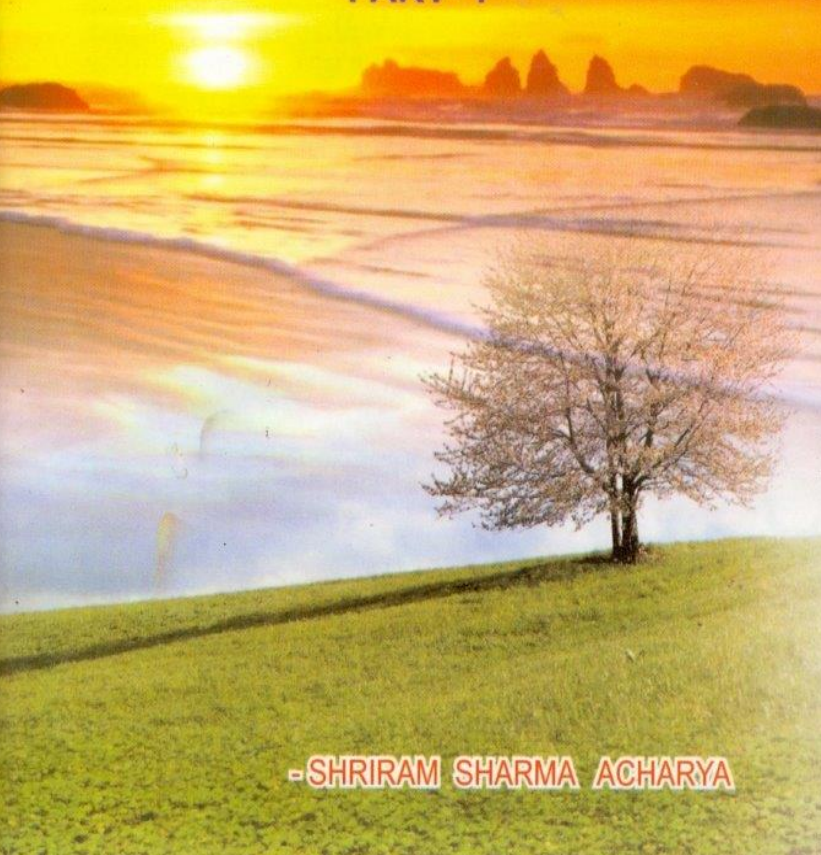


REFINEMENT OF TALENTS

NEED OF THE PRESENT ERA

(YUG KI MANG – PRATIBHA PARISHKAR)

PART- 1



-SHRIRAM SHARMA ACHARYA

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PART-1



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A SEARCH FOR ENERGETIC TALENTED PERSONS

Contingencies of time are increasingly demanding a two pronged course of action. One, the all pervasive undesirable regressive trends in the society are to be firmly counteracted and two, sufficient competence is to be developed to create a system for establishing a New World Order of the Twenty-First Century. It appears to be a tall order even for smaller sectors of community affecting individual families. Where the field of operation encompasses a nation, society or the entire mankind, the task is naturally bound to be stupendous.

For treading on the path of progress one needs to develop commensurate skill and a firm resolve and perseverance to implement the plans of action meticulously. It also requires arrangements for acquisition of appropriate resources. These are the basic ingredients of progress, in absence of which one continues to spend an uneventful life like millions of men on the street. Besides the above qualities, one aspiring to achieve higher goals is also required to show sufficient courage, valour and prudence to confront with difficulties, resolve problems and circumvent the obstacles in one way or the other. On each step one comes across numerous problems, dangers and adversity of circumstances. Only those who muster courage to confront with difficulties and arrange for resources to force their way on the path of progress are known as energetic talented persons.

Throughout the course of life one needs talents for progress. Besides, in absence of talent one cannot circumvent obstacles in life. Whoever has made progress in any field or achieved a status in society has to develop

prudence for self-evolution and a courage to confront with difficulties. These have always been the two essential characteristics of all successful men. The foregoing analysis amply explains that where the objective is establishment of proper order in a large area of public life, those attempting to do it would need much more zeal and talents, because of the size of operation and greater needs and complexities of requirements.

