



PEOPLE AND UN



PM Modi Honoured with United Nations
'Champions of the Earth'
Award by UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres



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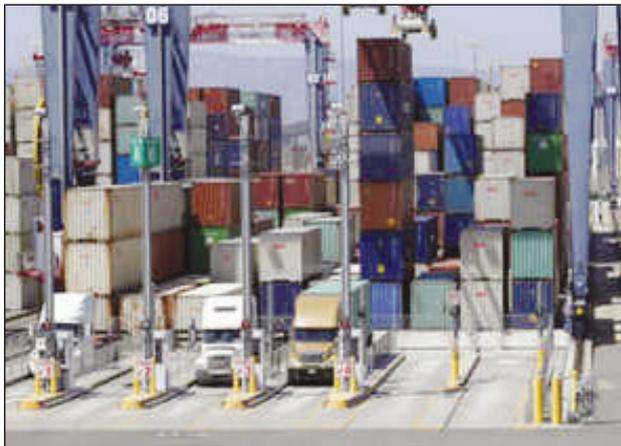
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■ **Emphasis on exports would not only improve India's current account deficit, but would also create jobs, particularly in the small and medium enterprises engaged in the export sector.**

T

HE U.S. TREASURY in its latest report on global foreign-exchange policies has escalated its rhetoric against China and blasted recent “depreciation” in the Yuan, mentioning, it would worsen what’s already the largest trade imbalance. Washington and Beijing have already imposed tit-for-tat tariffs on \$34bn of goods but the US raised the stakes last week by threatening to impose extra charges on another \$200bn worth of goods, in spite of China’s protest to World Trade Organization. The US has separately imposed tariffs on steel and aluminum imports from Canada, Mexico and the EU. US see the recent trade war as an opportunity to right the wrongs. It believes it has suffered at the hands of China for decades of unfair trade. Beijing sees the trade war as the Trump administration’s attempts at curbing China’s rise. So even if the two sides come to some sort of a resolution on trade-which in itself -is highly unlikely at this point. This is not a conflict that is going to disappear. Neither side is going to give in quickly. This is just the beginning. China has enjoyed over the last decade is on the wane, and that things are likely to slow down to a strong, but not stellar, rate. Perhaps the biggest financial market story in 2018 so far is the colossal fall from grace of the Chinese stock market, which has witnessed losses in excess of 30 per cent since the start of the year. Many economists see the trade war having a major negative impact on Chinese growth. While these factors are evidently at play, there’s reason to believe that another factor could soon come into play, and force Chinese stocks even deeper into bear market territory. Such a view has been exacerbated by the rise of the trade conflict between the US and China, which has seen the world’s two largest economies exchange tit-for-tat tariffs, which now apply to goods totaling close to a cumulative \$300 billion.

For India and Indian exporters it is a unique and golden opportunity to take advantage of this US trade restriction. India must avail the space identified by US for 180 items like engineering goods to auto components and chemicals etc. That can boost Indian industries and trade at a time when the trade deficit is widening. The Indian Government must act effectively to inspire and motivate Indian companies to grab this rare opportunity. If any special facility or concession is needed the Government should not hesitate and adopt liberal and positive approach in the interest of economic development of the country.

– **Pran Mohan Parvatiyar**
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A Clean Environment For Human Empowerment

by Prime Minister Narendra Modi

ON 3RD OCTOBER 2018, the United Nations honoured me with the 'Champions of the Earth Award'. While I was extremely humbled at receiving this honour, I do feel that this award is not for an individual. Instead, it is recognition of the Indian culture and values, which have always placed emphasis on living in harmony with Mother Nature.

It was a proud moment for every Indian to see India's proactive role in mitigating climate change being acknowledged and appreciated by the United Nations secretary general, Antonio Guterres and Erik Solheim, the executive director of the UNEP.

Human beings and nature have a very special relationship. Mother Nature has nurtured and nourished us. The first civilisations were established on the banks of rivers. Societies that live in harmony with nature flourish and prosper.

Today human society stands at an important crossroads. The path that we take hereon will not only determine our wellbeing but also that of the generations who will inhabit our planet after us. The imbalances between our greed and necessities have led to grave ecological imbalances. We can either accept this, go ahead with things as if it is business as usual, or we can take corrective actions. Three things will determine how we as a society can bring a positive change.

The first is internal consciousness. For that, there is no better place to look than our glorious past. Respect for nature is at the core of India's traditions. The Atharvaveda contains the Prithvi Sukta, which contains unparalleled knowledge about nature and the environment.

It is beautifully written in Atharvaveda, "Salutations to Mother Earth. In her are woven together ocean and river waters; in her is contained food which she manifests when ploughed; in her indeed are alive all lives; may she bestow us with that life.

The ancient write about the Panch Tatvas — Prithvi (Earth), Vayu (Air), Jal (Water), Agni (Fire), Akash (Sky) —and how our life systems are based on the harmonious functioning of these elements. The elements of nature are manifestations of divinity.

Mahatma Gandhi wrote extensively on the environment and even practiced a lifestyle where compassion towards the environment was essential. He propounded the doctrine of trusteeship, which places the onus on us, the present generation, to ensure that our coming



■ Prime Minister Narendra Modi receives UN's highest environmental honour 'Champions of The Earth Award' from United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres at a special ceremony, in New Delhi on Oct 3, 2018.



■ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated first assembly of International Solar Alliance on 2nd October 2018 at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi. United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres was also present at the event.

LEADING LIFESTYLES THAT ARE HARMONIOUS AND SUSTAINABLE ARE APART OF OUR ETHOS. ONCE WE REALISE HOW WE ARE FLAG BEARERS OF A RICH TRADITION, IT WILL AUTOMATICALLY HAVE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON OUR ACTIONS. THE SECOND ASPECT IS PUBLIC AWARENESS. WE NEED TO TALK, WRITE, DEBATE, DISCUSS AND DELIBERATE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE ON QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT.

generations inherit a clean planet. He called for sustainable consumption so that the world does not face a resource crunch.

Leading lifestyles that are harmonious and sustainable are apart of our ethos. Once we realise how we are flag bearers of a rich tradition, it will automatically have a positive impact on our actions.

The second aspect is public awareness. We need to talk, write, debate, discuss and deliberate as much as possible on questions relating to the environment.

At the same time, it is vital to encourage research and innovation on subjects relating to the environment. This is when more people will know about the pressing challenges of our times and ways to mitigate them.

When we as a society are aware of our strong links with environmental conservation and talk about it regularly, we will automatically be proactive in working towards a sustainable envi-

ronment. That is why, I will put proactiveness as the third facet of bringing a positive change.

In this context, I am delighted to state that the 130 crore people of India are proactive and at the forefront of working towards a cleaner and greener environment.

We see this proactiveness in the Swachh Bharat Mission, which is directly linked to a sustainable future. With the blessings of the people of India, over 85 million households now have access to toilets for the first time.

Over 400 million Indians no longer have to defecate in the open. Sanitation coverage is up from 39% to 95%. These are landmark efforts in the quest of reducing the strain on our natural surroundings.

We see this proactiveness in the success of the Ujjwala Yojana, which has significantly reduced indoor air pollution due to unhealthy cooking practices that were causing respiratory diseases.

Till date, over five crore Ujjwala connections have been distributed, thus ensuring a better and cleaner life for the women and their families. India is moving at a quick pace in cleaning its rivers.

The Ganga, which is India's lifeline, had become polluted in several parts. The Namami Gange Mission is changing this historical wrong. Emphasis is being given to proper treatment of sewage.

At the core of our urban development initiatives such as AMRUT and the Smart Cities Mission is the need to balance urban growth with environmental care. The over 13 crore soil health cards distributed to farmers are helping them make informed decisions that will boost their productivity and improve the health of our land, which helps the coming generations.

We have integrated objectives of Skill India in environment sector and launched the schemes including Green Skill Development Program for skilling about 7 million youth in environment, forestry, wildlife and climate change sectors by 2021. This will go a long way creating numerous opportunities for skilled jobs and entrepreneurs in environment sector.

Our country is devoting unparalleled attention to new and renewable sources of energy.

Over the last four years, this sector has become more accessible and affordable. The Ujala Yojana has led to the distribution of nearly 31 crore LED bulbs. The costs of LED bulbs have reduced and so have the electricity bills and the C emissions.

India's proactiveness is seen internationally. It makes me proud that India remained at the forefront of the COP-21 negotiations in Paris in 2015.

In March 2018, world leaders of several countries converged in New Delhi to mark the start of the International Solar Alliance, an endeavour to harness the rich potential of solar energy and bring together all nations that are blessed with solar power.

While the world is talking about climate change, the call for climate justice has also reverberated from India.

Climate justice is about safeguarding the rights and interests of the poor and marginalised sections of society, who are often the biggest suf-



PM Narendra Modi wins UN's 'Champions of the Earth' award

PM Narendra Modi is among the six winners of the UN's highest environmental honour, the 'Champions of the Earth' award. He has been recognised for his leadership of the International Solar Alliance and pledge to eliminate single-use plastic in India by 2022. Further, Cochin International Airport was given the award for its leadership in the use of sustainable energy.

ferers from the menace of climate change.

As I have written earlier, our actions today will have an impact on human civilisation much beyond our time. It is upto us to take on the mantle of global responsibility towards a sustainable future.

The world needs to shift to a paradigm of environmental philosophy that is anchored in environmental consciousness rather than merely government regulations.

