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Prof. S.P. Kanal, Incharge, Department of Literature, Dev Samaj,  
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*Paul*

*Freedom From  
Slavery to  
Lower Forces &  
Higher Evolution of  
Man*

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*translation of a lecture delivered by  
of Dev Samaj on December 22, 1915  
on the occasion of His 65th Birth Anniversary.*

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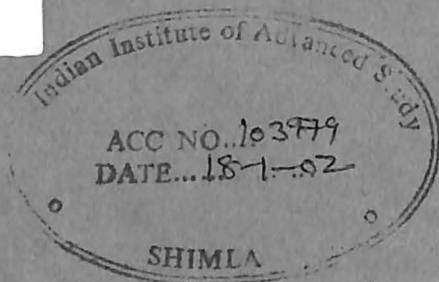


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## *Man's Spiritual Slavery*

### **Introduction**

In the course of ceaseless change going on in Nature, some generations of men have undergone change for the worse, whereby the human society has suffered great ruin and destruction, while some other generations of men have changed for the better. Among the latter some people have been born from time to time, who have done some good to society in one way or another, so that with the increase of man's knowledge of Nature, many things which add to various kinds of physical comforts of man, and abate or remove his physical pain, disease or deformity or protect him from injuries, have been invented and manufactured, and such inventions are still going on. They have also constructed various kinds of fast going conveyances, discovered various kinds of medicines and appliances for the treatment of different kinds of diseases, made various kinds of instruments to carry on scientific investigations, invented various kinds of weapons and other diverse means, for offensive or defensive purposes. Besides these, they have also made wonderful progress in the various kinds of arts and designs for the erection of houses of different styles or bridging the rivers, communicating with people at a distance of thousands of miles, and discovering various means of comforts in connection with eating, drinking, dressing, and travelling etc. All these are wonderful manifestations of man's intellectual and other powers.

Again, man's search after knowledge, his investigations and discoveries in the domain of natural sciences, establishment of

different kinds of institutions for the propagation and progress of general knowledge or for the cultivation of arts and industries or for relieving the ills and miseries of man and increasing his enjoyments—these too are remarkable proofs of man's reasoning powers prompted by one or another of his higher or lower feelings. Then, the various kinds of more or less perfect forms of governments and laws to maintain peace and order in society, that have evolved with the gradual rise of man in the scale of *morality* and other aspects of civilization, are also commendable.

All this is one side—the bright side—of humanity. But there is another side, too—a dark side—of awful woe and misery, sin and destruction caused by his having become a bond *slave to various lower forces of his nature*. This salvery of lower forces is not only *most injurious to man's soul or life-power*—a subject which has been amply dealt with in the different writings of Devatma—but it has produced and is producing so much havoc in human society, and causing so much harm to *man's life, health, property, dwellings or habitations, wealth and trade, right liberties, right relationship and peace and happiness*, that it is absolutely impossible either to adequately realize it or fully describe it! The various kinds of *slaveries*, which lead to most destructive and horrible *spiritual diseases* in man, and prove most injurious to him in various other ways. are as follows :—

### **1—The Salvery to False Beliefs and Dogmas.**

All such beliefs of man, as are the product of his *unbridled imagination* and are *contrary to facts and laws of Nature* are called his *false beliefs* and *dogmas*.

Among these, those that give wrong notions about man's own existence here or about his life hereafter, are called *false religious beliefs*. How ruinous these faiths have proved in the past and how destructive they are proving at present for the human world, as well as for the animal world etc., it is difficult to fully realize. Some of the harmful results of these *false beliefs* are :—

(1) On account of these *false beliefs*, many persons *consider* their spirit or *soul* (which is the essential part of their existence) *as simply the result of the combination of different atoms of matter*, which would necessarily dissolve away with their physical dissolution called death. Thus being perfectly in the dark regarding the true nature of soul and the true object of life, they make *pleasure* as their object and thereby not only ruin their inner self, but their material bodies also.

(2) On account of these *false beliefs*, great many people observe *improper fasts*, suffer various kinds of *improper physical discomforts*, and *torture* their bodies in different ways, and injure their *physical health* in vain.

(3) On account of these *false beliefs*, great many persons neglect *proper medical treatment* when they themselves or their relatives fall ill and by depending upon the favours of some imaginary Being or having recourse to many kinds of charms etc. either increase their illness or cause their *premature death*.

(4) On account of these *false beliefs*, great many persons desirous of having *offspring* commit many kinds of very *improper and harmful acts*.

(5) On account of these *false beliefs*, great many persons do many improper and *harmful things at or after the death of their relatives*.