Let us now consider the unit of human community i.e. Man. Though physiologically all Homo Sapiens look more or less alike and have identical basic needs, in social interaction they exhibit varying traits. People with lowly bent of mind are social parasites. Like a flock of sheep, they blindly follow the majority. They hardly have any discriminatory faculty to seek and identify propriety in their action. For resources and guidance such persons always depend on others. So much so that they are unable to collect even the basic necessities of life with their own independent efforts. The rise and fall of class of such persons always depend on others. Majority in the human community consists of this class of people. Aping and dependency continue to be the natural traits of such persons. They hardly even take independent decisions. This is the class of people which we may refer to as the "deprived ones" irrespective of the wealth status or resources they possess.

There is yet another class consisting of men, who inspite of being intelligent, continue to act within the confines of their narrow selfish interests. Though having characteristics of skill and expertise to use them, such persons are found misutilizing these qualities exclusively for fulfillment of their personal greed, for persons or

objects with which they are emotionally attached and for egoistic displays. Such persons are utterly selfish in behaviour. They are hardly motivated by ideals. On accounts of deeply ingrained traits of miserliness and cowardice they hardly ever think of virtuous acts of benevolence. On the contrary they do not lose any opportunity to commit impropriety to serve their own interests and when not given any recognition by the society, even indulge in disruptive activities to draw attention. Their aims and ambitions of life revolve around their own narrow selves only. In spite of having above-average intellectual capacity and resources a person belonging to this class remains merely as a non-descript individual amongst the big mass of people capable of looking after themselves only. Such a person is like one of the "subjects" in a monarchical system leading an uneventful life. He hardly ever gets an honour or recognition becoming of a distinguished human being in the society. He merely continues to be a number in the census. Nevertheless, this class of people is better than the former, at least in one respect. It does not live like a parasite in the society. Nor people belonging to this class are considered undeveloped, dependent or downtrodden. Having at least the capacity to look after themselves, they are better than the social parasites described above.

There is a third category of talented persons. Engaged in worldly affairs they create various systems. They are disciplined and follow codes. They have the competence to look after themselves and simultaneously, take care of many others. They are planners and executors of large projects. The administrators of industries and heads of institutions are often found possessing these qualifications. It is this basic prudence found in those

persons who make significant success in any field of activity, make achievements and win competitions. Colloquially, such persons are called "talented". They are the leaders of their communities. They solve problems and show the way to success. Their competence is acknowledged by their friends as well as by adversaries. Only such persons are found capable of attempting apparently impossible tasks like developing a garden in a desert. It would not be an exaggeration to give the credit of all material progress in this world to this class of individuals. They deserve this credit because of their inbuilt characteristic of prudence and wider perspective to view interrelationship of many facets of problems collectively.

Each one of us is busy and hard-pressed for time. Most of us pass time in the routine daily affairs. Nevertheless, there are also a few exclusive ones who use this one body and one mind of their person in preparing many a plan and solving a number of complex problems at the same time. These are the people who succeed in all ventures and continue to be showered with praise all around. Progress of an area, a community or a country depends only on such well-disciplined class of people.

The most elevated category of men comprises Godmen (*Dev manav*) who are also known as supermen (*mahamanav*). They are specially blessed with many talents which they use exclusively for higher, nobler objectives ranging from self-advancement to welfare of entire mankind. Persons of such elevated moral status restrict their personal necessities and ambitions to bare minimum so that the residual resources and energy could be utilized for the benefit of others. Credit for evolution of society and resolution of contemporary problems

confronting mankind thus goes to this class of people. Such individuals are looked upon as the true assets of the country to which they belong. News of their achievements spreads far and wide and is appreciated by a large number of people. In whatever field of activity they get involved, their efficiency brings in considerable change for betterment. They are the most sought after persons for alleviating difficult situations. Their very presence fills even the most inactive persons with zeal and enthusiasm.

