



Layman's  
Notches





# Layman's Notches

**BABUJI**



INSPIRED BY  
THE INDIAN MASTERS



**PUTLI**

Accelerating Peace

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## *Layman's notches*

Here, I am very much down to the earth, discussing some issues happening around myself under the sky. Most of them are concerned about India's vitality; some social issues are also discussed. Everyone can talk in favor to one's unique values so long as it doesn't hurt others. As a citizen of this nation, I had done just the same, of course, within the democratic and secular rights. And it has positive arguments as well. Truth would taste bitter sometimes. But, I need to speak it out. It's part of my job and is really a need of the hour for this nation, in playing its global role. In this work philosophy is less and practicality is more.

Period: 2012-2017



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## About the author



**B**abuji is a young writer. Right from his childhood he is after true spirituality and a serene social structure. He had read many books on this and observed the truth as follows: ‘The Truth is the same for everyone; it’s the same in everyone. But, the distance we travel mentally from it varies from person to person. That’s why, there prevail thousands of revelations about the Truth. When

the distance between the mind and the Truth reduces and completely nullified, we realize that we are not distinct from the Truth’. He says: ‘Only a realized being can formulate a doctrine. They are here to bring clarity in everything. If any chaos emerges out of the doctrine, it is not because of the doctrine but by the minds which wrongly understood the doctrine.’ He supports true secularism. He was inspired by the teachings of Sri Paramahansa Yogananda and took Kriya Yoga initiation from his Master’s Yogoda Satsanga Society of India.

Though he had penned more than ten books, the ones which he wants to promote and to get translated in other languages are ‘God is in our land’ and ‘The Moral Tablet’. The word ‘land’ in the title, doesn’t refer to any geographical





region; it refers to the intuitive inner space of each and every being. He himself had translated this book into his mother tongue Tamil. This book got released in the World Tamil Conference held at Cambodia in the year 2018. The condensed version of common morals which he calls 'the moral tablet', tries to support the universal peace through the attainment of individuals' peace. The global version of the moral tablet was released in Shanghai in 2019.

He also has a Trust organisation by name PUTLI to spread these works. He expands the Trust name as follows: 'P' stands for Purity; 'U' is for Uniformity; 'T' stands for Truthfulness; 'L' stands for Love; 'I' stands for Introspection of 'I'.

He says: "When Purity is established in mind, it results in Uniformity of thoughts, words and actions. This state is known as Truthfulness. When it is felt and expressed naturally, we call it Love. This love (which is based on Purity, Uniformity and Truthfulness) is the representation of the omnipresent 'I', which is God".

He is a family man; a simple being. He is the one who has been trying to execute the principle 'Do your duty and don't look back or forward for the results'. But he too has some wishes. He wants to see a 'scams and abuses free' nation, filled with unity, unbroken culture and unexploited nature; he wants to see the above throughout the world. He wishes that India should act as a role model to the world in preserving and enjoying the world peace. By practicing one's own religion truly and correctly, one achieves



purification of mind and thus realizes the brotherhood of all souls despite linguistic, sectarian and other differences. He strongly believes that through this common sense of brotherhood and love, one can attain unwavering peace in the self and also can encourage the universal peace. His books are written only on this context in various dimensions and depths, over a period of two decades.

– **The Publisher**





## *Bad habits*

**T**his is for those who want to rise above the circumstances, for those who want to give up their bad habits.

There are three stages in getting fettered to a bad habit.

What is a bad habit? If you do something which is against your conscience, then it is something 'bad'. If you do it quite often, then it becomes a 'habit'. If the conscience is switched off, then there is no question of good or bad thing, there will be only one thing – selfishness, we may also call it ignorance.

The habits are not only based on the external environment; the heredity and past karma also influence the formation of habits to some extent.

In the first stage, one makes lots of arguments and counter arguments within oneself. If the conscience wins, there is no further arguing as there won't be any ground for a bad habit. If the instinct wins, then starts the 'habit' and the arguments continue. This is the second stage, 'cat the wall' stage.

If your wisdom loses over instincts, it means you had fallen the other side. Your arguments will be biased. You tend to find arguments which are supportive to your bad habit. You will come across these phrases: 'I am not hurting anyone in specific, so I am not wrong in doing this', 'I will do it only once or till a specific point of time, so it can be



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forgiven’, ‘So long as others do not recognize my habit, I don’t need to panic’, ‘Many do it, so I am also doing it’. This is the third stage.

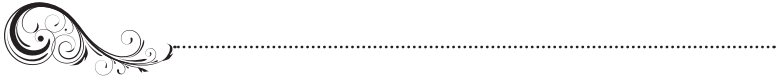
If you let yourself be in the third stage for a long time, then your habit becomes a concrete one; it gets exposed to many near you; it becomes a part of your life.

As you advance in these stages, the chances of getting yourself relieved from the habit toughens. But it is not something impossible. You can always come back to your original state. If you are well determined, you can free yourself gradually.

The first thing you need to do is, keep yourself away from the environment that induces you to do the bad action. Then divert your attention towards other pleasant constructive activities. Mingle with people who are away from the clutches of bad habits. Above all, pray to God sincerely for your recovery. You will not be able to win your habit over a day. It might take several days. Be patient and believe God.

When you can hold yourself away from the habit for quite a long time, you again come back on the wall. This time, jump to the other side – the right side. But always remember, the environment is much powerful; if you really want to protect yourself from the seductive environment, you need to apply the points in the foregoing passage – continuously with a solid determination.

I can here you. ‘You are telling so much about bad habits. Had you ever been caught in the clutches of bad habits?’ In



this life, I had been in the first two stages for some time. I don't let myself go down to the third level. My maturity always dominates my instincts.

However, the police inspector who thinks of the various probabilities that a criminal might think crookedly, need not had been a criminal earlier.



## Remarks

I dared to give some of my books to a few who lived close to me. I did it with hesitations for my own reasons.

One of my social friends said right on my face after glancing 'God is in our land': 'I feel very sleepy on reading your book. What the hell is going on with you?'

These books are not written to make others sleep. They are written to awaken those who are sleeping in ignorance. They are for those who bother about India's vitality – to say it in other words – about one's own Self.

Some may ask: 'Are you out of ignorance? If not, how can a sleeping man awaken another sleeping man?' I am not out of the clutches of ignorance. I too am sleeping and dreaming. Sometimes, while dreaming, we come to know for ourselves that we are just dreaming. Similarly, somewhere in my consciousness I could feel that I am just dreaming. It happens occasionally, not often. This is the criterion that differentiates the ignorant with the realized. The realized know completely that it's all a dream. The ignorant thinks that it's all real. The Sadhaka, the aspirant wavers somewhere between these states.

And we can't thrash this awakening in other's minds. It has to blossom naturally. Those who are matured enough would get this awakening gradually through any means.



Another relative said: 'I know that your grandpa was very pious. I think his genes might have worked through you.' He could never believe that my genes could have done something on their own! This is the way I appear before others! I don't undermine the role of my ancestors. But I would like to say something here. There is a sleeping saint within everyone. He is more responsive to one's own efforts than to the genetic sciences.

Some tried to suppress their surprises about my author face. Some showed 'intolerance' to my author face.

In the view of a few, my age, appearance and mannerism do not match with the quality of these works. It doesn't matter any way. Most of the interpretations had come spontaneously. I would start with a concept which I think I know, and would end up with a complete new explanation that I haven't heard or thought ever in this life. This layman got to be just an instrument. God can work through any of His beings.

And there had also been admirers who frankly appreciated my works saying 'I am terribly surprised of your writing ability', 'You had done a very good job', 'You are talented, but you are not exposing yourself', 'You are above average'.

I don't consider myself above average; since that majority had gone below average, even the average guy looks above average. All that I need to do is to say thanks to both types of remarks and keep going.





## Religions - the present trend

Religions are the vehicles that take us to the reality. All accepted religions tell about this – but in different tones. But the followers of religions take it in their own terms and cause imbalance in the society. Of course, there are always exceptions.

Everyone likes Christians for their service; their network has the sources, financially and otherwise, to do that. But the problem is they glorify their vehicle – too much. ‘We alone are correct’, ‘Others go to hell’, ‘We go very fast’ – these types of statements only glorify the vehicle – the religion. But the religion is to glorify the self.

Islamic friends are known for their sincerity in their religious practices. But violence has become an indivisible part in their lives. Right from the origin they have been fighting either within themselves or with others in some part of the world. I don’t think their core religion asks them to keep fighting. Violence has its presence in all corners of the world. But it has more and remarkable presence in their dominion.

Coming to the Hindus side, they are friendly towards all religions, as secularism – the presence of multiple paths - is a part and parcel of Hinduism. They need to be proud for their rich and the most ancient and still living cultural heritage. But they fail to do that. The philosophies and practices of



Hinduism are misinterpreted and misunderstood by many. Generally speaking, they are very much superficial in the matter of religion. Many Hindus who seem to be sincere in their faith, have a second face that they don't want to show to others.

