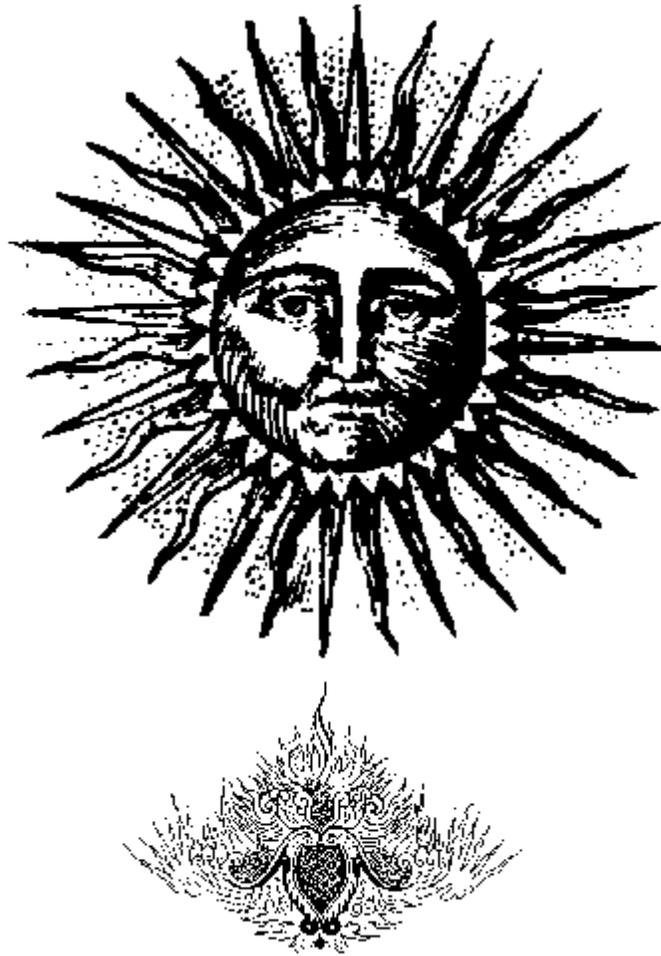


Kundalini



**Gopi Krishna
(1903-1984)**



Kundalini

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1

1 *Creation Versus Evolution*

New Light On An Old Controversy

By Gopi Krishna

Ever since Charles Darwin first published his theory of Natural Selection, the subject has been embroiled in controversy. In the case of Darwinism, the explanation for the origin of life on the earth is that it was the combination of certain elements, coming together more or less accidentally, which created the first primary forms. For the creationists, the position is that God created man in his own image.

From my point of view, both explanations are incorrect. The Darwinian hypothesis is weak because it could not be possible for an accidental product to attain to such remarkable variations and complexity during the course of millions of years. Darwinian evolution stretches chance too far. The odds against it are almost infinite.

As for Creationism, it is equally hard to believe that man could make an appearance on earth all of a sudden, as if he had descended from the sky. The fossil record does not support this point of view. We see man as a half-cultured being, before that as a savage, and before that in almost human forms in different parts of the earth. There must have been some sort of a growth, some sort of an evolution - a process of gradual development.

The human fetus passes through stages from the day of conception to the day it is born from the womb of the mother. It passes through different stages, like a fish, tadpole, reptile, quadruped, and then a fully formed baby. The child stands erect at the last stage, and then is able to walk and talk, which is not possible for it to do during the first couple of years.

1.1 Evolution is Planned, not Random

But what the evolutionists ignore is that the human seed is already oriented for these later manifestations. Like the seed of the tree, it contains the future man within it. A fertilized human ovum only produces a human child, not any other form of life. From this it is easy to infer that in the same way life must have started on the earth as a primordial seed, which by subsequent steps reached to the stature of man or was built up in the various other forms of life. In other words, evolution is planned and not random as the evolutionists say.

The reason for this attitude can probably be found in their antagonism toward the concept of religion. It is a battle between those who believe in religion and those who inherently are opposed to it. Most of the evolutionists array their arguments as if evolution stands proved, but it hasn't. There are many gaps which have not been filled in.

For instance, there is no explanation for how the intellect developed. Darwin explains it by saying that it was due to accident or a random mutation, as in the other cases. But no detailed explanation is forthcoming either from him or from any other evolutionist.

Similarly, there is no explanation as to how the eye was formed, how such a complex organ as that of the organ of sight developed. And there are many other facts not explained, so greater opposition to the theory is mounting up by other biologists and scientists. For that reason, the Darwinian hypothesis does not hold such a sway today as it did fifty years ago.

Is there any reason why we should not ascribe the phenomenon of life to the operation of an energy which is entirely dissimilar to the material energies with which we are surrounded everywhere?

Our senses can perceive only a very tiny fragment of the universe. There are animals and other lower forms of life which have some of their senses developed much more acutely than the senses of man.

For example, in the case of dogs, moths, whales, and migratory birds, there are senses which inform them of their surroundings, and about other matters, far more accurately than they do in the case of man. We

have no explanation for the sharpness and the acuteness of their senses. Nor do we have very complete knowledge about the brain, how it functions and what fuel sustains it in its day to day work.

1.2 Life the Result of an Unknown Energy

With these gaps in our knowledge, it seems to be unscientific to insist on a doctrine or a theory which still does not stand proven to the hilt. For this reason I think it is better to have an open mind on this question, both in respect of the creationists and the evolutionists, and try to find an explanation which better suits the phenomenon.

The creationist theory stands on the story of Genesis as contained in the Holy Bible. It is not supported by the revealed material of the Vedas or the Buddhists. In the Vedas the explanation of man is more or less of the evolutionary kind. The embodied spirit starts from the lowest form of life, and in a cycle of 840,000 lives it completes the circle before it reaches the stature of man.

There also its future depends on the Karma that it does in a particular life. So from that standpoint, the Indian view is nearer to the theory of evolution, but with this difference: It is not the material elements but the spirit which evolves.

I believe that life is the product of another element of creation which is entirely dissimilar to the material elements. The universe is not only what we perceive through our senses, but it contains other energies and forces of which we have no awareness at all. It is these energies and forces that come into play in psychic phenomena, in the enlightenment of great prophets and in other paranormal or abnormal phenomena of the mind.

Science has rejected all experiences of religion for the simple reason that scientists never experimented with religion itself. If it were to do so along the lines followed in India for thousands of years, their attitude would change, and they too would come to understand the force which is behind the phenomenon of life. However, there is a growing tendency - even among scientists - to believe that mind has an independent existence of its own and that it is not an epiphenomenon or a product of the brain cells entirely. It is only the manifestation of a force which is beyond our comprehension.

Now if it is admitted that mind has an independent existence, and that the human mind forms a part of a whole, which is beyond our observation, this mind must continue to exist irrespective of our bodies. If this is true, then it cannot be supposed that this world of the mind - this reservoir or this ocean - is without laws of its own. It must have its own laws just as we have laws in the physical universe.

Religious revelation has come solely to bring this fact to the notice of mankind. Revelation says that there is something beyond the phenomenal world which is imperceptible to our eyes but which can be observed or experienced by means of certain disciplines and a righteous way of life.

This means there is a law which rules our destiny as human beings with a soul and that this law has been imperfectly and partially revealed in the various scriptures of mankind. It has been my endeavor, also, to reveal this law as far as I have been able to observe it during the course of my long experience in this state of consciousness.

1.3 The Law demands a Peaceful Life

Now this law is very hard to be put into precise words. But the type of a life it demands - what kind of behavior, thinking, and society - is apparent and can be corroborated from a study of all of the world's major religions.

What this law demands is that people should lead a peaceful, moderate, and harmonious life, according to principles that are good for others and for society as a whole. There should be no exploitation, no aggression, no action or thought which in any way affects the welfare of another human being.

When we compare the commandments issued by the prophets, based on their experience of a higher state of consciousness, we can readily see that present-day competition, both as individuals and as members of

a nation or group, brings with it the very reverse attitudes. Everyone tries to have the largest share of the earth's resources, or of wealth, possession, or whatever may be of use or utility to him.

This is the very thing that is forbidden under the law which rules the evolution of the human race. In view of man's many scientific and technological advancement, and progress in so many other aspects of civilization, why does he seem to be even more deadened to the law than man of two hundred or three hundred years ago? Before we can address this question, we must first determine what civilization really is.

Does civilization mean technological advancement, learning, large cities, palatial buildings, elevators, cars, computers, and all the other amenities and facilities provided by science? Or does civilization mean sound, healthy, morally perfected human beings?

Does civilization mean war, with the earth transformed into an atmosphere in which selfish, egotistical, hard-hearted exploiters, black marketers, criminals, and aggressors reside, or one simple community with open fields, natural developments, small homes - a community where there is peace, tranquility, health, happiness, long life and love among members of a society or of humanity as a whole? Which would you prefer?

1.4 What does Civilization Mean?

Our whole concept of life is sometimes mistaken. Nature does not care if we fly in planes or if we have computers. When we observe the various forms of life we find that we cannot compete with what she has created in the animal kingdom. We cannot fly like an eagle, we cannot dive like a whale, we cannot be as beautiful as a peacock. Other forms of life have their beauties, their abilities, and their special traits of character.

It is not in building spaceships, computers, or television sets that man can excel. It is in his perfection, in his developing more and more mental faculties, in his knowing more of the universe surrounding him. Otherwise, if he competes and dresses himself in satin, eats whatever he craves every day, resides in palaces, and has all the comforts of the flesh and yet dies without knowing anything about himself, he is no better than an animal. There is no difference. There is only the difference in the quality of dress, the food and other things. Otherwise he is as good as an animal. And that is what a number of scientists tries to make of him. Man has not come on earth to stagnate as an animal but to fly as an angel. He has come to become a god.

Our wrong thinking and stress on nonessentials make a beast of him. What we need are thinking men and women, noble, compassionate, loving. If these traits are lost, the consequences will be self-destruction with the forces gained by the advance of science. The very instrument with which we pride ourselves - our keen intellect - will become the cause of our own extinction.

1.5 What is Lacking is Wisdom

Our technological advancements and inventions appear superficial and inimical to man's well being because we have overdone them and used them to an immoderate degree. They now have become stumbling blocks to our progress. What is lacking is wisdom. If we were to cast a glance at the history of mankind, we would find that every civilization of the past reached a certain zenith and then fell to the earth, never to rise again. The Egyptians, Greeks, Romans, Indo-Asians, and Chinese, arrived at almost the same point at which Western civilization arrived in the seventeenth century, and in some cases even advanced beyond it.

The more powers man attains, the greater the need for a more disciplined mind to handle them. We went radically wrong when we devoted every ounce of our energy to gain more and more knowledge and control over the forces of nature rather than in becoming more and more self-disciplined and perfect. The very foundation of civilization must rest on the self-perfection of every human being.

We rejected this as a false doctrine, as superstition, as a myth, and the result is that after two hundred years of scientific triumphs, we are now face to face with a contingency where the annihilation of the whole race stares us in the face.

We must ask ourselves, have men become more noble, more honest, kinder, or more benevolent to deal with, or is the position the reverse of this? Is there love and amity between nations or do we find hatred seething everywhere, even between neighbors and erstwhile friends? If this is the position in this age of scientific triumphs and technological victories, what will be the state of society after another 25 years? The answer seems obvious. It would be more tense, more full of alarming situations, more critical, more threatening, and more fraught with danger than what it is today.

How long can the human brain bear this stress and tension? When we look at the present world with all the learning it possesses, with all the knowledge that it has gained, doesn't it mean that something is wrong in the leading intellectuals and spiritual teachers? The future leaders and guardians of the world should have had the experience of their inner selves to understand life better than they are able to do now.

1.6 A New Dimension of Consciousness

Man is not what he appears to be from what we can know of him from the observation of his body and his physiology. He is something much more. He is a soul. He is a mind. He is a conscious entity about which, at the moment, we have very little knowledge. Therefore, it is those people alone who have greater knowledge of his soul, his mind, his consciousness - combined with the knowledge of his physiology and the world in which he lives - who will be able to guide him correctly on the path.

What the world needs are mystics, or in other words people who have had the experience which Christ, Buddha or Socrates underwent, coupled with full knowledge of temporal things.

There is a psychosomatic mechanism in the human body which is operative in the race and which can be accelerated with certain disciplines. This was done by thousands of men and women over the past 3,000 years. This center of psychic energy is responsible for genius and paranormal gifts. All great mystics and enlightened sages were in possession of this active center, which raised them to the level of a new dimension of consciousness. In that dimension they could experience what is hidden from normal vision.

It is for this reason that every religious book is written in a mandatory tone, because the message it conveys was received from a higher source of consciousness, a source which gave the authors the confidence that it was infallible. If it had been the result of their own reasoning they would have been more cautious in their expression and tried to argue out what they were saying. But the scriptures are expressed in an authoritative tone, as if what the prophets are revealing has the sanction of a power or a mind far above their own.

In the case of geniuses, a large percentage were eccentric in their behavior or had mental problems at one time or another. The same is true of mystics. But since mystics have been treated as a class apart, men and women in communion with divinity or God, their eccentricity has been ascribed to spiritual intoxication. Both mystics and geniuses, however, are under the impact of an awakened Kundalini and are not able to maintain their balance like ordinary human beings. They need special lifestyles, special ways of thinking, behavior, discipline and moderation, in order to live healthy, sound and happy lives, with the gifts they possess.

1.7 A Spiritual Research Project

The scientific experiments I have in view will give us much more information about the lifestyles those with an awakened Kundalini have to follow. People who are already neurotic or unstable will not be suitable candidates for such a research project. It would be better to have sound-bodied and sane candidates who are able to bear the stress and pressure of the awakening and the new experiences they

will endure. We have to consider that awakening of Kundalini is not an easy undertaking, for it means acceleration of the evolutionary processes at work in the body

People who have psychic or spiritual experiences often have an activated Kundalini, and this imposes certain conditions on their bodies which must be fulfilled by them. Since knowledge of this mysterious mechanism is still very slight, still shrouded in mystery, those who have an active Kundalini have tended to be hysteric, neurotic, unstable, or even insane.

This is also the reason why many men and women of genius, including great mystics - both the result of the activation of Kundalini - have also been unstable, neurotic, disoriented. Gen-erations may be needed for the emergence of ideal candidates who are perfectly suited for such experimental projects. It will not only be the candidates themselves who will be able to achieve that state of perfection required, but a part of this work will also have to be done by their parents. This is the most potent method for ensuring that generation after generation there is an attempt at self-perfection among human beings. People will soon come to believe that it is far better to leave their children with a healthy heredity than unnecessary and super-abundant wealth or position.

A period of five or six years may be necessary for those candidates who already have the seeds of the awakening in them and whose nervous systems have attained a stage of maturity where an awakening is possible in a healthy way.

1.8 The Guardian of Human Evolution

While the mechanism of Kundalini is operative in all the race, its operation is accelerated in highly talented and gifted individuals, and where the conditions are favorable. In many people, there are visionary and other experiences which tell them that something new is happening in their mind but for which they are unable to find the reason.

Many people describe experiences heat in their system, currents going up their spine, lights before their eyes, sounds in their ears, and other symptoms of an awakened Kundalini. When once this knowledge becomes widely known, these people would be able to understand their own condition and also to use other methods that can bear the best fruit for them.

Kundalini is the guardian of human evolution and the key to the mystery of existence. There is nothing in the whole mass of knowledge, gathered by mankind so far, of such paramount importance as this. A new science with a fresh outlook on the Riddle of existence is therefore needed to open the still hidden horizons for the elevation of the race.

