

### 'INCURRING DEBTS'

MANY OF US WERE BROUGHT UP ON A VERSION OF THE LORD'S PRAYER WHERE 'DEBTS' AND 'DEBTORS' WERE RENDERED AS 'TRANSGRESSIONS' AND 'TRANSGRESSIONS AGAINST US'; IN OTHER WORDS AS 'SINS AGAINST THE LAW', OR 'SINS AGAINST US'. BOTH VERSIONS ARE ILLUMINATING AND CAN GIVE ONE A FRESH UNDERSTANDING OF THE CONCEPT OF 'SIN' AS DEBTS WE INCUR BY THE MISUSE OF OUR GOD-GIVEN TALENTS. TO PROCEED ALONG THE VIBRATIONS OF THAT LINE OF THOUGHT MAKES ONE WONDER WHAT ARE ONE'S TALENTS AND HOW DOES ONE MISUSE THEM? WE ALL KNOW ON WHAT WE PRIDE OURSELVES, AND THAT MAY ANSWER BOTH QUERIES, BUT IT ALSO SHOWS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HOW WE SEE OURSELVES AND HOW OTHERS SEE US.

LEAVING ALL THAT ON ONE SIDE, BECAUSE THE FULL ANSWER TO THE QUESTION MUST LIE ELSEWHERE, ONE BEGINS TO SENSE THAT OUR MAIN TRANSGRESSIONS LIE IN OUR LACK OF WONDER AT THE ORIGINS OF LIFE AND THE SELF-CENTRED ARROGANCE WE PUT IN ITS PLACE. AS DR ROLES TOLD US:

DR. R. IT IS TOTALLY FORGETTING THE ONLY REAL THING IN THIS UNIVERSE—THE PURE CONSCIOUSNESS, THE ABSOLUTE; TOTALLY FORGETTING. AND THIS CONSCIOUSNESS IS ONESELF, ONE'S TRUE SELF, ONE'S DIVINE SELF, HOW OFTEN DO WE REMEMBER THAT? THIS DIVINE SELF LIKES TO BE TAKEN NOTICE OF AND TO HAVE ATTENTION PAID, JUST AS YOU LIKE TO BE TAKEN NOTICE OF AND HAVE ATTENTION PAID TO YOU. BECAUSE IN FACT IT IS OURSELVES; SO IT IS TO BE TRUE TO ONESELF, TO REMEMBER, AND TO WANT TO PAY ONE'S DEBTS. AND TO REALIZE THAT EVERYBODY HAS THIS SAME SELF, THE SELF THAT LIVES IN THE HEARTS OF ALL. EVERYBODY IS THE HOME OF THIS SELF, AND PAYING A DEBT IS TO RECOGNIZE THIS SELF ALSO IN OTHER PEOPLE, AND TO DO TO OTHERS WHAT YOU WOULD HAVE THEM DO TO YOU. SO, IF ONE FEELS THAT ONE HAS BEEN HELPED BY THIS MEDITATION, THEN ONE TRIES, IF ONE CAN, TO TAKE A HAND IN GIVING THE MEDITATION TO OTHER PEOPLE, HANDING ON WHAT ONE HAS RECEIVED.

THE PART OF OURSELVES WHICH DOMINATES, AND BY DOING SO DISTORTS OUR HARMONY, IS OF COURSE THE PHYSICAL, THE OBVIOUS TANGIBLE PART WE CAN PINCH TO REASSURE OURSELVES OF OUR EXISTENCE; AND IT IS OUR PHYSICAL EXISTENCE WHICH LEAPS TO MIND AS FORMING PART OF THE FILM THAT COATS OUR PLANET EARTH AND PLAYS ITS PART IN BRIDGING THE SECOND INTERVAL IN THE RAY OF CREATION. ON THAT VAST SCALE THE EXISTENCE OF HUMANITY DOES NOT EVEN APPEAR BUT IS ONLY TO BE INFERRED AS PART OF ORGANIC LIFE—WHICH IS SHOWN AS THE THREE NOTES, *LA*, *SOL*, *FA*, IN THE LATERAL DESCENDING OCTAVE WHICH STARTS IN OUR SUN EXPRESSLY TO BRIDGE THIS INTERVAL. NEVERTHELESS, IT MUST BE THAT HUMANITY SERVES ON LEVELS OTHER THAN THE PHYSICAL, AND AS P.D.O. TELLS US IN HIS THIRD COSMOLOGICAL LECTURE:

