

Bk 2 Chap 26 Ascent to Supermind – speech

1. Intro

- A. Man and Evolution
- B. Evolution of the Spiritual Man
- C. Triple Transformation
- D. Ascent to Supermind

2. Evolution of Man

- A. Differences between man and the animal
 - Tool maker
 - Symbol maker
 - Self-consciousness
 - Rationality
- B. Tool Maker -- Physical Mind -- Tool making, fire
- C. Symbol Maker -- Vital Mind -- Symbolic knowledge
 - Images – cave art – Horses, cows, sun, Mother Goddesses
 - Sounds – OM
 - Oral language -- words
 - Correlations – superstition
 - Worship of women
 - Money
- D. Builder
 - Monuments
 - Temples
 - Cities
- E. Thinking Mind
 - Causal relations
 - Reproduction
 - Agriculture
 - Civilization

F. Concept Maker

- Symbolic written language and numbers
- Rational logical thought
- Mathematics
- Science

G. Organizer

- Trade
- Governance
- Law
- Education

H. Self-consciousness

3. Higher Planes of Consciousness

A. Genius

- Results from a veiled penetration of higher mental planes
- Acts within narrow limits, usually a specific field, without regulated separate organization of its characteristic energies
- Creativity -- we marvel how **Jane Austen** has written such a perfect story – so true to life
 - Opposites clash yet eventually lead to a harmonious reconciliation
 - Darcy's pride and Eliza's prejudice
 - Wickham's falsehood serves Darcy's progress
 - Lydia's elopement elevates the whole family
 - All contradictions are reconciled
 - It looks like an inexplicable miracle
 - We do not see the power that makes it happen
 - We cannot imagine how a 19 year old girl could write it
 - She has the higher knowledge at the level of life sensation

B. Spiritual Mind

- Inspiration, revelatory vision, intuitive perception and discernment are unmistakable in their origin

C. Mystic and spiritual experience

- Gates open to possibility of extending our consciousness beyond present limits

4. Involution & Division

A. Division becomes Ignorance and Impotence

B. Involution in Inconscience

- Chap 28 describes the descent from spirit to Matter
- Chap 56 describes the ascent from mind to spirit
- Link between being, consciousness and force is complete
 - consciousness emerging in Ignorance is unaware of its own being and only achieves the possibility of reuniting with it when he rises beyond mind
- Link between the planes of mind-life-matter-spirit is also severed and each acts independent of the rest.
- Yogis thought mind was the last step in evolution

C. Division resulted from exclusive concentration

- Exclusive concentration on one movement and one status of Conscious Being is the essential reason

D. The ways we are divided

- Individual from world
- Inner and Outer -- Objective and Subjective
- Parts of being
- Conscious, subconscious, superconscient
- Surface and Subliminal
- Individual from God – our Transcendent Self

5. Evolution & Integration

A. Knowledge becomes Truth -- Everything that is divided and separate becomes increasingly related and integrated in a larger whole

B. **Will becomes Power** -- As it ascends to Supermind, the separating veil or wall between objective and subjective thins

- **TRUTH = POWER – Fogg**

C. We discover that we are the determinate.

- Man as the determinant – Fogg
 - wager with full confidence
 - decided to save Aouda

- remained calm in the midst of adversity.
- Churchill -- the confidence to proclaim we will never surrender.
- Appa -- knowledge to affirm Chrysler will be saved, the Cold War will end, and devotees can earn 100 crores.

D. **Evolution of Knowledge & Will**

- Knowledge = Truthfulness
 - Charlotte – when can I wish you joy
 - Rishi’s Mango on the tree – mango on the tree – Krishna tells them to speak truth and mango will return to tree – mango rises but does not go all the way – I always loved Karna
- Will = Power in life
 - Om – when Mother chants it the entire the world vibrates
 - I could be mistress of Pemberley
 - Power of Mantra – mantra of life
- Free Will

6. **The Process**

- A. Psychic and Spiritual Transformations are preconditions for Supramental Change
 - They must be far advanced
- B. Dual movement – go within and rise above
- C. Breaking down walls between inner and outer nature
 - Shifting of the center of consciousness from outer to inner self – cannot be done in the surface consciousness
 - Mental man must become conscious of his Psychic and inner mental being⁹²²
 - The inner life, mind, subtle physical are more open to the universal
- D. Man must be sufficiently universalized
 - Opening of the individual to the cosmic consciousness
- E. Psychic must be unveiled and in control
- F. Descent of the spiritual force is more effective
- G. **Process of ascent and Integration**
 - **Dawn**
 - **Superconscious & Inconscious**
 - **Call & Grace**

