

Origin, Nature & Destiny of Human Soul

Bhagwan Devatma has rescued the philosophy of soul from the cobweb of theological fancies and metaphysical fibs. He has rescued Nature also from the false flights of imagination according to which men have reduced Nature either to an illusion or insignificant handiwork of God and out of huge ignorance taught that soul is the direct creation of God and is above all law of Nature. How absurd !

The Dev Samaj teaches that soul is the product of human parents much in the same way as is his body. When parents unite, this union leads, according to the natural attraction and coalescence of two cells of the father and the mother (i.e. when mother's ovum is impregnated by man's sperm under suitable conditions) and a new active soul is formed. This new life force thus starts for the first time its career of building the body in the womb of the mother. This life force is in fact the human soul. Its greatest characteristic is its constructive or body-building power. In fact this tiny architect of tiny body is the tiny soul which grows in the course of nine months to be a human child.

If no mishap occurs (i.e., if a soul possesses sufficient vitality or constructive power and does not lose it by some accident) this tiny soul succeeds in building a complete living body comprising of needed vital organs.

As soon as the child (consisting both of body and soul) is safely delivered by its revered mother, its life power continues the work of sustaining, maintaining and developing its body and brain. It also develops its emotional and mental powers and in course of time it becomes conscious of its separate existence.

The theists do not believe that soul builds the body. They believe it is built by some supernatural being. The materialists, however, do not believe in the existence of soul. They teach soul to be a phase or aspect of body. The Dev Samaj repudiates the view that man has been created by the so-called God and he first constructed human body out of rotten mud and then blew His breath into his nostrils. It also repudiates the ideas that any human being has been created by the will or order of God, that thousands of young men and women were created at once or that one Adam was created first and his wife Eve was made by pulling out one of his ribs. The Dev Samaj rejects all these and other theological fibs.

How to prove that soul or life force present in the tiny cell impregnated in the mother's womb

or present in a fullfledged and safely delivered child, builds the body?

The Dev Samaj emphatically teaches that all bodies of the vegetable and the animal existences and human beings are built by their respective life forces. If an expectant mother has abortion prior to the completion of the body of the child, what happens? The life force which was building its own body from the mother's blood becomes extinct and the work of building further, the bodily organism stops then and there. If the life force was not the only force that was building the body, let the incomplete body be built to completion by any God, *Allah, Khuda, Parmatma, Brahman* or any of their agents—all of whom are claimed to be omnipotent.

Again, let us put a few grains of wheat, barley or grams in boiling water. By this process the life-force in these grains would die. When taken out of water and sowed in a fertile ploughed land, they would not shoot out green blades. This is because the only operative force is absent. What an opportunity for God worshippers to prove the omnipotence of God! Let this fancied omnipotent God grow plants out of the boiled grains whose life-force is now extinct!

This marvellous force called life force—whether present in the vegetable, the animal or the human kingdom—possesses the following four common characteristics :—

1. The capacity of constructing a living body.
2. The capacity of nourishing or developing the body it has constructed.
3. The capacity of keeping alive its body for longer or shorter duration.
4. The capacity of procreating other and similar bodies.

The life force of man or a human soul, possesses the following powers :—

1. Body building, body sustaining, body controlling and body repairing powers.
2. Direct knowledge imparting mental powers of various kinds—namely powers of retention, perception, reasoning etc.. etc.
3. Pleasure and pain producing various kinds of feelings.
4. Various kinds of feelings of attraction and love for different pleasures and aversion and hatred for different pains.

Soul's Relation with Body

Force and matter are never found existing quite apart from each other in Nature. Hence it is impossible for human body and human soul to be separate and still exist. Their relation is inseparable. Just as human gross body dies when soul casts it off, so also soul dies if it fails to build a suitable body for itself in mother's womb or after the death of its gross body or if at any step it grows so weak that it cannot sustain body.

This soul is able to build a body because it possesses the most wonderful of all its powers called the constructive power. This constructive power, when it is sufficiently strong, begins to make relatively more light and refined cells from the gross body which it makes daily for the upkeep of the living body. At the death of the gross body the soul of man forms, by means of its sufficiently strong constructive power, a new fine or astral body of nearly the same type and shape out of the gross body. With this new body the soul starts its career on the fine earth or astral plane.

