

UNITY IN DIVERSITY THROUGH DIVINISATION

Author:

Mr. Siddappa Naragatti¹

Yoga Therapist¹

Central Council for Research in Yoga Naturopathy, New Delhi, India

Abstract: variety is the law of nature. Hence, if at the present juncture, we find a variety in the field of religion, colour, caste, creed, language, nationality, material and moral progress, let us not be astonished nor frightened. Without variety, the world and the humanity cannot exist. A garden with a variety of flowers and fruits is most pleasing to the eye. Human life itself is a variety. Monotony is disgusting and killing. What is important is how in the midst of variety and diversity, mankind can remain in peace and bliss.

Keywords: Unity Diversity Divinisation.

Introduction:

This human world is a Drama a real Drama of life; where we find more than 4,000 millions of human actors, leaving aside the other animate and inanimate objects. Surely nobody would like to see a Drama or a picture where one does not find a large variety of faces and actors, each playing a different role and in a different style of his own.

Diversity and variety are necessary in every walk of life. Within a nation, we need all types of people, some to govern and administer, some to fight and preserve the safety of the nation, some to maintain internal law and order, some to look after Education, some to work in the fields and grow foodgrains, fruits and flowers, some to entertain, and so on. The same is true of the society and even the family. In the family too, you need the father to earn, the mother to look after the house, the children to adorn and entertain.

Even the individual man is not free from variety of diversity. First of all, a human being is a combination of soul or the spirit and the body. The soul itself comprises different components, the mind the intellect and latencies. Likewise, the human body is a wonderful assemble of a number of organs the hands, the feet, the eyes, the nose, the ears, and a score of systems the blood circulation system, the digestive system, respiratory system, etc.

Thus there has been variety and diversity in the human world, right from its inception. Though the Human World in the beginning was varitable heaven or Paradise on Earth or was in its Golden age, yet surely, there was a variety of people, albeit all of them were perfectly pure, happy and prosperous. For, with the sovereign, you need the noblemen, the subjects, the servants, the attendants, the cooks, the bearers and so on. But, despite this variety in their status and occupation, they lived in peace and harmony.

The factors the led to Harmony:

Let us now try to analyze what were the factors that enabled them to live in peace and harmony.

1. The first and foremost was the feeling of soul-consciousness, as opposed to body-consciousness. Everyone realized that he was a soul or the spirit within.
2. Of course, in addition, there were factors like less population, less human beings to feed and clothe, plenty of space to live, plenty of land to grow enough grains, fruits and vegetables.
3. In their previous life they had got the realization that, as souls, all human beings are children of one Supreme Father i.e. God, and as such, they are all brothers and sisters, belonging to one divine family.
4. They had divine and virtuous qualities such as truth, love contentment, steadfast faith, respect and regard for others, and so on. Every member of the society, big or small, was happy and contented more so because all his needs and wants were fully satisfied.
5. There was absence of evil and vicious tendencies like anger, greed, attachment, ego, hatred, envy, arrogance, jealousy, etc. in their place, everyone had plenty of fellow feelings and feelings of universal love and brotherhood.
6. They had also the realization and awareness in their past life in Sangam Yuga that this world is like a Drama, in which each and every human being has a separate role or part to play.
7. There was regularity of habits, food habits, living habits and eating habits. Man was more in tune with nature with plenty of sunshine, fresh air to breathe, plenty of leisure time to go to the seashore, with less of tension, less of competition and son on.

The present state of affairs:

As compared to the past, what do we find today? Disruption in family life, absence of real love and affection, self-lessness yielding place to selfishness, quarrels and factions. This is unfortunately true in all walks of life.

At home, there is little love, respect and regard between the parents and the children. In schools and colleges, there are quarrels between the teachers and students; the tension and enmity between the employers and the employees are too well known to mention.

Distruption and disturbances are seen at all levels, the individual level, the social level, the national level and the international level. We find the poor fighting with the rich, the black against the white, the people belonging to lower strata fighting with those of the upper strata. We find quarrels and preparation for war not only amongst different Nations and among people of different religions but even in the same country, within the same religion within the same society and even within the family unit brother fighting against brother. Let us not forget that we all belong to one nation and one country.

What are the factors responsible for this present state of affairs:

The root cause of all these problems is body-consciousness, that is man has forgotten his real nature. He has become oblivious of the fact that he is essentially a soul as distinct from his body. Today, man has mistakenly come to regard himself as taken come to regard himself as 'body' and all his endeavours and efforts are directed to fulfilling the needs and requirements of his body. Thus it is a pity to find that the energies, the resources and the attention of our eminent scientists, Scholars, research workers and the great leaders are concentrated in making inventions and discoveries in the field of materialism. The real nature of man, the soul and the spirit within him is being completely neglected.

People in the West have realized, to their surprise and dismay, that even the greatest achievements in the scientific field, the accumulation of wealth and all other physical comforts do not bring real happiness to man. After their disillusionment, they are gradually turning their attention to spiritualism. Commonly known as Yoga. Unfortunately, the people in the East, are still under the disillusionment that material prosperity and comforts will bring more and more happiness to them.

The development of 'body-consciousness' in place of 'soul-consciousness' has brought in its wake all the vices and evil forces and tendencies which as lust, anger, greed, arrogance, attachment, ego, hatred¹ and so on. Under the influence of these vices², man has stopped working. Today, for the sake of money and wealth and personal enjoyment, the average member of the society is prepared to go to any length of immorality, overcoming all standards of decency and human values in his pursuit for power, status, etc. he has become totally blind, as it were, to the feelings of his fellow brothers, fellow beings and neighbors.