ALL GREAT EVENTS IN THE LIFE OF THE HUMAN MASSES ARE CAUSED BY PLANETARY INFLUENCES, ARE THE RESULTS OF THE TAKING IN OF PLANETARY INFLUENCES. HUMAN SOCIETY IS A HIGHLY SENSITIVE MASS FOR THE RECEPTION OF PLANETARY INFLUENCES. AND ANY ACCIDENTAL SMALL TENSION IN PLANETARY SPHERES CAN BE REFLECTED FOR YEARS IN AN INCREASED ANIMATION IN ONE OR ANOTHER SPHERE OF HUMAN ACTIVITY. SOMETHING ACCIDENTAL AND VERY TRANSIENT TAKES PLACE IN PLANETARY SPACE. THIS IS IMMEDIATELY RECEIVED BY THE HUMAN MASSES AND PEOPLE BEGIN TO HATE AND TO KILL ONE ANOTHER, JUSTIFYING THEIR ACTIONS BY SOME THEORY OF BROTHERHOOD, OR EQUALITY, OR LOVE, OR JUSTICE.

ORGANIC LIFE IS THE ORGAN OF PERCEPTION OF THE EARTH AND IT IS, AT THE SAME TIME, AN ORGAN OF RADIATION. WITH THE HELP OF 'ORGANIC LIFE' EACH PORTION OF THE EARTH'S SURFACE OCCUPYING A GIVEN AREA SENDS EVERY MOMENT CERTAIN KINDS OF RAYS IN THE DIRECTION OF THE SUN, THE PLANETS AND THE MOON. IN CONNECTION WITH THIS THE SUN NEEDS ONE KIND OF RADIATIONS, THE PLANETS ANOTHER KIND AND THE MOON ANOTHER. EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENS ON EARTH CREATES RADIATIONS OF THIS KIND. AND MANY THINGS HAPPEN JUST BECAUSE CERTAIN KINDS OF RADIATIONS ARE REQUIRED FROM A CERTAIN PLACE ON THE EARTH'S SURFACE.

NO MATTER WHAT TAKES PLACE IN THE THIN FILM OF ORGANIC LIFE IT ALWAYS SERVES THE INTERESTS OF THE EARTH, THE SUN, THE PLANETS AND THE MOON; NOTHING UNNECESSARY AND NOTHING INDEPENDENT CAN HAPPEN IN IT BECAUSE IT WAS CREATED FOR A DEFINITE PURPOSE AND IS MERELY SUBORDINATE.

C-O-N IS THE DESCENDING OCTAVE OF GROWTH AND THE ENNEAGRAM TELLS US THAT ON ALL SCALES THERE IS A COMPLEMENTARY OCTAVE OF TRANSFORMATION OR REFINEMENT, O-C-N; THAT WHEN THEY ARE JOINED BY THE ASCENDING OCTAVE OF REGENERATION, N-O-C, THEY FORM THE TRINITY OF TRIADS WHICH CHARGES THE UNIVERSE WITH ITS CREATIVE ENERGIES. IT ALSO TELLS US THAT ON THE HUMAN SCALE, EACH OF US INDIVIDUALLY REFLECTS THAT PATTERN AND CAN ONLY REACH OUR TRUE PURPOSE BY DISCOVERING IT AT WORK IN OURSELVES.

LET US SEE HOW THIS PATTERN IS REFLECTED IN THE FOOD TABLE AND HOW WE TREAT THE THREE DIFFERENT 'FOODS' WE NEED TO KEEP ALIVE. THE DENSEST LEVEL OF NOURISHMENT IS THE ACTUAL FOOD WE EAT AND DRINK AND THIS IS PROCESSED BY OUR BODIES AND REFINED AUTOMATICALLY TO THE HIGHEST LEVEL TO PRODUCE THE ENERGY OF SEX, Si 12— THE ENERGY WHICH ENSURES THE CONTINUANCE OF THE HUMAN RACE. BUT FOOD ALONE CANNOT BE FULLY REFINED IN THIS WAY WITHOUT THE HELP OF AIR. FROM OUR BREATHING OF AIR, THE PROCESS OF DIGESTION RECEIVES THE ENERGY IT NEEDS TO OVERCOME THE FIRST INTERVAL IN ITS OCTAVE OF REFINEMENT, AND TO PROCEED AUTOMATICALLY TO THE SECOND INTERVAL AT Si 12. THE AIR OCTAVE ITSELF COMES TO A HALT AT ITS FIRST INTERVAL, BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF REFINED IMPRESSIONS TO TAKE IT FURTHER. IN OUR ORDINARY STATE IMPRESSIONS REMAIN AT THE LEVEL AT WHICH THEY ENTER, NOT POWERFUL ENOUGH TO BEGIN THEIR OWN OCTAVE OF REFINEMENT, AND A 'CONSCIOUS SHOCK' IS REQUIRED TO ALLOW THEM TO DO SO — AND IN THE PROCESS HELP THE AIR OCTAVE PROCEED TO ITS SECOND INTERVAL. IN THIS WAY THE SPECIES CONTINUES, BUT UNLESS THE IMPRESSIONS OCTAVE IS DEVELOPED WE REMAIN ONLY DIMLY AWARE OF OUR POSSIBILITIES.

