

Subtle Inner Self-understanding vs. Gross Outer Materialistic Awareness for Peace, Conflict Resolution and Development

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ABSTRACT

Thought is the culprit for all the problems that are being faced by the human beings. In fact, it is the thought, which created the human race. Nature used the thought to create flora and fauna. Human beings used the thought to create races, religions, nations, castes, etc. and divided the entire human race into various fractions. Thought is the origin of conflict and detrimental to peace and development in absolute terms. Time is the movement of thought from the past through the present to the future. That is how, the time and hence the space is created. The mad race for materialistic development has been built around the principles of cause and effect within the dimensional limitations of time and space. We, the human beings thought that we can dominate the nature and hence became responsible to the state of affairs we are in now, using the science and technology as a tool. The human mind is burdened with bundle of thoughts, mostly corrupted. This resulted in not being able to have an open mind for discussing any of the serious issues (whether it is international understanding, communal harmony, and petty caste based biased judgments). In the process there is the development of conflict between races, nations, religions, castes, between two individuals, and also within oneself. There is a continuous fight both within as well as outside. This in turn is affecting the development in real sense for a peaceful and harmonious living.

Though great souls tried their level best to find solutions for the above problems, common man got trapped in the tool (religion) they used to demonstrate the method. Attachment to the religion became more important than the philosophy itself. Attachment to anything (either it is to a religion, to a nation, to a race, to a caste, to an organization, to philosophy, to a school of thought, or to thought itself) is dangerous for realization of the absolute truth, but leads to outward materialistic trap. With complete understanding of oneself, one would be able to understand everything and everybody. Then one would be in a position to strike the balance between subtle inner self-understanding and the gross outer materialistic awareness. As and when required, he can

come down to the materialistic level without being trapped under the clutches of senses and still maintain the peace of mind.

The big question mark before us now is, how to attain peace of mind, resolve the conflict both within and outside, and move towards the so-called real development. All the methods prescribed by philosophy based on religion could not succeed completely. Obviously, self-understanding and open-mindedness are the keys to solve all these problems.

This paper is an attempt to address the above problems and suggest an appropriate practically possible solution. The focus is on highlighting the limitations of time, space, cause & effect theory, science & technology, knowledge, language, and ultimately the thought. It is also discussed how to attain an absolute thoughtlessness state (an absolute bliss) which results in absolute peace of mind without the help of any particular religion or even science. It also emphasizes the importance of philosophy in life. At that state of mind, one starts accepting the things as they are and hence the chances of attaining peace and resolving conflict for the development of entire human race.