For attaining higher nobler goals persons with strong will and perseverance are needed. Only a big crane can put a derailed railway engine back on the track. It is the courageous captain who steers the ship out of a tempest. For solving big problems of society of mankind as a whole, the level of talent and courage of the above class is needed. Everyone cannot undertake a big project like construction of a bridge, a dam, a palace or a fort. Only an expert engineer has this capability. Similarly, only persons with extra-ordinary brilliance are sought after for resolving complex situations. For any community or country such persons are invaluable assets. They are blessed by God with extra-ordinary competence to solve those problems of their area, community and country which otherwise appear unsurmountable. Because of this unusual paranormal capability, they are even revered by the masses as messengers of God (*Devdoot*).

In crisis one looks for persons of such high caliber. Such individuals are to be identified, brought into lime-light and inspired. In the history of mankind names of these supermen is written in golden letters. Amongst the many extraordinary phenomenon of nature of miraculous creations of God, such superhumans have a unique place.

Their unusual feats continue to inspire and guide numerous persons eternally. In fact these are the people who understand the true meaning of what is known in parlance of spirituality as *swarg* (heaven), *mukti* (deliverance) and *siddhi* (para-normal capability). When others are found hoping for divine grace in return for their rituals of prayers, oblations and pilgrimage, persons having higher caliber of contemplation, personal magnetism and hypnotic influences are busy in such constructive activities (*karmyog*), which established integrity of their character and prove that the tasks undertaken by them can be a source of inspiration to the masses.

Today the world is passing through an unusual and unprecedented period in history of mankind. Whereas on one hand dark clouds of destruction are looming large on the horizon preparing to engulf and destroy all traces of civilization on the earth, on the other the will of God to reestablish a new Golden World Order of the bygone Era (*Satyug*) is seen in the enthusiasm of some zealous crusaders. Activities of destruction and development can be seen going on side by side.

In the present history of mankind these are the moments of sunrise before dawn, when the stark darkness of night in the west meets the faint glow of morning in the east. This is why this time of *Yug Sandhi* (junction of two centuries) is considered significant for mankind. On such occasions only, some talented, noble elevated souls come forward to play the constructive role by the will of God.

In this context, let us look at the history of ancient India. During the period of *Treta Yug*, whereas on one

hand traits of base materialism (*Satanic* influence of Ravan) were terrorizing the populace, at the same time preparation by courageous crusaders were underway for return of the Golden Era (*Satyug*). None of the contemporary kings of Ram could muster courage to align with him in his war against the demon king Ravan. Nevertheless, in those moments of crisis hordes of bears and apes (symbolic names for tribes) came forward under the leadership of Hanuman and Angad at great risk to life and succeeded in making a bridge across the sea, performing herculean tasks and destroying the capital of Ravan at Lanka. For this assistance Ram was extremely grateful to them. Amongst those who came to his assistance were also some less competent individuals like *Geedh* (Vulture), *Gilahri* (squirrel) Kevat and Shabri who are praised even today for their little contribution.

A similar situation existed during the war of *Mahabharat*. It was an unequal war between the small grossly inadequate and ill-equipped army of the *Pandavas* and the enormous, well-trained, competent forces of *Kauravas*. Nevertheless, the confrontation did take place. God incarnate (*Krishna*) himself became the charioteer of Arjun and motivated and guided him throughout the war. Ultimately, it was not the might but truth, righteousness and ethics which won the war. In this context, one should not also forget the insignificant support of cowherds to Krishna in uplifting the *Govardhan*. In recent history, the group of *Bhikshus* of Buddha and *Satyagrahis* of Gandhi too played the same role. Whenever talent takes the leadership, there is no dearth of followers. We continue to hear about miraculous man made events taking place in each part of the world every day, proving that eventually it is truth and righteousness which appear

as winners. Talents of high calibre have always been engaged in establishing the world order through such benevolent activities as making the Ganga available to the humanity (by *Bhagirath*) or destruction of the evildoers (by Parashuram). Course of events or lack of resources have never deterred the elevated talented souls from taking a lead in confronting complex problems.

Chanakya had identified the talent lying dormant in Chandragupta. He made him aware of his competence and pushed him forward to demonstrate his might. In this way an ordinary confused person could perform stupendous task of establishing a mighty empire. Prannath Mahaprabhu similarly spotted the talent in Chhatrasal and provided him enough motivation to protect the Indian culture from marauders in northern India. The great talent of Vivekanand hidden in the youth called Narendra was spotted by Ramkrishna, who by giving him his spiritual inheritance, provided the world with a superhuman. The invisible omnipresent 'Super Being' often looks for talents to establish order whenever mankind confronts a major crisis.