I would like to compliment all those individuals and organisations who are working assiduously in this direction. They have become the harbingers of a monumental change in our society. I assure them all possible support from the government in their pursuits.

Together, we will create a clean environment that will be the cornerstone of human empowerment. ■

IN MARCH 2018, WORLD LEADERS OF SEVERAL COUNTRIES CONVERGED IN NEW DELHI TO MARK THE START OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOLAR ALLIANCE, AN ENDEAVOUR TO HARNESS THE RICH POTENTIAL OF SOLAR ENERGY AND BRING TOGETHER ALL NATIONS THAT ARE BLESSED WITH SOLAR POWER.

UN General Assembly President Visits New Delhi

The legacy of Mahatma Gandhi has proven the "most durable and enduring", said United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) President Maria Fernanda Espinosa Garces while voicing her commitment to peace and security.



■ **Ecuador's Foreign Minister Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa Garces, President 73rd UN General Assembly with P. M. Narendra Modi in Delhi**

P RIME MINISTER Narendra Modi congratulated Ms. Espinosa on her election to the post of President of the 73rd UN General Assembly when she called on him in New Delhi. Prime Minister assured her of India's full and constructive cooperation in discharging her new responsibilities. They discussed the

need for stronger UN action on major global challenges including terrorism, United Nations reform and climate change.

Speaking at an event titled 'Non-violence in Action', Garces said she was committed to bringing the United Nations closer to the people that the world body is here to serve, to leave no one behind and to beyond



■ Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa Garces, With Foreign Minister Ms. Suhma Swaraj.

a narrow focus or definition of national interest.

Highlighting the current challenges in global peace and security, Garces said conflicts in Syria and in Yemen continued to rage on and millions have been displaced, while entire cities, historical monuments and cultural icons have been destroyed. In other regions, throughout Central Africa, for instance, conflict and violence continue, with women and children far-too often the target of needless and horrendous crimes. "While at one time such crimes would shock the world, the sheer explosion of social media and, occasionally, questionable media, has left many people desensitized to the world around them. We cannot allow this to happen, not when the suffering of our brothers and sisters continues," she said. Underscoring the unprecedented scale of tragedy, she said an estimated 124 million people across 51 countries were food insecure, nearly 140 million people required humanitarian assistance and over 30 million people were displaced, either by disasters or by conflict. She, however, stressed that even in the face of such challenges, humanity yearns for peace and harmony, principles that Gandhi espoused, giving nations cause for hope. ■

UNGA President Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa Garces with Members of Indian Federation of United Nations Associations (IFUNA) in New Delhi



■ L. Jayaramulu Secretary General of Andhra UNA with UNGA President



■ I.to.r. UNGA President Ms. Garces, Ms. Mohini Mathur, Vice President, IFUNA, Mr. Deepak Parvatiyar, Media Advisor, IFUNA, Mr Bheda of Tamil Nadu, UNA is seen in the back.

ASSAM UNA International literacy day



■ Mrs. Bijoya Chakravarty, M.P. and President of IFUNA addressing the Students, Teachers and Audience at Pragjyotish College, Guwahati

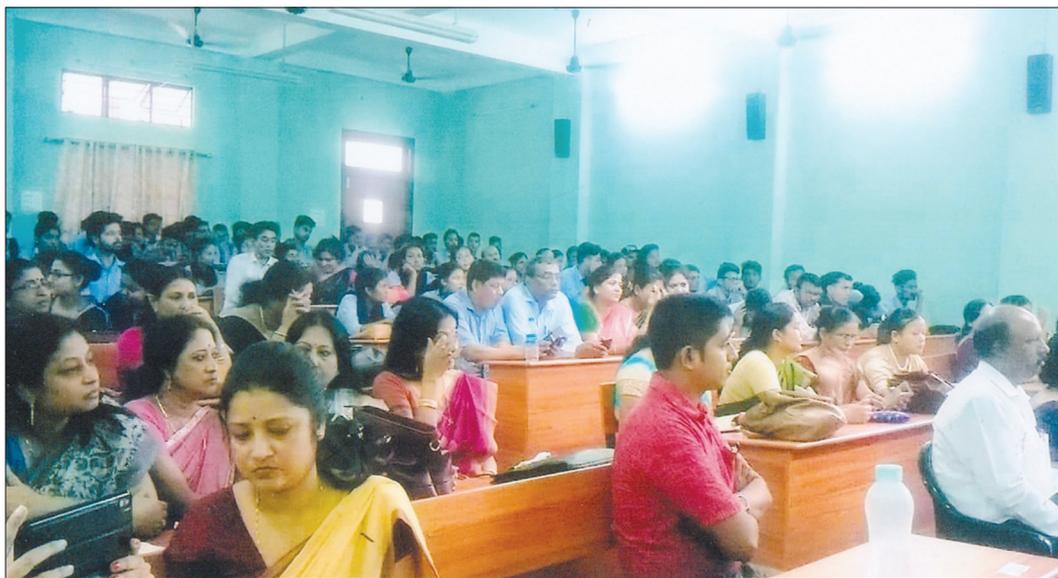


■ The distinguished guests

ASAM UNA alongwith the Indian federation of United Nations Association organized the International literacy day on 8th September, 2018 at Pragjyotish

College, Guwahati, Assam. The meeting was presided by Dr. Manoj Kumar Mahanta, Principal of the college. Mrs. Bijoya Chakravarty, Hon'ble M.P. and president of IFUNA was the chief guest on the occasion. In her speech, she said "literacy and skills development are the vital and most important for the people and are co-related". Dr. K. N. Bhagawati- Ex H.O.D. of plant pathology of Assam Agricultural University, Mr. Debodutta Borkotoky Ex-Director of state Resource Centre-Assam, Dr. Paramananda Rajbongshi- President of Assam Sahitya Saba also spoke on the occasion. The message of UNESCO Director General Audrey Azoulay on the occasion of international literacy Day was read by Dr. Aswin iSarma - Secretary General of UNA- Assam and Secretary of IFUNA. The meeting was attended by large nos. Of students, teachers and staffs of the college. ■

*Reports: Dr. Aswini Sarma
Secretary General, UNA-Assam.*



■ The Audience

UTKAL UNA



UFUNA celebrated world youth day . Former CBI Judge Mr B C Rout chief guest. said that youth power is next to military power citing Greek Samrat Alexander conquered the. Other distinguished speaker Udam Singh said that Swami Vivekananda encouraged youth mass in positive way as the symbol of patriotism. Er A K Satapathy , Prof Dilip Nanda , Bahadur Patsahani, also addressed to the audience . Advocate Manoranjan Pattanaik presided. And Deepayan Patnaik ,SECY GEN of UFUNA proposed a vote of thanks

UFUNA Members Celebrated World Friendship Day at Raj Bhawan, Bhubaneswar on 30th July 2018 with Hon'ble Governor Prof Ganeshi Lal Jee.



■ Manoranjan Pattanaik President UFUNA , along with its members Dr S K Tamotia. Prasad Pattanaik. , B C Rout, A K Satapathy, Biswajit Suryabanshi, Sambit Das , Saroj Satapathy and Deepayan Pattanaik Presented a memento to Honble Prof. Ganeshi Lal Jee, Governor of Odisha on the eve of Friendship Day

SUSHMA SWARAJ TO UNITED NATIONS

Reform must begin today Tomorrow could be too late

“THROUGH THE JAN DHAN YOJANA, WORLD'S LARGEST FINANCIAL INCLUSION SCHEME, OVER 320 MILLION INDIANS, WHO HAD NEVER CROSSED THE DOOR OF A BANK BEFORE, NOW HAVE BANK ACCOUNTS. THIS HAS ENABLED THE POOR TO RECEIVE ALLOTMENTS FROM THE GOVERNMENT'S WELFARE PROGRAMMES INTO THEIR PERSONAL ACCOUNTS, THROUGH DIRECT BENEFIT TRANSFER, WHICH HAS ENDED WASTE AND CORRUPTION IN THE SYSTEM.

Addressing the 73rd session of the United Nations General Assembly Ms. Sushma Swaraj said that The United Nations is the world's premier multilateral organization:

1: where nations seek balm for the wounds of history, and a platform for solutions.

2: where less developed nations sit with their more fortunate brethren to formulate plans that can correct the skewed economic imbalance.

3: where new goals are set, and route maps defined, to make our world a better place.”

“In 2015, we established 2030 as a critically important horizon for 17 Sustainable Development Goals. A common refrain, from 2015, has been that we will reach that horizon only if India finds its way to this destination. Otherwise, we shall fail. I assure this august gathering through you, Madam, that India will

not let you fail. We are totally committed to achieving these objectives for our own people. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India has initiated unprecedented economic and social transformation that will help India achieve its SDG goals much before time.”Said Ms. Swaraj.

Offering a few glimpses of evidence to illustrate India's world's biggest exercise in poverty elimination and social transformation she said:

“Through the Jan Dhan Yojana, world's largest financial inclusion scheme, over 320 million Indians, who had never crossed the door of a bank before, now have bank accounts. This has enabled the poor to receive allotments from the government's welfare programmes into their personal accounts, through Direct Benefit Transfer, which has ended waste and corruption in the system. Ayushman Bharat, the world's biggest health insurance programme, was launched by Prime Minister Modi a few days ago on 23rd September. This revolutionary scheme will benefit 500 million Indians, who will get an insurance cover of Rs. 500,000 per family per year. We have a prayer in India: SarveSantuNiramaya, which means, all should be healthy. The Aayushman Bharat Yojana is the answer to this prayer. Similarly, we have launched the largest housing scheme in the world aimed at ensuring that everyone has a roof above their heads. Under the scheme, we have set ourselves a target of nearly 21 million homes by 2022. So far, over five million homes for the poor have already been constructed.”