(6) On account of these *false beliefs*, great many people do many *absurd and harmful things to preserve* the health or *life of their children*.

(7) On account of these *false beliefs*, great many people have recourse to a lot of *absurd and useless* or even *harmful* readings, recitations (*jap*), prayers etc. for the attainment of one or other lower object.

(8) On account of these *false beliefs*, great many people do many *improper deeds* and commit *sinful and criminal acts* to obtain progeny, success in business, or happiness in the next world or a fictitious *next birth*.

(9) On account of these *false beliefs*, many people in India ruin the lives of their own daughters by offering them as

'*Murlis*' in temples, where they, as a rule, lead most immoral lives.

(10) On account of these *false beliefs*, many people dedicate their boys to temples where they lead *idle* and *useless lives* at the expense of the charities of others.

(11) On account of these *false beliefs*, great many people are addicted to *intoxicants*, such as *bhang*, *ganja* (hemp) and wine etc., considering them as things in which their *gods* indulge.

(12) On account of these *false beliefs*, millions of people worship one or another imaginary deity and *waste much of their time and energy* in various false devotional exercises to obtain their imaginary deity's fanciful *approbation* or to propitiate his or her *wrath*.

(13) On account of these *false beliefs*, lacs of people, who as pilgrims to the so-called sacred places, waste lacs of rupees there in useless ceremonies and wrong charity.

(14) On account of these *false beliefs*, thousands of people *renounce their wives and families* and wilfully *neglect* their sacred *duties* in their relation.

(15) On account of these *false beliefs*, lacs of able-bodied persons called Sadhus in India, having abandoned their homes and families and *all useful avocations*, are wasting their lives in idleness and indulging in one or other *intoxicant* and throwing the *burden of crores of rupees* for their maintenance and other expenses on the shoulders of their countrymen, who are also victims to such *false beliefs*.

(16) On account of these *false beliefs*, lacs of men called *priests*, who are able-bodied, but lead wholly *useless and selfish lives*, are fed and pampered.

(17) On account of these *false beliefs*, and the *bias and bigotry* begotten of them, great many people of one sect, never help in any way *any good work* or beneficent institution of *another sect*, but on the contrary wish and try to *harm* it.

(18) On account of these *false beliefs*, great many people of one sect entertain and spread *hatred* by false accusations

against other people, who hold *different beliefs*, and thus create mutual *discord and ill feelings*.

(19) On account of these *false beliefs*, many people of one sect try in various ways to *persecute* and do *harm* to men of *other faiths*.

(20) On account of these *false beliefs*, many people of different sects in order to screen the objectionable aspects of their founder or leader's life and with a view to defend his *wrong teachings* and *wrong acts* try to malign the founder or leader of another sect and *misrepresent* his *life* or *right teachings* and good work.

(21) On account of these *false beliefs*, many people wrongly consider men of certain *professions* or *classes* or *colours* as *superior* and others as *inferior*, and do *wrong* to these *so-called* inferiors.

(22) On account of these *false beliefs*, men of this or that sect have *bitterly persecuted* and inflicted various kinds of *tortures* on men of different faiths, for *no other reason* than that they held beliefs different from those of their *persecutors*.

(23) On account of these *false beliefs*, thousands of men having considered it the mandate of their one or other god or deity, have *murdered* the so-called infidels or disbelievers and *demolished* their places of *worship*, *forced them to accept their faith*, *plundered* their *houses* and *villages*, and made them or their wives and children *slaves* and *sold* them like cattle !

(24) On account of these *false beliefs*, people of many races have waged so-called religious wars (*crusades* or *jehads* &c) against men of different faiths, killed thousands of them and thereby rendered thousands of persons as *widows* or *orphans*.

(25) On account of these *false beliefs*, thousands of people of one sect have most barbarously *burned alive* men of *other sects* or cut short their existences in various other *barbarous and horrible* ways. People professing the same religion have *burnt or murdered* those, who differed in any article of their belief.

(26) On account of these *false beliefs*, great many women have, on the death of their husbands, burned *themselves alive* on their *funeral pyres* or have been so *burnt alive* by others. ,

(27) On account of these *false beliefs*, lacs of men have *slaughtered* and do *slaughter* even now, *millions of poor innocent and useful animals* for offering *sacrifices* to please their deities or to feed themselves on their flesh.

Such are the most dreadful and horrible results of these *false beliefs*, and hence the sooner humanity gets rid of them, the better for it.