If this is not done, the fires of ambition and desire, smoldering in every human breast, can never be extinguished. Each war, however deadly, would but provide the base for a still deadlier one. The only remedy lies in changing the direction of the human mind from temporal to spiritual objectives. This has to be done in order to conform to the evolutionary change in the human brain. The aim of nature is to lift man to another dimension of consciousness, to be a superman in his own right, possessed of amazing powers of body and mind. All the achievements won by science are but a means to this sublime goal.

Once this evolutionary goal becomes the subject of discussion in the halls of learning and the media, the long-standing controversy between evolutionists and creationists will come to an end. Then the whole of humanity will begin to take a new direction towards peace and universal brotherhood.

2 Our Evolutionary Dynamics

2.1 Part 1 - Where the Error Lies

The confusion among scholars about the factor or factors responsible for the birth and the growth of the moral sense is due to the fact that there is no awareness about the evolutionary dynamics of the brain. The evolution of morals has not occurred either through the exercise of reason or through experience.

The crude struggle for existence draws into play those resources of the body and properties of the mind which help one to overcome the other competitors and rivals in the race for survival. The emphasis of this struggle would therefore be on the strength of brain and muscle, on endurance and courage, on cleverness and wit, on strategy and cunning, on deceit and trickery, planning and plotting, falsehood and sham, or on violence and aggression, to achieve the dominating position in the battle.

These are the traits that we continually see at work in the animal kingdom everywhere on land, in the ocean or the air. But the moral virtues that have been highly regarded since the dawn of civilization and are admired even today are the very opposite of these traits.

Innocence has a greater appeal to the heart than cleverness, frankness than duplicity, truth than falsehood, simplicity than sophistication, humility than pride, honesty than deception, self denial than indulgence, pacifism than aggression, calmness than violence, artlessness than deceit and trickery and so on.

Some of these virtues are in direct opposition to the essential qualifications needed for the ruthless battle for self existence. But the learned have no awareness of the factors that have brought about this change in the instinctive armor necessary for survival. The theologian ascribes the emergence of morals to divine commandments transmitted through Revelation. Scholars ascribe their growth to mundane causes, - for instance the demands of civilization - but without convincing evidence. The inference is obvious that for any kind of moral behavior which militates against the demands of the struggle for existence, there must occur changes in the depth of the human psyche and consequently in those intricate mechanisms of the cerebrospinal system that give rise to it.

Ethics and reason represent the two branches of the same tree confused by the vicissitudes through which mankind has passed and the variances in the moral impulse displayed throughout.

We find it difficult to reconcile the erratic behavior of the ethical sense with the action of a consistent evolutionary principle in the human mind. But this is exactly where the error lies. Looking at the past we can easily find that the growth of reason has always been attended by absurd behavior, irrationality and superstition, as if two opposite forces were contending for supremacy through the human mind.

In the same way morality has been accompanied by immorality and even diabolic traits of character, deceit, untruth, ruthlessness and inhumanity to this day.

2.1.1 Pinholes in Other Planes of Infinity

We often do not give sufficient thought to the colossal task that evolution has to accomplish. It represents a rise from the earth to the sky. A clod of earth has to gain the power of thinking, of awakening to the knowledge of itself and then of the universe around it. A handful of insensitive matter has to win a state of awareness where it can mingle with a consciousness which pervades the universe from a handful of dust to be one with the All. It is a stupendous transformation, a mighty drama which only an absolute power could design, stage and play.

We are wont to underestimate the inconceivably vast dimensions of creation and the stupendous proportions of the power of it because our mind and senses, like the brain and the eyes of an ant on a log floating upon the surface of an ocean, are not able to register our own insignificant position compared with the titanic forces by which we are encompassed. We believe that the picture of the universe presented to us by the mind and intellect is all that there is, and we start to speculate how the entity we picture could have come into existence. We never expand our thinking to be conscious of the fact that we

are staring at an infinity through a pinhole and that there are countless other pinholes in other planes of creation through which this infinity can be viewed.

In countless different ways each pinhole presents a different image of it. The colossal nature of consciousness begins to dawn only when the human limit of perception is exceeded through the grace of the still partially hidden biological mechanism responsible for evolution. For the attainment of a transhuman dimension of consciousness, the evolution of morals is as much, if not more, necessary than the evolution of the intellect. A monkey who knows how to ignite the fuse leading to a store of gun powder cannot be expected to be nice about it when his instinct drives him to set fire to it.

Modern man, with the power to use the awful force of nuclear fusion for destructive purposes, is hesitant to employ it partly because of moral scruples and partly because of the equally terrible retaliatory action that would follow.

But he has certainly not attained to the moral stature yet when the very idea of using such a weapon either for offense or for defense would be repugnant to him. Wars can be fought even without the use of instruments that can annihilate the whole of humankind and even wipe off life from the earth. He has also not attained to the moral height where the massacre of defenseless and innocent men, women and children, not involved in actual fighting, would be repellent to his mind. The fact that both these moral considerations were thrown to the winds in the wars fought during this century is a clear indication of the fact that moral evolution has not kept pace with the evolution of the intellect.

2.1.2 The Effect of the First Nuclear Blast

The effect of this disposition between the moral and intellectual evolution of humanity can be disastrous in the extreme. This is the real cause behind the highly explosive and dangerous situation of today. By creating these tensions and pressures, the aim of Nature is to teach this important lesson to humankind. The overgrown intellect, denied true insight, exhausts itself in ferreting out the causes for the crisis and proposes remedies without ever lighting upon the truth.

All the academic hair-splitting and the noisy hubbub of the learned world will vanish with the first blast of nuclear weapons in the next World War. Until then, unable to see into the future, it will continue to thrust its opinions on a multitude already hopelessly lost in the confusion it has caused.

Entry to transhuman consciousness highly adds to the responsibilities of man. We have gained the awareness now of the potentialities of the intellect and the almost limitless power it can exercise both for destructive and constructive purposes. Our forefathers only a century back had no awareness of the technological achievements possible to man with the exercise of his mental ability and skill. What undreamed of possibilities will open before man and what stupendous forces will come under his sway with the further evolution of his mind to the transhuman state is impossible to conceive of at present.

It might become possible for him then to extend his sovereignty over all the solar system as he now extends it over the earth. But how can Nature allow man to win this sovereign position unless he has also gained the capability to shoulder the highly increased responsibility in a befitting manner, and not to abuse the almost unlimited powers gained?

2.2 Part 2 - The Supermundane Forces

This is the reason why in every case of the awakening of the evolutionary mechanism secret devices in the brain come into play to mold the individual towards a state of mind where the possibility of abuse of psychic power is eliminated. The desire for self reform is the first sign of the activity of this dormant psycho-physiological mechanism.

This is also the reason why almost all those who possess psychic talents are never able to control the power, or to exhibit them at their own will and choice, or often even to remain alert and conscious when the phenomena come to pass. This is also the reason why through all the past, in spite of the great advances made in spiritual science, as for instance in India, the secret of domination over the super-intelligent forces of creation was never revealed. It is also why discoveries, whether in the spiritual or the material realm, were made in a series of different minds and were not vouchsafed to but one individual, including Buddha and Christ, however high their spiritual stature might have been.

Unfortunately, our notions of immorality are still distorted. War is not considered to be an immoral act. If it were, then the armed forces of nations would not receive the approbation, the honor and the homage that they do.

But prostitution on the part of a woman who is driven to it by starvation, by reduction or by other pressures in her life is considered to be a grossly immoral act. This disorientation and confusion in our ethical values and ideas about immorality is due to the fact that there is no awareness at all about the aim of evolution and the moral code of behavior that must be followed, by individuals and the race, to achieve it.

2.2.1 Excess Erudition Damages the Brain

Excess of erudition can be as damaging to the evolutionary activity of the brain as excess of any other kind. If it were the aim of Nature to turn it into a computer then inspiration and the flash of discovery would have been denied and great writers and thinkers provided with the resources of the intellect to compose their great works or to initiate the laws of science.

But according to the affirmations of some of the greatest minds which humankind has produced, it is obvious that all really great works of literature, all great masterpieces of painting, music, sculpture, of philosophy, and all the discoveries of science were made by minds which, in addition to accumulated knowledge and intelligence, had the gift of intuitive insight or inspiration.

To say that inspiration or creativity comes from the subconscious is to make the confusion worse confounded. If the subconscious has access to new knowledge never gathered before, or to laws of the physical world never discovered in the past or has the capacity to create works of art never thought of previously, it then clearly means that it excels the surface consciousness in all that is original and creative.

In all our thinking about man, about his social, political, cultural behavior and dietetic needs, the factor of evolution has never been taken into consideration. But there can be no doubt that it will be necessary to revise our thinking and to overhaul all the existing systems to conform when once the reality is established beyond dispute.

The experience of life imparts a knowledge that cannot be gained in any other way. Even the study of the whole existing literature on human behavior cannot make us so wise about the complex nature of human life as experience can do. It is a great mistake to suppose that entry to the transcendental stake of consciousness can make one infallible, all wise and all knowing.

Attribution of infallibility and absolute wisdom to prophets and sages has been mainly responsible for the evils of religion. If the race is not to stagnate human knowledge must continue to grow to the end. The dogma of infallibility precludes further progress in knowledge and is, therefore, inimical to the evolution of the mind.

2.2.2 Religious Dogma Precludes Progress

I do not feel myself to be superior in any way to my fellow human beings. There is no idea of purity or chastity, virtue or saintliness in my mind to inflate my ego. Our whole constitution stands on frailty. We live at the mercy of forces beyond our ken. I still continue to learn from my friends and associates.

There is hardly any man or woman who has not a beautiful trait of character or a small store of wisdom lying inside. It is through the inherent goodness in human beings that humankind is able to prosper and progress.

Legions hesitate to speak an untruth, to sell dear, to adulterate, to be unjust, to deceive, to blackmail, to be mean or avaricious, not out of fear of the law but because of an impulse in their interior which keeps them on the side of right. The great importance of religions and their founders has lain in the fact that they sowed and nurtured this righteous impulse. The materialistic thinking of the last two centuries now poses a great threat to humanity because it tends to uproot and destroy this natural, still-developing sense.

The only exceptional knowledge I possess is the harvest of the extraordinary experience I have undergone. I still keep my intellect free and benefit immensely from the books I read. In my contact with the world, in my knowledge of it, I am no better than millions of my fellow beings and, maybe, at times display even less practical sense than many of them.

In my contact with the transcendental world to which I slowly gained entry, after the awakening, I am but a child, constantly wondering at what I perceive, trying to pick up the alphabet of a language more difficult than any knowledge of the physical universe ever gained.

The supreme experience is staggering, enrapturing, blissful and inspiring but, at the same time, inexplicable and ungraspable by the intellect. The experience is illuminating, no doubt, because it reveals the grandeur, sublimity and eternal nature of the soul but beyond that what? All that is beyond lies out of the reach of the intellect and hence cannot be translated into any language devised by the mind.

The inscrutable and ineffable nature of mystical ecstasy cannot constitute a permanent barrier to the unraveling of the Great Mystery. The evolution of man is a transition from darkness to light. But this transition has to occur in millions of years.

2.2.3 A New Concept of Religion

At the first dim dawn of reason the new processes of thought must have appeared strange and inexplicable to the evolving primate. He must have felt bewildered when the new-born faculty began to overrule the instinctive behavior of the mind.

Entry to another dimension of consciousness, where reason is superseded, must have the same perplexing and mystifying effect on the mind. When this area of study is accurately demarcated with painstaking research of the phenomenon, a new alphabet, a new language and new symbols will develop to understand and interpret the experience.

A time will shortly come when all the resources of science and the intellect will be mobilized to gain more and more insight into this extraordinary state expressible in terms of the intellect.

The evolutionary concept puts a different complexion on religion. The myths of divine birth, miraculous transformations and special delegation are entirely ruled out. It has to be conceded then that the whole race is evolving in the same direction followed by the great prophets, sages and mystics of the past and has to achieve the same goal. It has also to be admitted then that what we call miraculous, supernatural or paranormal might be the outcome of laws ruling the spiritual world or the forces compounding it of which we have no real awareness at present.

There can be no two opinions about the fact that all the great spiritual prodigies of the past had the same kind of body, the same physiognomy, the same brain, the same power of reasoning and the same emotions as other normal human beings. They were prone to hunger and thirst, to age and decay; were

vulnerable to disease and death; and even in the length of their life span they were like other human beings.

The only remarkable difference between them and the others has been that they claimed to be in communion with an absolute Power or Cosmic Intelligence which they called by different names. The proof of this inner experience was furnished by the revelations which they made and the way in which they molded their life. Their revelations are still before our eyes. There is nothing supernatural or miraculous coming out of them, save that for thousands of years they have had a most profound influence in shaping the life and thought of millions of followers who reposed their faith in them.

2.2.4 The Reverse Effect of Today's Religion

The current concept of religion has the very reverse effect of that which was intended by the founders. They prescribed a certain way of life and behavior for the multitudes that accepted their teaching, but due to a travesty of fate, their self-appointed deputies, instead of persuading others to conform to their directions themselves took the lead in violating them.

Instead of laying stress on inner discipline and purification they put more emphasis on outer show, ceremony and ritual. But when it came to making the teaching an actual part and parcel of life they treated it as a dead letter meant to be pondered over and admired but not to be practiced at all.

This is the reason why the modern world took a sudden spurt in the opposite direction and now is filled with fear at the consequences of this step. An ordered life free of immoderate ambition, desire and lust is a primary need of evolution. The transformative processes ceaselessly going on in the brain become disorganized with uncontrollable outbursts of anger or passion, constant preoccupation with ambitious projects, greed, lust for power and ignoble thought or propensity. The basic teaching of all revealed scriptures tends to keep man from yielding blindly to passion, desire, malice, envy or other evil tendencies of the mind.

2.3 Part 3 - The World of Science Tomorrow

A good many readers of my autobiography are appalled at the suffering I underwent for years after the awakening of the evolutionary mechanism. Some even believe that the results achieved were not at all in proportion to the ordeal I had faced. Since no one can visualize my inner being, it is rather difficult for me to convince the world that I have been compensated a hundred times over.

If I were offered the choice to brave the same grueling ordeal again to reach the same state of inner illumination and beatitude, I would accept it without a moment's hesitation, even if I had a kingdom to throw away.

The reason for a deprecative frame of mind lies in that the colossal nature of the transformation is not realized. If a certain practice of meditation were to culminate in the production of an Einstein, a Shankaracharya or a Plato right before the eyes of the learned, they would readily acknowledge the efficacy of the discipline and there would spring up thousands of emulators fired with the hope of attaining to the same state of consciousness. The trials and tribulations suffered will be considered to be trivial compared to the eminence achieved.

In fact, the whole world of science would stir to activity if confronted with the phenomenon of a voluntarily produced Einstein, Plato or Shankara, because their matchless intellectual contributions would be a sufficient proof to validate the transformation. We can be sure that, in such an event, the most eminent scientists would vie with each other to be the first to announce the discovery.

My writings mainly revolve around a still unrecognized organic device in the human body and its activity. I write on a subject still obscure and unknown, centering round the still unsuspected evolution of the brain and the future of the race.

All that I say appears hypothetical and speculative in the extreme, awaiting the confirmation of empirical science to receive acceptance as a branch of accurate knowledge. I am, therefore, a controversial figure still awaiting recognition for any talents that I possess. I have made this comparison only to show how different would be the reaction if, instead of an unknown, mediocre man like me, an Einstein would have resulted from the experience that I had.

The reason why I am not disturbed at this lack of a correct evaluation of the result in my case is because I know that there is no awareness at all about what I am trying to expound, both among the scholars and the average readers of my books.

