

14 June 1977

READING 6

THE MELTING OF THE SILVER

(Would group-takers please read again part of 'the Alchemy of Happiness' – Reading 5 – particularly the third paragraph: 'The whole process of making gold is described by the Alchemists in a symbolical way. They say that gold has to be made out of *mercury*; and the nature of mercury – "quick silver" – is to be ever moving; but by a certain process the mercury is first stilled, and once stilled it becomes *silver*; the silver then has to be melted, and on to the melted silver the juice of a herb is poured, and then the melted silver turns into gold.' Then ask for observations or questions. After a little discussion please continue as follows):

PART 1

Everyone who tries to meditate will have found no difficulty in understanding – theoretically at least – the benefits that follow the stilling of the restless mind which they must have experienced for moments during the two half-hours. What we all want to know is why we keep meeting with those 'dry periods' when we seem to repeat the mantra without benefit.

This is because the very process of stilling the mind by repetition of any sort can create a certain hardness of heart. Repetition is the chief part of the mechanism of habit formation and it fixes whatever is going on whether in the mind or the body. So it is very necessary to proceed as soon as possible to the next step – the 'melting of the silver'; the two have to go on together for a long time in most people before the juice of the herb is experienced. Otherwise this melting would become a painful and difficult process.

Besides describing the Vikshepa or dispersal of the mind for which the techniques of meditation and the cultivation of one-pointed attention are the cure, the Shankaracharya has had much to say about the cause of the hardness of heart and process of melting. We intend to study that during the next few weeks, for owing to the difficulties of language it is much harder for us to understand it.

So for today let's be content with the following quotations (1970):

This melting of the heart is very much what we do when we wish to seal a letter with sealing wax and a seal. The sealing wax, which is very hard, has to be melted with the heat of a flame. Only when the wax is liquid will it take the impress of the seal; within moments the soft wax will harden in the air and the impression becomes permanent and difficult to break.

(Record, 30 January 1970)

COMMENT

This is why the intervention of a Conscious man and the established knowledge and technical methods of some firm Tradition are needed at the point just after the entry of impressions to change 48 into 24. Otherwise wrong crystallisation will take place and the second intervention at the point 12 cannot take effect.

PART 2

We have already made a start on one way of approaching this problem. At the same conversation from which the above quotation was taken, Mrs de Lotbinière asked her now famous question:

Where does the feeling of wonder at Creation come from? It seems so strange that one does not feel this more.

S. The feeling of wonder is a pure feeling; because of this, immediately the question arises in the beholder: 'What is the cause of creation of such a beautiful pattern and order?' He immediately enters into the realm of the Causal world, thus reaching not only to the ultimate source of what has been created, but to the very nature of the Creator.

That was why we decided to re-introduce the diagrams of 'The Ray of Creation' and the 'Three Octaves of Radiations'; and there has been a big response in all our groups both here and around the world. But from our English speaking world in Mexico comes the warning that the diagram should be allowed to act in this way: ('Like a happy song in the heart at the beginning of each day') and that too much verbal explanation only destroys the feeling of wonder and puts an end to the melting process.

* * *