## II—Slavery to Lower Desires.

Man possesses various kinds of *lower desires*. He either receives by *heredity* one or more of these in an *overpowering degree*, or himself develops them to such an extent that even *if by gratifying them he does harm to himself or to others*, he is *powerless to restrain* himself. Why? Because he is under their entire *control* or bondage. Thus often, in spite of his *knowledge*, he goes astray and feels *compelled to commit certain sins and crimes* in relation to himself or others. This is called *slavery to lower desires*. It is most deplorable and despicable, in as much as it brings various kinds of ruin upon individuals and communities, as well as upon *sub-human kingdoms*.

One comes across such *slavery to lower desires*, in persons of every creed, colour, class or community in this world. To believe, then—as many people do believe—that man is born a *free being* and is *quite free* to choose between right and wrong acts and *to commit or not any sin or crime*, is *contrary* both to *fact* and *philosophy*. For, verily even as a bit of wood is bound to drift along a strong current of water, or a piece of paper must burn when consigned to flames, so a *slave to any of his lower desires*, is bound to go wrong in relation to himself and others in various ways. So that, the reign of *sin and evil* must continue, as long as this *slavery of man to lower desires* continues.

These overpowering *lower desires* of man make him *slave* to relations, wealth and property, fame or reputation, tasteful

foods, intoxicants, ease and comforts &c. &c.

Some illustrations of *this slavery*, from actual life, are given under fictitious names :—

(1) Partap Singh, a farmer, has six grown up sons. They all work hard with him in his agricultural work. One of them dies. The father being *attached to him with the ties of the love of offsprings to an inordinate degree*, is so much *shocked* by his death, that he loses *all interest* in this work. Although he has five other sons still living, the painful thought of his deceased son always revolves in his mind, and he *wears* himself out in his *sorrow*. His health gets degenerated and he dies a *permatute death*.

(2) Ganeshi Lal holds a respectable post in a Railway Office. He earns a decent sum. He has two sons. One of them has passed the M.A. examination. But soon after his academic success he *dies*. Ganeshi Lal and his wife both receive such a shock by this event, that as a consequence the mother falls *ill* and being consumed by her grief soon *dies*. The father becomes *incapable* of working in the office. His arrears of work go on increasing day by day. He knows that if this state of things continues, he is sure to lose his employment. But he can't help it. Although he has got one more son living, who has passed both M.A. and LL.B. Examinations, yet that does not *console* him, he gets no peace and is eventually turned out of his office !

(3) Akbari is a poor Mohammedan woman. She has got two sons, who go to school. Both die a sudden death. Akbari becomes insane. In her insanity she goes about looking for her sons on the road along which they had gone to school. She asks the passersby, "Have Ahmed and Mahmud got leave from the school ? They have not yet reached home." How pitiable this soul malady that has turned this poor woman insane !!

(4) Tota Ram's son has passed his B.A. But he is arrested by police, for taking part in *serious political crimes*. He is at

last found guilty and transported for life. As soon as his mother learns this she is so *shocked* that she is unable to rise from her bed, and after passing a few months in deep anguish, she *breathes her last* !

(5) Mahtab Chand is a money lender. On account of some unwise transactions he suffers *pecuniary loss* of thousands of rupees. His heart is so much *shocked by this monetary loss*, that he finds no rest, no peace and passes his days and nights most *restlessly*. Although he has got still so much wealth, that he and his wife and family can live upon it most comfortably, yet this fact does not and cannot act as balm to soothe his broken and bleeding and *most miserable heart* !

(6) Narayan Dass has become so *stingy* on account of inordinate love of money, that inspite of his wealth, he is unwilling to spend sufficient money for the proper treatment of *his own illness* or for necessary *requirements* of himself and his family members, and thus suffers himself and causes others *unnecessary troubles and inconveniences* !

(7) Sher Singh, on account of his *extravagance*, has borrowed money by mortgaging his land. His debts are not paid and the compound interest accumulates, till after sometime he is sued in the court and loses his land in payment of his liabilities. The poor man is so *shocked* at this that he *dies* after a short time.

(8) Ram Devi's husband *dies* of cholera. She is so much attached to her husband, that her heart gets unsettled owing to her husband's death and she commits *suicide by taking opium*.

(9) Girdhari Lal is charged with *misappropriation* of money in a bank. To arrest him the police surround his house, where he is hiding himself. He comes to know of this and being too much anxious to save himself from odium, he *shoots himself with a revolver* and commits suicide before he is arrested.

(10) Thomas is an European. He is *slave to his wife*. She gets ill and *breathes her last*. He feels her separation so keenly,

that he is unable to live and do his *duty* in this world. He commits *suicide* with a revolver.

(11) Bimla is a young Bengali lady. Her first born dies. She weeps and cries so hard and for such a long time that she thereby *loses her eye-sight*.