This fine or astral bodied soul remains on or near the earth if the new body is too gross to reach and live on the plane of fine or astral plane. These earth-bound souls are those unfortunate souls who have lived wicked lives on this earth. They also lead most miserable lives. If they undergo no change for the better, they continue to lose the vitality or the constructive power of soul. This gradual loss of vitality makes these miserable souls not only to pass through a lot of avoidable miseries but at last ends their existence as individual beings.

But the souls who live on this earth a life of altruism, build a very fine and beautiful refined or astral body and acquire an ability to go to and live on higher planes of the refined earth.

The altruistic life of a man not only beautifies, refines and strengthens the soul but it also enables it according to its growth in altruistic life, to reach higher and higher regions of the astral plane.

If we grasp this great truth of the inseparable relation of human body and human soul, we shall be in a fit state of mind to realize :

1. That it is entirely a false belief that man's soul after leaving its gross material body lives anywhere without any living material body.
2. That it is entirely false that man's soul after casting off the gross material body remains in sleeping condition in the grave under the earth.

3. That it is entirely false that on a certain fixed day called the Day of Judgement, soul will wake up from the grave at the bugle call and appear before the so-called God to receive the judgement about his deeds done on this earth.
4. That it is the entirely a false belief that evil acts could be forgiven, leaving no mark or trace on the life of soul and thus not degrading the life of human soul. Doctrines of forgiveness of sins by the so-called God by Himself or by intercession of some agent is a huge illusion.
5. That it is an entirely false idea that the soul of a man re-incarnates i.e., is reborn as a man, beast, bird or Plant on this earth after it casts off its gross body and thus begins to live again in another gross body.
6. That it is an entirely false belief that soul is an effect or expression or activity of a living gross body and that with the death of the gross body, it dies altogether.
7. That it is an entirely false belief that every soul survives the gross body under all conditions and all circumstances. The Law of Nature teaches us that only such a soul can survive physical death which is able enough to build a fine body at that time, out of the fine cells, which it collects out of the gross body and meets with no mishap.
8. That it is an entirely wrong belief that any soul can escape the inevitable effects of life wedded to falsehoods and evils through the grace of the so-called God etc.

And yet is it not true that millions of persons welter in the mire of these false beliefs and thereby deepen their soul darkness and degrade their soul life? It is indeed most regrettable that humanity in its present stage is not able to go into ecstasies by reflecting on the truths taught by the Dev Samaj. But the time shall come when such contribution by the Dev Samaj would be appraised, honoured and enthusiastically propogated far and wide.

Freedom & Evolution of Human Soul

The Dev Samaj teaches that every human soul gets diseased and degraded when it thinks and acts in violation of the glorious law of Evolution or Construction or Betterment. Man is a part of Nature. And being a part of Nature, it is naturally related very closely to other parts of Nature. Hence, if moved by higher feelings it thinks, feels and acts in such a way as to contribute towards the betterment of other parts of Nature, it fulfills the law of Evolution (i.e. law of existence and progress). But if on the contrary, moved by low loves and low hates, it begins to prove harmful to others, he runs counter to the law of Evolution and suffers a lot of avoidable and woeful consequences in relation to his own self and produces similar woeful consequences in relation to others.

After enunciating this great principle of life, the Dev Samaj further teaches that the feelings which degrade the soul of man and lead him to wrong, evil and harmful thoughts and acts in relation to others and his own being can be grouped under the following eight heads:

The bodily-pleasure-giving low loves of taste, intoxication, lust and slouth.

2. – The egoistic-pleasure-giving low loves of self-gratification, self-aggrandisement, self-praise and selfishness.
3. – Low-pleasure-giving low loves of wife and children.
4. – Low-pleasure-giving low loves of acquisition, wealth, property etc.
- 5 – Low-pleasure-giving loves of traditions, habits etc.,
- 6 – Low-pleasure-giving love of Hinsa or violence by means of teasing others, annoying others, troubling others whether men or animals.
- 7 – Low-pleasure-giving loves of false or blind faith.
- 8 – Low-pleasure-giving hates of various kinds, generated by jealousy, vindictiveness and religious, communal, racial, colour biases or prejudices.

All these are termed low loves and low hates :-

They produce a havoc in human life.

Those enslaved to low loves and low hates ;

- (a) become hard-hearted and thus develop incapacity to see and accept truth, specially truths regarding soul life
- (b) become perverted in vision to such an extent that they to their great misfortune, consider evil as good and good as evil; falsehood as truth and truth as falsehood; friends as foes and foes as friends; false religions as true religions and the true religion as false;
- (c) lose their priceless possession of the capacity to get freedom from the slavery to low loves and low hates and to evolve higher or altruistic powers.
- (d) lose above all, the constructive power of their soul and thus grow extinct for ever.