She further said, “two extremely effective schemes have been initiated to raise the skill levels of those waiting to be employed through Skill Development Programme and to turn the poor into entrepreneurs, through the Mudra Programme. I want to stress that over 140 million Indians have taken Mudra loans. The most significant aspect of Mudra scheme



■ Sushma Swaraj at 73rd United Nations General Assembly in New York

is that 76% of the beneficiaries are women. At the heart of Prime Minister Modi's transformative vision is a radical idea: that the uplift of any nation is best achieved through the all-round empowerment of women. All the schemes that I have just spoken about have the welfare of women at their core. Last year, I spoke about the Ujjawala scheme, in which I am happy to report 50 million free gas connections have been provided so far.

Another such initiative is the Maternity Benefit Scheme, in which women get 26 weeks of paid leave to care for their newborn. Madame President, as a woman, you will understand better than most how vitally important this programme is for every mother. Some developed nations with huge economies do not offer more than six weeks paid leave, leading to a continuing struggle for more time off. In India, we have implemented what women across the world need."

Speaking about New India Minister Sushma Swaraj spoke "In 2022, free India will be 75 years old. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has pledged to build a New India by then. This New India will be:

1: Swachh Bharat, Swasth Bharat (Clean India, Healthy India);

2: Samarth Bharat, Surakshit Bharat (Prosperous India, Secure India);

3: Shikshit Bharat, Viksit Bharat (Educated India, Developed India);

4: Urjawan Bharat, Shaktiman Bharat (Energised India, Strong India).

That is our horizon for India in 2022. We will reach that horizon."

Speaking about the challenge of existential threats of climate change and terrorism. She said

"Under-developed and developing nations are the worst victim of climate change. They have neither the capacity nor the resources to meet this crisis. Those who have exploited nature for their immediate needs cannot abdicate their responsibilities. If we have to save the world from the adverse effects of climate change, then developed nations must lift the deprived with financial and technical resources. The principle of common and differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities was reiterated in the 2015 Paris Agreement.

India has risen to meet the challenge of climate change. Prime Minister Modi in partnership with France launched the International Solar



■ Reform of United Nations must begin Today; Tomorrow could be too late

Alliance. The United Nations has recognized their contributions and conferred on Prime Minister Modi and President Macron the honour of UN Champions of the Earth

On Terrorism she strongly spoke, "I had described terrorism as the second existential threat to humanity. We imagined that the arrival of the 21st Century would bring with it an age of common good, defined by cooperation in the quest for peace and prosperity. But here in New York, the horrific tragedy of 9/11 and in Mumbai the catastrophe of 26/11 became the nightmares that shattered our dreams. The demon of terrorism now stalks the world, at a faster pace somewhere, a slower pace elsewhere, but life-threatening everywhere. In our case, terrorism is bred not in some faraway land, but across our border to the west. Our neighbour's expertise is not restricted to spawning grounds for terrorism; it is also an expert in trying to mask malevolence with verbal duplicity. The most startling evidence of this duplicity was the fact that Osama Bin Laden, the architect and ideologue of 9/11 was given safe haven in Pakistan. America had declared Osama bin Laden it's most dangerous enemy, and launched an exhaustive, worldwide search to

ANOTHER SUCH INITIATIVE IS THE MATERNITY BENEFIT SCHEME, IN WHICH WOMEN GET 26 WEEKS OF PAID LEAVE TO CARE FOR THEIR NEWBORN. MADAME PRESIDENT, AS A WOMAN, YOU WILL UNDERSTAND BETTER THAN MOST HOW VITALLY IMPORTANT THIS PROGRAMME IS FOR EVERY MOTHER. SOME DEVELOPED NATIONS WITH HUGE ECONOMIES DO NOT OFFER MORE THAN SIX WEEKS PAID LEAVE, LEADING TO A CONTINUING STRUGGLE FOR MORE TIME OFF. IN INDIA, WE HAVE IMPLEMENTED WHAT WOMEN ACROSS THE WORLD NEED."



India Willing To Take Lead in Combating Climate Action

Sushma Swaraj at the high level meeting on climate change convened by UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres during the 73rd session of the UN General Assembly said, India is the sixth largest producer of renewable energy, and fifth largest producer of solar energy in the world.

For its part to fight climate change, it has set a target of generating 175 Giga Watts of solar and wind energy by 2022, Ms Swaraj said.

For its part to fight climate change, it has set a target of generating 175 Giga Watts of solar and wind energy by 2022, she said.

She also told the UN meeting that India will reduce the emission intensity of its GDP by 25 per cent over 2005 levels by 2020, and further by 33-35 per cent by 2030. "India is a firm believer in multilateralism," she said, adding that the International Solar Alliance (ISA) launched with France, has been already signed by 68 countries. The alliance aims to mobilise technology and finances to lower unit cost

bring him to justice. What America perhaps could not comprehend was that Osama would get sanctuary in a country that claimed to be America's friend and ally: Pakistan. Eventually, America's intelligence services discovered the truth of this hypocrisy, and its special forces delivered justice. But Pakistan continued to behave as if nothing had happened. Pakistan's commitment to terrorism as an instrument of official policy has not abated one bit. Neither has its belief in

hypocrisy. The killers of 9/11 met their fate; but the mastermind of 26/11 Hafiz Saeed still roams the streets of Pakistan with impunity. What is heartening is that the world is no longer ready to believe Islamabad. FATF, for instance, has put Pakistan on notice over terror funding."

About Reform of the United Nations which is long overdue, Indian Foreign Minister Ms. Sushma Swaraj spoke in clear words to the members of UNGA:

"I began by highlighting the unique and positive role of the UN: but I must add that step by slow step, the importance, influence, respect and value of this institution is beginning to ebb. It is time to wonder if we are wandering towards the fate of the League of Nations. If 2030 is the agreed deadline for delivery on Sustainable Development Goals, then it also marks hundred years of the lapse of the League into irrelevance. Surely there is something to learn from this coincidence? The League went into meltdown because it was unwilling to accept the need for reform. We must not make that mistake. The United Nations must accept that it needs fundamental reform. Reform cannot be cosmetic. We need change the institution's head and heart to make both compatible to contemporary reality.

Reform of United Nations must begin Today; Tomorrow could be too late

Reform must begin today; tomorrow could be too late. If the UN is ineffective, the whole concept of multilateralism will collapse. In this session, there has been much debate about multilateralism. We will never weaken the multilateral mechanism. India believes that the world is a family, and the best means of resolution is shared discourse. A family is shaped by love and is not transactional; a family is nurtured by consideration not greed; a family believes in harmony not jealousy. Greed breeds conflict; consideration leads to resolution. That is why the United Nations must be based on the principles of the family. The UN cannot be run by the 'I', it only works by the 'We'.

India does not believe that the United Nations should become the instrument of a few at the cost of the many. India believes that we must move forward together or we sink into the swamp of stagnation.

We have to make this assembly into a platform of understanding, assistance and true justice. We have to understand the pain of other nations, and work with developed nations to ease and eliminate this pain. Arrogance has no place in our scheme of things; arrogance is counter-productive and self-defeating. Let us work for the benefit of the less fortunate. Let us work for a world where there is peace, serenity and shared prosperity; a world that is free from terrorism, tension and violence."

PEOPLE AND UN BUREAU



World Economic Forum Launch Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution India

THE WORLD Economic Forum, the International Organization for Public-Private Cooperation on 11th October opened the new Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution India. The Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution India will work in collaboration with the government on a national level to co-design new policy frameworks and protocols for emerging technology alongside leaders from business, academia, start-ups and international organizations. The National Institute for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog will coordinate the partnership on behalf of the government and the work of the centre among multiple ministries.

“The Fourth Industrial Revolution will change how we produce, how we consume, how we communicate and even how we live”, said Klaus Schwab, Founder and Executive Chairman of the World Economic Forum. “To make the technological progress human centred, we must pro-actively work together and create the necessary essential principles and policy standards to ensure that we use the full potential for better lives. India is becoming a big technological global force and that’s why I am especially proud to announce the Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution India.”

Initial efforts at the national level are focused on two emerging technology areas:



HIGHLIGHTS

- Emerging fields, including AI, Machine Learning, IoT, Blockchain and Big Data can take India to new heights of development and improve the quality of life of its citizens:
- Industry 4.0 has the strength to drive irreversible positive change in India
- Fourth Industrial revolution will help bring the required speed and scale to work being done in India:
- From 'local solution' to 'global application'...We are moving ahead on this path.
- India's contribution towards the fourth industrial revolution would leave the world stunned: #DigitalIndia has brought data to the villages; India has the highest mobile data consumption in the world and is also the country where data is available at the lowest price

Artificial intelligence and machine learning, and blockchain and distributed ledger technology. The first project will focus on expanding access to data to accelerate the adoption of artificial intelligence to tackle some of the country's most pressing socio-economic needs, such as education, healthcare and agriculture. The second will focus on the application of smart contracts to boost productivity and transparency while reducing inefficiency.