Today, man is also reeling under the pressure of personal problems. The common man is hardly having a moment of peace because of the multitude of economic, social and emotional problems. Over and above these are the unavoidable problems confronting the civilization as a whole. Increasing poverty, unemployment, diseases, pollution, increase in population, atomic radiation, increasing pressure of war frenzy are all hovering over mankind like an enormous supernova in space ready to collide and destroy the earth. Nature is also exhibiting its displeasure and reacting in creating possibilities of recurrence of ice

age, the great deluge, famines and earthquakes. Nature does not appear less displeased with man for his conceptual corruption and irresponsible social behaviour. From time to time predictions are being made about the possibility of doom in various fields of human activity. Is total annihilation of human species imminent?

Absolutely Not? There is a brighter side of the picture which shows pleasant possibility of a bright prosperous *twenty first century* which we may refer to as return of the Golden age of *Satyug*. It would, however, necessarily need incorporation of the role of man in a task which only talents of high calibre can undertake. God does protect the righteous and punish the evil but the will of this invisible entity is translated into actions in this world only through acts of the superhumans. Today he is eagerly looking for them all around. This world is full of millions of incompetent persons worried about their own personal affairs. He does not need the help of those who are weak and are somehow dragging their own self in an aimless life. In order to establish the stupendous task of creating a new world order and for destroying the undesirable elements, he needs motivated souls. HIS divers are searching only these pearls in the troubled waters of the ocean of humanity.

A RESURRECTION OF EXCLUSIVE TALENTS

In order to obtain butter from milk, which is its ingredient, the latter is required to be subjected to boiling, churning and other processes. Today an urgency is being felt to find such energetic zealous talented persons who have the capacity to bring out goodness and virtues during this juncture of the centuries which is passing through the worst period of human history. They are required to save human dignity from total extinction. From only such individuals is expected a supra-dynamic role comparable to that of Bhagirath who had undertaken the arduous expedition to discover Ganga for the welfare of mankind.

Exploration for search of talents for a task of this magnitude is not easy. In the past, community of apes had gone out on a special expedition in search of Sita and for her repatriation. *Samudra manthan* (Churning of the ocean a metaphorical expression of a mythological event) also refers to an exploration of similar magnitude. For seeking pearls one had to dive deep into the sea. Extraction of diamonds and valuable metals necessitates diving deep shafts in the earth. In search of useful herbs, one has to probe deep in thick forests. A scientist works hard to unravel the secrets of nature. Within the human body made of flesh, blood and bones, spiritualists are able to make divinity appear by resorting to deep research by way of *sadhana*. The present times are in great need of elevated souls and an intensive research is being undertaken to identify them. Without them, this great crusade of *Yug Sandhi* would remain incomplete.

The magnitude of the task may not be underrated. Today it is not possible to find solutions to even personal, temporal and local problems without bringing in a change

in the environment. Scientific advancements have now brought the entire human populace much closer and with the increase in communication, complexities of problems have also ceased to be personal and local. Consequently the solutions are also required to be universal. Take an example of human body. For treatment of skin eruptions during sickness local application of medicament does not help. For permanent cure an overall treatment of the system by drugs becomes necessary.

Now-a-days, the mind and behaviour of man has become so much polluted that he has become impervious to all codes of ethics, propriety and prudence. All classes of people, big and small, rich and poor, prosperous and deprived are suffering from a pervasive epidemic of sickness, anxiety, belligerence, indifference, selfishness, narrow-mindedness and extreme indiscipline. Mankind as a whole appears to have refused to obey the codes of ethics. Consequently man is facing an unending series of crisis and the human community as a whole is also confronted with a variety of unprecedented problems. In this large mass of humanity hardly anyone appears happy or satisfied. Deprivations and increase in population are creating one crisis after another. Everyone appears troubled with fear and apprehensions.