Most of them have understood the religion in the wrong way. Just by taking a dip in the waters of Ganges, they believe that all their sins will be buried forever. 'If it is so, then all the frogs and fishes that live in Ganges should have become divine'. I didn't say this. I read this in an issue of Sri Ramakrishna Vijayam. The saints of Hinduism say to the people not to get lost in the external ceremonies. They are only a part in the religion; they are not the whole religion. The religion is for self realization. For 'purifying' themselves, people are polluting the Ganges. It is not acceptable even to God.

Those days, people have to prepare for years for their pilgrimage to Kasi or any other spiritual, religious center. They would prepare mentally and physically for their journey. They would make necessary arrangements for their families as they may not return again. When they take a dip in the waters of Ganges with such expectations, austerity and faith, they feel elevated – not for that they had just taken a bath in Ganges, but for their years long preparations.

Now, the Hindus, get landed in Kasi in hours through flights and sprinkle the waters of Ganges on their heads and believe that they have attained purity. It is stupidity; they are fooling themselves. Pilgrimage will not do any magic.



I am not against pilgrimages. I had made it for myself several times. It yields desirable results when one does it with pure devotion and commitment. Even when it is done in a sophisticated way, it may render full benefits – for the deserving. But, one can not expect the results without having prepared oneself in some part of one's lives.

The world may wonder why this guy talks so much on religions, moral values and character while the world is facing much important crises like global warming, terrorism, deficiencies, etc. These entire crises happen because we either fail in our religious and moral values or have mistaken our religious and moral values.

We can't see any wrong thing in the true religions and in the words of the prophets. It is people, who through delusion and karmic effects fail to recognize the truth and mistake the truth.

The systematic teaching of religious values with the foundation of devotion and common moral values will solve the 'much important crises' of the world – in a long run.



## *Traditional worship*

Explained the previous chapter to my mother in Tamil. She listened to me patiently and gave some more views (a little contrasting to the above) on external worship. Here is the translated version.

“You can’t bring Hinduism under the word – religion. I don’t want to talk about other religions. Yes, they too talk about the Truth and the path to the Truth. Hinduism gives the experience- gives the taste of the Truth in many ways. It says boldly, ‘You are the Truth’. It allows multiple paths. It has many prophets, innumerable – not just one or two. It is the mother of religions. Bakthi (devotion) is an integral part of all true religions. Even Gnanis accept the supremacy of Bakthi. There is some inner meaning and purpose for all the external forms of worship.”

“You said that people visit spiritual places several times and still remain unchanged. People are influenced by delusion and the karmic store of several thousand lives. Just a few visits may not bring any great change. But continuous efforts will change even a culprit to a noble one. India has seeds to bring that change in many divine places. That’s why people cloak to such places. Do you know, Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa would correctly identify the pot containing the water of Ganges among many pots of ordinary water? For him, the Ganges makes a difference. But people pollute such places out of ignorance. It is not the fault of the places;



it's the fault of the people. Anyway, these temples and divine beings sprout the seeds of self realization that lie unattended somewhere in their consciousness. We cannot overlook the importance of such places. The Ganges, Kasi and all other spiritual and religious centers emit spiritual energy. You know it for yourself, how a pilgrimage center, Thiruvannamalai, changed your life. They have the spiritual power that remains unshackled for millenniums –despite a thousand intrusions and calamities. They keep rendering solace to the sincere devotees through the bestowal of visible assets like Sampat (wealth), Santhana (children) and invisible assets like Shanthi (peace), Shradha, Vairagya and Sakshatkara. They are here to take one to the next level and to the Ultimate.”

“The religious places are blessed by God and Godly beings. They bestow the desired things when they are approached with faith and fervor.”

She said it firmly and authoritatively.



## *Sorry for the intervention!*

I was in Thiruvannamalai with family. I had to buy water bottles for the kids. I bought them and was on my way back to my room.

A young man was beating a woman (she should be his wife) mercilessly on the road side. She was selling tender coconuts. This guy was forcing her to hand over the money to him. As she resisted, he gave blows on her face. An old man stood at a distance and tried to stop that man. He didn't stop his beating.

I was seeing all these things. I went closer to him and talked to him loudly and angrily.

“How dare you beat her? You know who I am?”

He said: “Be what you are. You have no business here.”

I said: “Must I send two people to bring you to the station? What's your name?”

He stopped for a while and said his name slowly suffixing with a sir. He believed that I was a cop though I wasn't. I didn't say that I was a police. I just showed a tough face to stop his beating.

Thiruvalluvar, the Tamil saint, author of Thirukkural, says in ‘Vaimai’ (Truthfulness) chapter that even a lie will be considered as truth if it renders flawless benefits.



I continued: “If you are put besides the bars, I will see that when you come out, you won’t be able to beat your wife for the rest of your life.”

I asked the woman to report to me if he beat her again. She and the old man – they too believed that I was a cop. She nodded. That man was standing speechless. I went to my room. After a while, I came out to see what was happening there. He was not in sight. That woman was selling tender coconuts casually.

In India, the public use to question when injustice is done in the public places. The rural public even gives punishments (not severely) to the criminals on the spot, though it is not right from the point of judiciary laws. This is a unique feature about India. Now a days, the density has increased and unfortunately ‘the distance’ among humans has also increased. Humans do not bother to stop the controllable atrocities done before their eyes.



## Someone Special

In this world, the number of fathers and mothers (legally or otherwise!) are more than the number of celibates. No would have any doubt in this statistic. Scriptures do not stand against conjugal love. They only try to bring some truthfulness and discipline to it.

Youngsters are crazy about the relationships of the opposite sex. If a boy or a girl finds a person with good look, artistic/intellectual skills (any one of these would do!), then they feel that they reached the ultimate. Sooner or later, when the desired qualities start vanishing, or when they get bored of the qualities, they go for a change in the ultimatum. Till they realize the true ultimate, they keep on changing these ultimatums.

They think that they are in 'love'. They say, 'I fall in love'. There is no 'falling' in love only 'rising'. If one 'falls', actually, it is infatuation. The media plays a pivot role in developing infatuation among youngsters. Infatuation may end in love – but it is a rare occurrence, very rare indeed. Obviously, most of the infatuations end sooner or later, leaving a few scars sometimes.

Infatuation can occur in any age – not necessarily in adolescence period. It is very hard to get one out of infatuation as it is beyond any one's reasoning. Infatuation is dangerously blind - it doesn't require any reasoning. The teaching of the true love is vital in handling infatuation.





Those who are Thamasik (having body consciousness more) in nature will be attracted by external shows, and their 'love' will have a very short life. Those who are Rajasik (mind/ego consciousness more) will be attracted by status, intellectual strength and artistic skills. Their love will live longer when compared to the Thamasik people. At the most it may stay till their life time – not more than that. Their love can't be eternal. Those who are 'Sathwik' (having soul consciousness more) will be attracted by the qualities of the soul and they will live longer than the other two. Their love can live eternally if they are properly tuned. If the couple having the same qualities join (Thamasik with Thamasik, Rajasik with Rajasik, like that) their chances of endurance is more. That's why astrological charts of the couple are checked before their marriage, to assess the longevity and happiness of their marital life – it is a science. The quality of 'craze' for each other ranges from low to high for Thamasik to Sathwik. Even though, the two begin their affection the Thamasik way, they may through mutual understanding and commitment rise higher in their conscious levels. This is the way of true love. One shouldn't stop with mere sensual gratification.

Just by calling each other 'someone special', they will not become 'special'. Instead the couple should try to help each other in realizing the Someone Special who brought them together on the way to the eternity. He is the only Someone Special. When one beholds the Someone Special within himself/herself and in each being, then he/she too becomes 'Someone special'. Others are just ordinary mortals



– however rich they may be in material, artistic, emotional and intellectual properties.

Sri Paramahansa Yoganandaji says: “Lovers in the moon light, under the intoxicating influence of passion and emotion, promise each other eternal love. And when they die, the moon smiles at their skeletons in their graves, and at all the impossible promises they made and failed to keep...God’s promise to bestow His love on the true devotee is a truly eternal vow. God, being immortal, is the only one who can fulfill such a promise. Hence union with the Cosmic Lord, the only true Beloved, should be the goal of each soul.”

“In the sorrow of separation from their beloved ones through death, the unwise cry for a while and then forget; but the wise find the impulse within themselves to seek their lost loves in the heart of Infinity.”



## *Don't fall in love, Rise in love*

**R**ise in love

...It could lift the Potent in you

Rise in love

...It could make you smile at your foe

Rise in love

...It could let you forget your problems

Rise in love

...Your life will begin to blossom

Rise in love

...Your heart might throb for more

Rise in love

...You would take off from the floor

Rise in love

...There are no conditions what so ever

Rise in love

...The Truth would help you rise higher



## Corrupted history

I couldn't restrain myself from sharing my views when I happened to read a blog which said:

“Thirukkural is a translation of a part of Bible”, “Thiruvalluvar, the author of Thirukkural is a Christian”, “Thiruvalluvar was a disciple of St. Thomas and the later was killed in Tamil Nadu by a Brahmin”, such ridiculous statements are being raised by our Christian friends. There is absolutely no historical evidence for these affirmations, except their own painting in the church of St.Thomas in Chennai, depicting the killing of the so called St. Thomas.