The Government of Maharashtra in collaboration with the Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution India is planning to undertake a drone mapping operation in the agriculture sector. A multi stakeholder group of government departments, private sector and civil society groups, including farmer organizations, will co-design a data platform where the data can be used, combined with data from other sources, and analyzed to increase efficiency and improve crop yields in a way that is responsible and equitable.

"The Government of Maharashtra is partnering with the Centre of Fourth Industrial Revolution India to work on the Agriculture and Drones project," According

to Devendra Gangadharrao Fadnavis, Chief Minister of Maharashtra. "For the first time, we will undertake a project on drones to collect the data that will enable us to improve crop productivity, crop disease surveillance, agriculture prediction and how to advise farmers on appropriate farming practices. Drones have the potential to revolutionize the agriculture sector. This project will coincide with India's new drones policy and will showcase how drones can help tackle some of society's toughest challenges. This model could be scaled across India and globally."

Projects will be scaled across India and globally. As part of the World Economic Forum's global network, the Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution India will work closely with project teams in San Francisco, Tokyo and Beijing to share findings and accelerate impact.

The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi addressing the event to mark the launch of the Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution on 11th October, said the components of "Industry 4.0" actually have the ability to transform the present and future of human life. He said the launch of this Centre, the fourth in the world after San Francisco, Tokyo and Beijing, opens the door to immense possibilities in the future.

He said emerging fields, including Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Internet of Things, Blockchain, and Big Data, can take India to new heights of development, and improve the quality of life of its citizens. He said that for India, this is not just an industrial transformation, but a social transformation. He said Industry 4.0 has the strength to drive irreversible positive change in India. He added that it will help bring the required speed and scale to work being done in India.

The Prime Minister mentioned how the Digital India movement has brought data to villages of India. He explained how tele-density, internet coverage, and mobile internet subscriptions have increased in the recent past. He spoke of the rapid growth in number of Common Service



Centres in India. He said that India has the highest mobile data consumption in the world, and is also the country where data is available at the lowest price. In this context he spoke of India's digital infrastructure, and its interfaces including Aadhaar, UPI, e-NAM, and GeM. He said that a national strategy for creating a robust infrastructure for research in Artificial Intelligence has been prepared a few months ago.

He said this new Centre will strengthen this process. He said that Industry 4.0, and the expansion of Artificial Intelligence, would lead to better healthcare, and reduce expenditure on health. He said it would also help farmers, and be of immense help in the agriculture sector. He mentioned other areas such as transportation and smart mobility, where it could play a key role. He said that as work progresses in India, in these areas, one of the targets is "Solve for India, Solve for the World."

The Prime Minister expressed confidence that India would be able to take advantage of the fourth Industrial Revolution. He added that India would also make an immense con-



■ Prime Minister Narendra Modi with founder and chairman of the World Economic Forum Klaus Schwab

tribution to it. He said that Government initiatives including Skill India Mission, Start Up India, and Atal Innovation Mission are preparing our youth for new and emerging technologies. ■

■ The distinguished guests

HE SAID THIS NEW CENTRE WILL STRENGTHEN THIS PROCESS. HE SAID THAT INDUSTRY 4.0, AND THE EXPANSION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, WOULD LEAD TO BETTER HEALTHCARE, AND REDUCE EXPENDITURE ON HEALTH. HE SAID IT WOULD ALSO HELP FARMERS, AND BE OF IMMENSE HELP IN THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR.



■ Ganga aarti - at triveni ghaat

RISHIKESH 'The Yoga Capital of the World'



■ Suresh Srivastava

RECENTLY, I attended a yogic discourse at Yoga Centre at Rishikesh on 'Peace through yoga'. Nestled in the lap of nature located in the foot hills of Himalayas and is home to lush greenery, pristine water and fresh air, named Rishikesh an avatar of Lord Vishnu in the Himalayan foothills

beside the holy Ganga it is a renowned centre for Yoga , Temples, Ashrams, Alcohol free and vegetarian town. It is also called gateway to Garhwal and is famous for rafting, buggy jumping, paragliding, ramjhula, lakshman-jhula, Bharat mandir, Rajaji National Park for wildlife, Parmarth Niketan Temple, Neeragarh Water fall, Patna Water Fall, Sivananda Ashram, Geeta Bhawan, Mharishi Mahesh Yogi Ashram,



The Beatles Ashram and Swarg Ashram. Here the Ganga leaves Shivalik Hills and flows into the plains of Northern India. It is also pious for the reason that it is a starting point for pilgrimage to Char-Dham yatra to Badrinath, Kedaarnath, Gangotri and Yomunotri. Legends state that Lord Rama did penance here for killing Ravana and Laxman crossed Ganga at a point where the present 'Laxman Jhoola' stands today. Rishikesh is known as the Yoga capital of the world. It is believed that meditation in Rishikesh brings one closure to attainment of Moksha. The Ganga aarti performed at dusk at Triveni Ghat is a popular destination of all the visitors, similarly Neelkanth Mahadev Temple and Vashistha Cave is also a very popular visiting site. After establishing itself as yoga capital of the world it is thronged by visitors from

USA, Europe, China, Australia and even from Middle East to learn Aasana's and Kriya's that will help them to lead a healthy and peaceful life.

Thousands of Yogi's and Guru's have spent their lives of solemnity here and all of them have added to this spiritual energy of Rishikesh which is one of the holiest places for Hindus and that is the reason many sages and saint have mastered in Yogik art like spiritual guru Vashistha, Adiguru, Neelkantha, Swami Shivanand and Swami Dayanand Saraswati. Even the Beatles, John Lennon, Mike Love, The Beach Boys and the Prince of Wales were attracted towards this holy place, because Rishikesh has such a rich Yoga and Spiritual Heritage to attract people from all over the world.

In the yogic discourse the main thrust was, how to bring peace and enrich the knowledge of the world through Yoga and need to provide more information

It was just a proposal but the UNGA considered the initiation of the spiritual practice around the world and decided to bestow it with the significance it deserves in the form of the International Yoga Day. In the initial stage before June 21 was recognised as the International Yoga Day, informal consultations on the draft resolution entitled "International Day of Yoga" was held on October 14, 2014.

Two months later, on December 11, India's Permanent Representative Asoke Mukherji introduced the draft resolution in UNGA. The draft received the support from 177 Member States who sponsored the text, which was adopted without a vote. While this initiative found support in many global leaders, 177 nations co-sponsored the resolution, the highest number of co-sponsors ever for any UNGA resolution of such nature.

The United Nations adopted this resolution after noting the importance of individuals and populations making healthier choices and following lifestyle patterns that foster good health. It was also felt that global health is a long-term development objective that requires closer international cooperation through the exchange of best practices

IT WAS JUST A PROPOSAL BUT THE UNGA CONSIDERED THE INITIATION OF THE SPIRITUAL PRACTICE AROUND THE WORLD AND DECIDED TO BESTOW IT WITH THE SIGNIFICANCE IT DESERVES IN THE FORM OF THE INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY. IN THE INITIAL STAGE BEFORE JUNE 21 WAS RECOGNISED AS THE INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY, INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON THE DRAFT RESOLUTION ENTITLED "INTERNATIONAL DAY OF YOGA" WAS HELD ON OCTOBER 14, 2014. TWO MONTHS LATER, ON DECEMBER 11, INDIA'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE ASOKE MUKHERJI INTRODUCED THE DRAFT RESOLUTION IN UNGA. THE DRAFT RECEIVED THE SUPPORT FROM 177 MEMBER STATES WHO SPONSORED THE TEXT, WHICH WAS ADOPTED WITHOUT A VOTE. WHILE THIS INITIATIVE FOUND SUPPORT IN MANY GLOBAL LEADERS, 177 NATIONS CO-SPONSORED THE RESOLUTION, THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF CO-SPONSORS EVER FOR ANY UNGA RESOLUTION OF SUCH NATURE.



■ LAKSHMAN JHULA

**THE UNITED NATIONS
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aimed at building better individual lifestyles devoid of excesses of all kinds. The United Nations recognized that yoga provides a holistic approach to health and well-being and further recognized that wider dissemination of information about the benefits of practicing yoga would be beneficial for the health of the world population.

The United Nations declared June 21 as the International Yoga Day on December 11, 2014. The first International Yoga Day function held on June 21, 2015, at Rajpath in the national capital witnessed Shri Narendra Modi performing Yoga along with over 200 million people across the country and over 37,000 people in Delhi alone in the presence of the Prime Minister.

IFUNA is also proud of the fact that tak-

ing the lead the West Bengal UNA organized yoga day in Kolkatta. Shri Sita Ram Sharma and Shri Saugata Roy were the participant along with large number of enthusiastic participants.

About the practice of Yoga. It was emphasis that Yoga can be practiced anywhere at any time no matter what level of practice you are in because it requires no equipments. Yoga seems to be a hard practice to many people, but once you venture into it, you will be amazed by the fact that any one is capable of doing it. Yoga is an ancient physical, mental and spiritual practice that originated in India. The world yoga drives from Sanskrit and means to join or to unite, symbolizing the union of body and consciousness.

Till recently yoga was popular but was



■ RISHIKESH

not known throughout the world. Thanks to the efforts of our Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi who took the initiative to pursue the whole world to recognize importance of yoga in making healthier life style and foster good health.