(12) Saraswati Bala wants to attend her brother's marriage. Her husband does not allow her to go for some reason. She feels so badly *grieved* that she commits *suicide* by burning herself !!

(13) Devi Dass has become slave to the *evil habit of drinking*. He knows that his life is out of order and he is suffering from it, and day by day he is approaching his premature death. But, being *salve* to his lower craving, he can't give up the intoxicating poison, and at last *loses his life* prematurely !

(14) Ghulam Rasul is so much addicted to the taste of certain *edibles*, that although they cause derangement of his stomach and liver, and his physician advises him to *abstain* from taking them, yet he is unable to *restrain* himself. His disease aggravates and ends in his *untimely* death.

The overpowering *desire of money and property leads lacs of men to commit such heinous crimes as theft, cheating, dacoities, robbery, fraud, deception, bribe-taking, violence and murder etc. The slavery to the pleasure of lust leads to adultery, abduction, and faithlessness and rape &c.* And there are many other crimes and sins that people commit on account of their *slavery to other lower desires*. Thus lacs of *people inflict terrible injury to the life, property, reputation or honour and proper happiness and peace of others* as well as of their own, by being *slaves to lower desires*.

In order, therefore, to keep down such *crimes to their lowest possible limit*, a large and ever-increasing force of police and numerous courts are maintained, and to save a state or nation from many internal disorders and attacks and oppressions of other nations or states, vast armies and navies are kept, which cost very heavy amounts of money. Even these personages, who pass as protectors of peace and property and

hold sway over empires, when they become *slaves of the powerful desires of earth-hunger or world dominion, unjustly invade* other countries or kingdoms, and by waging terrible wars against them, prove themselves the *foes* of that very *peace*, which *they profess to maintain*. Such people utilize all the gigantic resources of their own kingdoms or empires in the aforesaid evil objects, and the horrors and disasters that such acts inflict on living beings and the devastation they cause to the non-living objects are amply recorded in the pages of ancient and modern history !

Leaving aside the past, if we only review the present *terrible drama*, which is being enacted in the Great War in Europe, for the last one and a half year,\* one stands aghast. It is quite *unprecedented and unparalleled* in the history of humanity ! A pre-eminently powerful *desire for usurping land or kingdom of others and becoming the Over Lord of all, manifested itself in the Kaisar of Germany*. This *desire of world domination* requiring its gratification led him to adopt schemes such as to *develop every year his land, naval and other forces*, and kindle in his subjects the ambition of making war and acquiring rule over others. Many long years were thus spent by him in making preparations to gain his object. This *desire* at last grew so overwhelmingly strong in the Kaisar and his millions of people, that it moved them to rush at the throat of their neighbouring states, much in the same way as *dacoits* being influenced and driven by *greed* invade the houses and plunder the property of others !

In this Titanic war the Kaisar and his millions of troops not only attacked those, who stood either for *self-defence* or defence of *weaker nations*, but even killed and outraged those peaceful *non-combatants*, who were sitting quietly in their own homes and taking no part in the fight—thus infants are murdered in the presence of their own parents, the wives shot

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\* This was written in 1915.

down before their husbands, and sisters killed under the very eyes of their brothers ! And what is still worse, the young women are forcibly seized and *outraged* in the presence of their *parents and husbands*. Their houses are *burnt down* and their property looted or destroyed. The lands of cultivators are devastated. The historical, religious and other monumental edifices are blown up. The most respectable citizens are taken prisoners. At the dead of night, when the citizens are lying asleep in the soothing arms of mother sleep, *bombs* are thrown from big Zeppelines, killing or wounding men, women and children and burning their houses ! The ships moving in waters are sunk by submarines, along with hundreds of passengers and their crew.

In short, these people, who boast of *intellectual "culture"* have their *hearts* quite *uncultured* since they behave in such a cruel manner and do injury to their fellow men and animals on such a *large scale*, that the worst ravages of the beasts of prey are quite insignificant in comparison to the *immense havoc* which these so-called civilized men are bringing about in the world !

But why are these people in such a terribly deplorable condition ? The answer is plain. They have developed very strongly the *earth-hunger, money-hunger and the desire to have rule or dominion over others*. *These desires have become their all-absorbing and ruling passions or objects and ideals of life*. It is these lower *objects and ideals* which the lower forces of their hearts impel them to achieve, and their intellect co-operates and becomes ready to subserve the ends and purposes of the wicked and *evil desires* of their hearts. How horrible then is this condition of millions of members of present humanity ! And *how worthless are their religious faiths, their prayers, their worship, their readings etc. which continuing for centuries have not availed to liberate* them from these ignoble *ideals and objects of life*.