When this awareness dawns on a successful termination of the experiments done, all that I am writing about this subject and the evolutionary target of the human race will then be priced at its correct value and allotted its due position in the annals of science. The pain and agony that I suffered will not then loom large in the imagination of the people but may even be treated as a cheap price paid for the exceptional knowledge gained.

2.3.1 Evolution Active in Millions Everywhere

The evolutionary mechanism can be active, in varying degrees, in thousands, - even millions of people - , without resulting in any spectacular mental transformation. But with enhanced knowledge about the mechanism, executed with the right knowledge of the human body, spectacular results can be achieved.

The dangers inherent in a metamorphosis of the brain, as a result of the awakening, to give rise to a transcendental state of consciousness, will come to light when the phenomenon is subjected to investigation.

A glance at the hazardous practices and disciplines of certain forms of spiritual disciplines of Yoga is sufficient to show what mastery over the vital functions of the body had to be gained and what a will of iron had to be cultivated by those who ventured to arouse the evolutionary mechanism from its dormant state.

The first experience of a sudden awakening of the power is that of a raging psychic storm, as if a tornado has been let loose in the system which, if not handled with an iron grip on the mind, can drive one crazy with its unimaginable violence. Long years of careful preparation will always be needed in the case of those who would like to brave the hazard of arousing evolution to accelerated activity before the due time.

The explosion of the inner world is far more beset with dangers than the exploration of outer space. In less than another half a century these and other pressures from the psyche must cause drastic changes in the structure of human society in all parts of the world. These shifts will not be confined to the western nations alone. The less-developed lands will also participate in this transmutation. The growing urge in the younger generations of all countries for a more equitable social order, for a simpler and more natural life, and for the brotherhood of all nations, will find fulfillment in some way. The urge betokens a certain advanced stage of evolution demanding a new form of society and a new world order for its fulfillment.

2.3.2 A Paranoid Mental Condition

A storm is brewing in the psychological depths of the race to bring about radical changes in all spheres of human life. It will be so radical and unthought of that scholars will be taken completely by surprise at the onslaught of superconscious forces of which they had no knowledge at all. It is this approaching revolution in the life of individuals and the nations that will bear clinching testimony to what I say.

The participants in the New Age movement, with followers in many parts of the world, are all motivated by the same urge. There is no possibility of escape from the operation of an impulse which will overmaster the mental activity of the whole race.

The only cause for anxiety is that a conflict between the progressive and the retrogressive forces by retrogressive I mean those who stubbornly refuse to change with the times might result in a global strike,

causing colossal loss of lives and unbearable agony to myriads. The huge armies and vast arsenals of the most destructive weapons ever devised by the ingenuity of man, which we see filling the earth on every side, are the outcome of a kink in the human mind. The whole nuclear armory, that can destroy mankind many times over, owes its existence not to a real threat but to the overexcited and paranoid mental condition of a few nations not able to adapt themselves to the idea of peaceful coexistence with other human beings.

Were they compelled by a superior extraterrestrial species of life to sink their differences on pain of total annihilation the whole military situation of the earth can change in a few days. The same brain, brawn and muscle which was employed to create the gigantic forces of destruction would be engaged now to disband the armies and destroy the armaments in but a tiny fraction of the time in which they had been built up.

The commanders, designers, scientists, technicians and the rest would vie with each other to be the first to complete the task of liquidation, spurred on by the frantic exhortations of the public and the media. All nations would be galvanized into activity to undo what had taken decades to accomplish.

Let us suppose that at the very moment when the last sign of military power is removed and every nation is left without any weapons or armed personnel, the extraterrestrials disappear from the scene. But before they vanish, they voice a parting admonition that any revival of the old practice and any sign of military preparation would be immediately visited with a terrible retribution. With such a threat constantly at the elbow, would any nation then dare to violate the conditions of truce in any way or to circumvent them to suit their ends?

If the threat of annihilation at the hands of a concrete extraterrestrial power can work the miracle of establishing lasting peace on earth, why does not the more concrete threat to total extinction with nuclear weapons, now scattered over the globe, have the same effect on the minds of those who are piling them up?

This one example is enough to show the erratic behavior of the human mind and the vagrancy of the intellect on which we pride ourselves. But alas, man is not able himself to solve his social or political problems in a rational way with his own intellect. He would readily do it under duress or terror but not with his own free will.

--Adapted from *Living With Kundalini*, by Gopi Krishna

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3 Why do Civilizations Fall?

Gopi Krishna

(This short essay was taken from an interview by Gene Kieffer in 1983 in Gopi Krishna's home in India.)

We are quite aware of what happened to civilizations of the past. We know that they rose, had a period of ascendancy and then fell. But why did they fall? Scholars have no correct knowledge of those facts. They ascribe them often to some other factors than the true ones.

The real reason for the fall of civilizations, kings, dynastic rulers, and nobles is that luxury, over abundance, and excessive wealth are fatal for the evolution of the brain. One who knows that he has enough to last for generations does not exert himself to conserve his resources as does one who has to meet his urgent needs.

Secondly, one who has over abundant wealth sometimes gives free rein to his own passions, desires, appetites, and the rest, so that he dissipates his energy and falls.

With this lesson of history before their eyes, the scientists in particular, and the scholars in general, should have known what were the right roles for humanity to adopt relative to the powers and forces discovered by science.

They should have known to what extent we could use the earth's resources for the purpose of human control, considering the fact that the human race is expected to stay on earth for even millions of years more. They should not have depleted the resources of the earth only to satisfy the comforts or ambitions of human beings.

3.1 Masters in all branches of science

The time has arrived when in order to guide the race, a man or woman should be polymath, a master in all branches of science, in art and philosophy. That is very difficult for a normal intellect, however intelligent he might be, but it is very easy for a completely evolved individual in whom Kundalini is awake.

It is possible in the future that we will have polymaths who have command not only of the sciences, philosophy, and the arts, but of all the languages of the earth. Only since we are not aware of this potential in human beings, and what nature has already provided for the progress of man, we continue to limit our intelligence with what has already happened in the past. Otherwise, the human mind has the capacity to exhibit intelligence and genius a hundred-fold more than what is the case at present.

The human mind can produce prodigies of a kind that would stagger the world. We can have a little insight into this when we study the mathematical prodigies or child prodigies who have command over music, or mathematics, or art, or chess, which is not possible for the experts in those fields.

Combine a few prodigies together, a prodigy in science, one in mathematics, another in philosophy, and you have the future leaders of mankind. The only way to avert wars and to plant mankind on the real path to progress, progress which includes development of the higher faculties in human beings, it is absolutely necessary to have enlightened human beings as heads of state, leading scientists, scholars, and philosophers. The present day mind, however learned and intelligent it may be, will not be able to meet the needs of the race as the days pass by. He or she will not be able to command the confidence of all the people. We need prodigies who can instill awe and reverence in the minds of the younger generations, and the population as a whole. And the time is coming when those people will appear on the arena of the earth.

3.2 Only Prodigies Can Guide the Race

Once the mechanism of Kundalini is known, the profits that can accrue from it, the benefits which it confirms, the glory which it begs, the peace and happiness which it can grant, millions of people,

especially the intellectuals, will try their utmost to arouse the Power so as to lead the leaders in every sphere of human thought and activity.

It is not a Utopian dream but a stern reality. Humanity has reached a state of evolution where only these prodigies will be able to guide her destiny--to correct the diet, the habits, and the appetites of the people.

The birds in the air, the animals in the forest, have no medicines to keep themselves in fine condition. Nature has already provided every safeguard for human beings to lead a healthy life. If they were to know what nature demands of them, they would understand why there are diseases, why there are dangerous reptiles, why there are scorpions, why there are flies, why there are bacteria, etc.

To illustrate this I will tell you a story from the Arabian Nights. Have you ever read the story of Aladdin and the wonderful lamp? After Aladdin had gained control over the genie of the lamp, he became very rich and influential. He became respected everywhere. Finally the king offered him his daughter in marriage. When the marriage was about to be performed he said to Aladdin, "You must build a palace suited to my daughter."

3.3 The Unfinished Palace

Aladdin agreed. That night he rubbed the lamp and the genie appeared. Aladdin said to him, "Now build me a palace which is peerless and have in it a big hall which has many windows on every side, and all those windows should be decorated with diamonds and other precious stones. But leave one window unfinished.

The genie executed the order. Overnight a palace was built which glittered in the sun, decorated with jewels, diamonds, and other precious stones. The king came to see the building and went from room to room in the company of Aladdin. Finally, they went up to the highest story where the hall had been built. The king admired the hall and was wonderstruck by seeing the wealth decorating each window. When he saw the unfinished window, he turned to Aladdin and said, "Why is this one left unfinished in this beautiful hall? Have you exhausted all of your diamonds, and pearls, and precious stones?"

Aladdin said, "Perhaps that might have been the case, and they left it for your majesty to complete."

The King said, "Alright."

So the next day he ordered his treasury to be opened and the window to be completed by his own artists. For days they worked, and every precious stone in the treasury was exhausted. But the window was still unfinished. Finally Aladdin again called the genie and ordered him to complete that window also.

This is what nature has done with us. It has provided us with everything in the animal kingdom and in the plant kingdom. Everything is provided, medicines, plants, our clothing, our food, horses to carry us, cows to furnish us with milk, factories for everything we might need. But it has left one window unfinished. And that window is the diseases, the snakes, the reptiles, the flies, the bacteria, etc.

Why? For man to exercise his intellect to complete this one window in order for him to live a happy life. If this unfinished window were not left, man would stagnate. On what would he develop his intelligence? On what would he develop his science?

3.4 This is the Plan of Nature

It is because he is goaded by want, by disease, vermins, germs, by viruses, that he is doing his utmost to live in comfort and to have all the facilities and amenities which otherwise he would not have.

You can now compare what he has, what mineral wealth, what plant wealth, what animals, fish, birds, and what wonder and vigor he has in his own body, his health, his brain, his digestion, his comfort. He has everything except one unfinished window, and with all his resources he is not able to complete it.

This is the plan of nature. It is an all-wise intelligence that has built the world. If there were perfection, there would be nothing left for man to evolve. He would stagnate, and in his present state of mind he

would even use all the luxuries to degenerate himself. For that reason nature has left a few loopholes for him to plug which he is not able to do.

Man has himself to blame for his faults because he is not able to understand that this creation and all he sees around is provided for him by nature for his progress, stage by stage, step by step, until he reaches the stature of Godhood and is able to live for perhaps even hundreds of years, with all the blessings that earth can provide.

It is because some people are over-ambitious, too full of greed, too lustful, that they stand in the way of progress of the race as a whole. It is not that nature has denied man opportunities, or placed him in difficulties. He has everything. He has strength of the body, healthy intellect, and all the resources, whether of minerals, plants, or animals, of which he can make himself akin.

But if he is not able to achieve that objective, it is because his own lust and passion, and his own indolence, stand in the way of his reaching the target which nature has prescribed for him.

3.5 Man Must Exert Himself

Nature is not to blame. It is the scholars who fail to understand this plan of nature. They cannot understand it until they explore themselves, unless they know the secret of the brain. Once they do, everything will be clear to them like an open book. That is why there are so many things which man needs in order to exert his intelligence.

If there were not these faults, flaws, and lacks, he would just idle away his time and stagnate. Nature wants him to exert himself. By providing all amenities, including computers, we are at present digging our own grave.

Who has found the still hidden secrets of nature in the human brain? Do we even know what our brain is and how it functions? If we do not know how it functions, how it is repaired, how it is maintained, and if we do not know where the flashes of genius come from, we have no right to say that the the brain is a finished article. We are simply using it without knowing anything about it.

So it is nature again which has made us perfect and which has allowed us to reach a state of intelligence where great inventions, discoveries, and control of other forces have become possible. This was never possible for the paleolithic or the neolithic man. It is only the modern human being, with a much more evolved brain, who has been able to do it. We take care of ourselves which is our ego. Otherwise the credit goes to the body, to our brain, over which we have no control. How do we claim this credit when we know nothing about our brain? We just eat our food and sleep like every animal. How is the food distributed? How is our body maintained? How are we able to fight diseases? How are we able to keep our brain sane and sound? We know nothing about it. It is done by the body, by some other force.

It is foolish thing to take credit for a matter over which we have no control. We never created this intelligence. It is given to us. This body is granted to us. So, while we have no control over the body or knowledge of the brain, we are still ready to take credit for any discovery we make.

It is for this reason that I say in every book I have written that whatever I say is not from me but from a power above and beyond. I am merely the instrument. In that sense we all are instruments of a higher power.

We have now to see to what extent it is beneficial for us, with all the knowledge of what has happened in the past, with the knowledge of history, with knowledge of the earth's resources, it is for us to see how this or that new invention is beneficial for us and when it can be harmful. We have not to proceed blindly.

First of all, we should have known that if we cease to exercise our brain we stagnate, and then we fall. Therefore, any instrument or invention, or any aid, which extensively interferes in our own exercise of the brain, or eliminates that exercise, is injurious in the long run.

Religious scriptures everywhere say there is a tempter who is the devil, or who is Mara, or who is Maya, etc. This tempter is of our own mind when it does not discriminate between what is right and what is wrong, what is beneficial and what is harmful.

3.6 We Must Cooperate with Our Evolution

As I have said, the human brain has already reached a state of evolution where the unification of humanity is essential. If our political leaders, our scholars, or our editors, are not able to understand or grasp this idea, it means our brains are lacking in one of its most important processes. If we do not unite, if we continue to have rivalry, competition, and wars, we will destroy ourselves.

The intellect that is not able understand that a weapon has been devised that makes it imperative for humanity to eliminate war is not fit for the 20th Century.

Man is evolving; the brain is evolving, and we have to cooperate with this evolution. All revelation and religious teaching has come to give us this broad outline of evolution and the way we can cooperate with it. The matter stands explained. Otherwise there is no reason why there should be Revelation except that the God of this almighty universe is particularly interested in the human race and has no other work to do.

Take the volume of a child's marble from the center of the sun, only that tiny amount of matter from the sun, kept two hundred miles from the surface of the earth, would not only destroy all life but would melt mountains and dry up all the oceans. This is the power of the Almighty, and there are more than three hundred billion suns in our galaxy alone. Such a terrific creation could never be possible of itself.

We know of existence by our mind. If we are not alive, no one can know of any existence. Existence, the word itself, the idea, springs from the mind. There can be no existence without a mind. The very idea comes from the mind.

When we say that it can exist even when we are no more, when there is no mind, we are projecting our mind into the future, it is mind again. It is mind which begets the very idea of existence. This idea of existence is in the mind, I am. Since existence and mind are inseparable, there can be no existence without a mind.

3.7 Mind and Existence Are Inseparable

Those who say it is matter don't have the depth to understand that mind and existence are inseparable. When you think that existence can be without a mind you are projecting your mind again. In other words, there can be no existence without a mind.

It is the mind which is at the base of all creation. It is intelligence. The universe is intelligence. What you see is intelligence manifesting itself as the universe. This is the crux of the Vedanta and Shiva philosophy.

It is Shiva intelligence, delightful intelligence, which is manifested as the universe or Brahman which is again intelligence manifested as the universe. The ocean, stones, the mountains, ourselves, all is intelligence, all is alive with life.

This creation is not so simple as many of the university professors believe it to be, especially those who are specialists. In Germany, where I visited, they are starting to call them specialized fools. This is what the professors themselves told me, that in the classrooms they are often heckled.

They were talking among themselves and laughing about it. I said to them, "What are you laughing at?" They said now the students are calling their professors specialized fools. The term is deserved because it represents a state of stagnation. What is demanded now is progressive knowledge of the universe. At this time to say that the universe is composed of matter, when they know that even the concept of matter springs from the mind, is just foolishness. The first thing to explore is the mind before they start exploration of matter. This is the wonder of creation.

