, some hand, behind all this that rules the Uni-

verse. What is more, the colours are so wonderfully in tune with the atmosphere of the morning and evening respectively. The blue sky splashed with yellow, red and orange colours, proclaims the richness and plenty, that is in Nature. "There is no poverty and shallowness, or meanness, or vulgarity, in Nature", the colours seem to say. Colours in Nature have always brought joy to man. Poets, painters, artists, lovers of Nature, in fact all men, have always derived incalculable pleasure from these colours.

A man was working in an office. One day, when his boss was out, he received a phone call about some important business matter, and he was asked to convey the message to his boss when the latter returned. A second phone call came soon after informing him that his son was taken ill with measles and had been removed to a hospital, as the case was serious. He got worried and forgot to inform his boss about the first phone call. In a day or two his boss found out that he had missed a big business deal. He also found out the man responsible for this and fired him. The unfortunate man did not go home, nor did he have the courage to visit his son in the hospital, as he was worried about his sudden misfortune. He went straight to a park and spent the night there on a bench cursing his fate. The night ended and he was still sitting there on the bench. The dawn was breaking, and the multicoloured grandeur of the rising sun gradually appeared. He forgot all his worries for a while and was lost in wonder and awe. He had read the Bible in his childhood and he now remembered a sentence from it. At once he became a new man,

forgetting all his worries and fears. He gained faith in himself and in others. He went straight to the house of his aggrieved boss and told him what had happened, and how he had forgotten about the important phone call. The boss was wonderstruck by the courage of the man and said happily, "Up till now you were lacking in courage, so I did not give you any promotion, but now you are a different man. You shall have your job and a promotion too". This happy end was brought about by a mere sight of colours of Nature. How often do we fail to appreciate these colours!

The marvellous colour schemes of nature have a special appeal to our moods and our aspirations. The blue of the sky, the green of the foliage, a red bird or a yellow flower, a black stone or a silver star, all these have a special significance in the cosmic scheme, for they contribute to build up the master colour scheme of Nature. Look well all around you. and you will observe this purposeful distribution of Nature. Each colour has its own significance in the cosmic scheme. Take a flower in your hand and look at its petals. Each variety has its own colours, red, blue, green and every other colour. The birds have their own colours, fishes have their own, sky has its own. The eyes of the human beings too have different shapes and colours, varying from sea blue to black. The hair too is of different shades. The leaves on the trees have different shades. A diamond too has different shades. A burning coal has a combination of colours in it. A green meadow, when a cloud passes over it, creates beautiful shades

of colours. Everywhere there is a feast of colour which Nature has arranged to serve a special purpose. Nothing is purposeless in Nature. Colours too serve supreme purpose.



HUMAN MIND

Dear Friend,

Human mind is the costliest and rarest item in the grand bazaar of Nature. It is second to none in beauty, value and power. It has the power of penetrating the truth right to the end and none could stop it from doing so. The greatest thing that a human being could be proud of, is the fact that his mind can think freely and with originality. Man's greatest strength is in his thinking. He can always fall back upon this inner resource, whenever an emergency arises, and through thinking, he can solve any problem.

A comet aircraft had broken down on its first flight, when it was first invented. It was worth crores of rupees. An enquiry committee was appointed to find the cause of the breakdown. Human Mind did not rest till it reached the final truth. They made comets of the same shape and size and deliberately broke them, one by one, till the fragments

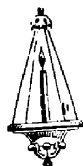
of one such comet fell down in the same manner as that of the first comet. Then they found out the reason. It was due to the Thermal Barrier that the comet broke down. This is the glory of the Human Mind. It is restless, till united with the truth.

In the Mexican Gulf they have built oil wells in the sea. Each oil well is as big as a football ground, and as high as a twenty storey building. Each one has a big platform; and if you push a button, when the storm comes to the ocean, the whole machinery goes under the water and is thus rendered undamageable, by the fury of the storm. These big wells with great iron platforms, as big as a football ground, draw oil inside the sea and are a miraculous achievement of human mind.

When a surgeon performs an operation, he uses different kinds of threads. When he transplants a cornea from one person to another, he uses a very thin thread to join it properly, so that the blood may flow through without any hindrance. He also joins, with iron threads, the broken ribs, or with another type of thread, the broken part of an intestine muscle.

The human mind can achieve mastery in every field for it has tremendous potential power in it. A German spy system used to take a micro dot copy of five fullscap type-written pages. The micro dot copy was so small that the film could be stuck in the full-stop that is typed on the cover of a letter. All the important secrets had been leaking out from America to Germany in this fashion and no one noticed the tiny film that was stuck in the typewritten full-

stop. Such is the ingenuity of human mind. Every day there is some new device to control the forces of Nature. If properly used, human mind has so much thought force in it, that it could achieve complete mastery over the Universe.