The Kaiser himself is reported to have declared that he had been commanded by Lord God to carry on this war and

that the so-called God had ordained that those who oppose Germany, must be utterly destroyed ! Who can adequately comprehend the extent of these extremely destructive or havoc-producing forces, which this so-called mouth-piece of God has let loose on this Earth ! Just exercise your imagination a bit and ponder over the fact that out of the four powers—England, France, Russia and Italy,—which have stood up in their self-defence, England alone spends nearly *9 crores of rupees every day as its war expenses !!* Besides this the aggregate amount of money spent by other powers comes to about 30 crores a day.

For nearly a full year and half this kind of expenditure has more or less continued. It is said that as much as 1848 crores of rupees have been taken as loan by the British Government alone, whether for their own purposes, or for lending it to their allies. The French Government has incurred the debt of 1298 crores, the Russian Government about 1125 crores and Italy 190 crores, and Germany 2250 crores of rupees. The number of those actively engaged in the field in this gigantic war is reported to be about *two crores of people*. The number of those killed, wounded or taken prisoners is reported to be 20,00,000. Picture to yourself the horrible scene of millions of homes devastated, lacs of women rendered widows and children orphans ! Picture also the damage to trade to the extent of millions, damage done to thousands of acres of cultivated land and think also of the ghastly spectacle of ruin, visible in towns, which have been almost depopulated. Again, think of the miserable sight of disfigured people, who have lost one or the other limb and have permanently become wholly or partly incapacitated ! Just think that all this is happening in this 20th Century of boasted *civilization*, and then ask yourself, why all this appalling sight ? You will find that it is all due (1) to the *ignorance as to the real, Higher or Primary object* of man's life and his *inability* to see and accept it, and (2) to the *slavery* of man to *his lower desires of gaining undue wealth, land and sovereignty*. This most disastrous

*huge war of European Powers, as it were, proclaims aloud how dangerous it is for man to remain blind to the highest and noblest ideal of life and to fail to appreciate it or to live contrary to it ! Let those who have ears hear this note of alarm ! Let those who want to profit by it, learn a lesson therefrom !*

Apart from other great losses and destruction of life brought on by war, just think how immense is the loss of money that is being squandered in this war at the rate of *crores* of rupees every day for this last year and a half ? Every government feels it very hard to carry out any measure of public good for want of money, but in this war that precious money is poured out like water. Why ? Because, the *lower forces*, that *dominate the heart* of the German '*Kaisar*,' have not only led him to wage such a horrible war, which is without parallel in history, but has *compelled* other powers too to fight in *self-defence* and thus spend and borrow enormous sums of money for this War ! Then realize how horrible and dreadful for an individual or a nation is the *slavery to lower desires*.

*Laws of Nature are immutable.* Take *poison* wherever you like, take it in this or that town, take it in the open or in any hidden corner, take it in any habitation or take it in the thick of the jungle, you will not escape its *evil consequences*. In the same way, those societies or nations, who cherish in their hearts as their *highest object and ideal*, the attainment of *wealth* and *dominion* and are constantly endeavouring to achieve them, shall have to come to a collision with one another, wage wars, cut each other's throat, destroy one another, when their *lower feelings overpower them and impel them to seek their gratification*. This result is *inevitable* according to *Law of Nature*, inspite of their parrot-like cries of "*shanti, shanti*" or "*peace, peace*" Just think, how a man, who does not like that he or any of his dear ones should be pricked even by a thorn, becomes ready under the influences of the demons of *lower desires*, to inflict all sort of *tortures* and *oppressions* on his fellow men and even to *butcher* them

mercilessly !!! Those European powers who have *inordinately developed* the aforesaid lower desire-forces are, as it were, now possessed by those *demonic spirits*, which delight in *bloodshed, destruction and ruin* ! Such being the case, let a man cry himself hoarse in any temple or church by uttering the words "*shanti, shanti*" "peace, peace" and fervently offer prayers to his imaginary Deity that the present war may stop *to-day* or no such war may take place *in future* ; but his such utterances and prayers would be cries in the wilderness, unless and until the causes disappear, and the internal forces in the hearts of the parties that lead to war subside.