We even find that there is disharmony within the individual himself. Quite often, we find that there is a conflict between the mind and the intellect (conscience) within us, resulting in unhappiness and peacelessness. For the mind has the tendency to hanker after temptations and worldly enjoyments. For example many times, the students waste their precious time in idle pursuits and latter on repent for their misdeeds. Similarly, many people fall a prey to the evil tendencies of sex-lust, anger, greed, attachment and arrogance, act under their base impulses, and in consequence, suffer in the form of anxiety, worries, and peacelessness.

Where lies the remedy:

Having surveyed the present state of affairs and having analysed the causes thereof, let us now find out ways and means of getting over this unhappy and unpleasant situation. 'Divinisation of man' is the only answer. The only remedy for all the ills. Factions, disharmony, facing mankind at the present juncture. What are the various steps to 'Divinization of man' these are described below.

First and foremost fundamental step is to remove the veil of ignorance in the field of Spiritualism, which is present inside all human beings, which has almost made them blind-folded. The basic requirement is to create a sense of awakening and realization in the average man, that he is in reality the soul and the spirit, and not the body. Today, man possesses knowledge about each and every subject under the Sun. Save of course, the true knowledge about his own self. Imparting of Spiritual Knowledge, i.e. Knowledge about the Soul should form a compulsory subject of the curriculum both in Schools and Colleges.

The 'red' mark or the Tikka on his fore-head. The significance of this custom was to serve as a reminder that "I am the soul, as distinct from the body"³. It is not my intention to suggest that we revert back to this custom. It is most important and necessary that all of us need a training, a reminder almost everyday, that apart from this physical body, there is also the Soul within the body and that we have to find time and pay attention to satisfy the hunger and thirst of this soul, that the development and progress and welfare of this soul is not less important than the development and welfare of this body⁴. We know how much time, a modern young girl and a young boy, devote to their dress, make-up and appearance. It would make a world of difference, if one could devote even one-tenth of this time and think of the welfare and beauty of the soul⁵. For the maintenance of the body, one easily is prepared to work for as much as 10-12 hours a day, and travel over 10-15 miles to go to the place of his work. A student on an average spends 8-10 hours for his Education, which enables him to become a Doctor, an Engineer or a Lawyer. Will it be too much to ask him to devote only half an hour a day, for creating to the development and welfare of his soul and the Spirit, by attending a daily class of Spiritual knowledge and Meditation⁶.

The second measure to adopt is to teach the average man the habit of Introvertness or looking within, as opposed to extrovertness⁷. Let us take some time off our work everyday and look within us. Let us watch the working of our own mind. Let us check up where it wanders, what thoughts does it raise? If we say, it is my mind, should not I have control over it. And how many people have control over their minds? We should know the best remedy to prevent and overcome tension and peacelessness in one's life, so to take off some time and sit in quietitude, withdrawing one's own self and looking within.

I can say without any fear of contradiction that the satisfaction of the hunger and thirst of one's self will bring peace, bliss, tranquility to the individual. And, naturally, if one is peaceful, he will bestow peace unto others, he would spread the vibrations of peace to all, the result would be that there would be peace within the individual, within the family, within the neighbourhood, within the Society, within the State and the country, and of course within the World as whole.

The next measure is to lay emphasis and provide training and guidance for the inculcation of divine and virtuous qualities such as humility, patience, contentment, broad-mindedness, forbearance, forgiveness, truthfulness, tolerance, love and affection for all, sweetness of temper, absence of anger, and greed⁸.

The imbibing of these qualities requires a good deal of training and attention, for today, the current is flowing in the reverse direction.

The imparting of spiritual Knowledge must be given due importance. This Knowledge helps us to understand the true values of human life and brings a sense of realization that this World is a Drama, where each man is an actor with a different part to play. Our endeavour is to play our own part well⁹.

Lastly, every effort should be made to bring the average man, nearer to God. Who is the fountain of all virtues, all that is good, who is the store-house of mental and moral strength. If only we could keep ourselves under the protection and umbrella of our sweetest Father God¹⁰. He will save us from all miseries and sufferings. He will ward off all misfortunes and hurdles that would otherwise come in our way.

Conclusion:

The Practice of Meditation or Raja-Yoga which is nothing but the establishment of a link with God should be taught to every member of the Society, both grown-ups and youngsters. For, is God not the father of all human-beings and every one has a right to draw upon His research of good-will, peace, Happiness and Prosperity. The only requirement being to observe and bring Purity and Vicelessness in our life. Let us therefore carry this divine message of God to every human being.

References:

1. Shankaracharyar Granthabali, Basumati publication (Kolkata: 1995), Volume 3
2. Gopal, Madan (1990). K.S. Gautam, ed. India through the ages. Publication Division, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India. p. 69.
3. Honderich, T. (2014). Actual consciousness. Oxford University Press, USA.
4. Wickens, C. D., Hollands, J. G., Banbury, S., & Parasuraman, R. (2015). Engineering psychology & human performance. Psychology Press.
5. Smith, D. W., & Burr, E. G. (2014). Understanding World Religions: A Road Map for Justice and Peace. Rowman & Littlefield.
6. Dossey, L. (2003). Healing beyond the body: Medicine and the infinite reach of the mind. Shambhala Publications.
7. Marashi, H., & Fotoohi, M. (2017). The relationship between extrovert and introvert EFL teachers' adversity quotient and professional development. Journal of Applied Linguistics and Language Research, 4(3), 156-170.
8. Anjaria, J. J. (1941). The Gandhian Approach to Indian Economics. Indian Journal of Economics, 22, 357-66.
9. Gonzalez, J. B. (2018). Towards recognition and regard: Creating connectivity in theatre education through intentional wakefulness. Youth Theatre Journal, 32(1), 30-44.
10. Brown, R. H. (1978). A poetic for sociology: Toward a logic of discovery for the human sciences. CUP Archive.