What a terrible fate! And yet this fate awaits all who are :

- (a) devoid of true knowledge; and
- (b) are slaves to low loves and low hates, which they develop pursuing the goal of pleasure as their supreme object in life.

When life force or soul of a human being is the sole builder, preserver, mover and developer of his body, it is indeed the most real, primary and most essential entity on which rests his entire existence. His body is merely a vehicle by which soul expresses itself. Hence it should be the highest endeavour of man to get ;

- (b) true knowledge and consciousness about the nature and organism of his soul, its diseases, degradation and death, the true courses or methods of his getting salvation from soul degradation and highest evolution.
- (c) true, higher or life-promoting environments which may help him to obtain true salvation from his soul-degrading courses of conduct and their causes and true evolution of higher or altruistic powers.

What is meant by salvation of soul?

The salvation in the light of facts and laws of Nature, means freedom from :

1. His pleasure-affording low loves and their resultant low hates;

2. All his false and wrong, sinful and criminal thoughts and acts prompted by his slavery to pleasure-affording low loves and low hates.
3. All his soul impurities accumulated in his soul by his previous thoughts, acts and deeds by making certain atonements, reparations or retribution called *Hani Parishod* in the Dev Samaj.

The real evolution of soul consists in:

4. The unfoldment, fostering and strengthening of various altruistic forces in man which in fact constitute the real *dharma* or true religion.

It is an immutable law of Nature that only such a soul can obtain true freedom and true evolution who possesses capacity for them in his inheritance. A man who possesses this capacity is called a fit soul.

It is, again, another immutable law of Nature that a fit soul can get soul freedom and soul evolution by fulfilling certain necessary conditions and never otherwise. Two most essential conditions which a fit soul has to fulfill are these : -

1. He must get highest psychic or soul Light (*Dev Jyoti*). It is the characteristic of this unique light that it illumines the inner life of man in him. It enables the recipient to see the really harmful, ugly and horrible nature and consequences of his false beliefs, evil thoughts and acts and low loves and low hates which produce such thoughts and acts, beliefs and practices.

This light enables the fit soul to see the nature and organism of its soul, of true freedom from its maladies, the enrapturing beauty of various altruistic forces which constitute higher or true *dharmic* life and the true way of its evolution.

Let this be borne in mind that it is only the requisite light which reveals objects and truths in any sphere of Nature. Physical light alone can show physical forms, shapes and colours of physical objects to a man possessing eyes. Mental light alone can reveal to man laws of Nature ruling the life, growth and death of the bodies of vegetable, animal and human beings and existence of all inanimate beings. Altruistic light alone can reveal the beauty and grandeur of an altruistic feeling. Dev Jyoti and Dev Jyoti alone can reveal truths pertaining to the nature, organism, life and destiny of human soul.

A fit soul, therefore, has to get this light or live and die in darkness and soul ignorance.

2. He must get the highest psychic power (*Dev Tej*). As Dev Jyoti illumines the soul of man, reveals to him the most ugly and repulsive form of the slavery to low loves and low hates and their impurities accumulated in soul by their actions, so the Dev Tej or highest psychic power is that supreme force which develops in fit souls higher repulsions for these infernal forces. This higher repulsion weakens man's attraction for falsehoods and evils and gradually undermines them altogether and awakens hatred and pain and thereby reclaims man from that life-destroying serfdom. The constant action of these two forces—Divine Light and Divine Power—not only demolishes castles of falsehoods and evils but also enables a fit soul to get cleansed from past impurities by making adequate reparation. This is called *Atma shuddhi*. It is this Dev Tej which not only gets a man the freedom from slavery to low loves and low hates but also evolves higher, noble and altruistic forces in him.

Only by assimilating the psychical influences emanating from the Devatma can man attain his Supreme Goal which consists in getting:

1. True knowledge and consciousness about the nature, and organism of human soul, its diseases, the true cause of these diseases, the laws of its true treatment and cure and its evolution here and hereafter.

2. True soul freedom from slavery to low loves and low hates, true soul purification by various *sadhanas* of reparations and true soul evolution in altruistic powers.

And Bhagwan Devatma enables us to reach this unique goal.

What a privilege and what an opportunity Nature, the greatest reality and the only Creator of body and soul of man, has placed before fit souls and what a misfortune to miss this !