

15 February 1982

READING 4

The following are extracts from last Tuesday's Meditation Meeting:

Dr. R. I brought the difference of space-time on the subtle level before you today because this is the key to Mr. Ouspensky's discovery about Cosmoses – that time is different in different worlds contained one within the other which we inhabit simultaneously. And I want Dunjohn to read to you the first version of a story we had 20 years ago, to see if it seems at all different to you now after that interval.

K.D. At one of his first private audiences with H.H. in 1962 Dr. Roles asked:

What is the relation between our sense of time and the state of Consciousness? When we go into deep sleep at night we lose all sense of time. In ordinary daytime state there seems often no time for what we want to do. In moments of consciousness there seems to be plenty of time. In bliss, again, time ceases.

In answer he said:

S. There are (subjective) variations in our sense of time. One day we think we have very little time, but actually there is enough. Another day we think we have plenty of time but really it is terribly short. Time for us mostly relates to the situation.

But there is also a *real* difference between the physical and subtle worlds. In sleep we see a lot, we cover large areas of time. But as a matter of fact our dreams occupy very little of our time. A dream which covers a big area of time takes very little time to pass through our consciousness. This difference between our dreams and our waking state is a thing quite different again from our deep sleep. Time is different again in deep sleep and of course in bliss as well, time has a different measure; so *time varies according to the measure...*

Dr. R. And by 'measure' he means the unit of time. You can have a present moment of 3 seconds (the time of one inspiration and expiration) or you can have a unit of time of 24 hours (like the breath of the Biosphere) or you can have a geological unit of time of millions of years and beyond that again, astronomical units of time. He's saying the same thing: 'Time differs according to the measure,' expresses Mr. Ouspensky's 'Table of Time in different Cosmoses'.

And he gives an illustration:

Lakshman the brother of Rama told him that he would like to see the great illusion of Maya, the Maya which Rama was always talking about. Rama replied, 'You will get into trouble through seeing it so I shouldn't bother if I were you.' Lakshman replied – 'I'm quite sure it won't affect me, and I'm still curious to see it.' So Rama said 'All right, you will see it by and by,' and left the question open. They went to the river to bathe. When they had finished bathing and both were coming ashore, Rama said 'My brother, I've lost my ring; do you think you could dive for it?' He went and dived for the ring and in that moment he lost his consciousness.

When he came out of the water he was in different land. It was a

beautiful countryside. He met there a beautiful woman and they settled down together, established a home and lived like householders. He begot four sons and when he became an old man he caught malarial fever, developed a cough and eventually died. When his sons took him to the river as the custom was, to immerse his body into the water, and as his body submerged – at that moment, Lakshman again came out of the water and out of Maya. He went to Rama with tears in his eyes and repentance in his heart but still didn't remember what had happened. But Rama said to him 'You wanted to experience Maya – illusion. Now you have the experience'...
(Record, 19 October 1962)

Dr. R. In another version Lakshman says 'I've spent a whole lifetime down there' and Rama said 'I assure you you've only been there a couple of minutes while I've been standing here.'

His Holiness's comment was:

All the differentiation of time and space which we calculate in this world is the illusion. In the Atman, or in Brahma (the Absolute) there is no time, there is no space, it's all one. We see a distorted effect of all this both in our worldly consciousness and in our dream world in sleep.

Dr. R. And Maya is the name they give to the illusory world below the water in which unawakened humanity live all their days.

Mark Tyou. What is it inside one that, when one becomes quiet, feels young and joyful.

Dr. R. That is the Atman – the individual ray of the Universal Consciousness which is in everybody, and it comes into the world to learn the secret of happiness and what you've observed is a very big step toward learning the secret. You ask yourself 'what will make the Atman happy?' and you find that *quiet* is a first step in this.

I wanted to say to Margaret Tully that every human being meets with this Lord of Creation, the 'Being of Light', at the hour of death, though the vast majority have so much going on in their minds that they don't realise it and they don't remember it; several recent best-selling books (like *Life after Life*) show there is quite a big proportion of people among those revived from clinical death who have realised how marvellous it is. My wife I watched, and two or three other people watched also, she was marvellously happy as she got nearer and nearer to dying. So bodily death is something to look forward to and not something to fear for *we* never die!

K.D. On a different time scale? Is this another emerging from the deep as it were?

Dr. R. Yes. It's one reason, on a different time scale, for telling that story. The Hindu Vedas tell the story in relation to life and death – in other words Lakshman was born, lived a whole life through (the ordinary sort of human life) and when he died he emerged into the stillness beyond, very, very glad to see his brother again, and his brother represents the perfect man, Rama – the Spiritual Sun. This was just a little show Rama put on for his brother who wanted to see for himself what the Maya (illusion) is, that keeps everybody from Liberation which is our birthright.

K.D. And he was there waiting.

Dr. R. Yes, and had been there all the time and IS there in each of us all the time.

Now my active half is going to take a dive – and then the real You and I will emerge from the water, briefly of course.

MEDITATION

Well I got the feeling myself of being able to keep above the water – keep the light above the water of thoughts and I would like to know if anybody else did even for a few moments... if you could shut your eyes and put up your hands (not a single hand went up!). Forget that you'll be accused of boasting! I'm sure there are more people who got that same feeling of Being. (K.D. Mrs. Mellett says just a few seconds.)

Yes, though I think it was more than that only your dominant hemisphere didn't recognise it!

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