4 Gopi Krishna Talks About Sex and Love

As we have seen in our previous discussions, it is not easy to prescribe behavior and diet for the future evolution of the brain. Although I also spoke about sex before, I now would like to be a little more explicit. Inasmuch as all our modern theories about sex, including the ideas expressed by Freud, do not take evolution of the brain into account, we can therefore say that they are incomplete.

The moment it is established that the brain is evolving biologically, it will then be seen that a part of the reproductive energy is consumed in this evolution. I have given the proof, genius and the illuminated mind. For the last three thousand years the Indian savants knew it, as did the Greeks and the Egyptians. They knew that genius and illumination come from transmuted sex energy.

Freud puts it in a different way. He says it is libido and that all creative activity and mental disorders arise out of the libido. But he has not defined libido. For him, libido is psychic energy in its subtle form, in its psychic form.

But it has a somatic aspect also, as Reich correctly put it. It is anchored in the body, his libido. He has clearly mentioned this. But since science has no awareness of a phenomenon that has been in evidence for the last thousands of years, that it is the transmutation of sexual energy that leads to creativity, then naturally all current theories about sex are incomplete.

What is recommended by some psychologists or by some clinicians about unrestrained sex is therefore not only fallacious but highly dangerous for the race.

In the ages to come, people will determine what part of the energy goes to the brain and what part they can utilize for procreative or for pleasurable purposes. There is no doubt that there is nothing in the world so enchanting, so alluring, so inspiring as sexual love. It has inspired some of the greatest thinkers. It is the women whom they loved who inspired some of the greatest writers, thinkers, politicians, conquerors of the world. There is nothing comparable to love for the happiness, health and evolution of mankind.

4.1 Evolution Must Have Its Share

But it has not to be abused, because this energy is designed by nature both for evolution and procreation. And evolution must have its share. It would be saner to conserve the energy, even to be a celibate than it would be to overspend it. This is the reason why celibacy has been recommended in religions. Otherwise there is no reason. Why should religion in some way insist that you have to be celibate unless the energy is used in some way?

But we need not go to that extreme. The rational, normal and natural course is to adjust our life so that we allow that part which is meant for our evolution to be used for that purpose.

There are some facts that show that nature is always giving us warnings. For instance, many people, after the climax, after the expenditure of the energy, feel a sense of disgust or coldness, antipathy, or great tiredness. That is a warning from nature that they have overdone it. After the sexual climax, man should feel as energetic as before. That means he has not used or taken from the amount that is needed for evolution.

4.2 Sex Energy Creates the Spirit

With scientific investigation many facts will come to light about how sexual behavior has to be regulated. As a general formula, you have to see how much time must elapse afterwards before you are able to indulge again without a feeling of regret, strain, or guilt. That will give you the time span quite correctly.

It is the sex energy that creates the spirit, the creativity and manliness in us. Perhaps you know that when animals are castrated, like a horse or a bull, they become very docile and weak. Although they are very bulky, they become even fatter. But their spirit is lost.

Excess of sexual indulgence is also a self-castration. The vim, zeal and zest of life is lost. The individual functions as a normal being. He attends to his office and does everything. But he is not able to do what he could do if he were to use this energy sparingly. He loses the chance. It is a disservice to mankind to suggest that people should indulge in their sexual activity unrestrainedly.

In the social work I undertook in Kashmir, one of our accomplishments was the remarriage of hundreds of widows, who in my community were not allowed to remarry. They were not allowed even to meet men. They were treated almost as outcasts and had to live lonely lives. All the members of the family looked down upon them as almost witches. They said, 'They brought misfortune to our house, as our son died because of them.' They cannot remarry. They sometimes get very harsh treatment. They are not even able to go in the company of men. This is changing now and has changed to a great extent.

But out of the hundreds who might have been rehabilitated, I have not seen one that had gone insane. Not one. If you were to collect the statistics of mental disorders for the advanced nations, and also for the backwards people who can't afford even two meals a day, you will find perhaps a greater incidence in the advanced nations than in the poorer ones. Among the widows with whom I worked, some of them were of such noble character that I cannot express to you.

4.3 How Sex Energy Must be Spent

I still have a recollection of my aunt, who was a widow from an early age. She was a saint, but her life has been a tragedy. Much harm has been done. As soon as research is made on the biological mechanism responsible for evolution it will be shown that sex energy has to be spent only frugally.

Concerning one who indulges in sex, or I should say overindulges, perhaps you don't know about the experiments made on rats. A rat was put in a cage and an electrode was attached to the pleasure center in his brain. When the current was on, the pleasure center was excited. And when it was off, it was disconnected.

The rats were taught how to move the lever that gave the pleasure sensation. They went around and around, always touching the lever that gave them the pleasure sensation. They went on doing it until they were exhausted and fell down unconsciousness. After they were revived and put into the cage again, they did the same thing; they went around and around. Should we do the same? Should we bargain our future, our life hereafter, for this sensation, which often leaves us disgusted and weak afterwards?

These are the things we have to learn. We have to be normal. One can have sex again after waiting some days. That will give greater pleasure. Just try to observe it. Wait for a longer period and you will find that you have greater pleasure. You will have more love for your wife or for your friend. But when you are at it like the rat, a time comes when you have no pleasure, either with the friend or the wife, and so a divorce results.

4.4 The Greatest of Illuminated Men

We never understand the basic reasons for our behavior. As intelligent human beings, we have to adhere to certain moral laws which we do not know. Since I have to speak the truth, I cannot keep back anything that my experience has taught me.

I have been dealing in the social field with thousands of men and women as closely and intimately as a modern psychiatrist does in a laboratory. And I never came across even one widow whom I found insane. On the other hand, I found them more tolerant. They were resigned to their fate.

By this I do not mean that you have to neglect the sex impulse, or to be celibate. There was no system of celibacy in India in Vedic times. In fact, it was looked down upon in the Vedas. In the Upanishads we have the greatest illuminated men ever born, hundreds of them. During the period 1,500 years before the birth of Christ to about 500 years B.C., there were hundreds of spiritual geniuses. And when they were of

ripe age, they went into hermitages, and there they gave the teaching, and that teaching is recorded in the Upanishads.

The Upanishads are the fountainhead of all the philosophy of India, even of Greece, although this has not yet been traced by modern scholars. But you will be surprised to know that out of those great sages were those who first said that all this was one.

They were the first to declare that consciousness is the real basis of the universe. They gave the first teachings to mankind, and not one of them was a celibate. One of the wisest of them, Yajnavalkya, had two wives, in accordance with the custom then in vogue. And both of them went with him to the forest.

4.5 The Best Use of Our Brain

So on the one hand we have asceticism and monasticism. It was Buddha who introduced monasticism, and it was St. Benedict who introduced it in the West in the sixth century. Monasticism was not a part of the early Christian church.

What I mean to say is that we are not called upon to repress this urge. But we are certainly bound to moderate it if we want to live happy, creative lives; if we want to maintain the spirit in us in a bloom; if we want to make the best use of our brain and our energy; and if we want to give the right heritage to our progeny.

Although we have not discussed sex and social behavior very fully, what little I have said may appear difficult. Inasmuch as it does not accord completely with modern views, it may even appear unusual or outlandish, but I say it with full responsibility.

And most of you who are young will see in the movements that will start all over the earth, during the next twenty years, generated by the bomb, that these same ideas will be confirmed by science and by scholars. They are the keys to a happy life in which the evolutionary laws are not violated.

4.6 The Reward Set By Nature

I cannot express to you what reward nature has so far kept for man. Just let me give you an example. You know what a fascination sex has for us. You know what sacrifices a man makes for his beloved, especially in the past when there were restrictions on sexual behavior.

In Europe the knights fought and went on errands to please their beloveds and died in the attempt. They fought duels. Kings were inspired. Empires were destroyed in war when an emperor wanted to have a woman belonging to another country but could not get her without a war.

We know how history has changed because of women, similarly because of man, and what sacrifices they make for men. Now imagine a couple that loves each other intensely, almost to death, who are separated by some circumstances, then come together again after some years. Imagine the intensity of the pleasure and the love when they embrace.

Multiply it a hundred times and you can have a little foretaste of the rapture which fills the brain when you are one with Cosmic Consciousness. This has been considered to be the greatest happiness possible to man. It is for this reason that it is known as sat-chitananda. Ananda means extreme bliss. Sat means truth, and chit means consciousness. This union of the human soul, it is not union, because soul is already the infinite, is only the breaking through of the veil of maya, which obstructs its vision. And when this liberation occurs it becomes sat-chit-ananda.

One Upanishad compares it like this: If the pleasure of love were one unit and the pleasure of reaching Heaven were a hundred such units, then thousands of such units would make up the ecstasy of Brahmajnana (the knowledge of Brahman). This is also known by the terms ecstasy, rapture and ravishment. It is so intense that the mystics faint.

4.7 A Glimpse of Your Own Self

It is not possible for the human mind to bear such happiness, when once he is face to face with the creatrix of the universe; when one knows one's own majesty; when one knows that he and the beloved object, the universe, are one. It is attended by such intense rapture that all the rapture of this earth is but a faint reflection.

In fact, when you experience this rapture of love you are experiencing but a glimpse of your own self, still veiled. It is only a glimpse, a slight glimpse of that greatest of all pleasures. Even kings, emperors, multi-millionaires, and billionaires, all bowed to love. All their lives were made happy by love.

Imagine that this love, which is the greatest incentive to human effort, so valued that people even die for the sake of their beloveds, imagine this love multiplied and becoming a part of your daily life. Imagine that the joy, the exhilaration of an emperor, like Alexander, though he was prone to drink and ruined his happiness, and the joy of the richest billionaire in the United States, and the life of a man who had the most beautiful harem in the world, all combined in Cosmic Consciousness. Where then will be the need for people to run after wealth, or to run after seats of power when such a blessing comes within their reach?

For confirmation of what I say, read the lives of mystics. They spurned everything. They never cared for riches, for wealth or for position. They were all engrossed, day and night, in their inner bliss. And when it failed them sometimes, they were in despair.

4.8 The Crown of Evolution

It is this marvelous crown of evolution that will provide the greatest incentive to mankind. The sex incentive is insignificant before it. It will provide the incentive for peace, for service, because without inner peace, without service, without humility, without absence of pride, one cannot reach that state.

So one will have to give up all these things to reach this bliss, this gift, this blessing, which is beyond everything we can dream of, beyond what wealth can give you, beyond what power can give you, and beyond what sex can give you.

This major incentive will result in the complete change of humankind, because all those who reach the illuminated state of consciousness will repeat what has been said by Christ and Buddha and the spiritual teachers of the past. The knowledge in that state is one, and it is in that direction that mankind is evolving.

This is the dream, the golden peak before us. And once it is acknowledged and known, and people go in that direction, you will soon have thousands upon thousands of lofty illuminated human beings to run the various departments of human activity. They will conduct the race safely through the nuclear age; and they will give everyone an equal opportunity and due credit.

There will be no exploitation. No Christ or Buddha would like to have the credit to himself. He will say, "Let us share it all." That will be the future man and woman. That is the man or woman for whom the world is waiting and who is sure to arrive when these methods are confirmed.

4.9 No Desire for Anything Else

And it is for this lofty goal, to make mankind aware of our glorious destiny, that I am going from place to place. Otherwise I am happy inside, and traveling does not suit me so well. I am blessed. I do not need any praise, any commendations or any followers. I have enough. What I have gained leaves no room, no desire for anything else.

I am living a normal life, eating my meals, sleeping. I am normal in every activity. But I am also blessed. I know what I am talking about. And I take care to say only that which I feel is the truth, and in perhaps the simplest words. I have no need, but I want to share this with all fellow human beings; to put this idea before the scientists and scholars; to encourage and initiate research on it so that the human race, which is

suffering, might be spared this suffering and live a more happy, purposeful and more fulfilling life; might reach the stature ordained for her and win the golden prize which Nature has reserved for us. That is my only ambition.

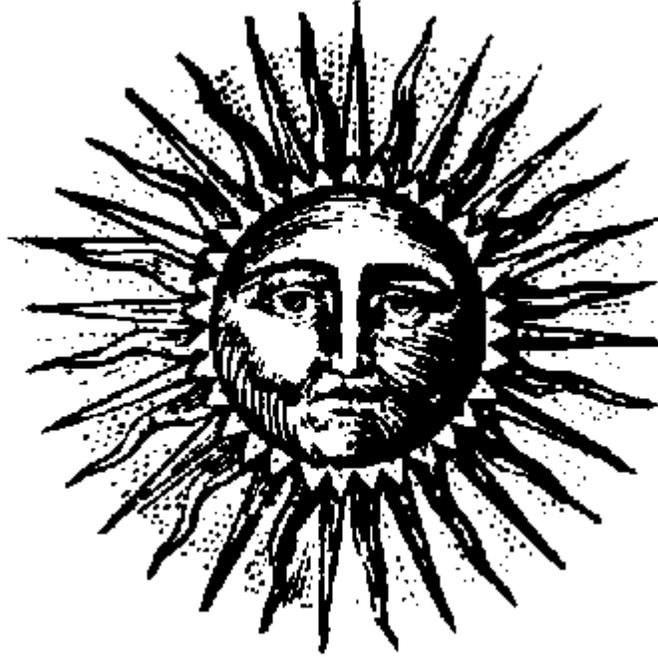
And, I am content to whatever extent Heaven allows me to fulfill this mission. I am content if I am able to talk or to write about it, leaving the fruit in the hands of God. So I thank you very deeply for your patience in listening to me these days.

My words are being recorded. No effort on our part, no discovery of science, no strategy adopted by our political leaders all over the earth, will alter the situation until we change ourselves. The nuclear bomb is Nature's instrument to correct us. Otherwise it would not be there. It is so preposterous, so suicidal, so inhuman, that such a weapon could never be devised by a normal thinking people. But it is here because we have deviated from the path prescribed by Revelation.

All civilizations fell when they transcended the limit. The same fate awaits our own civilization if it does not change.

Gopi Krishna, Nishat, Kashmir, 1979

5 The Goal of Consciousness Research



This interview was conducted in New Delhi late in the 1970s by a reporter for a UNESCO publication.

Q: *For more than a decade now, you have been writing books on consciousness and evolution and about mystical experience. Could you restate your position in clear-cut terms and point out some of the reasons that might have stood in the way of their acceptance by scientists so far?*

A: The main reason is that there is still a great deal of confusion about the phenomenon known as mystical ecstasy. The general impression is that it is just an altered state of awareness, comparable to the states brought about by intoxicants, mind-altering drugs, hypnosis, biofeedback, auto-suggestive conditions and the like. Even an authority like William James has been in error in the comparison he has made between mystical ecstasy and the states induced by wine and nitrous oxide.

Q: *What is the reason for this?*

A: The reason is simple. The transcendental and transhuman nature of mystical experience are a still uncharted province for scholars. There is a wide gulf between scholarship and mystical vision. The staggering nature of the vision and the revolution it brings about in the life and thinking of one who is blessed with it, and the light it throws on the problems of existence, are all beyond the power of the intellect to grasp.

Q: *Can you explain this further?*

A: Intellectual study is like the data gathered by a dreamer of the dream world in which he dwells for a while. The mystical vision is like the awareness gained by one when awake. I must make this clear, with all the emphasis at my command and in full conformity to what has been as emphatically stated by mystics of the past, that the objective world disappears, like a phantom, in the illuminating blaze of mystical consciousness. The Reality which is unveiled in the duration of the experience is beyond the grasp of the intellect and the power of language to describe.