It has been four long years since June 21, when yoga was recognised as an International day by the United Nations. This all started on September 27 in the year when Prime Minister Narendra Modi suggested that June 21, the longest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere, should be made the International Day of Yoga as it shares special significance in many parts of the world. In his address at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), Shri Narendra Modi said:

“Yoga is an invaluable gift of India’s ancient tradition. It embodies unity of mind and body;

thought and action; restraint and fulfilment; harmony between man and nature; a holistic approach to health and well-being. It is not about exercise but to discover the sense of oneness with yourself, the world and the nature. By changing our lifestyle and creating consciousness, it can help in well being. Let us work towards adopting an International Yoga Day.”

From the perspective of yoga, the summer solstice marks the transition to Dakshinayana. Dakshinayana is the six-month period between the Summer solstice and winter solstice. The first full moon after the Summer solstice is known as Guru Poornima. Dakshinayana is also considered a time when there is a natural support for those pursuing spiritual practices such as Yoga.

Lord Shiva is said to have begun imparting the knowledge of yoga to the mankind on this day ■

“YOGA IS AN INVALUABLE GIFT OF INDIA’S ANCIENT TRADITION. IT EMBODIES UNITY OF MIND AND BODY; THOUGHT AND ACTION; RESTRAINT AND FULFILMENT; HARMONY BETWEEN MAN AND NATURE; A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO HEALTH AND WELL-BEING.

‘Eggs and tea for the Horses’



By Chander P Mahajan

To the Tibetans the horse represents a very sacred animal, thought to be a spiritual communicator, messenger, and carrier. It symbolizes stamina, endurance, beauty, elegance and freedom and will bring these things to the owner. The Tibetan name is “Tasso” meaning Windhorse.



Tibetan windhorse

Credit: Wikimedia Commons

‘We kept horses, mules cows and dzomos (crosses between yaks and cows). Tibetan mastiff was tied to a post to guard the house against intruders.’

‘My father was especially fond of horses, and used to ride a great deal, and he had a talent for choosing good horses, and for healing them when they were sick. Despite our changed circumstances, he still kept up his interest in horses. He would still go out to feed his own horses every morning before he took any food himself, and now that he could afford it he gave them eggs and tea to strengthen them. And when I was in the Summer Palace, where the Dalai Lama’s stables were situated, and he came to see me there, I think he often went to call on my horses before he came to call on me’.

Domesticated yaks have been kept for thousands of years. That day, 15th October, 2018, Yak dance was one of the best performances in a wonderful programme, hosted by Mr. Tenzin Norbu, the Chief Representative of Tibetans for Himachal. “Yak is as important in Tibet as is camel in Rajasthan’ Said Mr. Sonam Norbu Dagpo, secretary, International Relations, while we were in ‘Thank You India’ ‘THANK YOU HIMACHAL’ celebrations at The Ridge, Shimla. I was incidentally reminded of the 1913, Conference at Simla (now Shimla), in India, when Chinese, Tibetans the British initialed a draft convention; Where in ‘Britain and China were to respect the territorial integrity of Tibet, not to send troops into Tibet, and not to interfere with the administration of the Tibetan government.’

‘When I was ill to ride a horse, my followers helped me on to the broad back of a dzomo

which is an equable animal with an easy gait.' H H recollects in his memoirs of Escape.

'My sister remind me that one of my solitary games was playing at starting on journeys; making up parcels and then setting off with them on a hobby-horse 'We set off a week after my fourth birthday, On my journey to Lhasa which was to last for three months and thirteen days .There were roughly fifty people and three hundred and fifty horses and mules in the caravan when it started. There were no wheeled carts or carriages in Tibet, and no roads for them; I rode in a carriage called a treljam, which is attached to two poles and carried on the backs of two mules'. The search and investigation all being in accord with the advice of the leading oracles and lamas; and finally the Assembly unanimously having confirmed that I was the reincarnation of the Dalai Lama, a proclamation declaring him to be the fourteenth Dalai Lama, came on the way.

'Then I put off my peasant clothes and was dressed in monastic robes. Henceforth, I was carried in a gilded palanquin . 'I felt as if I were in a dream. I felt as if I were in a great park covered with beautiful flowers, while soft breezes blew across it and peacocks elegantly danced before me. There was an unforgettable scent of wild flowers and a song of freedom and happiness in the air.' soon after my arrival, my Enthronement on the Lion Throne followed'

'The Potala palace made me proud of our inheritance of culture and craftsmanship, but the Norbulingka was more like a home. In the Norbulingka gardens we have grown a radish weighing twenty pounds, and cabbages so large you could not put your arms round them. There were poplars, willows and junipers, and many kinds of flowers and fruit trees: apples, pears and peaches, walnuts and apricots. We introduced plums and cherry trees while I was there. There, between my lessons, I could walk and run among the flowers and orchards, and the peacocks and the tame musk deer. And there, also in the lake, I used to feed my fishes, which would rise to the surface expectantly when they heard my footsteps.'

'My education began when I was six, I also felt an immense debt to those teachers, mostly Indians, who had given the Tibetans their



H H the Dalai Lama crossed the Indian border near Chuthangmu on Horseback in soldier's disguise.

March 31, 1959

Courtesy: Exhibition 'THANK YOU HIMACHAL' RITZ, SHIMLA 15th Oct 2018

invaluable religious doctrines, I began to think less of myself and more of others; I became aware of the CONCEPT of compassion. Later I started to teach myself English out of books.'

Tibet has many neighbours: 'With India in particular, we have had strong religious ties for the past thousand years; indeed, our alphabet was derived from Sanskrit, because when Buddhism was brought to Tibet from India there was no Tibetan script, and a script was needed so that religious works could be translated and read by Tibetans.'

'But despite these neighbourly relationships, Tibetans are a distinct and separate race. Our physical appearance and our language and customs are entirely different from those of any of our neighbours. We have no ethnological connection with anyone else in our part of Asia.'

'Perhaps the best-known quality of Tibet in the recent past was its deliberate isolation. In the world outside, LHASA is often called the Forbidden City.'

'Owing to my lowly birth, I can understand them and read their minds, and that is why I feel for them so strongly and have tried my best to improve their lot in life.'

TIBET HAS MANY NEIGHBOURS: 'WITH INDIA IN PARTICULAR, WE HAVE HAD STRONG RELIGIOUS TIES FOR THE PAST THOUSAND YEARS; INDEED, OUR ALPHABET WAS DERIVED FROM SANSKRIT, BECAUSE WHEN BUDDHISM WAS BROUGHT TO TIBET FROM INDIA THERE WAS NO TIBETAN SCRIPT, AND A SCRIPT WAS NEEDED SO THAT RELIGIOUS WORKS COULD BE TRANSLATED AND READ BY TIBETANS.'



Author with H H Dalai Lama, Aseem, Navrattan (Right), Dr. Vishav Kirti and Manu Maharaaj (left) 7th April 2000 H H Palace, Dharamshala

‘THERE ARE DIFFERENT OPINIONS AMONG BUDDHISTS ABOUT EATING MEAT; BUT IN TIBET OWING TO THE RIGOROUS CLIMATE IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO STAY HEALTHY WITHOUT EATING MEAT, TIBETANS WOULD THINK IT A SIN TO KILL ANY ANIMAL, BUT THEY DID NOT THINK IT SINFUL TO GO TO MARKET AND BUY THE MEAT OF AN ANIMAL WHICH WAS ALREADY DEAD. THE BUTCHERS WHO SLAUGHTERED THE ANIMALS WERE REGARDED AS SINNERS AND OUTCASTS.

Indeed, the whole life of the place was based on its religion . For many Tibetans material life was hard, but they were not the victims of desire.

‘Taktser (place of birth) was a farming community, and the staple food of its people was wheat flour and tsampa, which is a kind of barley meal, and meat and butter; and their drinks were buttered tea and a beer called chhang, which is made from barley. ‘

‘There are different opinions among Buddhists about eating meat; but in Tibet owing to the rigorous climate it was impossible to stay healthy without eating meat, Tibetans would think it a sin to kill any animal, but they did not think it sinful to go to market and buy the meat of an animal which was already dead. The butchers who slaughtered the animals were regarded as sinners and outcasts. Everybody, spent all his spare income, among other things, saving the lives of animals by buying them from the butchers. As per law of Karma, Beings may move up or down in these realms, for example from animal to human life or back. ‘

‘WHEN the Chinese communist armies marched into Tibet in 1950, We appealed to several of the leading nations of the world, and to the United Nations, to intervene on our behalf, but our pleas for help were rejected. We were soon overwhelmed by the armed might of China.’

‘Our inequality in the distribution of wealth was certainly not in accordance with Buddhist teaching; And feudal though the system was, it was different from any other feudal system, and in the few years when I held effective power in Tibet, I managed to make some fundamental reforms. The land should then be distributed among the peasants who already worked it. So we had made a beginning in changing our social SYSTEM from the mediaeval to the modern, so we were happy. But Chinese had come with their own communist ideas of land reform, which the Tibetan peasants disliked very much.’

‘I especially remember the five hour speech which Chou En-lai gave after he returned from the Bandung Conference, in China, before we came to the usual ending in the glorification of the achievements of the communist regime.’