H. Spiritual opening

- An upward orientation
- Silence of the mind
- Nirvana of the little ego
- Contact with the divine reality
- A descent of the spiritual force from above
- become conscious of the superconscient spiritual light, power, knowledge, Ananda

I. Spiritual evolution follows the logic of earlier levels

- Increased rapidity
- Must cover all the steps
- Rapidity possible because of conscious participation
- Physical – aeonic graduality
- Life – millenniums
- Mind – centuries
- Miracle with a method

J. The Psychic and Spiritual transformations are a completion and perfection of things we are familiar with

7. Conditions for the Ascent

A. Two Conditions – Faith and Grace

- There is no progress without a call from below and a descent of grace that answers.
- A conscious call from below for the descent of the higher
- Without the call and sanction of the lower, there is no transformation
- **Aspiration – Rejection – Surrender**

B. First condition -- Consent – Law of PARTICIPATION of the nature (prakriti)

- Individual as **conscious instrument**⁹²⁸
- Opening to action of the supranature⁹²⁷
- **All parts of our nature must acquiesce to divine action**
- Master of his energies, no longer a slave to Prakriti

- Free will is not just the individual
 - It includes sanction and identification with the cosmic and transcendent will—sanction of the Infinite
- C. **Second condition – Law of Surrender – obedience** to the higher truth of spirit ⁹²⁹
 - Each part of the nature must consent to the change ⁹²⁹
 - The psychic and spiritual transformation make possible a spiritual obedience of the lower nature
 - **Self-giving** ⁹²⁹
 - Giving up of all the formations of mind, vital and physical and even the subconscious and inconscient
 - **Rejection of 27 characteristics**
 - Mr Bennet’s accepting consciousness responsibility
 - Darcy withdrawing his offenses
 - Eliza withdrawing her attraction to falsehood
 - Fogg’s immobility and non-reaction
 - Mark Robarts ceasing to act
 - Obedience to the action of the conscious Divine Power in our members
 - **Power comes from the surrender of the individual** ⁹²⁷

8. Three stages

- A. **Long stage of personal effort** needed before self-giving to supreme nature can become total
 - Aspiration
 - Calling down the higher
 - Opening and receptivity
- B. **Mediate stage of conscious reliance on the higher**
 - **Giving up the lower**
 - Mind must give up all its formations
 - Giving up vital desires etc.
 - Physical part ⁹³⁰
 - Subconscient and Inconscient must become conscious in us
- C. **Unification of being** -- breaking down wall between inner and outer nature ⁹³⁰
 - Shifting from outer to inner

- Acting from the inner self
- Opening of the individual to cosmic consciousness
- Supramental establish in the outer nature

9. Difficulties

- A. Ascent to the higher occurs before the lower is completed, thus there is always admixture
- B. No stage can be completed without a descent of the next higher
- C. **We can only master that of which we are conscious**
- D. **Power of persistence, recurrence, resistance**
 - Established things in Nature are great obstacle to the evolutionary Force
 - Present at each stage of the ascent
 - The descent of the higher is obscured and distorted by the lower planes at all levels and the Inconscient until the final descent of Supermind
 - Each force strives for its own infinite fulfilment
 - Each level prefers its own self-law, dharma, however inferior
 - Each clings to its own unconsciousness
 - More obstinately if that way is a way of darkness and a contradiction of delight,
 - Adverse forces oppose
 - Nature sanctions the resistance of the lower as essential for perfection of the higher
 - **Taste of ignorance** – lower resists the higher
 - **Sages and rishis dread the touch of delight**

10. Withdrawal and Rejection of the lower

- A. All our problems and obstacles come from human consciousness and initiative.
- B. All progress and higher accomplishment comes by a withdrawal from reliance on the lower capacities.
- C. Importance of rejection
- D. **Sincerity** – giving up ego mixture
- E. **Power of Quietude & Silence**

- **Composure & Tranquility -- Fogg**
 - **Silence**
 - **Controlled passivity**
 - **Non-thinking**
 - **Non-initiative.**
- F. **One person** can act on behalf of all by creating the conditions for grace to descend.