The war against these problems is to be found on a wide front. Little is expected from common man, who is found entangled in his own personal problems. Where would he find the courage and competence to confront with the problems pervading all walks of human activity? This stupendous task, therefore, requires men with extraordinary talents. Big wars are won with the help of war strategy and intelligent planning of senior experi-

enced commandants only. For implementing large projects experienced planners are needed. Builders of Tajmahal, the great wall of China, and the Howrah Bridge had a high level of calibre. Supermen possessing extraordinary talents do not find it difficult to gather resources and seek associates. They undertake big projects and shoulder heavy responsibilities. The ordinary people are only camp-followers, rejoicing in success and lamenting on failures.

The war for the prosperity of mankind is to be fought on two fronts. On one hand adversities are to be faced and counteracted boldly, whereas on the other a foundation is to be laid for creating a *New World Order* for generating an environment suitable for promotion of propriety, prudence, efficiency and competence for the new era. Those blessed with foresight see the forthcoming twenty-first century as full of possibilities of all round progress. They are convinced of the return of the Golden Age (*Satyug*). There are many reasons for such a supposition. One is apparent in the fast appearance of extraordinarily competent and talented persons in the society who are increasingly making their presence felt with outstanding performances. Is there a hand of the invisible 'Super being' in this phenomena? Time and again HE is known to have made HIS presence felt for reestablishing world order whenever mankind faced crisis. It need not be emphasized that throughout the course of history, it is the extraordinarily brilliant persons who had the credit for augmenting the prosperity of mankind, creating an environment conducive to progress and changing the despondency of darkness of the present day into bright future of tomorrow. Such elites of the society, who are the real assets and power of any country, have always

appeared and performed their feats in an environment heralding a brighter future for the mankind. They appear like green vegetation during monsoon or as flowers during the spring. However, an attempt, is needed to identify such persons and bring them into limelight with proper motivation. It, however, requires preparation of a background with relation of an appropriate environment for attracting the talents.

This is what is being done these days. The *Supreme Disciplinarian (Mahakal)* is planning to implement some big project with a view to reestablishing balance in the present deranged society. To translate HIS will into action, two programmes are being initiated. First, the likely associates having idealist leanings are to be enthused with zeal and assembled on one platform under the same banner. They are then to be associated with some such regular creative activities, which may create suitable background for translation of idealistic concepts into idealistic actions. The other field of action involves creation of a front against unethical practices which with some effort could be converted into a large pervasive crusade against impropriety. A small spark of burning charcoal is capable of changing itself into a towering inferno. A small seed grows into a large tree. This is how all processes of destruction and creation begin and gain momentum. Today while one step is needed for establishment of nobility, the other is required for elimination of regressive traits. Thus, a two-edged sword is needed to act in two different directions. This will be the path of progress, successive steps on which would make the appearance of *The New Golden Age* possible. This is how mankind would look forward to achieve an all-round progress and lasting peace in future. Only by following

this difficult path the above state of prosperity could be reached and eternal authenticity of the adage *Satyamev Jayte* (truth always conquers) could be established.

Only mass awakening on a large scale will activate the conscientious talented persons from their slumber. Soon we shall find them shedding of their apathy towards idealism and appreciating the need of the day, utilizing their full might for the welfare of humanity. This scenario is going to unfold soon in future and we shall be a witness to it.

However, the task does not end merely with identification of suitable talents. A raw diamond is of no use to anyone. To be part of an invaluable necklace it has to be cut, shaped and polished. Metals are subjected to multiple treatments in furnace before they become part of useful drugs. In order to enter a tournament a wrestler needs prolonged periods of practice. Architects and artists too become proficient in their subject after constant practice and experience. Similarly, for action in the arena of social reformation, a talented person needs training and augmentation of his inherent proficiency. It requires an ever greater association with activities pertaining to promotion of ideals. Keeping this objective in view whereas on one hand a search is on for spotting new talents on the other those already identified are being engaged in such activities which can make their inherent characteristics of personal magnetism, mental faculties and inner strength (*Ojas-Tejas-Varchas*) much more effective. This was the objective of Vishvamitra in assigning the sons of Dashrath the task of protection of *yagya* from the demons at the opportune moment. Through this exercise he had brought out the courage and bravery in

Ram and Lakshman for establishing a new order for the mankind in future. Hanuman and Arjun had also to pass through such acid tests. This is the minimum price to be paid for greatness. Those who do not come forward to take part in great movements at opportune time are always found lamenting for the lost opportunity which they could not recognize at the right moment.