Thiruvalluvar is older to Christ by 31 years. This is found by the study made by Tamil scholars. They derived it through the scrutiny of ancient Tamil scriptures. They found the reference of Thirukkural in various ancient scriptures; through this they could conclude that the period of Thirukkural dates back in history.

But, the foreign historians had their own stand. Some western historians say that Thiruvalluvar lived in the 8th or 9th century. It can't be. We have referrals of Thirukkural in Tamil scriptures which are as old as the Bible itself. It is to be noted that Tamil is as old, if not older, as Hebrew, Sanskrit, Chinese and other ancient languages. It has ancient scriptures which are rich in culture and contemplation. One of its available grammatical scripture 'Tholkappiam' dates



back to Christian era. Kamil V. Zvelebil, a Czech Indologist specialised in the Dravidian languages had said this.

Thiruvalluvar never referred about Christ or Christianity anywhere in his work. It is clear that Thirukkural is an indigenous, common scripture that talks about the way of living – the Sanathana Dharma. The morals given in this book are applicable to all classes of people throughout the world in all times. That's why it is referred as 'World's common scripture'.

In fact, it holds some contradicting view points to the Christian beliefs. A stanza of Thirukkural, starting 'Orumayul Aammai pol...' says that the one who controls one's five senses in one life will be benefitted in all of his incarnations. This goes parallel to the Hindu philosophy that the living beings have more than one life; but this point of view is not accepted by many Christians.

Coming back to the story of the so called St. Thomas, there was no evidence for his arrival, living and preaching in India. The Christians (Portuguese, French and English) invented the story of St. Thomas to bring their religion to the south India. The invaders made friendship with a few misled Dravidian and Arian people and invoked internal conflicts.

The ends may be different, but the origin is the same. Tamil and Sanskrit are the two most ancient languages of India. Though they are different in their forms, syllables and grammar, they are said to have emerged from the same source and talk about the same God. Those who speak



Sanskrit and its sister languages are known as Aryans. Those who talked Tamil and its sister languages are known as Dravidians. Both have the same roots of religious beliefs, life style and culture. To say in a single word, they are simply Indians.

The invaders demolished many temples here and on their graves built many churches. There are archeological evidences for this in a few old temples in Chennai, to say for exmple, in Sri Marundeeswara Temple at Thiruvanmiyur and in Sri Nandheeswara Temple at Parangi Malai. It may be argued that these evidences could be fake ones.

We never believe ourselves; we take only what the outsiders say. That's how we disgrace ourselves, without having even an iota of interest in knowing our own history and ideals. The Pope Benedict himself refused the stand of the Indian Catholic head, by saying that the so called St. Thomas never ever visited India.

“History is always written by the victors; and whoever controls the writing of history books control the past. Without doubt, the most consistently powerful force in the western world over the last two thousand years has been the Roman Catholic Church and consequently history has often been what it wanted it to be.”

– *George Orwell in 1984*

My idea is not to get into arguments, but to share my authentic views. My friends, Hindus and Christians should know what the truth is.



## *International terrorism*

“**T**errorism is the most deadly virus in the world today. What is your opinion on the responsibilities of the UN Security Council to combat this deadly crime against humanity? How can the International criminal court stand up to this odious offence against humanity?”

If there are so much international human rights laws, why is the world such a mess?”

I had to face this question in my MBA assignment. Here is my point of view.

The members of UN Security Council are not the world citizens. They represent their own nations in the council. So, when an issue arises, first they ensure their own safety in all regards, economically, politically and otherwise. If the counter action is favorable to them or doesn't affect them adversely, then they think of executing it.

Even after the majority votes (2/3 as per the Act), any one of the permanent members can hold the relief action through the execution of their veto power. This happened a few hundred times. So, practically speaking, only five nations – the permanent members – the victorious in World War II, are running the UN Security Council.

First thing, the number of permanent members should be increased so that people from all corners of the world



will have a say in the UNO. Already this suggestion is being looked upon seriously.

Besides, the execution of veto power is to be restricted in certain cases. For instance, when UN Security Council prepares to take stringent action to stop or prevent the human rights violation (killing, sexual torture, ethnic cleaning, etc) in some part of the world, the veto power shouldn't be used by the members to collide the UNSC's decisions. Similarly, if a treaty is drawn to safeguard the ecology – the nature, the members shouldn't be allowed to use their veto power against it. Any way, 2/3rd votes are necessary to execute such decisions and it is enough.

Let the world nations have differences in their life style, cultural values, religious following, governance and code of conduct. Human rights and the endangered nature – these two are to be spared at least, by the permanent members. If UN Security Council wants to do some justice to the cause for which it is created - to save human values globally, then it has to consider the above two alterations seriously.

Obviously, whatever step is taken with regard to the remodeling or reorganizing of the Council, the same has to be approved unanimously by the P5. So, only these five countries can make UNSC a powerful and meaningful organization. They have to do self appraisal for themselves; no external factors can influence them.

To know my views on the second question 'why is the world such a mess', mere laws and establishment of organizations would not bring peace. The individuals should





step forward to cleanse themselves through self appraisals (Please refer to the chapter 'World Peace' in 'Glimpses of Light'). This would also help in curbing international terrorism and other forms of inhumanity.



## Water the roots

I was told by a few eminent writers that I can still improve my English and vocabulary through studying the works of western authors. I welcome their suggestion. But I want to tell everyone that I don't want to improve my writing; I want to improve myself. I had been given the rudiments (in plenty) to express my views in English. This is enough.

I am not a writer basically. I don't want to spend time on developing my writing pattern and style. I just try to improve myself and to give my maximum to the world in the terms prescribed by God. The writing style comes on its own. I have a very ordinary face and role in the society. If my writings show me as a different personality, yes, I am and each one is. If one really wants to get 'improvement', one has to go to one's roots.

This applies to all personalities. If a scientist improves his personality as a spiritual being, his perfection would get reflected in his profession too. He would be able to render his contribution in a much better and disciplined manner. One should not ignore one's true identity, if one wants to improve one's peripheral roles. If one desires to become a superior person in some discipline – it could be arts, sciences, business, politics, sports or anything – and tries to 'improve' oneself in that particular discipline alone, it means he is watering the branches and leaves. If one wants to grow trees, one has to water their roots – not



their branches. Of course the branches and leaves are to be trimmed. But if we really want to keep them alive, we need to water the roots. If the roots are given life, then all other parts will grow properly.



## Save India's culture

Initially, the western way of dressing was liked by the city residents and later on spread to all parts of this nation. The western way of life style had been adopted by many 'city'zens of India, which is being adopted by the core people too. The western way of education, the western way of speech and mannerism, bars, pubs, the night life, half nakedness – these all are being welcomed by the Indian public and is becoming a part of their 'culture'.

Alcoholism, adulteration, violence – these are the accepted life style of the present society. I won't say the Indian culture has changed completely; it is changing slowly and strongly. I am not talking about the numbers but the trend. The media plays the major role in bringing this disastrous change. The youth is after the media. They are after the 'heroes' on the big and small screens. The physical attributes and beauties of the individuals have started to dominate the youth. They are glorified to the maximum; such individuals are being respected and honored by the rulers as well.

The modern youth of India never bother about their history; they even join with those who ridicule our culture and religion. We can't blame them for this attitude; this is what the 'education' teaches them – this is what the media teaches them. If someone ventures to know through his own efforts of his eternal native religion and culture



and to reject the abuses and misinterpretation of others, he is termed as non-secular. Many youth here are trapped in external shows and believe that they are going well with the vitality of the nation; they are not.

Our religions and culture are here only to teach you who you are. They help to locate the real hero in you. By ignoring them, you are ignoring yourself. They are like your parents to guide and guard you in every step of life. Of course, it's up to you, to take their support or to end up yourself in deadly mad culture. While other religions and cultures are spreading outside their boundaries, the Indian religions and culture are ignored or misunderstood in their own land. It is not broad mindedness. It is foolishness coupled with adamancy. We don't need to change our ideal social values to embrace the scientific and other technological developments of the world.

Wake up, the Indian youth; you are losing your identity. You are missing out the opportunity given to you. Wake up, the rulers; you are not only to save the boundaries of this nation but also to save her culture and vitality inside her boundaries.



## *My nominee*

If you are made the campaign leader for a particular party, how will you use your leadership skills to motivate your party men to ensure success of the party nominee in the elections? (Focus on the individual, motivate and apply leadership skills). This is another assignment question that I faced in my MBA course. I am just echoing my views here; it doesn't refer to any party in particular.



I name my party as X and the party nominee as Y. Here is my motivation to my party members.

"You must know why you are in this party and what your role is. Blindly supporting the party or the person will not give full benefits."

"Our party's goal is national well being. It is not created to improve its members. It is created to improve the condition of the nation as a whole - in all aspects. Our nominee, Mr. Y, has this drive and has proved it in his life."