In fact, so long as the *peace and amity-producing forces* remain *absent* or almost absent in the *heart of man*, and on the contrary, the *peace-destroying* and *anarchy-producing forces* *continue to grow* more and more within him, the result shall be and can be one and only one, viz., that man shall destroy brother man as is happening at this time. Verily this state of things shall never disappear *so long as any higher change is not wrought in the heart of man*, and till that time he shall prove thousand times more harmful and dangerous to others, than the *beasts of prey* could ever be. Devoid of most precious *higher consciousness of a higher civilization* (based upon Truth and Goodness), this *lower kind of civilization*, with its numerous *pleasures and luxuries* and *other requisites*, which mankind generally, and the Western people especially have developed upto this time, is *extremely defective and incomplete*. This civilization shall continue to remain *defective and incomplete*, so long as the aforesaid *fatal slavery of lower desires* and their havoc-producing consequences exist. How utterly blind are those people, therefore, who do not perceive this *grand truth*, and who consequently are becoming mad after this kind of *low civilization*, and its requisites, so that they are crying loudly for "*education, education, education,*" in order to be able to *secure more wealth, property, fame, name, physical health and strength, kingdom or Raj &c*, which [they

wrongly consider as the *sole object* of their life, and even as the reward of good actions given by the so-called "God" in a so-called re-birth or heaven ! Do you think that *mere intellectual education* will save and raise India ? No, it cannot. Is it not a fact known to most of you, that *Germany* has made *wonderful progress in intellectual education*, in Europe ? In our own country too, who does not know how a certain number of English educated Bengali and other youths—graduates and undergraduates—have become *revolutionaries* and *anarchists* and have committed murders and *dacoities* and thus proved a menace to the peace, property and life of their own countrymen !

Coming nearer home, if we only confine our attention to the Punjab, is not the newspaper reading public fully aware as to how certain graduates and under-graduates have been convicted and punished for the offences of *murder and conspiracy* against the Government ? Remember, therefore, that the gratification of *lower desires* and following *their lead is not the higher or true object of human life*, but it consists in the attainment of salvation from the slavery of all lower desires and the resultant sins and crimes and in the *development of higher forces*, which may keep the lower forces subservient and enable him to prove more and more serviceable and blessed to the animate and inanimate beings.

### III—Slavery to Lower Passions.

The feelings of man, which are suddenly aroused by certain excitable causes, are called his *passions*. These *lower passions* of man are quite distinct from his *lower desires*.

Overpowered by the forces of *lower passions* a man is forced to commit various kinds of sins in relation to other men and animals, even when he *mentally* does not think it *right* to do so. These passions are many, but some of them which enslave a great majority of mankind and produce *immense harm and injury to others*, are the following :—

- (1) Passion of revenge ;

- (2) Passion of fear and hatred ;
- (3) Passion of getting enjoyment by teasing or injuring others ; and
- (4) Passion of getting pleasure by killing others.

The slaves of these passions commit various kinds of wrongs in relation to others; for instance, to satisfy their revenge, people publish or circulate utterly *false* and groundless accusations against others, and institute *false* cases or give *false* evidence in courts against others, or *burn* their houses or *spoil* or *destroy* their useful things. Moved by their passion for doing mischief, they take pleasure in making unnecessarily sarcastic and pinching remarks against others, or in unduly assaulting others, or otherwise causing them to weep and cry in anguish. Moved by the passion for killing others, they kill *innocent animals and birds for mere sport* etc. etc.

#### IV—The Slavery to Egotism or Self-Conceit.

To *unduly and falsely* consider one's own appearance and dress, one's own knowledge or one's own belongings or one's own faith or creed as *superior to others* and to boast or feel *vain* on account of it, to praise oneself falsely, to falsely consider or declare or show others to be *inferior and worthless as compared to one's ownself and to hate them*, or to feel no real and *sincere regard* or respect for one's superiors or *elders* and to behave *insolently or insultingly* towards them or take to pleasure in such like acts, is the first element of Egotism or self-conceit, and it is called *false pride* or '*ghamand*'.

To find fault with and disparage others without proper reason, opportunity or necessity or in some cases to invent and *spread false accusations* against them or to take pleasure in hearing others doing so, and to feel attraction or love towards those persons, who, like himself, find satisfaction in falsely speaking ill of others, and to keep such evil company and to indulge in back-biting and slander, is the second principal

element of egotism or self-conceit, which is termed *undue fault-finding* or *back-biting*.

On seeing some one superior to one's own self in having more property, more wealth, more power or authority, more learning, greater honour or fame, higher position etc., to feel a burning sensation in the heart and to wish that undue loss or harm may befall him, and to feel 'pleased or gratified on hearing about his suffering, undue loss or harm and to take further pleasure in talking to others or writing about it with additional notes of exaggeration, is the third element of egotism or self-conceit, which is called *jealousy*.