THE HUMAN HEART

Dear Friend,

The human heart is even greater than the human mind, for it is the source of emotions and emotions have more living force in them than the thoughts. It is in the heart that one realizes his true Nature. It was in their hearts that Mahavir, Buddha and Christ meditated deeply and felt the real force of the supreme truth. There are many holy places in the world, which thousands of pilgrims visit, but there is no place holier than the heart which is full of love towards all. Its capacity for love and suffering is unlimited. History is full of episodes that confirm the glory and dignity of the human heart.

A couple went for a picnic to Niagara Falls. It was winter and the ground was covered with thick snow. Suddenly the ground they stood upon began to move towards the Falls, and they realised that if the movement continued, they would be thrown deep

down in the heavy current. People gathered all around, watching anxiously the fast moving glacier on which the couple stood. In order to save the couple, the people sought help from military quarters nearby. Soon an iron chain was lowered to the couple to hold on to, so that they could be pulled up. But to get hold of the chain, the couple had to jump, seven to ten feet. The man was capable of jumping and getting hold of the chain, but the woman was not. She tried five or six times, but to no avail. If she continued to jump, she would be so exhausted, that she would not have been able to hold on to the chain for a long time, even if she got to it, and would drop into the Falls. The husband refused to be rescued, if his wife had to remain behind. There was no time to lose, for the glacier was beginning to move very rapidly towards the current. The man embraced his wife while the glacier fell into the roaring current. Both died, but their death was beautiful. It was a triumph of the glory of heart. Even the jaws of death could not impose a barrier upon the suffering and love which the human heart is capable of. We come across many such happenings during our life. Such happenings convince us of the greatness of heart.

In a town in Spain, there was once a big festival. People flocked to it from all around, so much so that they could not find enough accommodation. One Mr. Richardo had his office on the upper floor of a hotel. He was offered a good price if he could, only for two days, accommodate some college students in the premises. He agreed. He, however, re-

requested the students to inform him if there was a phone call from his home, forty miles away. When a call came from his home, a college girl took it. It was from his wife, and the college girl, simply to tease her, told her, "I am the second wife of Mr Richardo working in his office", and disconnected. All of them had a hearty laugh over the joke. However, the girl soon realized the seriousness of the joke and feared that it might ruin a family. She could not sleep and went to the house of Mr. Richardo at 11 p.m., and explained the situation to Mrs. Richardo. Mrs. Richardo laughingly said that she knew it was a joke and there was no need of coming and explaining it to her so late at night, for she knew her husband for the past thirty years, and had full confidence in him. Thus the goodness of heart, both on the part of the girl and the woman, saved an awkward situation. If the woman had not had confidence in her man and if the girl had not realized her mistake, the matter could have taken an ugly turn.

Fahien, the famous Chinese pilgrim, was returning to China after his long stay in India. He was given many gifts by the students of Nalinda. The boat in which he was crossing Ganges, started to sink, owing to heavy weight. A few of the students, who had accompanied him, jumped from the boat and got drowned in the river, only because they wished the pilgrim to take with him the presents of the Buddhist Scriptures and other things so that China may get the chance to become acquainted with the wisdom of Lord Buddha. Only the human heart can make such a sacrifice. There is a divine beauty in

this suffering for love and wisdom. The human heart is always trying to open new frontiers of beauty through science, astronomy, poetry, mathematics, and even through fairy tales; through sculpture, music and painting, and even through fasting, praying and meditation. There is nothing that can equal the greatness of heart. It is the most unique thing in Nature.

A monk went to beg, for food, to a goldsmith's house. The goldsmith was making golden grains of rice for the king who used them for worshipping in a temple. On seeing the monk, the goldsmith got up and went inside the shop to tell his wife to get some food for the monk. Meanwhile a bird flew into the shop and swallowed the grains of gold. When the goldsmith came back, and did not find his golden grains, he suspected the monk of having stolen them. He asked the monk for the grains, but the monk was silent. The monk did not speak, because if the goldsmith knew that the bird had swallowed the grains, he would surely kill it. The goldsmith became angry, and raising his fist threatened the monk. But the monk was fearless, which annoyed the goldsmith. He took out a wet leather belt and tied it tightly round the head of the monk. Two or three more such belts were tied round his head. It was summer time and the heat was very painful. The wet leather began to dry up and contract, damaging the skull of the monk. His skull ultimately was broken. Due to the sound of the breaking skull, the bird vomitted the golden grains, and only then did the goldsmith realize his mistake and the innocence of the monk.

He cried profusely before the dying monk, who smiled compassionately at him, forgiving as he always did. This is the greatness of the human heart, that remains unchallenged even by the Nature, which never loses an opportunity to test mercilessly, the hidden powers of the human heart.

Thus we can think a lot about the marvellous structure of Reality. Our inner Being receives greatest amount of satisfaction when it ponders over the deepest mysteries of Nature. By such thrilling and ennobling meditations one can attain the power of moulding Human Destiny.