"We are not doing any business to pass over the control to our sons and daughters. We are doing the democratic politics as it should be. Our nominee is our role model. Those who have the intention of developing one's personal standards of living through party's influence can walk away right now before they are forcibly driven out. We



are in a critical position now to give the real meaning to our hard attained freedom. We should not look for gaining materials rather we should be prepared to lose our own for our party's goal which is none other than overall national development on the base of her unique vitality.”

“Our nominee has clear agendas for curbing internal violence, for saving our vitality, for developing economic prospects and for saving the nation from the encroachments.”

“The violence in any form should be controlled and eradicated through right means. The violence will not become ‘holy’ if it is triggered by minority people. Violence in any form through any origin – let it be minority or majority - has to be controlled through iron hands. We are here not only to give protection and respect to the minority people – we need to give safety and respectful living to the majority people also.”

“As you all know, our nominee will give it definitely – impartially, thus giving the right meaning to the word ‘secularism’.”

“Our party respects our cultural values. The success of a culture mainly depends on how women are treated. In certain places of our nation, what we say the developed regions, women are exposing themselves and are wandering freely with many boyfriends. This is not the right way of exposing their freedom. In other parts of the nation, what we call the developing or underdeveloped regions, women toil within their homes and are ill-treated. This should



bechanged. Just think of India's golden era, where there were poetesses, brave queens, saintesses, home makers and even king makers. This is the type of freedom that we want to ensure for the women. The party and our nominee strongly believe that it is possible to bring our ideal culture back through systematic and diversified educational strategies based on our vitality and through the stringent regulation of the entertainment media. Our party and our nominee believe that this way of positive freedom of women will cut down many social evils to a greater extent."

"Our party members should be the role models to the public in the aspects of money making, maintaining internal and external relationships, patriotism, saving ecology and practicing righteousness."

"Mr. Y would ensure India's respect and Sovereignty and take India to a new level."

"As party members we need to cater all our energies and sources and focus them towards gaining support for our party and the nominee."

"Jai Hind"





## *Stop worshipping ordinary humans*

**T**n India, the practice of worshipping humans has its origin in the Vedhic period and is still practiced by people. People had the tendency to celebrate their heroes as Gods. That's why we have 'Gods' in sports, politics and cinemas.

I will not say anything about Purushas like Sri Rama, Sri Anjaneya and Sri Dattatreya. Those who shed their bodies just like removing the cloths are not ordinary beings. Their lives tell that they are more than ordinary – beyond ordinary human's comprehension. They are the Masters who showed the path to the Reality – to God – to the Self.

We also have temples for King Dharma and Queen Droupathy. Later on, many ordinary beings started to have their own 'temples'.

Now, we have temples for sportsmen, cinema stars and politicians. What for? Ordinary mortal beings should not be worshipped as Gods. Even poojas are being performed in such 'temples'. What a shameful thing it is to glorify ordinary humans as Gods that too in these modern times. You may like them, but please don't go to the extent of building temples for them.

You are a hero for yourself. You can also admire and respect others' heroism when they exhibit renunciation to some extent. The military people, the voluntary social workers, the truth seekers – these people are the real heroes



– not the sports men, cinema actors and politicians. The latter people too can be admired for their talents, but they can never be taken to the point of worship so long as they are not prepared to renounce worldly attachments.

This tendency has become a matter of quip for all others to ridicule India and Hinduism. Hinduism never asks one to worship ordinary humans. It asks us to worship those who had known the Self or God.

If you rely on the freed, you too might get a way for your freedom; if you rely on a wrong person who is already a slave, you are voluntarily fettering yourself and worse still you are losing your self esteem.

God is in everyone. Only those who had realized the Self will see God everywhere – even within the ordinary mortals. If one truly trusts and follows the Self-realised or God, one would come to know whom to worship and whom not to worship.



## *Pilgrimage or Picnic?*

A new friend, one day, came to my home with a short pilgrimage plan. It was an auspicious day – Sanipradosham. I accepted the invitation. Myself, my friend and other two started our day long devotional tour in my car. On the way, my friend was discussing with his other friends with regard to the purchasing of fish and other flesh; he discussed about where to buy them, with whom to buy them, when to buy them, the price to be bargained, etc. They also mocked and laughed at some other personalities, in their absence. It looked very odd to hear those things on a ‘pilgrimage’. I kept quiet any way.

We had Darshan in two Shiva temples. He didn’t miss to purchase the favorite eatables in the ‘pilgrimage’ spots. One of his friends was in a hurry as he had some personal commitment in his home early in the night. So, we hurried back to our home. On the way, I paid a very short visit at my uncle’s residence; the other three didn’t even get down from the car. I had already told my friend about my uncle and his enthralling spiritual life. But he didn’t show any interest in meeting him and I too didn’t bother (neither did my uncle) about it as we were on a hurry .

On the way, my friend asked me to stop at another Shiva temple. I said that we were out of time. Still, they insisted and got down. I refused to accompany them as I was contented with my earlier Darshan. I stayed back in my



car enjoying some snacks and tea. After a while, I crossed the road to find my friends as it was getting darker. My friend saw me and gave a tone of recognition. He thought that I too was trying to get into the temple for Darshan. But, on seeing them, I returned to the car. With a derisive reckless grin, he offered Prasad: 'Here it is, take it.' I took the Prasad and we continued our return travel. My friend said, "We had a great Darshan; the Deity stood just before us and we touched Him so easily. It looked as if He waited for our arrival." I replied, 'So you are the VIPs to God.' He acknowledged, 'It appeared so.' I could easily recognize his idea of having over played in the 'pilgrimage'. I didn't say anything then.

I am opening up now!

Pilgrimage is not to get the physical proximity with God but to awaken the God who is already within us. I had heard others saying with a sense of pride, 'I had been to the temple so many number of times', 'I had the Darshan so closer', 'I got more Prasad'. If mere physical proximity could help us spiritually, then all the priests in the temples should have become Self realized. It's not happening. Only a very few like Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa and Sri Abirami Pattar could make use of their divine environment. The external divine environment has its influence based on our inner divine environment. If one's mind is filled with selfish material desires and pride, there won't be any spiritual influence on him through the external means. Of course, the external factors could help us in developing an amicable inner environment, as said by my mother in an



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earlier chapter– but only when we go with some ‘space’ in our mind. If the pot is put upside down, it won’t take even a drop of the non-stop thunder shower.

Having the Darshan of the Self realized would render more benefits than having the Darshan of Archavathara Moorthams (idols) in temples. Sri Yoga Vasishta says this:

“The elevation one obtains through the devoted worship of the Self realized can’t be attained through any Yagas, Pilgrimages and Penance.” Because, the Self realized have the living presence of God.

My friends didn’t bother to meet the spiritually evolved being; they didn’t bother to change their definition for ‘pilgrimage’. They believed that they indeed had a wonderful ‘pilgrimage’ which looked more of a wonderful picnic to me. So long as they are not prepared to change themselves, all that I can do is to pity at them – nothing more than that. I would be happy if they gained something morally and spiritually out of this odd pilgrimage.

I too had a lesson for myself: Go to temples or any other pilgrimage centers with the likeminded – otherwise better go alone or stay at home.



## *The stage*

The President of Chennai Poets Circle happened to read my books. He appreciated them whole heartedly and welcomed me to enroll in his poets circle. I told him that I was not a poet. Still he insisted in the enrollment. He said, “I know that you are a writer, but you need this enrollment to boost up your writing career. It will give you some recognition. You have the ability to write on anything. You can sketch poems too. After all, you had written some poems in ‘A bon voyage’. You are joining this month in our circle. So, come prepared with three poems.” It was rather a friendly command.

I asked him, “Should I come with a new poem every time I come to your meeting?” He replied, ‘Not necessarily.’

I said, “I may not be able to attend all of your meetings as I am a bit far to your place.” He kept on encouraging me, “Just give a try. It’s o.k if you couldn’t make your presence in all of our meetings.”

Then I decided to give a try. As the well wisher wished, I wrote three new poems to be read in their annual meeting that held on 1st of December, 2013. It was filled with many eminent personalities. I made my presence in the meeting. But I couldn’t read my poems in the members’ session as I was late to the session. I thought of reading my poems in their general session and gave my name for the reading out of my poems. I couldn’t present my poems in that session too



as my name was wrongly spelt by the secretary. I realized that God thinks the other way. I didn't want to force myself to get on to the stage.

I may stand on the stage – not for recognition, not for applauses and definitely not as a poet. I think God doesn't want to put me on the stage. At this juncture (or may be for the rest of my life), God has a different role for me – a layman's role. My role is not on the stage; it's down the stage.

If I try to show myself as a poet – just for the reason that I was able to write a few poems – it means I am fooling myself and others. Even, writing is not my career. It's just a part of my life and I will write as long as God wills.

None of the poems read on that day talked about God, religion or Atman. As far as I noticed, they praised some specific cricket players, some specific politicians, some family pursuits and some specific poetical styles. And I could see a sort of thirst of recognition among the participants. It's not wrong any way. Everyone has one's own way of thinking and living.

Anyway, I had given those three poems in another book 'Insight'.

The world itself is a stage. It's enough if I play the role given to me by God as one in the billion.