‘In China, I must say that the whole country had an air of efficiency. Progress had cost the people all their individuality. They were becoming a mere homogeneous mass of humanity. Everywhere I went I found them well- organized, well-disciplined and well-controlled, so that they not only all dressed the same, men and women in drab dungarees, but all spoke the same and behaved the same, and I believe all thought the same. The people even seemed to have lost the habit of laughing spontaneously; they only seemed to laugh when they were supposed to laugh, and to sing when they were told to sing. ‘

‘A grey fog of humorless uniformity. Such utter uniformity, of course, is the formidable strength of communism; but I could not believe that the Chinese would ever succeed in reducing Tibetans to such a slavish state of mind. ‘

‘But ‘we can almost always find something to laugh about. We are as Westerners call easy-going and happy-go-lucky by nature and it is only in the most desperate circumstances that sense of humor fails us.



Norbulingka Palace, Lhasa Tibet

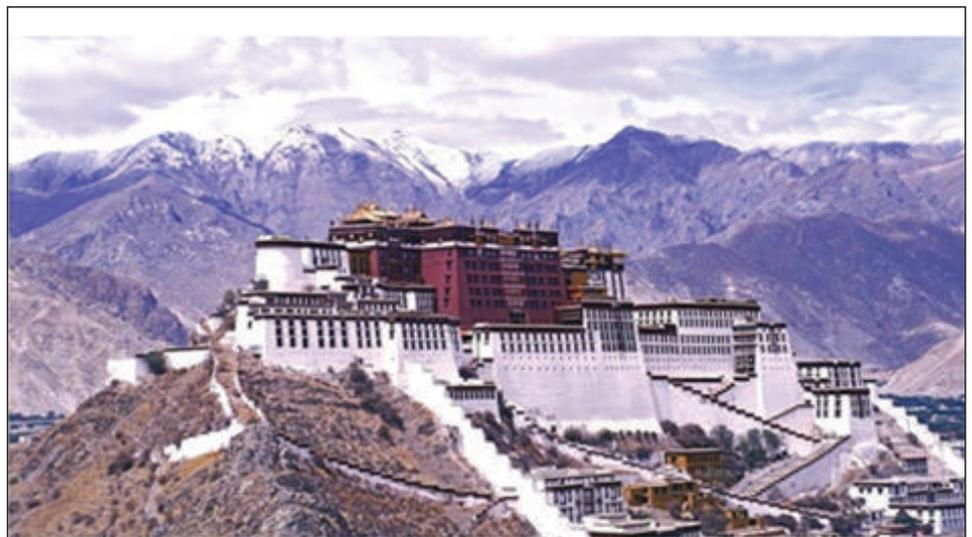
Courtesy: Mr. Tenzin Norbu, Chief Representative, Shimla

Once, during a meeting in China , 'Mao Tse-tung edged closer to me on his chair and whispered: 'I understand you very well. But of course, religion is poison. It has two great defects. It undermines the race, and secondly it retards the progress of the country. Tibet and Mongolia have both been poisoned by it.'

'While in India ,next year, it was a very pleasant surprise to hear the ordinary Indian members of parliament speaking frankly and freely, and criticizing the government in the strongest terms.'We knew other countries had faced situations like ours, and that a great fund of political wisdom and experience existed in the democratic world.'

'During March 1959 when I was amidst my final examination as Master of Metaphysics, I could hear what the people were shouting: 'The Chinese must go', 'Leave Tibet to the Tibetans'— We heard the DOOM of two heavy mortar shells fired from a nearby Chinese camp. They were convinced that if my body perished at the hands of the Chinese, the life of Tibet would also come to an end. So when the Chinese guns sounded that warning of death, there was no certainty that escape was physically possible at all '

'In soldier's clothes and a fur cap, a rifle slung on my shoulder, I took off my glasses to complete my disguise. 'As I went out, my mind was drained of all emotion. I was aware of my own sharp foot-falls on the floor of beaten earth, and the ticking of



Potala Palace, Tibet

Courtesy: Mr. Tenzin Norbu, Chief Representative, Shimla

the clock in the silence.' 'The clink of the horse shoes on the stones seemed very loud.' 'We tried to spare our ponies as much as we could all through our journey, not only because Tibetans always do, but especially because they had so far to go and there was so little fodder for them. '

Over a feast in Patna, Bihar, I asked Mr. Phasur Wangchuk , the Secretary Security to the Govt .of HH in Exile ,if H H was a vegetarian? What was their conflict with China?

From Dharamsala (H P), he sent me the book



Author with Meenakshi, Mr. Phasur Wangchuk, Secretary Security to the Govt. of H H in Exile (left) and his associates Patna, January, 2018

PRESENTLY, H H WENT ON TO CRITICISE THE US' POLICIES ON CLIMATE CHANGE, THE COUNTRY'S STANCE ON GLOBAL WARMING AND LACK OF ATTENTION TO ECOLOGY. HAVING GROWN UP AND LIVED WITH THE BEST OF ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY AROUND HIM, FROM TIBET TO HIMACHAL, THE GREAT ENVIRONMENTALIST IS SENSITIVE TO ALL SUCH ISSUES.

'My Land and My People' authored by Dalai Lama himself ; wherein I could get answers to my questions and a lot more. Excerpts from this book, make up my write -up.

Presently, H H went on to criticise the US' policies on climate change, the country's stance on global warming and lack of attention to ecology. Having grown up and lived with the best of environment and ecology around him, from Tibet to Himachal, the great environmentalist is sensitive to all such issues. So much so that he dreamt only of 'a great park covered with beautiful flowers & the dancing peacocks' on having been proclaimed as the fourteenth Dalai Lama.

He received the £1.1m Templeton Prize, in London & announced he would donate it all to

charity. The bulk of the prize money will go to Save the Children in India .Given that the 14th Dalai Lama has spent much of the past six decades preaching against the follies of material wealth it was perhaps only natural that the Dalai Lama gave away the single largest annual monetary award given to an individual.

The Dalai Lama in another message of compassion, in McLeodganj , said, "The 21st century must embrace compassion, dialogue and a new system of education that inculcate moral values to its generation."

Hailing India's thousand-year-old tradition of according respect to all religious faiths and culture, the world had much to learn from India's ancient wisdom, he says. ■

मैरी क्यूरी इंटरव्यू



बालिका मैरी के पिता भौतिकी के शिक्षक थे और माता एक विद्यालय में मुख्य अध्यापिका थीं। वह पढ़ाई के साथ-साथ घर के कामकाज में भी हाथ बंटती थी। मैरी काफी मेधावी छात्रा थीं। उनका विवाह गणित के प्रोफेसर पियरे क्यूरी के साथ हुआ और वह मैरी क्यूरी कहलाने लगीं। वह वैज्ञानिक के साथ-साथ सुघड़ गृहिणी भी थीं। सन 1903 में भौतिकी के नोबेल पुरस्कार के लिए वैज्ञानिकों में संयुक्त रूप से हेनरी बैकेरल और प्रोफेसर पियरे क्यूरी के साथ मैरी क्यूरी का भी नाम था। इसके आठ साल बाद यानी कि सन 1911 में मैरी क्यूरी को स्वतंत्र रूप से रसायन में नोबेल पुरस्कार मिला। चारों तरफ उनके नाम की चर्चा थी, लेकिन त्याग और तपस्या की प्रतिमूर्ति मैरी क्यूरी को अपनी प्रसिद्धि में अरुचि थी। एक बार एक संवाददाता उनसे मिलने के लिए उनके घर पर पहुंचा। संवाददाता ने देखा कि घर के एक कोने में एक

महिला बैठी हुई कोई काम कर रही है। संवाददाता को लगा कि वह घर का नौकरानी है और उसने सवाल किया, 'क्या आप यहां पर काम करती हैं?' उस महिला ने जवाब दिया, 'जी हां, कहिए क्या बात है?' आगंतुक ने फिर पूछा, 'क्या मालकिन घर पर हैं?' उस महिला ने कहा, 'नहीं, वह बाहर गई हैं।' 'क्या, वह जल्दी ही लौटेंगी?' महिला ने जवाब दिया, 'शायद नहीं।' तो क्या आप उनके बारे में कुछ बता सकती हैं? अपने काम में मग्न वह महिला लगातार संवाददाता के प्रश्नों का जवाब दे रही थीं। अब मैरी क्यूरी से रहा नहीं गया, उन्होंने कहा, 'वह बता गई हैं कि अगर कोई आए और उनके बारे में पूछे तो बस इतना कह देना कि किसी व्यक्ति के बारे में लोगों को उत्सुक होने की अपेक्षा उनकी विचार धाराओं में उत्सुकता रखनी चाहिए। संवाददाता अनभिज्ञ था कि जिस महिला से वह संवाद कर रहा था, वह स्वयं मैरी क्यूरी थीं। ■