11. Four Stages of the Ascent – World Stair

- A. For transformation you have to ascend the world stair
- B. They are all gnostic in their principle and power
- C. All are based on self-existent Knowledge
- D. Grades of same energy substance of the Spirit
- E. Gradation is in ⁹³⁸⁻⁹
 - Being
 - Consciousness -- Knowledge and Self-awareness
 - Force – Will – Power – Intensity
 - Capacity for Delight, Beauty, Joy, Love
- F. Infinite gradation between two poles of substance
 - From gross substance to spirit substance
 - From infinite divisibility to unity and indivisibility
 - From inflexible rigidity to plasticity
 - From separateness to unification
 - From immutability to transformation
 - From impenetrability to interfusion and interchange
 - From darkness to light
 - From blind force to conscious will
 - From ignorance to knowledge
 - From helplessness to power
 - From division and separation to totality and integration

- From durability of form to flexibility of substance and force toward eternity of essence

12. Characteristic of Thinking Mind -- Thinker

- A. Ignorance searching for knowledge
 - Searchlight of intelligence hunting in the dark
 - Darcy seeing Eliza
- B. A collision and strife of forces
 - Contact of form with form releases sensation
 - Contact of force with force releases consciousness
- C. Knows by division and aggregation
 - Tries to know the whole by separating into smaller pieces and knowing its parts then recombining them
 - Piecemeal and fragmented – like disassembling a computer
 - Body consists of its elements
 - Distinction, comparison, contrast, categorization – not essential knowledge
 - Eliza is different than Mrs. Bennet, not as pretty as Jane, more cultured than Lydia, more clever than Caroline, more cheerful than Charlotte, stronger than Lady Catherine
- D. It thinks linearly linking one idea to another in chains
 - Darcy thinks Eliza will marry him because he is rich and important
- E. Indirect knowledge
 - Through the senses – externalities
 - Eliza thinks Wickham is good
- F. Mental Constructions -- it constructs images or models of reality
 - Eliza thinks Darcy is a proud, selfish, mean rich aristocrat
- G. Separative knowledge
 - Knower and known are independent
 - D&E -- Pride vs. Prejudice – they project on each other – no identification
- H. **Life guided by Mind is a jigsaw puzzle without a picture**

13. Higher Mind -- Truth-Thought – the Sage

- A. Rise by **silencing thought mind**
- B. Thought expresses itself in silence
 - Eliza wants Darcy to find Lydia
 - Mr. Gardiner's decision
 - Robert's decision
 - Mary's writes letter releasing Frank and becomes heiress
- C. No need to seek Knowledge
 - Steady sunshine
 - Not Ignorance searching for knowledge
 - Self-revelation of eternal Wisdom, not acquired knowledge
- D. Consciousness dominated by **luminous Thought**
 - Spiritual parent of our conceptive mental ideation
- E. No construction of ideas or speculation
 - No rationalizing
 - No logical steps toward a conclusion
 - No deductions and inferences
 - Not a system of conclusions from premises or data
- F. Automatic spontaneous knowledge
 - Awareness emerging from the original identity carrying truths of that identity
 - Knowledge formulating itself on a basis of self-existent all-awareness and manifesting some parts of its integrality
- G. Multiple perspectives (not either/or)
 - Capacity to take multiple points of view
 - Watching the river from multiple points of view
 - Read P&P, author, director, actor, character
- H. Inclusive, Integrated thoughts
 - **Mass ideation of knowledge in a single view**
 - reveals relationship of idea with idea
 - Partial integrality and harmony in thought-form

- I. First level beyond separative knowledge
 - Based on unitarian sense of being
- J. Will -- dynamic effectuation of Truth
 - Creates by the innate power of knowledge
 - Effectuation of its conceptions by the self-power of the Idea
 - Idea is put into the heart or life as force to be worked out
 - Even in the body – thought and will of **health and strength** replaces faith in illness or consent to illness with vibrations
- K. Examples
 - **Freedom** is the last law
 - Contradictions are complementaries
 - All problems are problems of harmony