Q: *Since it is impossible to describe, how can you hope to convince scientists that there is still something beyond their comprehension?*

A: It is the same as though the intellectual prodigies of the past, such as Shakespeare and Bacon, were expected to know of the awful force of the atom. Most of the present-day intellectuals believe that they are almost at the frontiers of knowledge, but they have no inkling that the real quest of man has yet to begin. All the knowledge and experience they have gained, all the discoveries they have made and all the inventions wrought, so far, have been but a preparation for the next step in his progress, which is the exploration of his own mind to answer the Riddle of his being.

Q: *It seems to me that what you are saying points to a new direction for human effort and thought.*

A: Exactly. It is entirely beyond the imagination of our contemporaries. Hence, it is but natural that many of them should consider what I say as incredible and fantastic. We cannot expect a more favorable response from the learned, because they are no more informed about the phenomenon, on which I dwell, than the ordinary class of human beings. The intellect, proud of her knowledge, is seldom ready to believe that there are worlds and regions beyond her reach.

Q: *But what about present-day research on consciousness? Isn't there some progress being made in this area of science?*

A: Research on consciousness, as it is being carried out today, can easily be compared to the investigation done by a dreamer of the mental condition of the personalities in his dream. For one who lacks the least awareness about himself, however erudite he might be, the issue will always arise, and on what? How can one who is ignorant of his own mind stalk forth to study the mind of another who is as ignorant of himself as he?

Q: *Is that why the Upanishads say that the effort of the unenlightened, however scholarly they might be, are like the blind leading the blind when it comes to guiding others in the knowledge of the Self?*

A: Yes. According to the Indian Masters who have contributed most to the study of the mind, Turiya or the fourth state of consciousness, experienced in the mystical trance, is the real state of human awareness and the other three below it, namely deep sleep, dream and the normal wakeful state, are delusive. The normal state lends substance to a false appearance which hides the true Reality.

Q: *Then research on consciousness should mean study of ones Self?*

A: In truth, this is what the ancient sages and seers proceeded to do in their search for enlightenment. It is for this reason that during recent times there has been hardly any new addition to the brilliant galaxy of enlightened prophets and sages of the past. This is also the reason why there has been no fresh accumulation of knowledge of the mystical state of consciousness. When our study of the outer world, during the same period, has yielded such a rich harvest in transforming the life of human beings, why do we find the doors tightly shut in our exploration of the inner realm?

Q: *This is the crux of the problem, I'm sure. What is your explanation?*

A: As one who has been granted a brief glimpse into this profound Mystery, I can say with confidence, that no amount of objective study of consciousness, undertaken over the next hundreds of years, with the methods employed at present, would lead the learned any nearer to the solution of the enigma. On the contrary, except for the hundreds of volumes of confusing data that would result, the investigation would make it even more bewildering than before.

Q: *But what is the reason for this?*

A: Research on consciousness demands a new approach, because it marks a new phase in the career of humanity. Evolving man must now shift his attention from the outer to the inner world, make his own body the laboratory and reverently approach the Spirit within to instruct him in the rudiments of this science.

Q: *Many people are eagerly waiting for this to take place. There seems to be an instinctive longing in many to return to nature, for instance, and to break away from the highly complex, hectic life of today. Isn't all this just an indication of a coming revolution in thinking?*

A: Yes, the stage is being set for this radical change in the direction of human effort from the outer to the inner world. The learned are not able to read the signs, because the future is entirely shut from their view, and they have no idea of the coming revolution in the life of humankind as a complement to the evolutionary change that has occurred within.

Q: Can you describe this evolutionary change that you believe has occurred within?

A: It will take some time, but it has to do with the existence of a potential in the brain that can transform human life and bestow undreamed of intellectual, super-sensory and artistic gifts to individuals in a manner beyond imagination at present.

Q: But as you have already said, most of the intellectuals have no grounding in mysticism, so they continue to apply to it the same methods of analysis and criticism to which they are accustomed in other branches of knowledge.

A: It is a sad commentary on the academic life of our time that a subject treated with respectful attention and reverential regard by the greatest intellectuals of the past, including such giants as Plato and Newton, should appear so trivial and unimportant to them that they deem it beyond their dignity to study it with the care and attention which it needs.

Q: You are considered to be a rebel to many of the popular ideologies of our time. Perhaps if you were to put your ideas in the language of the intellectuals, they would be more acceptable to the readers in the United States.

A: I have made no secret in my books of the fact that my education has been poor and that all I am writing is from inspiration, which needs a dive into the depths of my own being to receive it.

I have never made any claims of infallibility and have repeatedly said that every word I am writing should be weighed and put to rigid test before it is accepted. It is for this reason that I am so keen to lay the foundation of an Experimental Center, to validate my views about the evolutionary mechanism in the human frame.

Q: Your ideas need to be expressed by scholars who are trained in the language of academics. Without such credentials, it might be impossible to make any real headway in the West.

A: Either that or else what we need are the resources to broadcast our views far and wide. I am putting my ideas in the language of the common man and woman rather than in that of the intellectuals for the simple reason that, in the first place, I am not capable of writing in the discursive style peculiar to scholars. Secondly, I wish my message to be easily intelligible to all those who read it.

Q: Do you believe it is possible to communicate your ideas in the language of modern psychology?

A: Perhaps not. Modern psychology is bristling with internal conflicts and controversies, and also the pulls and pressures from individual authorities, each contradicting the other. How can a study based on a mistaken conception of mind, with excessive emphasis on the beast and chilling silence over the god in man, provide a suitable vehicle for explaining the profundities of consciousness or its triumphant march from the sub-human to the super-human plane?

Q: Then what is the solution?

A: The moment it is demonstrated that the human brain is still in a state of organic evolution in a pre-planned direction, not only the current theory of evolution but also psychological systems, based primarily on the animal origin of mind and not on its infinitely intelligent cosmic character, will come toppling to the earth.

How can we reconcile the divine nature of consciousness with some of the revolting explanations offered by psychologists? The universe is a vast amphitheater and the dramas enacted by consciousness, on this stage from one end to the other, infinitely varied in plot and action, are yet closely interwoven and interconnected in a manner far beyond the grasp of the puny human intellect. Mankind will have to rise to dizzy heights of evolution before she can begin to comprehend the bewildering play of Life.

From Euclidean space we have come to the curved space of Relativity. But there are already indications to show that this is not the end. Who knows what new surprises are in store for astrophysicists in the years to come? It is a fallacy to suppose that we have come to the end of the knowledge of the mind.

Q: *You claim to be in possession of extraordinary knowledge, is that not true?*

A: I have never laid any claim to a higher position than the one I possess. In fact, I have emphatically tried my utmost to make it clear that mystical experience does not represent a vision of God but only a passage into a new dimension of consciousness in which it wears an aspect of glory and sovereignty which is not present on the human plane.

I have also repeatedly asserted that in all other aspects I belong to the class of normal human beings with the frailties and vanities common to human nature. Nowhere in my writings have I made any claim to sainthood or nearness to God or to a superhuman stature, as is often done by godmen to point out the gulf that exists between them and the normal run of human beings.

Q: *But you do claim to reside in the transcendental state of consciousness, do you not?*

A: Yes, but it has always been my endeavor to make it clear that the transcendental state of consciousness, experienced in the form of ecstasy by prophets and mystics throughout the past, does not signify a special favor from the Deity. It is only a more extended dimension of the perceptual faculty towards which mankind is evolving irresistibly through the operation of an evolutionary mechanism in the body, designated as Kundalini by the Indian sages of the past.

Q: *As far as I know, this is the first time that mystical consciousness, or the organic mechanism leading to it, have been defined in this way, in the language of reason, divested of the supernatural and mythical.*

A: That is my view, exactly. I have, at the same time made no secret of the fact that knowledge of Kundalini represents a monumental discovery of the illumine of India, and that I am only presenting this knowledge in the language of modern science. I have also said that the interpretations I am placing on it would be beyond my capacity but for a strange dispensation of fate, beyond my comprehension, by which I became the participant in an experience that unfolded the secret to me.

Q: *Secret? Can you expand on this a bit?*

A: What I am trying to emphasize in all my work is that we have our existence in two worlds, the world of matter and the world of mind. As the result of an inquiry that has persisted through a prodigious span of time, ever since the dawn of reason, we have come in possession of a huge amount of knowledge of the material world, which is available for the study by any one of us. But the study of the world of spirit needs entry into a new plane of consciousness and a super-sensory channel of cognition, which are slowly coming into the possession of man.

Q: *The secret, then, is that mankind is slowly coming into possession of this super-sensory channel of cognition, is that correct?*

A: Yes, through evolution. This is the purpose of the mystical trance or the transhuman states of consciousness exhibited by the prophets and mystics of the world. They sung praises of the glory of God because the plane of being where they arrived is a plane of splendor, beauty and transport, surpassing anything conceivable by a normal mind.

Q: *But even so, if I understand you correctly, it is a plane of being just a little higher than that of normal human beings.*

A: You are perfectly correct. Those men and women who arrogate to themselves a transhuman stature or position of authority, as incarnations of, or surrogates for, the Divine, must have a poor opinion about the staggering dimensions of the universe or the inconceivable proportions of its Almighty Creator.

Q: *Because it is simply an evolutionary advance of the normal state of consciousness?*

A: Yes. This attitude could be justified in the pro-phets, sages and seers of the past, when the earth alone bounded the vision of man and he had no idea of what gigantic worlds lie beyond, and what a countless

host of colossal suns and planets dwells in space. But from a godman of today, the statements of the kind which are made in the Scriptures of the past should be an affront to the intelligence of one who has even a passing idea about the extent of the universe or possibility of other, far superior, forms of life residing in it. There are some, even among the learned, who believe in such self-concocted tales, but they scoff at the rational explanations which I offer.

Q: *What about the future of humankind?*

A: From my point of view, the future luminaries of the race, adorned with transhuman consciousness, would still be occupied with the exploration of the Mystery of Creation in the higher, to us, imperceptible planes of being, in the same way as we are now occupied with the exploration of the material universe. The present-day concepts about the mind, its behavior, urges and appetites, are mere capricious intellectual excursions into a territory which needs another channel of cognition to explore.

Q: *I would like to know more about this other channel of cognition.*

A: You said yourself that it was a plane of being that is a little higher than that of normal human beings, and that is perfectly correct. But it is nothing to merit comparison or equality with the infinite majesty and splendor of the Lord. It is a variation of almost the same kind as we observe when we rise in the scale of life from the lower species to the higher ones.

It amuses me to find that people in general, including scholars, sometimes, raise mystics and enlightened saints to the stature of gods who cease to be humans, belonging to a world of superhuman dimensions and possibilities, where they can defy the laws of nature, change the fate of common men and women or do whatever they please.

This is a serious error which stands as an impediment in the understanding of the mystical trance and in placing this extraordinary state of mind on a rational footing. It is simply the addition of another channel of perception, designed by Nature for every human being.

Q: *But you still insist that it is necessary for science to undertake research on consciousness?*

A: There will soon be a time when the evolution of consciousness will be taken up by scholars in all its different aspects, spiritual, psychological, sociological and biological. When once the experiment I propose is confirmed, there will be no subject, I am sure, which will receive as much sustained attention from scholars of every shade and color, and the rank and file of science, as this.

But the most colossal task in front of the erudite would be to explain the evolution of mind in terms of the organic evolution of the brain. As far as I can see, it shall take long spans of time to cover each single step in the territory of consciousness.

Q: *Then you do welcome the efforts of scholars and psychologists to write on consciousness, to the best of their knowledge and skill.*

A: Of course, I welcome it most certainly. But in fairness to all, I must point out that except in the case of those who have experienced the transformation, no attempt made by a scholar, merely with the exercise of his intellect, however versatile and learned he might be, can fathom the mystery.

How does Eternal Consciousness come to be embodied and then rise, step by step, through aeonian spans of time, to the realization of its own sovereignty? This is a riddle so profound that it is hard even to gauge its proportions. I must also add that present-day ideas about psychology, which emanated from Freud and others, offer only short-range explanations.

These explanations will be subject to radical change from time to time, as more and more knowledge is gained by the illumine of the future about the nature and working of the mind and the organ of its expression, namely the brain.

Q: *Your opinion of modern psychology is rather unflattering.*

A: I have written extensively on this subject, but we can compare the present views of psychologists to the ideas of alchemists before the modern science of chemistry came into existence. The human intellect, not unoften, takes delight in providing explanations even for those phenomena which are beyond its

probe, as for example, the existence of God and the origin of the universe, the nature of the soul and life after death.

These eternal riddles have strongly drawn the human mind from the dawn of reason to this day without ever finding the right answer that could solve them once and for all. This is also the case with the riddle of the mind.

Q: *You believe that the experiment you propose will furnish the solution?*

A: It is my endeavor to divest mystical ecstasy of ancient superstition and modern intellectual confusion both by drawing attention to the biological factors responsible for it. Because this objectification of the phenomenon has never been attempted before, the academic world is still unaware or incredulous of it. That shows the entirely unsuspected nature of the disclosures made.

From my point of view, mystical ecstasy is a human experience, the outcome of an organic process at work in the brain, which signifies the first beginning of transhuman capacities in man. Except for the organic changes occurring in the subtle levels of the neuron structures, science, as it exists today, can have no direct knowledge of the subjective nature of this experience.

Q: *If that is the case, then no intellectual formulations about it are possible at this time.*

A: That is correct.

Q: *Your writings are, to summarize very briefly, primarily confined to the evolution of the mind. Isn't this what others have said?*

A: I do not say that the human mind is evolving towards an undefined summit as, for instance, Teilhard de Chardin and others have said. What I firmly assert is that human consciousness is evolving towards a predetermined target, which I have experienced, and that this target is the mystical or illuminated state attained by thousands of mystics and enlightened human beings in the past and that the religious scriptures of mankind are a harvest of the revelations received from a Higher Intelligence in this state of exalted being.

What I further affirm is that the human brain is evolving towards this state of transhuman perception, through the activity of an organic mechanism, named Kundalini by the ancients, whose existence can be demonstrated with the methods known to science.

Q: *This is a monumental assertion. Science has been attempting to discover this organic mechanism for decades, without, insofar as I know, any success whatsoever.*

A: From all this, it follows that I am trying to place the whole domain of religion and mystical ecstasy on the footing of a regular science, demonstrable with empirical methods of which the laboratory has to be the human body itself.

Q: *Has any thinker, scientist or religious teacher, present or past, thrown a challenge of this kind?*

A: I frankly know of none. There is no need for me to use dubious intellectual methods to carry my point. One successful experiment is sufficient to clear the confusion and confirm what I say.

Q: *Your writings include a good deal about other mental phenomena in addition to mystical ecstasy, could you elaborate on this?*

A: My whole philosophy can be summed up in a few words. Therefore, it is not necessary that my books should be read and reread to arrive at the conclusions I have drawn from my experience. I also aver that the commonly known abnormal and paranormal states of mind, such as retardation, neurosis or insanity, on the one hand, and exceptional talent or paranormal gifts on the other, all proceed from the working of the evolutionary mechanism; that with advanced knowledge of this lever the aforesaid evils, resulting from its malfunctioning, can be cured or obviated and the latter highly precious attributes cultivated at will.

Q: *This is a new and original contribution to the knowledge of man, I believe.*

A: To the best of my belief no other philosopher or mystic of the past has given the same interpretation to mystical experience and put a cut-and-dried formula before mankind. I am not putting forward an

intellectual dissertation based on mere erudition and logic, I am submitting a concrete proposal based on personal study of the phenomenon, for experiment, to validate the conclusions drawn by me, which are of colossal importance for the race.

Q: *If this is the case, and I have no reason to doubt what you say, why haven't these disclosures been greeted with acclaim?*

A: The reason is because the ideas expressed by me are new and original, which therefore need time to take root in the common mind, and, secondly, because they strongly militate against some of the current conceptions or misconceptions of both orthodox science and religion.

