

1. Review of Chap. 20 – Philosophy of Rebirth

- A. Cosmos is the manifestation, involution and evolution of a Cosmic Spirit
- B. The play of separation of the One necessitates involution into the Inconscient material substance and evolution in the physical – it is not possible in any other way.
- C. All evolutionary progress of the soul takes place in the body
- D. The soul follows the same evolutionary process as the universe as a whole and according to the same laws – involution and evolution through the planes of matter to spirit, principles of the ascent and integration, etc
- E. Rebirth is not a punishment for sins
- F. Individuality is a persistent reality
- G. Individual has 2 parts -- a spiritual Person and a soul of personality
 - Person – man’s eternal being
 - Soul of Personality – man’s cosmic and mutable being
- H. Growth of consciousness is the means by which Spirit in things discloses its being
- I. The cosmos is a manifestation of the play of the eternal One in the being of Sachchidananda with the eternal Many
- J. There is a true Person, real spiritual Individual, true Purusha behind and upholding all the changes of our personality through rebirth
- K. Birth in a physical body is indispensable for the development of self and play of relations between the individual, universal and other individuals.
- L. The aim of rebirth is not moksa, it is spiritual evolution
- M. Rebirth is essential and inevitable for the spiritual evolution of the psychic from physical to vital to mental levels and behind, which cannot be completed in one lifetime.
- N. Personality must continuously evolve as an organization for self-expression of the soul and spirit within us
- O. The practice of consecration makes all life yoga

2. Review of Chap 21: The Order of the Worlds

- A. The involution and evolution of the individual soul is only a part of this larger cosmic movement
- B. The other worlds exist and are in contact with the physical world and our own being through the subliminal.
- C. They are created in the involution of Supermind and descent of spirit into Matter.
- D. They represent the different qualities and powers of spirit at different levels of the descent into division and ignorance
- E. They serve as a repository of powers and potentialities on which we draw in the evolution and manifestation of spiritual being.
- F. The soul of personality or psychic develops its seven parts of being in the subliminal by communion with the higher worlds and experience in the physical body
- G. The existence of other worlds is essential because the involution and evolution are primarily universal and only secondarily individual. The worlds support the development of planes of consciousness in each individual.
- H. Each plane or part of our subliminal being is in touch with a different world from which it draws the material for its own development and self-expression.
- I. The parts of being of the surface personality are temporary projections of the evolving subliminal mental, vital, physical and psychic beings for the purpose of new experience in each life.
- J. After death the subliminal parts pass through these other worlds to assimilate their experiences and prepare for new birth.

3. Unanswered Questions

- A. What or who is it that is reborn in us each time?
- B. Where do we go between births and what happens to us during that period?
- C. Why do we go to other worlds and what purpose do they serve in our evolution?
- D. What determines the circumstances of each new birth?
- E. Is it true that our actions in past lives can influence what happens to us in future lives? Does that explain good luck and bad luck?
- F. What is the truth of karma? Are we really punished for all our past sins in this or previous births?

- G. If karma is real, why is it that sometimes we find bad people prospering and good people suffering?
- H. Why is it that sometimes many people suffer the same misfortune or good fortune?
- I. Is it possible to recall memories from past lives and become conscious of our past lives?
- J. When the supramental manifestation comes, will our personality become immortal like our soul?

4. Lines of Spiritual Evolution

- A. Manifesting formless Infinity infinitely in perfect forms for the delight of self-discovery and self-expression
- B. Unconsciousness to Total Consciousness of Individual, Cosmos, Transcendent Divine
- C. Passive detachment to Creator and Master
- D. Ignorance to Knowledge
- E. Pain and Suffering to Delight
- F. Death to Immortality
- G. Surface to the Depths
- H. Incapacity to Absolute Power
 - Failure manifests absence of limits??
- I. Ego to Psychic and Spirit
- J. Finite to Infinite
- K. Falsehood to Truth
- L. Separation to Universality and Oneness
- M. Division to Unity
- N. Strife to Law of Harmony and Love
- O. From imperfect to Perfect Forms manifesting the Divine

5. Love in Dr. Thorne

- A. Ancient heritage and modern poverty
- B. Spurned by the woman he loved he decides not to marry

- C. An orphaned motherless girl cannot be good or happy
- D. He sublimates his love and gives it to Mary
- E. Absolute integrity
- F. Absolute lack of mercenary motives marries him to the wealthiest commoner in England
- G. He takes consciousness responsibility for the woman's fall, his brother's deeds, Roger's revenge, Gresham's impoverishment and Mary's misfortune
- H. His values raise Mary and him to highest level

6. **Progressive Manifestation of Divine Love**

- A. Dr. Thorne
- B. P&P
- C. Ayala's Angel
- D. Gomati's Lover – Rangarajan
- E. Viziers of Basora
- F. Savitri

7. **Austen analogy**

- A. To subtle worlds and surface personality
- B. What is real life?
- C. To experience actor gets playing different parts like our different lives
- D. Actress plays a succession of parts as a succession of lives
 - Necessity of forgetting in order to progress
- E. What do we learn from experience?
 - What did Jennifer and Colin learn from playing the parts
- F. Ayala and her angel
- G. Count of Monte Cristo

8. **What is Personality?**

- A. Person and Personality
- B. Parts of being
 - Surface

- Subliminal
 - Subconscious
 - Superconscious
- C. Parts of the surface personality
- Mental
 - Vital
 - Physical
- D. Parts of the subliminal Person
- Mental being
 - Vital being
 - Physical being
 - Psychic being
- E. Parts of spirit
- Self and Ego
 - Self, Conscious Being or Spirit, Iswara or Psychic
 - Soul as unevolving being and Psychic as evolving being