## Save India's vitality

A senior person opined that the minority violence will rise if a Hindu idealist rules India as he may target to tackle terrorism ironically. So, he preferred a soft cornered person to rule India to ensure 'peace'.

This is utter cowardice. Terrorism in any form should be abandoned. If the ruler says to the terrorists "I won't do anything, please don't hurt me and others", then he is a coward. If the ruler says to the terrorists, "Do whatever you want, but please cast your vote to me", then he is a traitor – worse than a terrorist. This is what is happening in India for decades. In the name of secularism, the rulers failed to control the minority violence .

First of all, who are minority? Actually, they are the guests or invaders (or those who changed their native religion due to the influence of these foreign entities), latter on settled down here and made this land their home. This noble nation, to give protection and respectful living to them, made many favorable laws to the minority people in the name of secularism. Well and good. What I refer here by the term 'minority' is not the whole sect but a part of them who want to use those secular laws to scorn the majority. Actually, they are 'cutting off their noses to spite their faces'. Gradually, the rulers started to show partiality and lean towards those minorities either out of fear or for votes. The atrocity of the minority began to rein this





nation and her vitality is dug down in the deeps. A part of 'the minority' started preaching that the majority are fools and they won't reach God; another part of 'the minority' started killing the brave majority who question about their atrociousness. It is to be noted that both these types of minority people get the help of foreign nations, monetarily and otherwise. While the true minority people want to live in peace, these foreign aided people want to do everything against India and her vitality.

I am a friend of all religions. But, I don't need to lose my individuality (which actually drives me to treat everyone as a fellow being) to prove my friendship of other followers.

The educational pattern of this nation, the beacon of the future generation, is in accordance with the needs of the minority and they grow children to their tastes and flavor. The life style of this nation is changing towards the west. The majority blindly go behind it. Of course, the majority celebrate religious festivals and ceremonies. But they don't know why they are doing it. They don't know anything about their millenniums long history. If they really want to get educated in their way, they have to use a magnifying glass (quiet subtler) to find such a place.

Seeking God, leading life in harmony with nature, loving all beings – these things cannot be overlooked. This is India's vitality. This is common to all religions and all nationalities. It's time for the rulers to give due respect to the vitality of this nation through education and other interactive programs to ensure 'peace' not only within India but everywhere.



## Swachh Bharath

I heard a radio program on 'Swachh Bharat'. A village in my locality was converted to a 'pure' village. The big task of 'Pure India' team is to change the mental attitude of villagers who have been used to pee in open places.

They somehow managed to i) convince the villagers, ii) find places for each village house for constructing toilets and iii) source funds for constructing toilets. They made it a task and wanted to bring the change in all villages of India. I also heard in news that around 90 lakhs toilets were constructed in India over a year time.

I welcome this. I shared this with my friend. He was not happy about it. He questioned how the government is going to clean and recycle the toilet tanks of those toilets. We talked it over; he gave practical suggestions. I am sharing them here.

Just like the people in the city, Villagers would also need to empty their septic tanks one day. But, they can't afford the costs involved in that process. So through the panchayat bodies, the government should make arrangements to empty the tanks of the residents at free of cost or at minimal costs.

Presently, the tank cleaners dump all the drained stuff in their tanks and pour it in the urban road sides. Only the place of pollution is shifted, pollution is not controlled or managed. Those who don't want to bear the tank



cleaning costs, install wide pumps in their drainage tanks which go deep into the soil. In due course, they pollute the underground water layers.

The government should plan to establish drainage water storage stations in every Taluk to store and recycle the drainage stuff; studies say that even electricity can be produced out of it.

Needless to say, industries cause significant pollution in water bodies and in the air. Stringent rules should be framed to control this sort of pollution.

So, 'Swach Bharath' is not only the matter of cleaning things, but also the matter of where you put the dusts in the end and how you recycle it.

(We can also relate this to the purification of human mind. We have so much of impurities inside, but we just keep changing their locations and shapes. Instead, we have to 'recycle' them and 'purify' them, so that everyone get benefited.)



## Tradition

The prime minister of India (year 2015) is in 'hunt' of foreign investments. I happened to see a photo in newspaper in which the PM leans down and bows before the foreign investors.

There is some tradition with regard to how a ruler should behave on stage. Because, it is not just a single man's show. The single man here represents the whole nation. The ruler can bend and bow before spiritual leaders – he should not lean so much before business people.

The PM promised to build 'brand India' through 5 'T's. They are : Talent, tradition, tourism, trade and technology. His efforts for developing the last two 'T's are apparent. But to build brand India – the ideal India, the other three aspects also should be given equal importance, if not more. Of these 5 'T's, the one which requires immediate attention is 'Tradition'. This is the one we are losing clearly year after year. Other 'T's can be sought and developed at any stage – but not the 'Tradition'. If the tradition is lost, then it's almost impossible to build it back. And, it's not an easy job. Tradition is not a bundle of blind practices. What I mean by tradition here is the customs based on righteousness and truth that will last forever.

Because, the development of other 4 'T's hinders the development of 'Tradition' in many aspects. Under such



circumstances, care must be taken not to lose 'Tradition'. We need over all development – but not at the cost of 'Tradition'. Development of lopsided education that aims at material development (Talent), spreading of information technology without proper control over media contents (Technology), seeking of foreign investments pathetically (Trade), trying to develop tourism superficially and liberally – these things will not help 'Tradition' of India.

And the critical point is 'Tradition' cannot be fostered separately ignoring other developments. It needs Talent (supporting education with ideal moral values), Technology (technology that shuns filthy contents and promotes positive aspects), Trade (sufficient financial sources through right means) and 'Tourism' (portability of cultural values without losing the originality).

All these can be brought in India through bringing right education. Here it is appropriate to quote Gandhiji's saying on education: 'Basic education links the children, whether of the cities or the villages, to all that is best and lasting in India'.

We come to know of the best and lasting links in India as the 'Tradition of India'. What is India's tradition? The core of it is given under 'The religious culture' of 'Thus spake India'. In fact, it is not against the beliefs of any religion. Hope that the Indian rulers of 21st century will energize the Indian tradition, to stand as a beacon to the peace seeking world.



## Odd one out

**U**nderline the odd one:

Here is an example: Flesh, Milk, Wheat

I saw this exercise in 'Environmental science' text book that belongs to a standard one student of CBSE syllabus. I thought that the odd one could be 'Flesh'. My reasoning is : Flesh is non vegetarian food; others are vegetarian food. But the book reasons that flesh and milk are derived from animals; wheat comes from a plant. So, wheat is the odd one in that list. I find this quiet contrasting to our culture and life style.

This is not the Indian way of thinking. This may be western style of thinking - the material way of thinking. They see only the matter – they don't see how they are derived. Milk and wheat are derived in a more friendly manner. Milk is taken from a living animal – most probably cow. Wheat is cultivated from the full grown wheat plants. There is no shed of blood in these two. There is no brutality in these two. Taking flesh from an animal is not as cool as taking milk from the animal. These two can't be the same. Killing and taking flesh is the brutal way of deriving food.

This is not human way of seeing things. This is fleshly way of seeing things. Whereas, the logic prescribed by me, trains the students to see the living element in all materials. Probably, this should be the logic to be taught to the human



generation. This point may seem trivial. But it is these small things that shape the character of tender beings.

This is just an example. We have several such ‘material style’ of education in India. We have to change the syllabus according to our own life style. The foreign way of thinking and the plunk of foreign things (like the names of foods and dresses of foreign nations) are thrashed to the young brains in the name of teaching ‘Environmental Science’ and ‘General Knowledge’. To keep pace with the environment, we shouldn’t lose our own identity. First teach the students about their immediate environment and native life style. They are worth learning as they are formed on the eternal principles – righteousness and compassion.



## *The unique India*

**T**he citizens of this nation (irrespective of their religious origin) should know the core characteristic of this nation which is the quest for the Truth. The idea of this chapter is not to propagate the indifferences done to this nation, but to point out the millenniums long religious endurance of this nation.

India will stand against all odds. This is not a superficial saying; this is not an exaggeration. This is the way India had passed through in the past and is still passing through in the present. As already mentioned in an earlier chapter, her endurance is not by accident, 'but a logical incident in the record of devotion to the eternal verities that India has offered through her best men in every generation'. Right from the periods of Budhists, Mughal emperors, later on during the hard tenure of English people and now from the out-tracked administrators under the guise of a false secularism, India has been facing attacks. I don't mean the physical attacks and robberies; I am talking about the attack on her vitality.