How can the erudite, on either side, readily swallow the utterances of one who proclaims loud that matter is a mirage, Darwin was wrong, Freud mistaken, consciousness is All, that humanity is on her way to this awareness in the beatific state, that the great illuminees were not and could not be the favorites of the Almighty and that mystical experience does not represent an encounter with God but only a vision of the divinity in man?

Q: *Then what is needed, urgently, as far as I can see, is something like a New Manhattan Project to try to scientifically validate your theory?*

A: It is only by a deep study of my thesis that it can dawn on an unbiased intellect that there can be no other interpretation which can synthesize the diversity of religious experience and outlook, serve as a connecting link between religion and science and bring science back from a lopsided, entirely materialistic view of the universe, towards a more rational and more comprehensive philosophy of Creation. This philosophy is one in which matter and mind figure as the two aspects of one incomprehensible Reality dimly perceptible in another dimension of consciousness of which religion is the still growing child.

Q: *It must be extremely frustrating to you to spend year after year, writing your views down in books, only to see decades pass without any signs of recognition on the part of the scientific community?*

A: I have been watching the whole drama of my life without a tinge of regret for the coldness I have received for the knowledge given out by me, while living virtually in the jaws of death. I am a frail human being myself, and I know the frailties of my other fellow human beings. Had the secrets disclosed by me come from the lips of a distinguished personality in science, the discovery would have resounded throughout the world.

Or were a leading personality, like the President of the United States, to affirm publicly the importance of the disclosure, all the newspapers of the earth would open their columns to the message and the learned fall over each other in expressing their high appreciation of it.

It was only through the conversion of Asoka the Great in India, and Emperor Constantine in Rome, that Buddhism and Christianity became dominant faiths in the East or West.

Q: *Apparently the support of temporal authority was always needed to push forward a spiritual creed.*

A: That is entirely correct. Left at the mercy of the populace, including the learned, without the enthusiastic support of ardent protagonists, no new idea or line of thought, diametrically opposite to prevailing conceptions, can find wide acceptance. At best, it would only serve as a topic for perfunctory discussion here and there. Even the media, which are supposed to keep track of all new developments, would give a wide berth to it for its uncommon nature and touch it only if it is mentioned by one in authority, not because they have become enamored of it but because it suits their purpose to give publicity to the utterances of a great personage.

Such is the opacity of the human intellect when face-to-face with a new revelation, showing the way out of a confusing labyrinth of thought. Ours is not a message that can be thoroughly grasped or made universal in the course of a few years, but it must roll across long spans of time to gather the momentum necessary for it to become a universally recognized philosophy and science.

Q: *What if you had your wish, what would it be?*

A: With all my heart, I wish that in the exploration of consciousness mystical tradition, not the methods of traditional psychology, were to be followed to bring a correct awareness of its evolution to the world. Intellectual dissertations, beyond a certain limit, would only lead to confusion and chaos in a province where first-hand experience is necessary to know the truth. Like the exploration of the sky, intellectual exercise can carry us only for a short distance. After that, the use of the telescope becomes absolutely necessary for correct knowledge of the position. In the same way, for the study of the inner firmament, a dive into the depths of one's being is essential to know the reality.

Q: *The inexpressible?*

A: Music and poetry provide a better language for expressing the profundities of consciousness than logic. This is the reason why prayers are sung. The state of mind produced under the spell of a beautifully sung prayer is more expressive of the indefinable world of consciousness than volumes of reasoned prose.

The problem is that it is hard to make an intellectual accept the position that his territory ends at the very beginning of the mystical trance. It is characteristic of the intellect that she is seldom prepared to accept defeat and is often over-confident of her ability to know all that can be known.

It is only when face-to-face with the unbelievable splendor of the Mystical Vision that, hushed into silence at the awesome majesty of the Reality unfolded, the tittle-tattle of this irrepressible gossip, that always talks of this sublime experience from a distance, comes to an end and her propensity, in the words of Pascal, of putting two and two together and make it five, is lost.

Q: *Perhaps science will be forced to take up the research project, just as it was forced to experiment on the atom bomb some 40 years ago, when the threat of its falling into the hands of an enemy was urgent.*

A: Time will prove the correctness of our stand. I am not the last of the line that has already appeared to beseech their contemporaries to look within. Others will rise to repeat what has already been said and win confirmation for the disclosures made, if lacking still. No power on earth can prevent truth from spreading when time for it has come, just as no power can stop the sun from bathing the earth in light when the night is over.

The verdict on what I have revealed does not rest in the hands of a few scholars in a particular country, living now or who may rise in the future. The secret we have disclosed, not by choice but at the decree of fate, is not limited by time and place but covers the whole earth and is of everlasting value for the race.

Q: *It doesn't disturb you, then, that still more time is needed for a better grasp of your message?*

A: Not at all. I know what I am up against in the claim I make and the truth I reveal. The day will come when those whose intuition was right in accepting this disclosure are vindicated.

6 About Consciousness Research and How We Can Help Save the World

Gopi Krishna

Yoga is the generic name employed in India to designate all forms of mental, physical, and spiritual, disciplines necessary to explore the incredibly wondrous world of consciousness. From this point of view, all efficacious methods of spiritual discipline, adopted in any religion of the world, can be classified as yoga.

Used in this sense, yoga is the master-science of the future, the door of entry to intelligent levels of creation impervious to the five senses and unapproachable to the intellect. Why yoga is as important for the hard-boiled, practical man of the world, as it is for the seeker after God and self-awareness, is because it is only self-knowledge and discipline that can help modern scholars and scientists to know more about consciousness and the profound depths of the human psyche.

And because it is only yoga that provides effective methods for the opening of the sealed super-sensory compartment in the brain which, when opened, can lead to illumination or to the florescence of genius and psychic gifts in human beings.

6.1 The Gateway to An Elevated Humanity

Yoga is the only gateway to a more elevated humanity, to a well-provided, progressive, war-free, harmonious and happy world. It is the only vessel in which one can cross the stormy ocean of existence to the other shore, where eternal life and unbounded happiness await the passenger.

Yoga, in short, is the methodology and the science by which the embodied soul can become aware of its own identity and of the glorious world to which it belongs. Material science unearths the laws of matter; yoga reveals the secrets of the soul.

The present-day world is a strange compound of opposites, a fantastic blend of anomalies and contrarities. We establish democratic institutions to raise autocrats to power, and profess faith in God to ignore Him in our actions and elude Him in our thoughts. We profess concern for human beings and yet devise methods for their total destruction at the same time. And we proclaim love for our nation while bleeding our weaker brethren white for gain.

6.2 A Great Anomaly of Our Time

We applaud fair play in order to have the larger share, and we honor justice in order to outwit the rest. We express brotherly love for our neighbors often just to malign him, and we show our burning desire for peace by secretly preparing for war.

Our science-oriented, glamorous culture has created a peculiar social environment ideally suited for highly sophisticated minds with a strongly marked polarity that makes them talk in one way and act in another. We have developed minds which, without a single qualm of conscience, can sacrifice all that they profess of religion, faith, God, morals, virtue or lofty ideals, if that helps in our day-to-day pursuit of the objective dear to our heart, be it position, power, pleasure, fame or wealth.

Another great anomaly of our time is that while science has succeeded in overcoming the barriers of time or distance, demolishing geographical frontiers, and created conditions that make earth one vast neighborhood, the political heads of all countries still adhere to parochial and chauvinistic ideas of the times of the Greeks and Romans.

6.3 A Thousand Years Out of Date

In other words, the evolution of political thought has not kept pace with the speed with which knowledge has expanded and technology overhauled. Socially, politically, and mentally, man is where he was a thousand years ago.

Science has created a milieu of such lightning speed, mechanical wonder and complexity around us that we now need a much more balanced and penetrating intellect than is operating at present in order to adjust the society to it.

This anomaly has a marked subconscious effect on every man and woman in our time. Each person experiences the effect without awareness of the cause behind it. Whoever be the head of state whom we elect or vote into power, once installed, soon loses the favor of those who elected him. The ardor and the glamour of the election fade rapidly and, in the limelight of publicity, spots and blemishes begin to appear where all looked stainless before.

Speedily the process of disenchantment accomplishes its task. After only a few years, or even sooner, he meets their disapproval and they fret and fume first under their breath and then openly. The temper of the people is reflected in the papers and periodicals, rumors circulate, whispers and knowing winks become a common sight, until the inevitable comes to pass and someone else is lifted to the chair to start the same cycle over again.

6.4 A State of Uncertainty Prevails

Apart from leaders of state, the ministers and high dignitaries, more often than not, suffer the same fate. The heads of various departments of administration seldom continue for long to earn the goodwill of their subordinates or the people with whom they deal in the various spheres of their operation. Pulls and pressures, plots and intrigues, fall to their lot without respite to the end.

Professors, teachers, scholars, thinkers and writers only in a few cases retain their popularity and influence for long. A meteoric quality has attached itself to success. A state of ephemerousness and uncertainty seems to prevail in every sphere of life.

Strikes, lockouts, riots, demonstrations, mutinies, revolts and rebellions, the harvest of this discontentment and disenchantment, plague the life of people everywhere. Why they should occur in such proportion in an era of material comfort and affluence, compared to previous times, is a mystery.

Antipathy towards men and women who hold exalted positions anywhere, administration, industry, business, the church, university etc., or in any way influence the life of people with whom they associate is a common feature of our time.

The mass of humanity no longer feels happy or satisfied with its leading lights in any sphere of activity for long, except rarely, and seeks their replacement by others of its choice, only to be disappointed. This creates constant eddies and whirlpools in the swiftly flowing current of life in every part of the world.

6.5 The Main Reason for Our Discontent

The main reason why there is seething discontentment in almost every country in the world, including the richest and most advanced, in every field including religion, is not because the leaders are less competent than before or less efficient in the performance of their duty, but because the human mind has attained a degree of sensitivity, and the environment a state of bewildering complexity, where a more evolved, superior type of men and women are needed to create confidence and enlist the cooperation of the masses.

With every advance in knowledge and every addition to the products of technology, the normal intellect, however powerful, is sure to fall short in meeting the choice of the masses for creating a stable order in the society.

What I am forecasting is likely to become more and more apparent in the years to come. By no political revolution, by no change of government, by no enactment of new laws, by no new discoveries of science, by no new teaching or preaching, can the recalcitrant mind cease to express its resentment and dissatisfaction in some way.

Hence there must occur an increase in acts of violence, sabotage, aggression, terrorism, etc., and an increase in unrest and tension. Humanity stands at this moment on a parting of the ways.

6.6 Second Thoughts About Man

To take an instance, commenting on the disenchantment that has occurred in the domain of science, Time magazine in an article entitled 'Second Thoughts About Man,' makes this statement: After years of sunny admiration, science suddenly finds itself in a shadow. No longer are scientists the public's great heroes or the beneficiaries of unlimited funding. Unemployment runs high in many scientific disciplines; the number of young people drawn to the laboratory in certain key areas has diminished significantly.

Indifference to scientific achievement is the mood of the moment. Even such bold ventures as new voyages to the Moon or Mars, construction of giant atom-smashers, and journeys to the depths of the sea, fail to excite a public that is half-jaded, half-doubtful of the future benefits of such extravagant undertakings.

In part, the turnabout came from an increasing awareness of the environmental ravages that seem to accompany technological advance. On a more philosophical level, the reversal is the result of a new mood of skepticism about the quantifying, objective methods of science. Moreover, there has begun to emerge, even within the laboratory, a new fascination with what traditionalists consider the very antithesis of science: the mystical and irrational.

Says Harvard biologist-historian Everett Mendelsohn: "Science as we know it has outlived its usefulness."

6.7 The Faustian Side of Science

It is this Faustian side of science, with its insatiable drive to conquer new fields, explore new territory and build bigger machines, regardless of costs and consequences, that worries so many critics, says Time.

The current disenchantment is also rooted in the growing gulf between scientists and laymen. In an earlier age, one man alone might dare take up a host of scientific challenges. Now science has been sub-divided into so many cubbyholed disciplines that not even a Galileo or a Newton could keep pace with all developments.

Some 25,000 books and a million scientific articles are published each year. Most of them are written in such abstruse jargon and abstract mathematical terms as to be incomprehensible except to specialists. Even computer systems seem unable to cope with the onslaught of information, to say nothing of translating it into an understandable language.

These few quotations should be sufficient to show the disenchantment that has occurred and the controversies that are raging in the heretofore unchallenged domain of science.

Similar states of disenchantment and conflict of views exist in other spheres also, and the reason is that the human intellect has almost reached its tether and is not able to move beyond the field of its observation into the hidden causes that rule our lives and the destiny of mankind.

It is a state of stalemate from which there is no escape, unless a new channel is opened to explore the extra-sensory levels of the universe. This is also what the reputed German physicist, Werner Heisenberg, suggests when he says that rational science may be limited in its ability to comprehend nature, at best it can only arrive at certain statistical probabilities in determining say, where an electron is at any given moment.

To know the cause of discontent and instability the inner world of consciousness must become as important a subject of study and research as the outer one. The men and women who offer themselves or are chosen for positions of honor and trust must have gained an awareness of themselves to guide the footsteps of the race on the path to accelerated evolution.

The most pressing need of humanity is not to spend billions on launching projectiles into space or devising more lethal instruments of destruction, but in removing killing poverty, ignorance and disease and in restoring the balance of the world. It is futile to expect that the present heads of state, or the elite of society, will come to the rescue.

6.8 Nature may have to resort to some other way to achieve the end

There appears to be little hope that this idyllic dream would come true, not because it is basically Utopian and impracticable, but because it needs a more elevated class of human beings to actualize it, without using coercive or violent methods, but only their spiritual and intellectual prowess.

We need not wait for a chance combination of genes inherited and passed on through centuries, as in the past, for the appearance of spiritual prodigies who are competent to handle the affairs of mankind in the way they must be handled to ensure stability and peace.

This exceptional class of men and women can come into existence, regularly and in increasing numbers from year to year, with the steady practice of yoga, meaning all spiritual disciplines, directed to activate the paranormal center in the brain and employing that genius in the service of humanity.

I call yoga the master science or the key to the mysteries of the universe, because it is through such spiritual practices that genius can be cultivated. Genius is the source from which all knowledge, science, art and philosophy, has sprung.

What we desperately need now are political geniuses to bring in line the existing systems of politics with the present-day needs of millions of fast-evolving human beings. What we need are geniuses in jurisprudence to revise the outmoded, cumbersome systems dating from the Romans, geniuses in science, geniuses in healing, and geniuses in social science, to remedy the present imbalances and to eradicate the evils and diseases in society and plant it firmly on the path to the sublime state which is its destined goal.

I know that except for some intuitive men and women I will not be readily believed. They are not to blame, because what I say is radically different from what they have been taught to believe. But history is a witness that neither Copernicus nor Bruno, nor Galileo, was believed in his time for what he premised.

On the contrary, each was criticized, castigated and ridiculed for his ideas. Bruno was burned at the stake and Galileo, in his old age, had to recant what he had written to save himself from torture and imprisonment. What is now the position of the ideas and concepts they introduced into the thinking of their contemporaries for the first time? Are they not accepted with gratitude and have they not become a part of everyday thinking?

What I assert, however farfetched, fantastic or incredible it might appear, will prove to be a most important and urgent branch of empirical investigation, a budding new science, demanding all the knowledge and resources of the older science for its progress from year to year.

We cannot deny the fact that we have been dilatory in investigating consciousness, the wonder-stuff behind all that mankind has achieved. It is for this reason that we still believe in the myth that mind, as we know it, and matter alone are the realities which need an explanation to solve the mystery of creation.