THESE INTERVALS IN THE OCTAVES OF DIGESTION ARE OF COURSE QUITE SEPARATE TO THE GAPS IN OUR ACTIVITIES WHICH WERE DISCUSSED IN OUR LAST PAPER, GAPS IN WHICH DR ROLES TOLD US SAMADHI CAN OCCUR, GAPS WHICH HE URGED US TO EXTEND SO THAT WE MIGHT TASTE MORE OF THAT ENERGY WHICH BRINGS A SENSE OF FULFILLMENT.

THE INTERVALS UNDER DISCUSSION IN THIS PAPER ARE PART OF THE STRUCTURE OF OCTAVES AND ARE USUALLY UNNOTICED BY US. THAT IS WHY THE WESTERN SYSTEM INSISTED THAT HUMAN BEINGS LIKE OURSELVES CANNOT 'DO' BUT LIVE INEVITABLY UNDER THE LAW OF ACCIDENT. AS P.D.O. SAYS LATER IN THE SAME LECTURE:

THE GREATEST INSULT FOR A 'MAN MACHINE' IS TO TELL HIM THAT HE CAN DO NOTHING, CAN ATTAIN NOTHING, THAT HE CAN NEVER MOVE TOWARDS ANY AIM WHATEVER AND THAT IN STRIVING TOWARDS ONE AIM HE WILL INEVITABLY CREATE ANOTHER. ACTUALLY OF COURSE IT CANNOT BE OTHERWISE. THE 'MAN MACHINE' IS IN THE POWER OF ACCIDENT. HIS ACTIVITIES MAY FALL BY ACCIDENT INTO SOME SORT OF CHANNEL WHICH HAS BEEN CREATED BY COSMIC OR MECHANICAL FORCES AND THEY MAY BY ACCIDENT MOVE ALONG THIS CHANNEL FOR A CERTAIN TIME, GIVING THE ILLUSION THAT AIMS OF SOME KIND ARE BEING ATTAINED. SUCH ACCIDENTAL CORRESPONDENCES OF RESULTS WITH AIMS WE HAVE SET BEFORE US OR THE ATTAINMENT OF AIMS IN SMALL THINGS WHICH CAN HAVE NO CONSEQUENCES CREATE IN MECHANICAL MAN THE CONVICTION THAT HE IS ABLE TO ATTAIN ANY AIM, 'IS ABLE TO CONQUER NATURE', AS IT IS CALLED, IS ABLE 'TO ARRANGE THE WHOLE OF HIS LIFE', AND SO ON.

AS A MATTER OF FACT HE IS OF COURSE UNABLE TO DO ANYTHING OF THE KIND BECAUSE NOT ONLY HAS HE NO CONTROL OVER THINGS OUTSIDE HIMSELF BUT HE HAS NO CONTROL EVEN OVER THINGS WITHIN HIMSELF. THIS LAST MUST BE VERY CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD AND ASSIMILATED; AT THE SAME TIME IT MUST BE UNDERSTOOD THAT CONTROL OVER THINGS BEGINS WITH CONTROL OVER THINGS IN OURSELVES, WITH CONTROL OVER OURSELVES. A MAN WHO CANNOT CONTROL HIMSELF, OR THE COURSE OF THINGS WITHIN HIMSELF, CAN CONTROL NOTHING.

IN WHAT WAY CAN CONTROL BE ATTAINED?