To feel annoyed at an expression or righteous indignation against one's own fault, sin or crime or on hearing good advice about it and thereby become alienated from even a benefactor or a true well-wisher, and instead of considering him a *true friend or helper and guide*, to consider him an *enemy*, to *hate* him and to keep aloof from him and not to benefit or improve oneself by his good advice or example, is the fourth element of egotism or self-conceit, and it is called *wilfulness* or *waywardness*.

There are several other aspects of this egotism or self-conceit, as for instance making false excuses to shield or justify one's *real fault or wrong act*, but the aforesaid four elements of egotism, have specially brought in their train misery and havoc in different relations.

From what has been said above, it is clear, that all the sins and crimes which a man commits in relation to his fellow men and animals etc, and the great harm or destruction that he thereby brings about in society, are caused by man's *slavery* to his

- (1) Superstitions or false beliefs ;
- (2) Lower desires ;
- (3) Lower passions ; and
- (4) Power of egotism,

and that in so far as man is *liberated* or *saved* from this *great and most harmful inner slavery*, to that extent will the harm,

misery and destruction decrease in man's different relations with other parts of the Universe. And in so far as higher feelings are evolved in man, to that extent an individual, society or humanity will prosper and the spirit of mutual good-will, goodness and service will prevail and sub-human beings will also be benefitted.

Some of the higher feelings which are particularly necessary for true individual, social, communal or national welfare are as under :—

1. *Feeling of sympathy* i.e. to feel pain on seeing another man or men or animals in some trouble or suffering from injustice or oppression and to feel impelled to do something to relieve or remove his or their pain or misery &c.

2. *Sense of being true to one's promises* i.e. to feel sufficiently impelled from within to fulfil one's *right promises* or to prove true to one's *engagements* in relation to others.

3. *Sense of duty* i.e., to feel sufficiently impelled from within to do honestly any right work or *duty* which one may have been entrusted with, or which he may have himself undertaken for monetary or other considerations in *due time*, in *proper manner* and in *full measure*.

4. *Sense of discipline* i.e., to feel the necessity, beauty and strength of combination and *organization* for any good purpose, and to possess sufficient power to *obey the orders* or follow the directions of his superiors or constituted authorities, even *against his own inclination or desire or habit*.

5. *Sense of trustworthiness* i.e., to feel impelled to prove himself true or *faithful* and *trustworthy* in every position of sacred *trust*, in which he may be placed.

6. *Sense of gratitude* i.e., to feel really *indebted* or grateful for the benefits received from a *benefactor* and to feel strongly impelled to discharge his *debt* to the extent of one's capacity by doing *some service in return*, and not to prove either *ungrateful* or worst of all a *persecutor* or tormentor of his benefactors.

Now, in so far as certain individuals, homes or societies possess these and other higher feelings in a greater degree

than others, and consequently prove themselves to be of *trust-worthy character* in any respect, to that extent will they enjoy the many blessings of *higher life*, and to that extent will that society or nation in which the number of such people predominates, prosper and progress. On the other hand, *in so far as the people of a Country are found entirely or greatly lacking in these HIGHER FEELINGS*, as is the case with our country—to that extent will that nation or country be fallen, degraded and suffer many calamities and losses and harm or *destruction of various kinds*.

Hence, there is great need of bringing *higher changes* in the hearts of men, by evolving aforesaid *higher feelings* in them, that alone can truly raise a nation or a country and promote order, peace, progress and welfare of humanity at large !

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## *The Dev Atma and Man's Freedom and evolution*

Though man has evolved out of the animal world and even now resembles animals in many aspects of his life, still, the great progress which he has made in knowledge or science of different kinds and wonderful inventions and arts and achievements of civilization, is truly astonishing and clearly distinguishes him from the animal world. And just as in the past it was impossible for an animal to do all that man has done in this world, by means of *his special or progressive intellectual powers*, so in the present no other being than man can attain these wonderful attainments.

According to the same Law of Nature, though the DEV ATMA, owing to his manifestation from the human world, resembles man in many aspects of his life, still his *Dev Shakties* or powers of **COMPLETE** and **HIGHEST LIFE** with which he has been endowed by Nature, and which consist of the complete love of truth and goodness and complete hatred for untruth and evil or wrong in all cosmic relations and which he has cultivated or developed by his unique *Sadhans* and all kinds of *sacrifices*, he has brought *marvellous changes* in the Human world. In fact, the higher changes that he has been able to bring about in the hearts and minds of hundreds of men and women, by these *forces*, are *unprecedented in the history of mankind*.