The problems arising out of extra-sensory perception, as we know, bother sober scientists, because if they are accepted they will require a fresh evaluation of the universe. ESP cannot be explained on the basis of any known laws, either of the mind or the physical world. As the eminent psychologist McDougall has remarked, if psychic phenomena are accepted, physiology will have to be rewritten.

It is not science but we ourselves who are responsible for our arbitrary interpretation of the universe. And it is only research on consciousness that can correct the error and open new vistas of creation beyond our

dreams. It is only this new vision and the effort directed to gain it that can keep the restless intellect calmly on its course.

7 Gopi Krishna and Claes Nobel

Talk About The Purpose of Life

Gopi Krishna

It is a privilege to be here and to meet you in person. This is a particularly beautiful setting, with the mountains and the wonderful lake in front of us. It must give a person much inspiration to live in such beauty and solitude as this.

It is a strange coincidence, because it is in this type of surroundings that the ancient sages of India spoke to the seekers after truth. The entire philosophy of the Upanishads is based on the teachings delivered by the sages, in hermitages located on hills, on the banks of rivers, or on the banks of lakes where nature bloomed in all its glory and beauty.

Solitude and nature are absolutely necessary for the proper development of a human being.

It is an admixture of natural life, lived in solitude, amid beautiful surroundings of nature and what we call an arboreal life, which is absolutely necessary for the poise and harmony of the human mind. Otherwise, it becomes too much distracted, and that distraction is fatal for its evolution towards a higher dimension of consciousness.

The blunder made by us at present is to put the human mind in surroundings among machines, speeding cars, and airplanes, which do not allow it to have that repose and calm environment where it can grow in the right direction.

Could you tell me a little about this particular area? I understand that you were born in Kashmir and have been living here for most of your life.

I was born in a village about 21 miles from Srinagar. This area is considered to be one of the most beautiful and most productive in Kashmir. It is lavish with fruits and produces an abundance of corn. It is said that some of the greatest philosophers that Kashmir has produced have been residing in this area, such as Abhinava Gupta.

The spring which supplies water to our buildings and garden, overlooking Dal Lake, is known as the Gupta Tirth, the Hidden Spring, and it is said that some of those sages lived here, close to the spring, and at other places on this slope.

And these mountains? Are we in the Himalayas?

Yes, they are the foothills of the Himalayas, and on the other side of this mountain a stream is flowing which comes from a lake about 13,000 feet above sea level. It carries the water to a place about six miles from here, where an artificial lake has been built by the government. The lake supplies drinking water to the entire city of Srinagar, about 10 miles away. It is very beautiful water, and this valley, on the other side of the building, is a reserve where wild animals are allowed to live.

I am very interested in wild animals and have been working with various environmental and ecological organizations to protect them. What kind of animals do you have in these mountains?

Jackals, wolves, and even some variety of tiger. Also bears in large numbers, and they sometimes come into our garden.

*I would like to say that what particularly brought me here to visit with you is my very strong concern over matters related to peace. Today it seems as if we are on the brink of another world war. A third world war could confront mankind, and bring out the most destructive weapons we have in our arsenals, the nuclear missiles. Among many of the books you have written is *The Shape of Events to Come*, which I carried with me from the States. It is a mind-boggling book, and I would like to hear about it from you. What is the message you are trying to get out to the world?*

In this book, I am in particular trying to draw the attention of the world to a very important fact that at the present moment our scientists, our educators, leaders, and politicians are only aware of natural laws, and

even those are not known completely or perfectly. In addition to material laws, there are also spiritual or psychic laws in the universe. We have absolutely no awareness of these laws. Time and again, a glimpse of these laws has been given to mankind by the great prophets and Messiahs who appeared in different parts of the world. We have rejected their teachings as pure myth or superstition. But actually those teachings contain germs of truth that are essential for the safety and survival of the race.

The tragedy is that we have rejected the evidence of religion or of the teachings of great sages about the spiritual world and the soul which dwells in the human body. Since spirit, mind or soul is not perceptible to any of our senses, or to any of our scientific instruments, we presume that they have no independent existence apart from the body or the organic organ, the brain, and therefore we need not worry about what happens to them. But actually they do have an independent existence. They have a universe of their own, and they have profound influences on all that we do, on all that we think, on all that we create.

But this influence is conditioned by certain laws which are totally a sealed book to us. These laws are operating at present and driving mankind to a catastrophic war to end the present order, which is against the evolution of the brain.

What laws are you referring to now?

I am referring to the first law, the Law of Evolution. This law of evolution has been referred to by every prophet; by the founder of every great faith. They have not called it a law. They called it a Path, a way, a road. Christ has called it a Path, Buddha has called it a Path, Mohammed has called it a Path, the Bhagavad Gita calls it a Path. All of them call it a Path, the road that can lead mankind to salvation and beatitude. This Path is a law. This is what I am emphasizing with all the force at my command. And I hope and pray that science and our intellectuals would come to the same conclusion after conducting scientific experiments, before the catastrophe occurs, rather than after.

When you say catastrophe, to what are you referring?

Nature, we find, is relentless in her programs and schedules. She is also relentless in enforcing her laws. We know that the moment we digress from some of the biological laws ruling our life, we are punished in some way. We have a disease, we have a weakness, or we die, or something happens to us, if we violate the laws pertaining to our body.

The same thing happens when we violate the laws pertaining to our mind, but we never recognize this. We are now violating this Law of Evolution, which the prophets have called the Path, very seriously. The alternatives are either mankind will degenerate, or its mind will become disoriented, as is actually happening at the moment, or it will have to revert to a lifestyle and a social system which is more in harmony with this Path.

You say in *The Shape of Events to Come* that it is most likely we will have a nuclear war, and you also say that we must try to avoid it no matter what the cost. My question is this: Are we ruled by predestination or by free will?

We are ruled by both predestination and also by free will.

And the predestination in this case, you feel that it will escalate to some kind of a confrontation between different ideologies? It seems as if you are saying that this is a growing process that man is going through; that we have been going through history continually plagued by wars.

The indications are that there will be a nuclear war. But it could be averted if mankind were to obey the law which it is violating at present.

What law are we violating?

To repeat, it is the Law of Evolution, the Path referred to in every great faith of mankind, the Path of Christ, the Path of Mohammed, the Path of Buddha, the Path described in the Bhagavad Gita. As I have said, the Path described in every great scripture of the world.

But if it has been described in all the leading religions, why is man so foolish as to disobey those findings, and why are we not following the prescribed path?

There is a very valid reason for it. The scientists of the 18th century, and even before, expressed views which are mostly skeptical. They denied the existence of God, immortality of the soul and the hereafter. The result is that at the present moment the intelligent mind is wavering between the precepts of religion and the concepts of science.

This has been a great tragedy. In fact, it is this premature expression of skeptical views that led Karl Marx to formulate his entirely materialistic theories. These premature views have divided mankind into two blocs; one of them who believe in God and the other who deny God.

When you say the two blocs, are you referring to the Communistic bloc, which denies religious freedom, and the Western Capitalistic bloc?

Yes. It has been a real tragedy that Western scientists never studied other religions, such as the Indian religion or the ancient tradition of Egypt. They only concentrated their attention on Christianity. Even after concentrating their attention on that one particular religion, and pointing out certain anomalies, they still could have studied the phenomena in an objective way instead of rejecting the whole finding of religion altogether.

If they had done it, if they had studied the occult literature of the world just as they studied alchemy and astrology, and the ancient sciences of medicine and the like, and then out of the amorphous mass crystallized certain laws and facts, then they would have come to the conclusion that there is a law to which all these prophets were referring. And that is a spiritual law which relates to the evolution of the human mind, and also to the emancipation of the human soul and its rising to higher dimensions of existence.

You speak with such assurance. Having read a number of your books, I know that you have had a great personal enlightenment. Thanks to this enlightenment, your illumination as you also call it, you are in a position where you can indeed look into the future and discern events to come. Could you tell me when this happened, and what kind of experience it was?

I had an incredible experience in my 34th year. And from that experience started a process of transformation in my body which continues to this day. This transformation led me to a state of consciousness which I had never experienced before. It is a strange experience. In the normal human being, one's personality is a small flame of consciousness or awareness. And seen from that small flame, the world appears to be a gigantic expanse of stars, planets, oceans, mountains, deserts and plains. But when this transformation of consciousness occurs, the whole picture is reversed. It is now the consciousness which becomes an ocean. It is now the consciousness which surpasses these suns, planets, mountains, oceans, plains and deserts. It is now consciousness that becomes the fundamental reality of the universe. And all that we see now, with our sensory equipment, is like an image projected on it.

Consciousness now appears to be the basic reality, to be the universe in fact. And what we see, the material manifestations of the universe, are but projections of this very consciousness. We can say they are like shadows, phantoms, like a mirage floating on it.

This consciousness that developed in you at the age of 34 became a super-consciousness, a thing which happens very seldom to people. Perhaps in our times it has happened to only a few people. Is there any way that this can be triggered in others by some sort of activity?

I believe so. I believe that this transformation is not a haphazard affair. We have in us a mechanism implanted in the human system by nature. This mechanism rules the cerebrospinal system in our bodies. Once it is aroused to activity, the cerebrospinal system works in a certain predetermined direction. A new form of energy flows in the body, and a new form of consciousness develops in the brain.

For instance, in my case, I always dwell in a world of light. There is light in my interior, there is light on the exterior for me, also. Everything I see is bathed in a luster. Whenever I turn my attention inward and close my eyes, I am bathed in light. In dreams also I am always walking, running and moving in ethereal spaces filled with luster. I now live in the same world which has been experienced by mystics of all ages and climes, a world of light, of unutterable happiness and of intellectual illumination. It is in this state of

consciousness that I get these hints and visions and directions, precognitions and awareness of future events, to tell me that this is the path chalked out for mankind, and that she has digressed from this path, with the result that her evolution and very existence is threatened.

You say that different people have different receptivity in these matters, or intelligent energies that are in the cosmic universe, that we are indeed like receivers, and that some individuals are more able to receive them than others. We know from the various religions that anything having to do with creation stems from thought. And if there is a universal creative thought, we see the manifestations in plants, trees, and in the acts that man performs.

What you are also saying is that this is such an enormous, powerful instrument, this new consciousness in yourself, but that we have failed to use it properly in recent centuries due to the fact that mankind has been too actively involved in the pursuit of scientific knowledge. We have therefore forgotten the knowledge as to how to communicate with cosmic intelligence. Is that correct?

You are very right. Some minds are more responsive and more receptive to this cosmic reservoir of intelligence than others, for instance, geniuses. It is well known, and it is admitted by geniuses themselves that they receive whole chapters, whole books, whole ideas, whole poems, just as if somebody else is feeding them with the material.

So when a genius works, it is not something that his mind does by itself but the ideas or thoughts come to him, that he is the instrument of the creative process?

Certainly, when it comes to the original things. Now, it is not that the genius does not make any effort. The effort is made, but his brain is so constituted that it has easier access to this reservoir of eternal knowledge than others do. Similarly, we have the psychics, prophets, clairvoyants, prodigies, great artists and the great musicians. They all receive new ideas, new flashes, new music, and new art from this intelligent source, which is behind the human mind. We are making a grave mistake in supposing that consciousness or the mind is the product of our brain. That is what is at the root of the present disaster. Consciousness or mind is an energy by itself. It is an independently existing universe. It is a self-sustaining ocean from which a drop filters into our mind. Our mind, our neurons, our nervous system, is but a computer. They are just the parts of a computer worked by this energy. The moment we come to realize this fact we can begin to make experiments to prove it. That is what I mean when I say that we must have experimental centers where we can do research on the evolutionary mechanism that is implanted in every human being. In the ancient India scriptures, this mechanism is often referred to as Kundalini.

Now you've brought in a new word.

Well, Kundalini, in the Indian tradition, means a reservoir of psychic power in the human body which can be aroused to activity by certain mental or spiritual disciplines, as for instance, Yoga. Kundalini is said to be the basis for illumination, genius, miraculous power, and for all extraordinary faculties and possibilities latent in the human mind.

I assume that Kundalini is a very old doctrine, not something that has surfaced just at this time.

It is as old as pre-dynastic Egypt. That means it was known more than 5,000 years before the birth of Christ.

And you say it has been recorded in the ancient scriptures?

Hundreds and thousands of books mention it. It is recorded in Chinese books, the Egyptian hieroglyphics, in the Indian Tantras and Shakti Shastras. There are thousands of books on Kundalini in India, dating from prehistoric times.

And it is a biological force in all human beings? Is that what you are referring to in your book, The Biological Basis of Religion and Genius?

Yes. But, unfortunately, science has no awareness of this Power Center, which is in fact the evolutionary mechanism. Some scientists believe that evolution has occurred through random mutations, which is disputed very hotly by others. But the fact is that there is a biological mechanism in every human being,

and this mechanism is known as Kundalini. It can be accelerated through the discipline of Yoga or through other religious exercises. And when it is accelerated, one can, in one life, attain to the same state of expanded consciousness as would otherwise be attained in many incarnations.

This is what you did as a young man; you were actively pursuing this and you awakened this evolutionary mechanism?

It aroused not only because of my efforts but first, probably, because my nervous system and brain were mature for this awakening. I had it through heredity in my own system.

Wouldn't this be of great importance if we could have decision-makers and world leaders become exposed to this subject, this doctrine, so that they could understand more about how the mind operates and how everything fits together?

It is of the utmost importance. If we study Plato deeply, especially his Republic, he is referring to this type of man as the philosopher who should be the highest ruler in the state. It is this type of man who is discussed in the Upanishads, the man who is illuminated, who has risen above normal temptations. He alone should be entrusted with the responsibilities of rulership.

And if this could be done, then maybe we would achieve peace, harmony and happiness in the world.

It has to be done. It is not only a question that it could be done. We have now gained control over the most terrible power in the universe, the power of the atom. Unless mankind has sober, patient, selfless human beings at the top in every sphere of activity and thought, to control and moderate the passions and ambitions in others, there is no possibility of human survival in the next fifty or hundred years.

Isn't it strange that mankind has been ignoring, or unaware of this profound knowledge instead of using it to great advantage and benefit? Why are we not using it?

Mr. Nobel, it is a matter of great pain for me. For the past thousands of years, in Grecian times, among the Romans, Egyptians, Indians, Chinese, everywhere, the greatest thinkers have been believers in the Power ruling the universe. They have written profound systems of philosophy, especially in India. They are the most profound systems even today. But all of a sudden scientists appeared in the 18th and 19th centuries, saying that this whole mass of knowledge was a myth and superstition, and they made those assertions without ever experimenting on it.

So what do we need to do now, today, in order to correct this mistake or reverse the trend?

As you say, we have to reverse the trend. We have to make a thorough study of the religious scriptures of the world.

On a scientific level?

Yes, on a scientific level. We have to see the points of resemblance. We have to see where they refer to the occult disciplines. We have to see what is the state of illumination, what has been the experience of the great mystics. We have to gather all this data, and then we have to make experiments on volunteer subjects for the arousal of this power in them. I am as sure as that the sun is shining before me that this will be proved and established within the next twenty years, provided we were to make the right efforts for this purpose.

Gopi Krishna, how do you distinguish between the false prophet, which we know existed even in Biblical times and continues to exist today, and the genuine prophet?

The genuine prophet does not normally run after disciples; is not ostentatious. He is spontaneous. He is humble. He is compassionate, and he has certain faculties, certain visions of, if I may say, a newly developed inner eye by which he can discern things and solve problems which it is not possible for a normal man to do.