THE ANSWER IS TO BE FOUND IN THE 1977 AUDIENCE WE ARE ALL STUDYING THIS TERM WHERE HH SAYS:

H.H. THE BODY IS THE PRODUCT OF THE SANSKARA (NATURE) AND THE PRARABDHA AND HOWEVER THE BODY HAS BEEN DESIGNED ACCORDING TO THE INGREDIENTS OF THESE TWO, IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO TAILOR IT ACCORDING TO ONE'S DESIRES, BECAUSE IT IS MATERIALISED AND FINALISED. IT WILL GO BY THE LAWS WHICH IT IS DESIGNED, OR FORCED, TO FOLLOW. BUT AS FAR AS THE SUBTLE LEVEL IS CONCERNED, THAT CAN CERTAINLY BE CONTROLLED, THERE IS NO DIFFICULTY IN CONTROLLING THE SUBTLE LEVEL AT ALL—THAT IS WITHIN THE REALM OF THE HUMAN ENDEAVOUR THROUGH SPECIAL MEANS. THE MEANS TO DO THAT IS TO GO INTO THE CAUSAL LEVEL.

THE ENNEAGRAM TELLS US THIS IS ACHIEVED BY FINDING THE RIGHT COMBINATION OF THE LAWS OF THREE AND SEVEN WORKING IN US AND ALLOWING THEM TO DEVELOP THROUGH THE MEDITATION. BUT THIS AGAIN RETURNS US TO THE SUBJECT OF THE

INTERVALS THAT INEVITABLY OCCUR AND THWART OUR AIM IN TRYING TO DO SO; AND WE MUST FACE THE POSSIBILITY THAT OUR LACK OF SUCCESS IN REACHING THE CAUSAL LEVEL MORE OFTEN, DOESN'T BREED IN US EITHER A HABIT OF MAKING COMPLACENT EXCUSES OR A SENSE OF FAILURE. FOR, AS DR ROLES TOLD US IN OUR LAST PAPER:

DR.R. NEVER FEEL A SENSE OF FAILURE; HIS HOLINESS WON'T HAVE IT; IT IS JUST NOT ALLOWED. NEVER FEEL A SENSE OF FAILURE OR A SENSE OF SIN OR ANY OF THE PERSONAL SMOKE SCREENS THAT GET IN THE WAY BETWEEN US AND THE DIVINE SELF.

IF ADAM AND EVE HADN'T BEHAVED IN THAT CURIOUS WAY AFTER THEIR DEAL WITH THE SNAKE, AND RUSHED INTO THE BUSHES AND SEWN THEMSELVES GARMENTS OF FIG LEAVES, A LOT OF TROUBLE WOULD HAVE BEEN SAVED! (LAUGHTER) SO, APART FROM THAT, IT IS A QUESTION OF MAKING MORE OF THESE VERY BRIEF MOMENTS. YOU CAN PROLONG THEM FOR TWO MINUTES, FOR FIVE MINUTES FOR A QUARTER OF AN HOUR AND A QUARTER OF AN HOUR OF THAT PEACE WILL CHANGE YOU LIFE. IT IS WHAT MR. OUSPENSKY USED TO SAY: "REMEMBER YOURSELF FOR A MOMENT, FOR TWO MINUTES, FOR FIVE MINUTES, AND A QUARTER OF AN HOUR WOULD CHANGE YOUR LIFE." IT BEGINS LIKE THAT. BUT EVEN THESE MOMENTS, ALTHOUGH THEY ARE VERY SHORT IN DURATION HAVE VERY LASTING EFFECTS. SO, JUST GENTLY WITHOUT ANY SELF-ANALYSIS, MAKE MORE OF THEM.

TO UNDERSTAND, TO EXPECT AND BE PREPARED TO EXPERIENCE THESE INTERVALS IN ALL OUR ACTIVITIES IS IN FACT AN ESSENTIAL INGREDIENT IN EFFORTS TO BE MORE 'SELF-AWARE'. TO REALIZE THE REASON ONE HAS LOST ONE'S ATTENTION YET AGAIN MAY WELL PROVE TO BE THE EFFORT NEEDED TO MAINTAIN THE OCTAVE ON ITS COURSE.

BUT ALL THIS IS BESIDE THE POINT IF ONE HAS NO AIM. IT IS SELDOM ONE IS COMPLETELY AIMLESS, YET WHICH OF THE THREE WORLDS WHICH COMBINE TO CREATE US DO WE MOSTLY SERVE, THE PHYSICAL, THE SUBTLE OR THE CAUSAL? THE LAWS OF THREE AND SEVEN CONSTRUCT ALL THREE AND A REALIZATION OF THEIR INTER-CONNECTEDNESS ALTERS ONE'S AIM AND BRINGS A RECOGNITION OF THE URGENT NEED TO REPAY OUR DEBTS AT ALL LEVELS—THE MOST ESSENTIAL BEING THAT LEVEL FROM WHICH ALL CREATION SPRINGS.

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