14. Illumined Mind -- Truth-Sight – Seer & Illumined Mystic

- A. It grows in purification, peace and silence
 - **Knowledge comes as light and energy**
 - Light is a spiritual manifestation of the Divine Reality
 - Outpourings of massive lightnings or flame sun-stuff, rather than individual thoughts
- B. **Mind of spiritual light rather than thought**
 - Appa says Mother's figure when Velytham receives a business proposal
 - Consciousness of the seer – by inner sight
- C. **Truth Sight and Truth Light**
 - More direct perception than thought
 - No verbal representation is needed
 - Higher Mind gets outline truth. IM gets also substance of the truth
- D. Everything is interconnected within a great, joyous vibration
 - More powerful integration of physical, vital, mental
 - Bathes in an indescribable state of truth, without understanding anything about it – it just is

- Sudden poetic blossoming, new architectural forms, new scientific discoveries, worship their God
- E. A transforming light breaks the limitations, inertia, narrowness, doubts of the physical mind
- F. Direct power of spiritual sensation in sense
 - Physical and vital can contact and meet concretely
 - Light pours into the cells of the body
- G. Substance is translucent;
- H. Hymn to Mother of Radiances
 - It was the hour before the Gods awake
 - Squanders eternity on a beat of time
 - Air was a vibrant link between earth and heaven
 - Aspiration awakes in me. Achieve in me all that I flame for

15. Intuition – Truth-Sight

- A. One must be open to the cosmic consciousness
- B. **Truth-Sight**
 - Knowledge is a **lightning flash** bursting forth from the silence.
 - sees things by flashes, point by point, not as a whole
 - “a memory of the Truth”
 - Massed rays of far-off Supermind light
 - Nearer to knowledge by identity
 - Clear transparency, not translucent like Illumined Mind.
- C. Four-fold Power
 - Truth seeing -- revelation
 - Truth hearing -- inspiration
 - Truth touch – seizing the significance (like mental intelligence)
 - Right relation -- automatic discrimination of relation of truth to truth (like logic)
- D. Knowledge by Direct contact

- Power of knowing any truth or fact directly without reasoning or sense-proof -- a spontaneous right perception.
 - Directly knows or feels what is in a man, his capacities, character, temperament
 - Not discovering something unknown – one only discovers oneself!
 - Sees by direct inner contact
 - Three modes
 - External penetrating contact with objects
 - Inner Contact:
 - Contactual union with Supreme Reality or spiritual reality of things
- E. Intuition expressing as light of illumination
- **Sri Aurobindo and Doriaswamy – spot of light**
 - **Yogi and French Revolution**
- F. Savitri -- Aswapathy
- **Oft inspiration with her lightning feet**
- A sudden messenger from the all-seeing tops
 Traversed the soundless corridors of his mind
 Bringing her rhythmic sense of hidden things.
 A music spoke of transcending mortal speech.
 As if from a golden phial of the All-Bliss,
 A joy of light, a joy of sudden sight,
 A rapture of the thrilled undying Word
 Poured into his heart as into an empty cup,
 A repetition of God's first delight
 Creating in a young and virgin Time.
 In a brief moment caught, a little space,
 All-Knowledge packed into great wordless thoughts
 Lodged in the expectant stillness of his depths
 A crystal of the ultimate Absolute,
 A portion of the inexpressible Truth
 Revealed by silence to the silent soul.**
- G. Often confused with
- **the infrarational mystic's pseudo-intuitions**
 - **communications**

16. Overmind

- A. Highest status of spiritual mind
- B. **Gods are overmental**

- C. Subordinate power of Supermind in direct contact with it
- Separated by a lid or veil above and below it
 - Knowledge of totality without integrality of Supermind
 - Sees the totality and the truth of each part and their possibilities of interrelationship, but not the integrality
- D. Power of **cosmic consciousness** – global knowledge
- Its basis is cosmic unity
 - consciousness of unity
 - large universality – feeling of boundless self
 - Integral sense of cosmic governance by the Ishwara
 - Totality of the Spirit
 - Sense of the universe in and as oneself, and identification with all
 - True Individuality -- individual as a cosmic center of universality
 - Ego is subordinated or abolished
 - consciousness sees in great masses
- E. Thought has the inherent power of truth
- **Draupadi's revelation to the rishi makes the mango return to the branch**
- F. Overmind & Mind
- OM is a play of possibilities like all mind – not imperatives
 - Each working itself out independently
- G. Almost complete uniformity of the light
- Light everywhere,
 - joy and harmony and beauty everywhere
- H. Overmind Affirms Independent Truths
- OM works out in independent action truth of Aspect, Power, Idea, Force, Delight
 - Each God knows all the Gods and their place in existence
 - Each Idea admits all other ideas
 - Each Force concedes a place to all other forces
 - It puts each in its place in the whole