As our Sun holds a *unique* position in our entire solar system, and the countless waves of light and heat, which continually emanate from it produce various kinds of changes in physical aspect of our Earth, similarly the DEVATMA, who has appeared in fulfilment of the Law of Cosmic Evolution to

bring the reign of truth and goodness on this Earth, sends out from his unique soul, countless waves of higher influences that bring wonderful higher changes in *adhikari* or fit souls and remove, so far as possible, their *spiritual darkness and spiritual diseases enumerated* before, which have brought and are bringing about so much *havoc and misery* in this world, and evolves the aforesaid and many other higher feelings in them. The DEVATMA is, therefore, the true and highest Sun of the Spiritual World and his *unique higher life forces are proving highly beneficial* not only for the human world but for various existences of the sub-human worlds also.

By sheer dint of these higher life-forces, in spite of the *bitterest opposition and persecutions*, the wonderful higher changes that he has been able to work out in this country are not unknown to thousands of people belonging to Dev Samaj, or even to other unbiased people, who are to some extent acquainted with his *unique work* !

As DEV ATMA'S Mission progresses—bound as it is to progress in confirmity with the Evolutionary Law of Nature—and his unique influences bring about more and more *higher changes* in human souls and the sub-human worlds and in course of time, the true and the Science-grounded philosophy of *Dev Dharma* expounded by him, gets more and more established, humanity would be heir to those priceless and innumerable blessings, which it is difficult now even to conceive of.

Hence, those persons who are not able to see the necessity of removing all such *soul-maladies* or *slaveries of lower forces* in the soul as bring about greatest havoc in mankind, or who do not see the *need of evolving such higher forces*, the absence whereof leads to various kinds of miseries in homes, societies, races or nations, or who fail to see the glory of the wonderful work of higher changes in the hearts of men, which the DEV ATMA is able to bring about, or who do not possess the requisite qualities of head and heart to appreciate it, but on the contrary, *hate* and *misrepresent* him; or again those, who refuse

to help his highest and noblest Mission, which is the *source of bringing all kinds of goodness in the world*—all these aforesaid persons may call themselves men, so far as their outward form is concerned, but they cannot be considered as *truly sensible by the higher strata of humanity* either at present or in future, yea, in course of time, as this higher strata of humanity increases, and as *bigotry, prejudice, superstition and ill-will* decrease, which is bound to be the case, the DEVATMA and his unique Mission would shine in its true glory before humanity and the circle of our opponents will become narrower and that of supporters, will grow wider and wider. Then the persons who have on account of their narrowness and prejudice of heart declined to help forward this noblest cause and more specially those who have *opposed it tooth and nail*, and tried their utmost to root it out, shall surely be looked down upon *with pity and dire contempt !!!* On the other hand, those fit persons who, in order to do good to their own souls and to raise humanity, *offer their lives or energies* to Dev Samaj, to work under its control or guidance, with a view to preach or otherwise propagate the highest cause of the Devatma, will be remembered by posterity with *honour and gratefulness* and not only this, but who help this cause by supplying *funds* and other things required for it, will also be counted as amongst the *benefactors of their race* and their special services will ever be remembered in the history of the Dev Samaj.

There is a society in England which has been working for many years past in order to investigate the cause and cure of the fatal disease of *cancer*. It has collected large subscriptions for this work amounting to 25 lacs of rupees as its capital. It spends about one lac of rupees yearly for its investigations, which are going on, but no definite or right conclusion has yet been arrived at. Just think of this—the members of the aforesaid society and others in spite of getting no particular success in their work, have contributed no less than 25 lacs for its cause—a cause which, though good in itself, concerns with man's *one physical ailment only*. In contrast with this

realize the glory of the Mission of the Dev Atma. He has not only discovered the true cause and cure of the great fatal soul-maladies of man described above—maladies, which are the cause of so much disorder, disharmony, sin, crime, bloodshed, war and the awful destruction that it brings, but what is more, he has successfully *cured* hundreds of cases of diseased souls, who were suffering from one or other soul-malady helplessly and were unable to get rid of it by their own power or by the aid of the *jap. tap puja* (worship), prayer etc. and belief in this or that imaginary Worshipful Being etc. which they had recourse to.

Is not then the DEV ATMA'S Mission of healing humanity of its *most horrible and ruinous soul-diseases* deserving of the greatest help and support at the hands of all? If you realize that *man's heart* is the *spring of his life*, and that *as long as it is slave to various lower forces spoken of above, no amount of education or material wealth will deter man from bringing his own or others' ruin*, then you will realize that the work of setting man's heart *free* from this most *fatal bondage* and developing those *higher feelings* in him, which are the source of all his domestic, social and national good, *is the greatest and highest work*, and that it deserves your *greatest help and liberal contribution for its continuous success!*

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