9. What is spiritual evolution

- A. What is it for the individual?
- B. Emergence from the subconscious collective and individuation of personality
- C. From outer to inner -- surface (manners) to the depths (character, personality, Individuation)
- D. Both society and subliminal contain immense power with which we can identify and learn to channel or harness
- Social Power
 - Spiritual Power
- E. We receive unconsciously from the three planes of Society just as we do from the planes of the subliminal
- F. Evolution of higher planes and powers of consciousness – vital, mental and beyond

- Increasing the powers of each of the surface parts by contact of force with force, meeting challenges
 - Drawing on the powers of the inner mental, vital, physical being
 - Opening to the conscious descent of higher powers
- G. Individual and Collective
- What comes to us from society is the universal evolved consciousness of society coming to form the individual
 - What comes from subliminal is the evolution of consciousness in the individual as catalyst for the humanity
- H. Development and transcendence of Ego
- Detachment from the surface personality
 - Widening of the being to universalization
- I. Discovery and Integration around the psychic center
- J. Evolution
- Surface self identified with Ego to silent Self identified with transcendent
 - From aloof unconsciousness (atma) of world to witness and knower of the world (Purusha) to Divine Master and Creator (Ishwara)

10. Conventional View of Karma

- A. Reincarnation – has metaphysical and moral explanation in tradition
- B. Karma binds us to the cycle of births until we escape from it
- C. As is the nature of the energies, so the result
- D. Karma concerns mainly good and evil – reward and punishment
- E. Nature as a good accountant – mathematical justice for the consequences of our actions – tooth for tooth
- F. God as mathematician and judge
- G. Double reward and punishment
 - He says this is a crude and primitive moral conception
- H. Past Karma must determine future birth
- I. Man is the creator of himself and his fate

11. His View of Karma

- A. Traditional view is not wholly true⁸⁰⁷
- Good and evil must reap their just reward
 - Retribution is a lower vital concept
 - The vital wants to be rewarded for making sacrifices
 - This attitude attracts vital forces which represent this disposition – punishment for sins, reward for sacrifices
 - God is not an accountant
- B. Action is at many levels – not just physical – our thoughts have consequences
- Energies are of many types and each has its consequence
 - Action, feeling, sensation, emotion, thought, aspiration
 - Action belongs to the physical part
 - Behind is a freer life and mind power that can modify the primary plan as it becomes conscious
 - Mrs. Gardiner's self-restraint
 - Mr. Bennet's silent decision
 - Darcy's sense of triumph leads to humiliation
 - Churchill – we will never surrender
- C. Each action expresses many qualities, not just sin and virtue
- Energies are of many qualities
 - Energy of aspiration for truth results in greater truth
 - Good, beautiful, true, happy, skilled, strong, powerful,
 - Weakness of a good man
 - Skill and intelligence of a thief
- D. It is only an external machinery – cosmos is not entirely mechanical in character
- Law and mechanism apply only to our Nature, not our spirit
 - Even here it is absolute only over body and matter, not life and mind
 - Placebo
 - Morris Goodman
 - Darcy altered the consequences of his earlier acts
 - The more we go within, the more the power of soul is felt

- E. There is also a conscious being and will – all is not law and process
 - Not only machinery, but a spirit in things
 - There is not only law – also spiritual freedom -- conscious choice
 - Our soul is the fundamentally determines its evolution, not our surface being
 - Karma is only a process it uses for progress
 - Karma is a fact and part of the cosmic machinery but not the whole reality
 - 13 years can be 13 days
 - Fate is only one factor – being, consciousness and will are more important
- F. Purpose of experience is not to cosmic justice
 - It is to awaken and evolve the consciousness and powers of the spirit
 - Not a mental learning but a subliminal knowledge
 - Darcy's transformation
 - Edmund Dantes
 - Fire burns not as a punishment
- G. Consequences also come to the collective, not just to each individual
 - Consequence of action of the social or collective of which we are part
 - We all benefit from things we never earned by right
 - One man's perfection can change the world
 - We all suffer from acts for which we are not directly responsible
 - Famine in India
 - IT revolution in India
 - Migration to Britain
 - Blacks on welfare in USA
- H. Karma can hold over to next life only by the consent of the psychic
 - **Self-expression and experience are what the soul seeks by birth in the body**
 - Experiences needed by the soul
- I. Consequences may come in this or another birth
 - Luck or Fortune is real but cannot be wholly explained in terms of past lives
 - Too simple logic
 - Consequence of acts in past lives in the measure they are needed or helpful to future growth, not as retribution

- Not because karma necessitates, but because the soul chooses and needs the experience
- J. Our destiny is complex not simple
 - Blue Carbuncle
 - British empire
 - They unified India – a great service
 - They became the victims of non-violence
 - Their victory in WWII ended colonialism
 - They became a land of immigrants
- K. Soul may even choose negative experiences and circumstances for its growth – not because it was condemned by its past
 - Edmund Dantes

12. Memories of past lives

- A. Given false importance
- B. Persistent memories would be an impediment to soul's future experience
- C. A diverse experience in different lives is essential for the soul's development
- D. Requires change of personality

13. Immortality

- A. Immortality of not of the personality, e.g. John Smith, the surface I or ego
 - It's an extravagant demand of the surface
 - Souls with highly evolved Mental and Vital beings might not need to change them in each birth
- B. Triple immortality
 - The timeless eternal Spirit
 - The evolving soul
 - The survival of the body – terminable at will
- C. The true immortality is of the eternal soul
- D. Survival of the body at will is only a power to manifest spirit – not the essential thing