In recent period, those talents who had been associated with virtuous acts during several cycles of their previous births, have been located and associated with the *Yug Chetana (Creative Thought Wave of the century)*. They have been motivated by the newly created literature for establishing a new world order and have decided to join the large family of crusaders (mission). The *pragya parivar* (members of this mission) may be seen and evaluated in this background. The members of this family could be regarded as a group of celestial souls who have come together on this earth with the common objective of creation of a new prosperous world in the next century. They have been strengthening their beliefs in ideals by regularly partaking the nectar of the creative literature of the century being published by this mission. Within their means and resources they have also been putting into action the inspirational programmes for shaping the next century. The contribution, benevolence and endeavour advanced by them deserve open praise. Nevertheless, this itself is not enough for the big task in hand. Increasing contingencies of time are demanding bolder steps. Small achievements of child are praised by his parents, but the same achievements do not bring credit when the child grows into a youth.

However, the object here is not to belittle the earlier

contribution of the members of the mission. It is only being emphasized that this much is not considered sufficient. Whatever has been done in last few years does not meet the challenge of *Mahakal*. It is a long war which would perhaps last throughout the life of the present generation. There are still eight years left for the advent of the Twenty-First Century. This period is crucial for us. The momentum should not be reduced. In this period of *yug sandhi* we must continue to perform that level of *tap and sadhana* which Bhagirath had undertaken for bringing Ganga down to earth from heaven (*swarg*). Supermen never rest. They are found working incessantly till death and even continue to work for their objective in successive later cycles of their life and death till total success is achieved. This is the tradition to be emulated by those who aspire to sharpen their talents and make such achievements in private and public life which become a constant source of inspiration and objects of emulation, reverence, and unforgettable events for posterity. Talents of our *parijans* must get acclamation by humanity as a whole. We must not be counted amongst those who always remain dependent on others or lived the life of an animal in filling stomachs and procreating only.

Like a lotus flower a member of *Pragya* family should be identifiable in any pond anywhere and should be a source of pleasure to anyone around.

AUGMENTATION OF TALENTS-BASIC ELEMENTS AND PRINCIPLES

Amongst the multitude of ordinary people, talented persons are as easily identifiable as flowers in a foliage of leaves and thorns, or as moon amongst the stars. No one is ever born talented. Nor is talent obtained as a gift or lucky coincidence. It is a resource acquired through one's own endeavour. In this process others may provide some help, but basically it is a quality earned by one's own hard endeavour.

Amongst the many types of resources acquired by man throughout the course of his life, talent is unique. Wealth keeps on changing hands. Beauty and youth are also temporal possessions. Only children and young ones appear beautiful. With advancing age, lines on the face harden and softness of skin disappears. Even education does not remain a personal asset in totality. Only that part of learning is remembered which comes in regular use. Help from friends, associates, relatives and assistants can also not be relied upon forever. It is not possible to maintain the same degree of intimacy with them for all times. Rights and authority are also not everlasting. With withdrawal of support they pass on to someone else. The capacity to work and hard labour decreases with appearance of old age. Memory and agility too make a fast exit. When it happens, man finds it difficult to make and implement schemes. This is how the danger signals of approaching death appear. There is a gradual depletion in the repository of life force which ultimately empties on death.

Human body is in a state of development only during the period of smooth functioning of circulatory

system and till full maturity of body has been achieved. Whether one spends this prime of youth in inaction, procrastination or in satisfying greed and yearnings, is one's own choice. At times people are even found exhibiting this energy in destructive activities associated with extreme arrogance. The latter foolishly exploit their inherent powers with which otherwise they can perform miracles. The prudent ones guard their inherent celestial attributes zealously as supreme "talents" and make every possible effort to use them judiciously. They know that only these are their permanent assets which can resolve their own as well as other's complexities of life. They are aware that they will be carrying these capacities with them even in their later cycles of life after death and use them for achieving successively more congenial and higher levels of environment of living for themselves. Efforts made for augmentation of talents are commendable from all points of view and like gold, can be encashed for success in any field of human activity. Miracles of the materialist world are only because of the endeavours of talents. In the field of spirituality this is the effort which develops and promotes greatness associated with benevolence.