The Islam friends attack the monuments and the bodies. They effected religious conversion through violence. This will not take away India's vitality. The Buddhists tried to change the socially upward class, the so called elite people, and tried to spread their philosophies through their influence. This didn't work out any way. Now, the Christian





friends work the other way; they get into the territory of the economically and otherwise weaker sections and try to 'purchase' them through money and other modes in a systematic and well planned manner with the help of monitory support from the foreign nations. They even reach the most interior places to effect change of religion among the natives; their trump card is 'service' or 'social justice'. Before independence, it happened just casually. Now too, it's happening openly under the protection of 'secularism'. One religion influencing the people of other religions to take the religious conversion is not secularism. These friends target India's core and are trying to get closer to their target. It won't happen anyway. The so called 'lower class' people are brainwashed that they would get honor and respect in the society if they change their religion. They don't know how these 'generous' people treat black people and other natives in their boundaries. They don't know what happened to Gandhiji in South Africa. Social differences are there in all nations. Religious conversion will not solve this problem. Religious conversion is not encouraged by any true religion. To my little knowledge, Bagawan Buddha didn't prescribe it; Jesus Christ didn't prescribe it; Prophet Mohammed didn't prescribe it. What they wanted is the change in the core (removal of ignorance) – and this can happen in any true religion. How to find whether a religion is true or false? Study the essence of the religion; if you jab over its corners, even a true religion may appear false. Saying 'your religion is false; come to my side' is as bad as a forcible religious conversion which is triggered through violence. 'Let anyone



talk or do anything against any religion. Let us watch the show and count the votes’ – this is not secularism.

If a group which is strong financially or otherwise tries to motivate or force people of other religions to take religious conversion, it is not an act of secularism. If the government allows this to happen, then it is not a secular government.

Preserving the rights and feelings of all religions (so long as they don’t hurt others) with equanimity is the doctrine of true secularism. To work for the impartial development and unity of all classes of people and to take severe neutral actions against all those weaken this purpose is the act of true secularism.

If a government tries to divide and rule, through implementation of unequal strategies, thus creating diversities and hatred among people, then it is not a secular government.

If each one understands one’s religion in the right way, then the differences created by humans will be reduced to the minimum. Individuals who had known the right purpose of religion had enriched the soil of India in all particles of time. They realized and lived to the fact that ‘all beings are the children of the same Mother.’ That’s why India, being the largest democratic nation in the world, remains as an example to the phrase ‘unity in diversity’. India’s uniqueness which is based on spirituality will not change; it should not change.



All those who tried to attack India's vitality had failed in toto; India's individuality stands out against all atrocities and shines for the whole humanity - for the whole creation in fact. And the path it shows is not carved on bloody thorns but on the flowers of universal brotherhood. For argument sake, a few pages from the history of India could be pointed to show the traces of blood. Such pages are very less in number in the Indian history when compared to the whole history of the world. When the safety is in threat, the rulers have to speak in the language of the agitators. It is their Dharma. It is the ruler's Dharma to ensure order in the society and righteousness in individuals.

But, those who drive India's vitality are the humble unnoticed hermits. They have a more dominating role in preserving India's vitality. People may not recognize them; the world may not recognize them. But they never fail to play their role. They are really a very few in numbers. But they do exist in some part of this land in some form, throughout God's creation; they exist only to induce Self realization which invariably means God realization.

The people who live here have the privilege to work on Self realization through the influence of the Self realized. And there are always persons who benefit from their guidance – though they are not many in numbers. The equation is simple: Those who put the question get the answer. And there are not many who have the quest right from the heart. That's why we have a very few Self realized persons. The number doesn't matter here. Even a single lamp can light a big house. So is the case of India's vitality. India



doesn't need missionaries to travel all around to spread her message. It's enough, if she stands where she is with her individuality.

The rulers of India never bothered to take India's vitality across her physical boundaries. There is absolutely no need for that. Everyone is unique in some way. India is not to disturb or take away other's individuality. I am not here to say to the world that India alone is holy. But I would say, this nation has places and persons from where holiness springs out quite naturally, commonly and continuously. I am here to say to the people here that they really have many things to feel proud of and to preserve for the whole humankind. We don't need to neglect the technological developments – we can't lose our originality either, which is the living with a spiritual consciousness.

I say all these things – not as a politician, not as a hermit, not as a powerful personality in the society, but as a layman of this nation, as one in the billion, but with some originality. And I say all these things out of my own experiences and observations.



## Making of PUTLI Project

### **INDIA'S IDEALS:**

India's religions and culture are rooted in one thing – seek God. God is seen through two eyes – the eye of wisdom and the eye of love. India encourages everyone, through her exemplary master pieces of men, to develop these eyes.

### **SEEKING GOD OR SELF THROUGH GNANA CHAKSHU (WISDOM):**

It begins with the desiring of realization. The desiring itself is a great thing. Those who have the burning desire for the truth will get there in one way or the other. Even when they fall short of expectations, the desire will drive them to keep trying. For those who don't have the desire, there is no question of realization as there will not be any trying. India doesn't impose any particular, fixed path in this, for everyone differs in one's mentality, maturity, in the cause and effect of one's past actions. It is enough if one could have a strong and natural desire for self realization. To give life to this desire, one has to remain truthful and disciplined in whatever way he chooses for his realization. If he stays in family, he has to adhere to the righteous ways related to family life. If he chooses monastery, he has to stick to the rules prescribed for the monkhood. Just be truthful to yourself in whatever way you tread and keep on trying. This is the basis of seeking God.



Sanathana Dharma (religious doctrines) paves way to the Sathya (The Truth). The religious culture could give sound beginning to one's self realization. This is something the world needs very badly at this moment.

That's why I had to give extra emphasis to the cultural aspects. That's why I had to club the cultural values based on Dharma with the ultimate message routed in Sathya ('God is in our land'). Though the purpose of this whole work is to spread the news that God is in our land, here in this chapter, I had talked more about the cultural values.

The Indian culture strengthens individual's Godliness and prescribes suitable Dharma in family and other circles. The inner environment and the outer environment both are vitalized through the awakening of the inborn Godliness.

India's culture and religions are centered in self realization. The universal peace follows it as a part and parcel. If we could have more dedicated individuals who stick to India's religious culture as it prevailed in her best times, then we could see a more peaceful nation and a better world.

### **SERVING OTHERS THROUGH PREMA CHAKSHU (LOVE):**

Service is also a sadhana when it is done without the intention of tasting the results. God will take care of the results. Just serve others around you – it could be some living being or your atmosphere. If you can't do any whole-hearted service, then see that you don't harm any being



or your atmosphere through your thoughts, words and actions. This itself is a great service.

The Indian culture feeds these ideas of self enquiry and selfless service, in all individuals. The eye of wisdom sees God within. The eye of love sees God everywhere around. Let him be a monk or a family man – he has to evolve both these eyes – he has to practice self enquiry in some way – through yoga, devotion, analysis of spiritual scriptures, etc. Serving others is also prescribed for all common individuals.

### **ECOLOGICAL BALANCE:**

The nature stands in between the self and other beings. The realized feel nature as part of their Self; the rest see it as a separate entity. Whoever it may be, one ought to respect the nature. One should serve the nature. This is a general rule, a basic culture.

### **FAMILY VALUES:**

Not all families are families. Even animals live in families and they too practice some fine ethics in their families. Families which have ethics based on love and loyalty are the ideal families. Being humans, we are expected to be more wise and godly than other living beings. If we fail in our ideal family values which are not against the spiritual values, then we go down to lower levels of consciousness. So far as Indian culture is concerned, loyalty between husband and wife, and respect to the elders are the two significant family values.



There could be some exceptional cases, where these values may be overlooked when they go in contradiction with the spiritual values. But, in an ideal family, these values help one even spiritually. Practicing these morals can support one in one's spiritual evolution as these morals emphasize sense control and a sense of gratitude and satisfaction for what has been given. Generally speaking, these family values are ideal across all religions and nations. But now, these family values are losing their practical significance little by little due to many known factors.

We got to revive our spiritual values of self enquiry and selfless service; we got to change our approach in the exploitation of natural resources; we got to ensure peace, love and happiness in the families and in the world through self discipline and unselfish love.

Both the external environment (the society and the ecology) and the internal environment are highly polluted. So, here, in addition to the emphasize on self enquiry and selfless service, special attention and care have been taken to preserve and strengt hen the basic ecological and cultural balance.

Thus we have the following as our religious-cultural values which stand across centuries and which require sincere practice in the times to come – to feel 'God in our land'.

1. Develop your Godliness
2. Never hurt living beings/be kind





3. Live in harmony with nature
4. Revere your parents
5. Live to the rule of one man is to woman

All religions rooted in India, such as Buddhism, Jainism and Sikhism support these morals. Later, I came to know that the commandments prescribed in Christianity too stress these morals. Seeking God, practice of non-violence, sense control, sense of gratitude to the parents – these values are common in all true religions. They are meant to all common people, from poor to rich, from laymen to learned, from servant to king, virtually to all classes of people who have a family. Even renunciates should stick to the first three morals and they have much rigid rules in the place of the family morals. This is for the whole world. But, when the question of practicing the morals arises, India ranks first. I should rather say India ranked first as her individuality is being taken away by free multimedia and lopsided education. Still, I can say, we can make things better. India still generates God realized beings to the world for the goodness of all.

One might ask why some other morals like ‘Take good care of your children’ and ‘Earn honestly’ can’t be included in the list. No doubt, the practice of such morals is very much needed. Any such moral can be brought under any of the first two morals ‘Strive to feel Godliness’ and ‘Don’t hurt living beings’. If one is loyal to God realisation and fears to hurt others, it means he would not do unjust to his children or anyone.