हंसी का गलत मुहूर्त क्यों चुना

सुबह-सुबह टहलने के बहाने कई बार अपने परिचित ज्योतिषी के पास गया, लेकिन कभी पूछ नहीं पाया कि हमारा पत्त कब बदलेगा। उस दिन सोच कर गया कि अपनी कुंडली का हिसाब-किताब करा ही लूंगा, लेकिन एक छोटी-सी 'अनहोनी हो गई। दरअसल मेरे दिमाग में हड़बड़ी मची हुई थी और बैठे-बैठे उकता गया था। उन्हें नहीं मालूम था कि कुछ जानने आया हूं। उनके यहां कुछ और लोग आ गए थे, भविष्य जानने। अचानक किसी बात पर मुझे हंसी आ गई। हंसी तो मैंने फिर भी रोक ली, लेकिन चेहरे पर तैरी मुस्कान उन्हें दिख गई और वे बुरा मान गए। बोले, 'ज्योतिष विश्वास का शास्त्र है। यह विज्ञान-सम्मत भी है।' फिर उन्होंने रूखेपन से टिप्पणी की, 'आपकी समझ में यह बात नहीं आएगी। इसलिए कि आप ज्ञानी लोग हैं, तर्कों के घोड़े पर सवार रहते हैं।' उनके इस कॉमेंट के बाद तो मेरी जिज्ञासा के लिए कोई जगह ही नहीं बची। लेकिन अंदर से इतना परेशान था कि अपने ही घेरे को तोड़कर उनके सामने समर्पण की मुद्रा में आ गया था। मैं मध्यवर्गीय दुविधा में फंस गया। न इस पार, न उस पार। खुद को कोसने लगा कि हंसी का ऐसा गलत मुहूर्त क्यों चुना। लगा शायद इसी को ग्रह-दोष कहते हैं। रास्ता खोलने के लिए उनसे क्षमा मांगी, लेकिन वे मुंह बनाए रहे। रूखे शब्दों में कहा, 'किस दुनिया में हैं आप?' हम तो रेखाओं के साथ आदमी के जन्म के समय तक की भाषा समझते हैं, ग्रहों की काल-गणना कर भूत, वर्तमान और भविष्य बता देते हैं, आपके सिर पर छाई चिंता की रेखाएं आपकी जिंदगी को किस गर्त में ले जाएंगी, यह भी बता

सकता हूं...।' उनके उद्गार सुनकर मैं विचलित हो गया और कुछ हद तक डर भी गया। यह सचाई है कि जब कोई निराश-हताश होता है, अपने संकट के निवारण के लिए दर-दर भटकने लगता है। यही वजह थी कि मैं भी ज्योतिषी के यहां चक्कर काटने लगा था। लेकिन किसी को भी बताने का साहस नहीं कर रहा था क्योंकि परंपरावादी और अंधविश्वासी होने का लेबल चिपक जाता। इस दोहरे चरित्र के बीच फंसा मैं, सीढ़ियों से उतर ही रहा था कि साथ चल रही एक लड़की ने मजाक किया, 'पंडित जी ने आपको भी शनि-राहु से डरा दिया क्या? मेरे पिताजी को भी चेताया था, उपाय नहीं किया तो बेटी की शादी नहीं होगी। जब भी किसी लड़के की कुंडली मिलाने जाते, कोई न कोई दोष निकाल देते। एक दिन मैंने आजिज होकर कह दिया, जब जोड़ी स्वर्ग से ही बनकर आती है तो आपके कहने-सुनने से क्या हो जाएगा? इसके बाद तो ये पंडित तो मानों शाप की मुद्रा में ही आ गए।' नीचे उस लड़की ने एक हैडसम लड़के से मिलवाया और बताया कि यह उसके पति हैं, जो कभी बॉय-फ्रेंड थे। दोनों के चेहरे पर मुस्कान तैर गई थी। दोनों ने मुझे परेशान देखकर इज्जत से अपनी गाड़ी में बिठाया और बिल्डिंग का नाम पूछकर वहां पहुंचा दिया। अदब से दरवाजा खोलते हुए लड़की ने कहा, 'आप तो इतने अनुभवी हैं, फिर खुद पर भरोसा न कर, गलत दरवाजे पर दस्तक देने क्यों चले गए?' मैं चौंका, झंपते हुए सोचने लगा कि नए जमाने की समझ हमसे कितनी आगे है। यह पीढ़ी किसी भी दुविधा की गिरफ्त में नहीं है।

—आनन्द भारती नभाटा से साभार

एक विचार

कैलाश खोसला



स्टॉकहोम इंटरनैशनल पीस रिसर्च इंस्टिट्यूट की रिपोर्ट — विश्व शान्ति के लिए एक चुनौति बढ़ गई हथियार जुटाने की होड़

दुनिया भर में हथियारों की बिक्री फिर से बढ़ रही है। स्टॉकहोम इंटरनैशनल पीस रिसर्च इंस्टिट्यूट (एसआईपीआरआई) के अनुसार 2010 के बाद पहली बार 2016 में हथियारों की बिक्री में तेज बढ़ोतरी दर्ज की गई है। 2015 के मुकाबले 2016 में 1.9 प्रतिशत ज्यादा हथियार बिके, जबकि 2002 से तुलना की जाए तो यह वृद्धि 38 प्रतिशत है।

रिपोर्ट कहती है कि 2016 में दुनिया की 100 सबसे बड़ी हथियार निर्माता कंपनियों ने 374.8 अरब डॉलर के हथियार और उनसे जुड़े सिस्टम बेचे। हथियारों की बिक्री से सबसे ज्यादा फायदा अमेरिका और यूरोप की हथियार बनाने वाली कंपनियों को हो रहा है। खासकर अमेरिकी कंपनियां ज्यादा हथियार बना रही हैं और दुनिया में उन्हें बेच रही हैं। रिपोर्ट कहती है कि



लॉकहीड मार्टिन



2016 में अमेरिकी कंपनियों की बिक्री 4 प्रतिशत बढ़ी और उन्होंने 217.2 अरब डॉलर के हथियार बेचे। दुनिया भर में हथियार बनाने वाली सबसे बड़ी कंपनी लॉकहीड मार्टिन ब्रिटेन, इटली और नॉर्वे जैसे देशों को अपने नए एफ-35 लड़ाकू विमान बेचने में कामयाब रही। दुनिया भर में बिकने वाले 57.9 प्रतिशत हथियार अमेरिकी कंपनियों ने बनाए जबकि इस मामले में दूसरे नंबर पर पश्चिमी यूरोप है। इसके बाद रूस का नंबर आता है।

दुनिया भर में बिकने वाले हथियारों में उसकी हिस्सेदारी 7.1 प्रतिशत है। फ्रांस और इटली जैसे देशों के हथियारों की बिक्री कम हुई, वहीं ब्रेकिजट के बावजूद जर्मनी और ब्रिटेन की कंपनियों की बिक्री बढ़ी है। टैंक बनाने वाली जर्मन कंपनी क्राउस माफेई और बख्तरबंद गाड़ियां बनाने वाली राइनमेटल कंपनी को यूरोप, मध्य पूर्व, और दक्षिण पूर्व एशिया में अपने उत्पादों की मांग बढ़ने का फायदा हुआ है।

रिपोर्ट कहती है कि चीन भी हथियारों का बड़ा निर्माता हो सकता है लेकिन इस सूची में उसका जिक्र नहीं है क्योंकि उसके हथियार व्यापार से जुड़ा कोई विश्वसनीय डाटा विशेषज्ञों के पास नहीं था।

एसआईपीआरआई का कहना है कि हम मान कर चल रहे हैं कि चीनी कंपनियां दुनिया के 20 सबसे बड़ी हथियार निर्माता कंपनियों में शामिल हैं। एसआईपीआरआई ने अपनी रिपोर्ट में साउथ कोरिया को उभरते हुए प्रोड्यूसर के रूप में शामिल किया है। पिछले साल साउथ कोरिया ने 20.6 प्रतिशत हथियारों की बिक्री की।

जल का हल

हमने कभी पानी के मोल को नहीं समझा और देखते ही देखते पानी अनमोल हो गया। हालात ऐसे आ गए हैं कि देश में कई जगह लोग बूंद-बूंद पानी को तरसने लगे हैं। ऐसे में पानी की बचत ही भविष्य को संजो कर रखने का एक साधन बचता है। हम कैसे करे पानी की बचत? सही कहा है कि हर बदलाव की शुरुआत खुद से होती है। ऐसे में पानी को बचाने की मुहिम में सबकी बराबर की भागीदारी ही संकट से उबरने का एक उपाय है। जल बचाने के कुछ उपाय:-

जब करें ब्रश या शेव

अक्सर लोग टूथब्रश या शेव करते वक्त बेसिन में पानी के टैप को खुला छोड़ देते हैं। ऐसे न करें। इससे पानी की काफी बर्बादी होती है। मग में पानी भर कर शेविंग कर सकते हैं। इसी तरह हाथ धोते वक्त भी सोप लगाने के लिए हाथ को गीला करने के बाद टैप बंद कर दें। हाथों पर साबुन अच्छी तरह लगाने और मलने के बाद फिर से टैप चालू करें।

टपकने पर नजर

टपकता पानी देखने में कम नजर आता है लेकिन पूरे दिन में इस तरह से कई लीटर पानी बह जाता है। हो सके तो हर साल मेटैलिक टैपके वाशर बदलवा लें। लोग मेन टैप पर तो नजर रखते हैं लेकिन टॉयलेट और सिस्टर्न से टपकते पानी पर ध्यान नहीं देते। इस बात का भी पता करें कि कहीं सिस्टर्न से टॉयलेट सीट के भीतर पानी लीक तो नहीं हो रहा। यह भी देखें कि जहां पर सिस्टर्न टॉयलेट सीट से जुड़ा होता है, वह जोड़ सही है।