- All religions would be true developments of one eternal religion
 - All philosophies valid in its own field of its own universe-view
 - All political theories legitimate workings of an Idea Force
- I. Principle of Separation ²⁸⁴
- J. Overmind separates
- Consciousness and Force
 - Existence, Truth into its aspects
 - Personality & Impersonality
 - Infinite possibilities
 - Multiple worlds

17. Conclusions

- A. Knowledge becomes wider, higher, more integrated
- B. Wider means more universal, less egoistic
- C. Knowledge comes with seeking, not constructed
- D. Capacity to see many sides of the truth
- E. Higher planes also of power, delight and beauty

18. Complexity & Difficulties of the Process

- A. Law of Gradation
 - The stages and levels are intermixed and progress at each level is imperfect before moving to the next
 - The evolution of the whole consciousness is like an ascending ocean of Nature
 - An army advancing in columns spread over a huge territory
 - Not a clear progression from level to level
- B. Need for Integration
 - All the planes are interwoven, interpenetrated with one another
 - Progress at each level depends on progress at the others
 - Resistance and obstruction of the Ignorance
- C. Division of being
 - Multiple statuses of Consciousness

- Inner vs outer
- Surface vs subliminal
- External surface self is slower to awake from Ignorance
- Circumconscient is in touch with the world and influenced by it

D. Blind Imperative of the Inconscience

- So long as Inconscient is not transformed, persists it influences all the others
- The higher must completely transform the lower in order to fully harmoniously express in human nature
- Only Supermind can entirely reconcile the contraries of the dark and luminous imperative

19. Transformation

- A. We need a kinetic spirituality objectivized in life & master of the world-nature
- B. Only Supermind can reconcile the contraries and Nescience
- C. Luminous imperative contends with dark imperative.
- D. Isolated individual transformation is not enough
- E. It must extend to universal nature
- F. It will make possible development of gradations of species between mind and Supermind, each a staging point for spiritual evolution to the next.

20. Applications

- A. Withdrawal from thoughts, immobility and Silence
- B. Other person's point of view
- C. Rejection at three levels
- D. Power of Truth
- E. Integration

21. Truth Consciousness

- A. The higher planes differ from the lower in many ways
- B. But the most characteristic difference is that they are expressions of Spiritual Truth
- C. Not just truth of fact or thought

- D. Truth and Beauty become one
- E. Even the truth that lies behind falsehood -- Wickham
- F. Not your truth or my truth but THE TRUTH
- G. Truth by identity
- H. **Salute to the Advent of Truth**

22. Examples

A. Savitri

- **Remember why thou camest, find out thy soul**
- **In silence seek god's meaning in thy depths**
- **Then mortal nature change to the Divine**
- **All can be done if the God-touch is there**
- **The whole wide world is only He and She**
- **Two who are one is the secret of all power**
- **The master of existence lurks in us**
- **Life is paradox with God for key**
- **He is the Player who became the Play**
- **And belief shall be not until the work is done**
- **Teased the Inconscient to wake Ignorance**
- **A mighty Guidance leads us still through all**
- **A heart of silence in the hands of joy**
- **A body like a parable of dawn**
- **Her look, her smile awake celestial sense**
- **For even her gulfs were secrecies of light**

23. Supramental Transformation

- A. But the supramental change is in less explored territory
- B. Supramental is beyond human mental conception
 - As the human mind is beyond animal perception
- C. All previous levels of ascent achieved by subconscious effort of Nature based on formations in the subliminal inner consciousness
- D. Slow aeonic graduality becomes concentrated pace of evolutionary swiftness
 - Law of evolutionary transformation is gradual
 - Law of departure can be an abrupt rupture
- E. Progress is not linear and in discrete stages
- F. Transition from Overmind to Supermind
 - Cognition: passage from Ignorance to Knowledge
 - Will-Force-Power: passage from Nature to Super-Nature
 - Impossible for Mind (power of Ignorance) to achieve on its own unaided aspiration and power
- G. Free will –
 - Means free from inferior nature, identified with cosmic and transcendent will
 - To the extent Fogg is not on the surface pushed around by the mental, vital, physical nature, he has real free will
 - Darcy and social evolution
 - Churchill --- instrumental initiation