There are some basic principles for improvement of talents (*pratibha parishkar*) which all those aspiring for success in life are recommended to keep in mind. The first principle or basis is "augmentation of capabilities" and a persistent endeavour for their well-planned utilization with ever readiness and total involvement. Scrupulous avoidance of lethargy. Always remaining alert and agile. Considering each moment of life valuable, a planned evaluation of time should be made for its systematic utilization for fruitful objectives. In fact this is the

state of mind which is known as "total awakening." Generally people drag their life in stupor like a pain to be endured. They feel contented barely with the arrangement of some means of living. There are hardly any motivations in them conducive to action for making the future better. The devotees of talent bring themselves out of this quagmire and saving their emerging capabilities, safeguard them like a valuable property. Whatever qualities are available to them they make use of to the best of advantage. This is how a *Kalpavriksha* (a mythological tree which grants all wishes) is grown and utilized for useful purposes.

The second step consists of persistent endeavour to develop a magnetic and attractive personality to a confident level. This is the fundamental attribute of an ideal human being. It requires adoption of life style of an awakened, responsible and gentlemanly individual. Cleanliness of body and mind should also be associated with a civilized behaviour and extreme sweetness in speech. For this, it is necessary to express humility and respect for others. It becomes feasible only for those who are constantly inspired by seeing qualities in others and also make efforts to locate one's own shortcomings with a view to overcoming them by reformation. People of lowly bent of mind are always found bragging about their own achievements and finding faults with others. In this way they continue to deplete the efficiency of their intellectual faculties and lose credibility in society.

Talented persons are always found radiating happiness. The ever present smile on their face indicates their self-contentment. With the result, others too look forward to them for alleviating their misery and are ever eager to

be associated with them in any enterprise. People naturally tend to avoid those who have a habit of expressing dissatisfaction against someone, something or the other, or have a tendency to annoy by unpleasant interactions. One aspiring to upgrade his qualities never commits this mistake and is ever watchful to discard, should such habit begin to influence his behavioural pattern.

The third step consists of orderliness in life. Even well resourceful persons are found facing failures and are ridiculed because of their disorderliness. A talented person keeps on reviewing his plans and activities from time to time and unhesitatingly and readily adopts corrective measures. He is never bound by tendencies of conservatism or hardline attitudes. Such persons are aware that for being progressive one has to change strategy according to circumstances and improve upon existing methodology. This is how they help in developing a perfect system. Only those persons are considered worthy of shouldering some big or additional responsibility who have the capacity to plan and organize their efforts, resources, thoughts, family and surrounding environment by providing them the right direction. Before formulating ambitious schemes, one should examine as to what extent he has succeeded in streamlining his own personality, surroundings and activities with the help of his own organizing capacity.

The fourth and the last formula is to go ahead and lead. These attributes of leadership are indicative of courage and self-confidence. Ordinarily people suffer from lack of confidence, hesitancy, timidity, indecision and cowardice. They do not dare even to associate with righteous activities. The better amongst these though

convinced about the correctness of some issue and about its propriety, do not find courage to join its supporters. They remain confined within the self-made situation, inexpediency of which they are well aware of. Amongst such a mass of people those are considered brilliant who maintain unflinching faith in truth and propriety and move forward solitary, irrespective of concurrence of views and assistance of others.

Talented persons are torch bearers. They move forward alone to prove their capability of charting new courses. With it they naturally receive acclamation all around. Others follow the path shown by such persons. People shouldering heavier responsibilities are always on the look out for such individuals. Having been tested for integrity and dependability such persons are persuaded to shoulder increasingly greater responsibilities which they willingly accept and efficiently fulfill in all respects.

A railway engine moves alone towards the destination under its own power, and drags alongwith it a long chain of loaded wagons. We know that in a train, the engine gets more importance and is also considered as its most valuable part. The significance of an engine is because of the power inherent in its machinery which has the competence and organized system to pull the train. Talented persons possess this self-generated characteristic in a large quantity. They never look askance but move forward all over, and attracting others with their personal magnetism, motivate them to join hands. This is the secret of their success.