Earning by hook or crook will hurt someone - so those who stick to the moral 'Don't hurt living beings' will not go for unfair earnings. Even if one is convinced that he is not hurting any one, but still makes unfair earnings, he is still hurting his own conscience, he is hurting himself and blocking the realisation of Self /Godliness. So, those who stick to the first two morals will not do anything that hurts others or themselves. Strictly speaking, there are only two morals: 1. Don't hurt yourself and block your own spiritual evolution. 2. Don't hurt others in the process of your spiritual evolution. The evolved beings don't stop with the moral of 'not hurting'; they consider and feel other's wounds as their own. The most important thing is it happens naturally. Let it be any being, human or others; feel other's wounds as your own. All those who have this feeling are called 'Hindus'. This state of feeling doesn't come by taking birth in a family which is termed as a Hindu family. It comes out of one's own understanding about the self and about the oneness of everyone's self.

The culture and religions of India have been teaching this right from the cradle of human civilization. Those who are strong in the personal values – the most important value being desire for God/Self realization, will consider the global welfare also. They will not hurt the nature or living beings. Similarly, those who are strong in practicing the global morals willingly– the important one being non-violence/soul compassion – will advance in their self/God realization as well. These 2 factors are inter-related. When one takes one seriously the other also follows. These are



the eyes through which one can see God in and out. Even with one eye, we can see the world. Having two eyes is not a must to see the world. Either separately or together our eyes see the same thing – the same world. It's better to have two eyes or atleast one eye. Don't come and go as blind. Evolve your eyes of wisdom and love. If one evolves these eyes, he sees God in his land and in all lands. He continues to see God even after the departure of his physical garb. Self enquiry and Selfless service – these two are the message of India. These are the two eyes that everyone needs to have and develop. Mere self enquiry without service would make the life autocratic. Mere service without self enquiry would make the life mechanical. This is for common people who are yet to realize the self. The self realized need not do any service separately. Their very presence itself is the incomparable service to the human kind and also to other living beings. Still, all realized masters do an immense lot for global welfare; they just do not stop with self realization. The eye of wisdom and the eye of compassion – these two make no difference to them. Though this layman is not matured enough to say anything on the realized masters, these common factors viz. self-awareness and service to the living kind had been common in all masters who preferred to show their faces to the world. As per the Vedhantha philosophy, the one who had known God is God Himself. India has been seeing at least one such Personality in each century. In this context, it is very much right to say that God is in our land.



All these basic morals – self enquiry, purity, compassion, discipline and humility - put together augment one’s Godliness. They evolve the eyes of wisdom and love.

Some might say that just by seeing the morals, one may not turn out to be moral. It could be true. A glance at a message (‘Spread the news that God is in our land’) made me write so much on that. Same way, some might see the cultural values seriously and would be prepared to change their life style accordingly.

Some might feel that there are so many things in spirituality above these normal standards of living. It’s true, but without the base of righteousness and purity, one cannot go to higher levels.

Some may argue that there had been masters and devotees who overruled these morals and still deserved God’s kingdom. Yes. There had been realized beings who got enlightenment without even pointing to the words God and Godliness (ex: Lord Buddha). There had been devotees who deserved the Grace of God even after being indifferent to the living beings (Ex: Saint Kannappa). There had been divine beings who weren’t much concerned about natural balance (Ex: Anjaneya Swamy who is said to have uprooted the whole mountain for the need of some medicinal plant). There had been reputed personalities who were adorned even after they remained tough with their mother (ex: Saint Parasurama). There had been devotees who were dear to God even when they went for more than one spouse (ex: Sundara moorthy Nayanar, Saint Annamaiyya).



They all are not ordinary persons. They were adorned and admired today for their flawless and persistent love towards God. Common people too become like this – but they are not like this. That’s why we call them common – ordinary.

Of these five morals, the first three are the morals of ‘Sathya’. They would not change anywhere any time. Seeking God – Leading harmonious life with nature – Loving all beings – these are common to everyone, everywhere. The ordinary people don’t have any scope for exceptions to these rules of Sathya. The rest two are the morals of ‘Dharma’ – the family Dharma to be specific. They may change from nation to nation and from society to society. Here, even ordinary persons may avail exceptions based on their personal background.

The family values given here are not indifferent any way. They hold good to the majority of people.

All these morals are to be practiced naturally. In the spiritual realm, no one forces anyone to do or not to do a particular thing. Even God doesn’t do that. Even the social and constitutional laws do not stop those who want to go against them. At the most they can punish those who break the laws. There are people who prefer to take the punishment than to sticking to the laws. So, all that we can do is to help those who want to help themselves. Sometimes, God interferes in the freedom of such devotees, only to help them better and of course upon their prior prayers. How seriously one takes this message depends on one’s own inner and outer environments. By putting efforts to practice these



morals in life, one might have a hold on the furious flow of life and could direct the flow towards the optimal ends.

Some might feel that the spiritual knowledge and religious values may not help the scientific approach. The science of the Self is the science of all sciences. It is only because of the strength of the religion, great mathematicians, doctors, structural engineers and scholars emerged in India and gave their versatile contribution to the whole humanity. We can't let the essence of religion be overlooked and suppressed in the name of secularism and ordinary sciences. They are for all people and for all seasons. It is opt to quote Swami Vivekananda's finding here:

“... every improvement in India requires first of all an upheaval in religion. Before flooding India with socialistic or political ideas, first deluge the land with spiritual ideas.”

Some might feel that when there are people who lack even the basic amenities, it is better to provide those essentials first. No one can undermine the need of such human services. But, they alone are not enough. Such services would try to bring peace on the surface, that too temporarily. The egoism (false identity) would be still burning in the core and would propel problems to the surface in different colors and dimensions. This core problem also has to be attended properly. Only the consciousness of the true identity will destroy the false identity. So, we need both social and spiritual services to balance peace and happiness outside and inside. We have so many people who bother about the problems in the surface. Only a few see the root cause of all problems. This point has been discussed in many



articles and examples across all my works. It is apt to quote a saying of Pramukh Swami Maharaj here. “The root of all bliss is God. And to forget God is the root of all problems.” Our ancestors had known God internally. We too are here to take the footsteps in the way our ancestors had gone through successfully.

The individuals who practice the ideal morals influence their surroundings - positively. If they happen to be strong, then they influence more and more people in the right way through their own practice. Example: Mahatma Gandhi. If such individuals get in to the roles of media and educational institutions, they would mould the society through their quality teachings. Example: Swami Vivekananda. If such individuals take the roles of the ruler, then they would work for the restructuring of the nation in a big way, in the right way. Example: King Rama. The ideal nation attracts the whole world and teaches all individuals the right way of living.

The desirable changes would happen gradually somewhere in the future. Everyone is unique in some way. But the innermost element of everyone is just one and the same. We got to reach home; we can't stay stranded for long. To reach there, we need to tread in the road of purity and righteousness. The way one travel on this road may vary widely from the other as everyone has one's own definition for purity and righteousness. The one who eats meat three times a day, if he cuts down his practice to one time a day or a week - it is 'justice' to him. If the one who takes meat occasionally comes forward to give up the



practice - it is 'justice' to him. For the vegetarian, barring even the thought of killing is 'justice'. Everyone wants to be just with 'justice'. Upon giving sincere efforts, it might take time to become a true judge. There is no use in dry interactions over these writings as it is not going to benefit any one spiritually, whereas the acceptance and adherence to these morals would help one spiritually and otherwise.

Asradha (lack of interest in knowing the Truth), abundant Karma (actions and reactions) and limitless kama (desires) keep many away from the truth. Only a few deserving have the interest as a result of their good actions and God's Grace. Then they work out to win their karmic effects and kama. Finally they taste the Truth. God helps those who help themselves. This message is also a sort of help. How far one makes use of it is left to one's own interest and God.

'God is the Creator, Savior and Destroyer of the delusive universe. Only through His Grace we can solve the mystery of our existence and reach the superior divine status which is said to be our original nature. Only the self enquiry with devotion will take oneself away from the delusive creation of God. One can seek God's Grace through any means one likes; as in a form (as Lord Shiva, Vishnu, Ganesh, Muruga, Surya, etc) or as formless. God is said to be formless (Nishkala), but for the sake of sincere devotees He assumes various forms (Sakala) as Shiva, Vishnu, Vasu Deva, etc. The beginners show their devotion through a form and are led to higher levels of wisdom. This wisdom is common to all classes of people; to the kings, to his counterparts,





to the sages, to the businessmen, to the servants, to the householders, to the women and adults, to everyone, as it prevails in the city of Vidhya Nagaram' We have this reference in our ancient scripture Sri Thiripura Rahsyam. We don't have this Vidhya Nagaram anymore.

Let us rebuild our nation with the ideals of our glorious past. Let us rebuild ourselves.

Thinking of the above with deep concern, I designed a project with the title 'Putli' in 2013 to spread the message 'God is in our land'.

I want this project to last till the end of the world.