The first sign of an illuminated personality is that there is a spontaneous flow of wisdom. This is known as vaikhari in India. That wisdom generally deals with the spiritual side of man. It must be original. It must be correct. And it must be born within himself without the aid of external reading or other things. You will find that in the case of all great mystics whatever has been given out has usually been in verse or

in a very beautiful form of prose. The illuminated mind has its own language, its own expression. The illuminated mind will never exaggerate, it will only give out the truth.

There are many ways by which we can distinguish a true prophet from a false one. In India one of the methods was that only those who could write original commentaries on what is known as parasthan atray, that is, the Upanishads, the Yoga Sutras and the Bhagavad Gita, should be acclaimed as those having attained to higher consciousness. It is not an easy task to write an original commentary on either the Bhagavad Gita or the Upanishads, because one who does so must have attained to the same realms of consciousness as described in those books.

We have had illuminated human beings in India who were wonders from the age of 8 or 10, Guru Nanak, Jnaneshwar and Shankaracharya. Shankaracharya passed away at the age of 31 after leaving a prodigious amount of philosophical and religious thought. Jnaneshwar, who passed away at the age of 22, wrote a commentary on the Bhagavad Gita at the age of 16. It is a masterpiece and perhaps unparalleled in recent literature on the subject. Guru Nanak, the founder of the Sikhs, was a spiritual prodigy from the age of 8.

It is not difficult to distinguish a spiritual prodigy or a spiritual genius, just as it is not difficult to distinguish a secular genius in other branches of knowledge. But with the investigation that I have in mind, it may become possible to find physiological evidence also, evidence in the blood, the cerebrospinal system, in the brain, even in the organs, the tissues, that show differences between an illuminated human being and an average person.

This scientific evaluation, is it something that has been done before or would it be something new?

It will be entirely new. I believe that science is now in a position to be able to notice the differences and also the effect of the transformative processes that occur in the body on the arousal of this evolutionary power.

Something that surprises me is that you write such beautiful verse, or lyrics, in English when it is not your native language. Is that by inspiration, something that just flows?

Yes, it just comes. What I am trying to express needs a deep study, because it is a very a profound subject. I must tell you, Mr. Nobel, without arrogating any importance to myself, in a humble way, just as a statement of fact, that I am a living witness to the truth of religion. I am a specimen of the class which has been known as mystics. I am a living model of transformed consciousness, a testimony to the correctness of the esoteric doctrines of the world, embodying in myself what has been said by the great religious teachers of the past, of whom recent examples in India have been Ramakrishna and Ramana Maharshi . It is a rare class. We can at once distinguish the genuine from the false. It is a matter of great pain for me to see the skeptical attitude of modern scientists about a phenomenon that has been the most important in history in changing the direction of human thought.

Buddha, Shankaracharya, Mohammed, Socrates, Zoroaster, Guru Nanak, all of these great leaders, who brought out radical changes in the thinking of mankind, belonged to this class. So it is not difficult to distinguish a genuine prophet, mystic or enlightened being from the false. But still there can also be psychological, intellectual and physiological tests by which this distinction can be easily made.

Earlier in our conversation you said that this wonderful gift that you are endowed with is something that can come to every person in lesser or greater degree if they are properly trained and motivated. Today we are annually spending some \$450 billion on armaments, and I can well remember The Manhattan Project, which produced the first atom bomb, and at a tremendously high price.

If we could just invest a small amount of these funds, which are meant for death, towards research for life, towards spirituality and enlightenment, and to develop super-consciousness, wouldn't it be of great benefit to all of mankind? The research could proceed hand-in-hand with science.

The very fact that we are spending \$450 billion on armaments and armies, that is on machines meant for destruction, is clear evidence for what I am saying, that the human mind has deviated from the right path. Millions are dying of starvation, millions become blind because they do not have the necessary vitamins, millions live on only one meal a day, and millions lack medicines, lack education, and live without

shelter. Do you think that a sane species or a sane nation or a sane community should spend billions on weapons of mass destruction, or on sending rockets into space, when humanity needs every penny of these funds to survive?

Frankly, I cannot understand it, either.

That, my friend, is the reason why a devastating war is coming. We have lost faith in Heaven. We have lost the idea that every moment we are watched by the eyes of God.

Again, I must ask, how have we gone wrong?

We have gone wrong by believing that religion is but an individual concern, that religion is a hobby of the individual and that it has no place in government administration, or politics, science, in our projects, or in our planning for mankind.

But it used to be in America and Japan and Europe, that the state and religion worked together and misused their powers. That's why politics and religion were separated.

That is true. But we have to understand that at no time was proper study or research directed on religion. The religious leaders were given a free hand, and naturally they slowly became too fond of temporal power, even ecclesiastical power and the easements that were provided for that, rather than following in the footsteps of the founders of the faith.

This is also what has happened to science. Scientists have become dogmatic, and now they also have their vested interests. That love for science and scientific discoveries, that selfless service, is very rare today. So religion, since it became dogmatic and obsessive, needed a purging; it needed a cleansing process, just as science needs today, as every human institution needs after a time.

Even the Indian institutions needed it in their own time before they degenerated. But that was never done. On the other hand, it was just pushed aside, and our entire economy, or political and social systems, were just considered on a secular basis, on a basis where religion has no say. It was just treated as an individual concern. But religion is dealing with universal laws.

In a few words, science deals with material laws, religion deals with the laws of the spirit. We have become one-sided. We have gone too far into the material side and too far away from the spiritual side. The result is that there is a lopsided development of our intellect. It has become a dry intellect, without the sobering and harmonizing influence of religion.

Do you think that our religions will accept this idea? Will they allow science to work hand in hand with religion to carry out the kind of evolutionary or spiritual research you are calling for?

There is no question of their not accepting, or not believing in, what I say. They should not accept a single word of what I am writing as truth but leave it open to experimentation. Just make the experiments on the evolutionary mechanism, Kundalini, which is a historical fact. It is a hidden doctrine mentioned in all the esoteric systems of the past. I say they should make experiments on it in a certain way. If they succeed, if they find that I am right, then give the widest possible publicity to it.

What I have said in my writings is that no great illuminated sage had a conversation with God or communion with God. He reached only a higher dimension of consciousness. Man is destined for that same higher dimension of consciousness. There is a special psychosomatic mechanism in his body which Nature has provided for him to accelerate and rise higher and higher into this higher dimension. The prophets, illuminated sages, geniuses, the inspired poets, and the people with miraculous or psychic gifts, have all been the products of this psychosomatic mechanism, which is slowly transforming the human brain.

I say that we can achieve this transformation in one life. When these things are proved, then all the hidden secrets of religion will stand revealed, why Christ was inspired, why Mohammed was inspired, why Guru Nanak was inspired, why they had miraculous powers. And such eloquence that they could fascinate and convert everyone who came into their influence or their orbit. It is because of this power center. Once you establish it, at once there will be harmony in all the religions, because the Divine Source of revelation will then be known.

In our day and age, science and technology have become our God. Having science verify the truths of religion, therefore, seems like a valid goal.

Please understand me clearly, Mr. Nobel. I would repeat this with my last breath. The source of revelation, inspiration, genius, psychic powers lies in us. This source can become active with certain disciplines. Normally it is dormant and idle. We don't use it, but with certain experiments, this source, this fountainhead of all spiritual knowledge and powers, can become active. And it did become active in all the great prophets, sages and geniuses of the past.

The research that I am asking for will place in the hands of science the secret of genius, the secret of that Source from which science was born, from which philosophy, literature, genius, music, from which all was born. The research will put science in touch with the Source of all creativity, all nobility, and all the psychic powers in man.

That's a profound statement.

As I said, I would be happy to make it even in my last breath. The human race is evolving in a certain predetermined direction, under a certain law, which of course, it would need a long span of time to understand thoroughly. Now if this evolution continues in a healthy way, we progress. If this evolution does not continue in a healthy way we stagnate, degenerate and deteriorate.

There is also another danger. If this evolution does not occur in a healthy way, then it can occur in a morbid or malignant way. That is the reason why, in this advanced age, with all the facilities and amenities that we have, the number of mentally distorted, or the insane, is so alarming, especially in the Western countries.

There is no reason why a nation that has everything that it needs, plenty and abundance of everything, food, provisions, shelter, sanitation, everything. Why then should there be such a large incidence of insanity? The reason is because the brain's accelerated evolution is going the wrong way.

Dear Mr. Nobel, all this will be confirmed by the progeny, that our most intelligent minds have started to lose touch with reality. They have started to become alienated. Otherwise, no sane human being who is intelligent, well educated, has knowledge of all the branches to which man has gained access to this day, who has books, newspapers, television and the radio to give him news about the world, should devise a weapon like the nuclear missile, a weapon that puts the whole species in danger of annihilation.

It is insanity. We are not able to see it at this point but we will see it after 20 or 25 years. It is craziness, because the human intellect has started to deteriorate. The Romans, Greeks, Indians, Mughuls all fell because their leading intellects deteriorated. The same is happening to the Western nations. The mind is losing contact with reality.

Do you today see any similarity between the fall of the Roman empire and the possible fall of our Western capitalistic system?

The same reason. You can see a striking resemblance between the ways of life of the last Romans and Western society of our day. The same overemphasis on carnal pleasures. The same dissension among themselves. The same appetite for abnormal things. You will find parallels between the two, the same breakup of families, the same lowering of moral and ethical values.

I want to come back again to the mind, because it fascinates me very much. We know a lot about the health and diseases of the body, and we cure them. In America there is the great body cult. We exercise, jog, play tennis and golf for hours. Our physical stamina is excellent, but we give little time to the development of our mind. There is an imbalance.

It is a great imbalance. Even if we were to exercise for hours every day, for the betterment of our body, and at the same time neglect the culture of the mind, we would gain nothing by all the labor. For the pilot, the driver in us, the power that is behind all our thinking and action, would act in the wrong way. And the body will be misused when the driver is not healthy and wholesome.

Now I will give you one more instance to show how the mind works. Please try to frame a picture of New York, London, or Zurich, and see the cars, trucks and buses whirling around and around. See the people rushing across roads, burning enormous quantities of energy.

Why this haste? Is the earth turning upside down? Is some other species threatening mankind from a distant planet? Is there a plague? What is happening? Why is everybody running and rushing and working, without giving any time to allow the mind to be in repose and in peace, in tune with itself? What is happening in all the cities, especially in the industrial countries, and now in the developing countries also? Speed, speed, and work and work. For what?

I agree, people rush about without smiles on their faces.

You will find laborers and farmers smiling and laughing in their fields and workplaces. But you don't find people laughing or smiling in the large cities of the world. They are working and rushing this way and that. Now let us carry this analogy a little further. Let us take a growing infant, tie him with a rope and whirl him around the head. Or put him in a small chair which is whirling for the whole day, so that he has no time to look at anything in a patient way, in a steady way. He is always whirling. Do you think such a child will grow into a normal adult?

Definitely not.

Then how can you imagine that all these crowds, from morning till night, who are burning this energy, burning their own energy in such a rush and tumble, with a craze for speed, with a mania for more and more, with an abnormal desire for pleasure, for excitement and adventure, how can you say that this mind will grow into healthy adulthood or into a healthy humanity?

This is the reason why a nuclear war is threatening mankind. To end all of this insanity, this riot of the intellect, of speed and creativity. See how calm and reposeful Nature is and how restless is man. And not only man but intelligent man, because he has no idea that a glorious future awaits him. He doesn't know that he has to evolve in a certain direction, that he has to reach a dimension where he will combine the scientist, the sage and the illuminated in himself. He has no idea that he is destined to live a life of happiness, peace and glory on the earth.

For him, the ideal is this whirling around, going in a jet plane, rushing from Bombay to London, from London to New York; and then when he gets there, rushing in a car, this way and that, spreading smoke and pollution everywhere.

The people who are doing it are acting with the best of intentions. I myself do it by rushing to meetings here and there.

I agree with you that they are well-meaning. They are merely following the current way. But this way is built on ignorance of the spiritual law and the evolution of the human brain and mind. So they are not to be blamed. It is the system that is to be blamed. And the system is based on ignorance. That is why my voice is lonely.

But it will be confirmed that man has not to live only for his body but for his soul also. And the soul needs self-reflection, repose, meditation, calmness, nobility, and those characteristics, those traits, which were once common among the spiritual teachers of the earth. So every one of us must also give some time for the culture of our mind. And that means retirement to secluded locations, prayer, worship, creative occupations, music, and just sitting in beautiful places, or among things which have an aesthetic value, which fascinate the mind, which make it grow, which make it expand beyond the narrow limits which are forced on it by our material existence.

It is very hard to tell another nation that we have gone in the wrong direction and that it should not follow our lead. We all have to learn by our own mistakes. How can we tell developing countries that to develop their societies and economies as Europe and America have is not the right way?

In the first place, one of the consequences of this type of life has been the two great world wars. Secondly, if there were real peace and happiness in this type of life, this hectic race after material possessions, then why should millions of people take to drugs, to meditation, to living simple lives, to

building communities where they are away from this rush and bustle? Out of the remaining millions, or out of the whole, why should maybe ten percent go crazy?

When we calculate the crazy, the dropouts, the drug addicts, those who meditate, those who leave for secluded places, if we count them all together, we will find that only a small fraction is left that is happy with this type of life. The rest are not happy at all. We should take a lesson from this.

Add to what you have said the possibility that we may run out of energy, and we have another serious problem. But even if we had more energy available today, would it really be good for us?

Why should we, all of a sudden, take it into our heads that everyone of us is permitted to spend as much energy as would suffice for perhaps a hundred other people? The fact is, Mr. Nobel, that we are not planning; we are not doing anything by plan that keeps in view our evolution, the resources of the earth, the needs that we have and the economy of nature. We are doing everything haphazardly. Nations are doing it out of rivalry and competition. There is nothing like a planned economy anywhere on earth.

During the last hundred years we have consumed so much energy and so much of the resources of the planet that, if frugally employed, could have lasted perhaps a thousand years. If we were to continue the same extravagance and extend it to the developing countries, to all the four billion people, there will be nothing left in the next fifty years. So all this is just haphazard thinking and wrong planning, without any idea about survival.

We have to live a frugal life, just as nature is frugal, parsimonious. A frugal life is good for our health, both inner and outer. Any new source of energy, even if discovered or developed, would not solve our problems. It would just add to them.

The present population trend indicates that around the year 2000 we will have a world population of some six or seven billion. If our problems are difficult to solve today, we can only imagine how they will be with that many people.

In calculating the needs of the population, we do not take into consideration that the human brain is evolving and that each individual needs more than we assign to her or him. Therefore, if the earth can sustain a population of, say, four billion people, then when the factor of evolution is added, it would only be able to sustain three billion or even two billion. Each individual should have something more for his evolutionary processes than what would otherwise be needed in the normal way. This is not understood anywhere.

We should have a population for which we have sufficient out of all that is produced by the earth. This can only be possible when the needs of the population and the planning done for it are on a global basis. What would be needed are men and women who are cultivated, trained, and who have reached to other dimensions of consciousness, in charge of important offices. That is the only way to safety. Otherwise, under stress, a normal mind will give way in the present complex societies of the world.

Thank you very much.

8 Books by Gopi Krishna

- The Shape of Events to Come
- The Wonder of the Brain
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- Higher Consciousness
- The Way to Self-Knowledge
- Secrets of Panchastavi
- The Present Crisis
- The Riddle of Consciousness
- The Secret of Yoga
- The Awakening of Kundalini
- Living With Kundalini (An Autobiography)
- Kundalini: The Evolutionary Energy in Man (Author's Account of His Awakening, with Commentary by James Hillman)
- Kundalini: Empowering Human Evolution (Selected Essays)
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