कपड़ों की धुलाई

हो सके तो छोटे कपड़ों की रेग्युलर धुलाई हाथों से ही करें। रोज वॉशिंग मशीन लगाने से बेहतर है, हफ्ते में 2 दिन ही लगाएं। अब मार्केट में कम पानी की खपत में कपड़े धोने वाली फ्रंट लोड मशीनें आ गई हैं, इन्हें ही खरीदें। ये मशीनें कुछ मंहगी जरूर हैं। रनिंग वॉटर पर चलने वाली ऑटोमैटिक वॉशिंग मेशीनें अमूमन पानी की खपत ज्यादा करती हैं। कमड़ों की धुलाई के बाद निकले पानी को टब में जमा कर लें। फिर इसे पोंछा लगाने और फर्श की धुलाई करने के लिए इस्तेमाल किया जा सकता है।

जब नहाने जाएं

नहाने में काफी पानी बर्बाद होता है। खासतौर पर शावर से नहाने में। बाल्टी में पानी लेकर नहाएं। बच्चे भी नहाते वक्त काफी पानी बर्बाद करते हैं। नहाने के लिए 5 मिनट का वक्त तय करें। बालों में शैंपू लगाते वक्त शावर को बंद कर दें। इस तरह से आप रोज तकरीबन 100 लीटर पानी बचा सकते हैं। ■

अपने घुटने कभी न बदलिये

50 वर्ष के बाद धीरे-धीरे शरीरके जोड़ोंमेंसे लुब्रीकेन्ट्स एवं कैल्सियम बनना कम हो जाता है, जिससे जोड़ोंका दर्द, गैप, कैल्सियमकी कमी आदि तकलीफें सामने आती हैं, जिसके चलते आधुनिक चिकित्सक आपको ज्वाइन्ट-रिप्लेसमेन्ट करवाने की सलाह देते हैं।

किंतु क्या आपको पता है, जो चीज कूदरतने हमें जिस रूपमें दी है उसे आधुनिक विज्ञान या कोई भी साइंस नहीं बना सकता है। ज्वाइन्ट-रिप्लेसमेन्टसे बचनेका एक अद्भुत उपाय यहाँ दिया जा रहा है:-

बबूल (देशी) नामके वृक्षको आपने जरूर देखा होगा, बबूलके वृक्षमें बीजसहित फली आती है, उसको तोड़कर लेकर आयेँ और उसे सुखाकर पाउडर बना लें। सुबह 1 चम्मचकी मात्रामें गुनगुने पानीसे (भोजनके पश्चात्) केवल 2-3 महीनेतक सेवन करनेसे आपके घुटनेका दर्द बिलकुल ठीक हो जायगा और आपको घुटने बदलनेकी जरूरत ही नहीं पड़ेगी।

MeToo Movement



मैरीलीन मोनरो

इस चित्र में अभिनेत्री तेज़ हवा के झोके से उड़ते हुए स्कर्ट को नीचे करते हुए दिखाती है, इस रोल को देने के लिए निर्देशक ने कई अभिनेत्रियों को बुलाया तथा जिसके सबसे सुन्दर अन्तरंग थे उसका चुनाव किया तथा वह अभिनेत्री थी मैरीलीन मोनरो।

यह एक विश्व प्रसिद्ध सीन है तथा मैरीलीन मोनरो का स्टेचू ऐसे ही रूप में हॉलीवुड में प्रस्थापित किया गया. यह सीन दिखाने का उद्देश्य कलात्मक था तथा कला-जगत में, कला के हित

में ऐसे कई सीन बनाये जाते हैं तथा निर्देशक अथवा कलाकार की केवल कला की ही भावना होती है.

इसमें कोई संदेह नहीं की, यौन उत्पीड़न एक न केवल सामाजिक बुराई है वरन गैरकानूनी भी है तथा निश्चय ही इसका विरोध सारे समाज में होना चाहिए परन्तु इसकी आड़ में राजनितिक अथवा आर्थिक उद्देश्य से प्रेरित होकर आरोप लगाना उचित नहीं है वह भी विशेषकर जबकि घटनाएं अगर हुई भी है तो 10-20 साल पुरानी घटनाओ को आज जागृत करना जबकि चुनाव सिर पर है एक राजनीतिक प्रेरित साजिश सी लगती है.

पुरुष और स्त्री का समन्वय भाव एक प्राकृतिक तथा स्वाभाविक है. इस प्रकार की घटनाओ को आंदोलन का रूप देना मानवीय विचार तथा

प्राकृतिक भाव के विरुद्ध है तथा इस प्रकार के आंदोलनों से स्त्री वर्ग को हानि पहुंचने की संभावना है और समाज के हित में नहीं है.

यदि कोई यौन उत्पीड़न की घटना होती है तो उसको एक कानूनी अपराध मानकर दंड दिया जाना चाहिए ना कि इसको एक आंदोलन का रूप देकर अपनी ख्याति अर्जित करना या कोई और लाभ उठाने का उद्देश्य हो तो उसको भी एक कानूनी अपराध मानकर दंड दिया जाना चाहिए.

कैलाश खोसला - सुरेश श्रीवास्तवा

SPIRITUAL TALK

Sant Rajinder Singh Ji Maharaj

If we look at any objects in nature or some items made by human hands, we may find there is a beauty, a symmetry, and a wholeness in their form. Whenever any object breaks, it becomes fragmented and disjointed. We feel agitated when something breaks, and we want to either discard it or piece it back together again. When anything we admire is shattered to pieces, the peace of the atmosphere and our peace of mind are disturbed.

We find that we have within us an innate sense of oneness and unity. This does not only extend to objects, but to human relations. We crave for unity in our family, among our friends, within our sports team, and within our community and country. There is peace and contentment when a mother holds her child. There is love and joy when lover and beloved meet. There is a Sense of understanding and happiness when two friends sit together. When this oneness is lacking, there is a sense of disharmony.

Unity is a condition which underlies God's creation. The peace we feel in unity is a reflection of our true state existence. It is a state in which there is only one. That original unity is God Himself. There was no division, no separation, no duality. He was a formless ocean of all consciousness, all bliss, and all Light. There was no caste, no religion, no nationality. It was only when God decided to express Himself and bring creation into being that unity became duality. What was one became many.

As part of His divine creative plan, parts of Himself were separated and sent to inhabit these worlds. These particles of His essence are called souls. They carried with them all the qualities of God: consciousness, bliss, and Light. When they were sent to the various worlds they were envired by outer bodies made of the material of the plane in which they resided. In the purely spiritual realms, they were all spirit. As they descended to regions made of matter, they were covered by layers of that same matter. Thus, on this physical plane, they reside in physical bodies. Over aeons of time, the soul became identified with the body and the region it inhabited. It has, unfortunately, forgotten its true identity as soul.

When we examine our day-to-day life, we may question how it is possible to realize our true self and God. So many years of our life have already passed and we have not gained any such awareness. Like any field of learning, we need to have the proper education, an experienced teacher, and the right technique. Spiritual knowledge of our soul and God is available to each of us. It has been accessible to people in all times. There are many fortunate people who have discovered the unity and peace within themselves. Having found their true selves and the Creator, they are often moved to share their experience with their fellow beings. The bliss they enjoy is so great they want everyone else to experience it as well. These compassionate souls are known by us as saints, mystics, prophets, or spiritual teachers. They want to eliminate the suffering in this world caused by ignorance of our true nature.

They all used a method of inversion to find their true selves. In var-

ious scriptures they may refer to this as prayer, contemplation, worship, or meditation. Whatever it is called, the process is the same. We must concentrate our attention within us. When great saints and mystics came to this world, they taught this technique to their disciples. Unfortunately, after they left the world, their original instructions, which were usually passed on by word of mouth secretly to their disciples, were lost. Thus, all we are left with are the outer rites and rituals which we follow at our various churches, temples, and other places of worship. We are fortunate that in modern times we have access to meditation instructions. These instructions are available to humanity at large and hundreds of thousands of people have benefitted from them. Through

meditation we can tap into the fount of bliss, Light, and joy within us and return to our original state of Unity with God.

It is difficult to describe - using the limitations of human language - the absolute ecstasy one experiences when one becomes reunited with God. There is a peace, satisfaction, and harmony which fills us so completely. The soul achieves its ultimate fulfilment and rests eternally in joy and happiness. The only comparison that gives us some concept of what this rapturous state is like is the happiness a parent feels when its child is in its arms, or of the nuptial union of a bride and bridegroom. Even these are pale comparisons of the delight the soul experiences when returned to the lap of God.

A great realization dawns on the soul that attains union with God. It recognizes itself as a soul which has merged with the Oversoul. It begins to see the Light of the soul in all other beings. Its spiritual vision is fully opened and it sees all life as a part of God. It realizes that every soul in creation is a child of God and is its own brother and sister as well. A love wells up in such a soul for all creation. When it looks at

another human being, or an animal, or plant, it sees the Light of God shining within it. Just as we have an innate love for our close family members, we begin to love all creation with that same love.

Many noble-hearted souls have been calling for human unity. This trend has gained in momentum over the last few decades. Yet, despite the popular growth in movements for unity, we still find conflict and discord in the world. Speeches and conferences are motivated by high ideals. They inspire the participants to turn their attention to the goal of oneness. But unity comes about only at the personal level, when each one experiences it for one's self. When we merge in God and see the Light of God in every being, we have truly realized unity. It then becomes easy for us to love all, because we see our own self in each being. If we truly wish to achieve human oneness, we must first experience it ourselves. Just imagine what a beautiful world we would have if every person saw God's Light in every other form of creation! We could then exclaim as Sant Darshan Singh did in one of his exquisite verses:

*I have learned to cherish all creation as my own,
Your message of love is the very meaning of my life.*

Rediscovering our Unity





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