

5 December 1977

READING 6

THE DRAMA (CONTD.)

For this, our last paper of the term (and of the year 1977) we feel we should keep to the idea of the Drama, which is beginning to take root. There were two other references to it during our recent audiences:

PART 1 (Fourth Audience)

A. How can School people help each other to be natural?

S. To be 'natural' is to be straight and pure and, if one achieves this, then one is certainly 'natural'; but being natural should not be taken to mean that one should be crude or naked.

The whole creation, after all, is a drama, a play; and the whole play has to be performed in a particular style and manner. There is a role for each actor, a costume for each actor, positions and actions for each actor, and lines for him to speak. Unless an actor wears the costume designed for his role; if he doesn't use the lines written for the part; then he will not affect the audience in the way the producer intends. So, if the play is to be performed it must be done in the right way to produce the required effect on the audience and give them the pleasure which the play is designed to produce. To respond to the appropriate dress, the proper language, and the proper distance between the audience and the players, is also a part of the 'natural' presentation of the play.

When one says that 'one has to be natural' therefore, one must keep this in mind, and keep the right distance from anyone with whom one has to establish a relation. What one has to watch is that one's performance should not get crooked or artificial; one should not elaborate but do only what is necessary. If we learn to keep to this, then our role and the whole play will be true to nature.

(Record, 28 October 1977)

PART 2 (Eighth Audience)

A. I feel very unworthy of all the blessings and love which the Shankaracharya has given us and hope that when we next meet I shall be *more* worthy.

S. There is no question of any *duality* between you and the Shankaracharya at all. On the level of the Self (Atman) there is no difference of any sort – least of all in terms of place or race or age. On the other levels one sees during the discourses that the relationship is a friendly one, on an equal level, like friend talking to friend.

Of course it happens that on the physical level, on this stage upon which we have all been put, different parts have been assigned to be played by different people. One role for instance is to put *questions* and another role is to *answer*. This is within the design of the universe and we respect it; but it is very clear that this is only on the physical scale. On the subtle level it is the relationship of friends; and on the Causal level everything is always the same – no difference or division – for the Universal Self is eternal and unchanging and living in the hearts of everyone.

As far as he is concerned, he is not offering anything which does not already belong to you. It is *your* Knowledge which happens to be passing through his body (physical and subtle), without barrier of land or race or even language. In the realm of the Absolute we are one and the same, and His Holiness takes this opportunity of blessing you all so that you can march forward in your Spiritual life.

(He continues after a pause):

This most beautiful and glorious creation of the Absolute is being taught through the glory which is known as Knowledge; and it has this property and this wealth that, the more you give, the more it increases; so one can keep on answering questions a hundred times, and yet there will never be a loss of a single grain of Knowledge! We are sharing the Knowledge of this most beautiful and glorious creation of the Absolute, and one feels very happy that this is a wealth that will never end; no matter how many people ask questions or for how long they keep asking questions. We should be happy and thankful to the Absolute for creating such a glorious Wealth of Knowledge.

(Record, 2 November 1977)

At the very moving moment when we heard him say this, the words we were taught as children flooded into one's mind:

For Thine *is* the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory for ever and ever, Amen.

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