This project doesn't prescribe or claim anything new. It practically stands with the nation's vitality in the aspect of supporting one's Wisdom and Love or Self and Nature or Sath and Dharm. This isn't a party or sect. This stresses about the most common human values embracing all true beliefs and sects. No one is out of its periphery. Everyone has a role in it.



## *Be original*

**B**e original Indian.

Who is Indian?...the one who is born and brought up in the soil of India. Some other nationalities also might migrate here and prefer to mingle in the culture and life style of India. In records, they may be 'Indians'.

If such thing really happens, it means they like the life style and indigenusness of India. It is the utmost duty of the natives to preserve that individuality of the nation. We had talked in volumes over the spiritual glory and individuality of India.

Mere paper works will not raise the concrete structure. The concrete structure is to be laid with commitment and sacrifice. Here I am going to talk about raising that strong structure.

In the first line while defining the term 'Indian', I pointed two things: 1) the one who is born here and 2) the one who is brought up here. Both are important. Still, I think the second point holds more value than the first one. If one takes birth in India and is brought up somewhere in a quiet different environment, it would be hard to recognize his/her originality. The pity is, the native children here, are brought up in a little (if not much) contrasting environment that questions the homogeneity of India.



‘So being brought up in India’ means ‘being brought up in India in the Indian way’. The dress one wears, the food one takes, the air one breaths, the language one speaks – they all decide ‘being brought up’. One may ask: ‘water is water everywhere, food is food everywhere, what difference it can make in bringing up a child’. Yes, it makes.

This is not just a sentimental analysis; this is a scientific fact.

The milk of an original Indian cow is in many ways different from the milk of a Jersey breed. The core itself differs – scientifically. Similarly, the products of original Indian cultivation where they go for natural fertilizers and other natural methods of cultivation are vastly different from the agricultural products where chemicals and artificial ingredients are used. The one who is brought up with the natural and native food intake will definitely differ from the one who is brought up with the so called modern (contaminated) food, in terms of character and conduct.

Our originality is decided and preserved by our genes. In the field of epigenetics, it has been proved that, we can influence genes without changing their basic structure through the foods we eat. Even the tool one uses to take one’s food (hand or spoon) influences our genetic behavior.

Now, let us think how we bring up our children. Is it the Indian way or the foreign way? It needs to be the Indian way, if you want to call yourself Indian.

I have all rights to place this post, because I hadn’t stopped with paper works. I am using an original Indian



cow's milk, I am cultivating organic foods for myself. I teach my children to respect and speak their native language; I encourage them to learn other languages too. Though I may not be able to bring all originalities – I take utmost caution about food intake. It helps not only in preserving our genes but also in preserving our general health.

I think, globalization need not mean losing away one's individuality. Be a global citizen, without losing your own identity. This applies to all nationalities: A Russian will prefer to be a Russian; an American will prefer to be an American. Globalisation can happen in all aspects - but it shouldn't try to change one's DNA – there is no need for that either.



## Religious education

In India, the scriptures of Hinduism are neglected by the Government. They have become the objects in museum. The educational pattern of India do not want to give life to it due to it's partial secular policies. Because of this dangerous attitude, the majority of Hindu children are brought up in oblivion. Their right to know about their religion is plucked off in the name of secularism. They do not know why they are here. They do not know about their actual religion. They do not know the ways of finding God.

They are led by the misled parents and teachers. They are taught that gaining material education and ensuring luxurious material life is the purpose of human life. They are put in torture to march blindly towards these goals. For many children, this material school education - the mathematics, chemistry, physics, electronics, the studies of living and non living things – is religion. For scoring good and still better marks in these subjects only, they live here. When they fail to get the desired marks, many of them lose their heart. A few even go to the extreme of committing suicide.

We don't see this pathetic condition anywhere in the world. No student would prefer to commit suicide for having failed to get the desired marks in written examinations. If we go deep into this matter, we can find one fact. Hundreds of students have committed suicide for the cause of having



attained poor marks. Almost all of them were Hindus. They hadn't known any other goal other than scoring marks and earning money.

The Christian students are taught Bible right from their childhood. They learn it either in schools or churches. They are taught about the Superior power that directs them; they are taught about their religion and purpose of life. Similarly, the Islamic students are taught about their religion in their Madarasas. They have well organized system to preserve their religious ideologies. They get funds in India and from all over the world to preserve and practice their religious faith through systematic teaching. So even if they fail to get the desired marks in material education, they won't choose foolish remedies like committing suicide.

Why the middleclass Hindu students take these exams so seriously is, they believe that these exams are the milestones that decide their future. They have to make their living through their own brain stuff. It is not so in the case of the minority religions. They are well supported by the government and their own missionaries in gaining admissions for higher studies, jobs and other socio-economic factors. They have the social back up and the moral back up. So, they have no need to 'die' for these marks.

But the average Hindu students have neither of the above. What religion based teaching methodology is available for an ordinary Hindu child? No one teaches him/her of her religious background, social participation and the purpose of his/her life. The government schools do not teach any Hindu scripture that details the purpose of life – they do



not teach about the Hindu ways of living and worshipping, since they (the government schools) are supposed to be secular.

As a result, the majority of the modern youth are misguided. They do not know the purpose of human life. They study like devils and attain happiness in scoring good marks and well paid jobs. They lead and enjoy life mechanically. The entertainment media also teaches the same thing and take the youth farer from their originality. The heroes of media do only these two things: love a girl (or girls) and go into fight with the villains. The Hindus' religious celebrations too are happening in a mechanical way – without the living energy of souls.

But still, there have been a few Hindu students who bother to know of their religion on their own or through some strong religious background. Such students would shine in any field anywhere in the world. They would 'live' their life.

India is to give this life. But the natives are deprived from having it in the name of secularism.

When the people of other religions are taught about their religions in a systematic way, the Indian government should take steps to teach the religious values of the native people in a systematic manner. This is not an anti secular act. We are not asking to teach Hindu philosophy to the people of other religions. Actually it is happening the other way around. We are asking the rulers only to teach the Hindu students what their religion is all about. This is our very basic right and



no other nation would come here and teach Hindus about their religion. Only the Indian administrators can make this possible. They are bound to make this as they gain lots of money through Hindu monuments and customs directly and indirectly. Say for example, through tourism industry and from donations collected in the Hindu temples. So, they (the Indian government) have the moral and ethical responsibility to render quality religious education to all Hindu students.

India will stand with new heights when the religious ideologies of India are taught to all Hindus in a systematic manner. This will help the whole world in many perspectives.





# India's true development

May, 2017

I wonder whether I can hear the following headlines ever in this life. If I do, it would be the day of India's true development.

- India and Pakistan agreed to have the current line of control as their permanent boundary. Both the governments agreed to reduce their troops on the line of control by 50%.
- Karnataka, on seeing Tamil Nadu's draught situation, voluntarily released Kauvery water to Tamil Nadu.
- After having ensured the release of funds for carrying out the archaeological works at Kizhadi, Tamil Nadu, the Prime Minister made a special visit to the spot and said that the significance of the findings at Kizhadi marks yet another milestone in the history of India's rich cultural heritage.
- The Sri Lankan government released the fishermen of Tamil Nadu and their boats within two days from the arrest, after having received the identical proofs of the fishermen from the ministry of external affairs, Government of India.



- The election commission announced that the party which is proved guilty of entering into fraudulent electoral activities, will be banned in the concerned constituencies for a period of 10 years.
- The Indian navy warned the ships of other nations not to pump their ecological wastes into the Indian ocean.
- The Parliament passed a unanimous resolution to the effect that the preservation of forests and other natural resources will be given priority over all other industrial and technological developments.
- The central government banned the import and production of harmful pesticides and other unhealthy practices in the agricultural industry.
- Supreme court ordered all the state governments to enquire into all sexual harassment cases quickly and render justice instantly and with serious convictions.
- An act was passed in the parliament to the effect that, any single male or female irrespective of any religious background and number of marriages or remarriages he or she - encounters in his or her personal life, can parent only two children in his or her entire life. It reasoned that this measure is needed to control excessive population which is a threatening problem to the whole nation.

The backbone of the Indian economy – the farmers do not need cancellation of their agricultural loans; it's a



shame. It is enough, if the government ensures right pricing and timely payment for their produce. India doesn't look for a high per capita income; it's enough if the number of orphanages and old-age homes goes down; India doesn't look for a European style of living. We need a raise – not in the material standards of life, but in our fair and rightful living. We shouldn't prefer to have giant industries that cause high pollution. It's enough, if the diseases are eradicated and kept in control; it's enough, if the environment is kept clean and serene. If violence and injustice is caused by any extremists, firm actions are to be taken against them by the government without any prejudices.

India doesn't need a luxurious bed with sleepless nights, but a peaceful sleep on any given mat.

“Resolve that you will love the world as your own nation, and that you will love your nation as you love your family. Through this understanding you will help to establish a world family on the indestructible foundation of wisdom.”

- Sri Paramahansa Yogananda

## **THIRUCHCHITTRAMBALAM**

(SALUTATIONS TO THE LOTUS FEET OF THE  
SUPREME INDWELLER)