Talent is also sometimes misutilized for improper objectives. Wealth, strength, beauty and expertise are

also being used for destructive planning and immoral actions. This is the way the terrorists, unscrupulous persons, reckless individuals and indisciplined defiant people act. Nevertheless, there is little doubt that this talent neither results in steady progress in any field nor it leaves any commendable traditions for posterity. In course of time such persons suffer from remorse, ignominy, punishment by courts of justice and divine displeasure. Besides they invite enmity and antipathy from all quarters.

Persons having farsighted prudence make an endeavour to develop their positive attributes and establish their integrity and dependability in public eye because of their idealistic activities. Whoever had ever achieved higher levels of success had attracted numerous followers and assistants. For this reason talent has been regarded as a *mahasiddhi* (super para-normal capability). The devotees of this *mahasiddhi* zealously guard the integrity of their character, even under most adverse circumstances of deprivation. disregarding temptations of immediate gains.

However, merely deliberations on principles are not sufficient to acquire talents. These principles are to be imbibed deeply in thought, character and behaviour. It is not possible to do so without actually bringing the principles in practice. When a person develops mature and brilliant concepts they always find an outlet in constructive activities. Just as revolutions in a dynamo charge the battery, coordination of thoughts and actions shape the character of a person. This is the basic process necessary for any commendable achievement. This is also the blank cheque which can be encashed instantaneously by any

one anywhere. No one is known to have inherited talents for performing big tasks. All of us have to acquire them with total dedication and personal endeavour. Whatever significant has been achieved in this world has been the result of efforts of persons following the path of progress paved with dedication and hard endeavour. In this way they have been able to obtain multifaceted success in all walks of life and earned name and fame. These are the men who maintain the ethical equilibrium of the society and reverse the trends of regression. Only such persons are found bringing in revolutionary changes in prevailing trends of time and enthuse the environment with a new zeal.

A review of biographies of the persons who had made it possible to change the prevailing trends in human society at various periods during man's history and established a new order for the humanity, would confirm that when talents are utilized in the right direction, there is a revolutionary change not only in the personality of the person concerned but also in the entire environment around him. The past few centuries have been a witness to superman like Rana Pratap, Shivaji, Subhash Chandra Bose and Gandhi who changed apparent impossibility into possibility by systematic utilization of their talents. As a matter of fact all superman have used their life as a laboratory where they conducted experiments by planning courses of action and achieving desired results. Much can be learned and found by probing deep into their biographies.

There does not exist any institution for teaching ways and means for augmentation of talents in a person. With one's own personal endeavour one is required to

seek appropriate opportunity and environment to translate established principles into actions. Suitable opportunities are, however, not available just anywhere. One has to wait for them patiently and gain from experience slowly and steadily. Now-a-days a unique opportunity is available for anyone who is looking for benefiting from his talents without much efforts. Rarely do in the history of mankind such opportune moments occur and it is the rare fortunate ones who recognize and take advantage from them. Hanuman could identify one such moment and within a short period earned name and fame by going across the sea, uprooting the mountains (performing herculean tasks) and destroying the enemy stronghold at Lanka. Had he not answered to the need of time, he would have continued to serve his master Sugreev in the menial capacity as an ordinary ape.

AN INVITATION TO THE TALENTED TO ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE FOR CREATING A NEW WORLD ORDER.

We are witnessing very significant moments of time at this juncture of the centuries. These are the most critical moments which no intelligent person should miss. When there is a crisis or accident people do not care about other engagements and rush to meet the contingency. The spirit of benevolence is tested in crisis like accidental fires, earthquakes, famines, epidemics and accidents. Warm-hearted persons do not remain indifferent in moments of crisis. Those who remain unconcerned are looked down upon by the society, whereas others rushing forth to serve leave a deep imprint of their integrity and dependability on people. Their acts of benevolence bring significant credits to them in many a way in due course.

History would tell that in ancient times, in moment of crisis, one member from each Rajput family joined the army. The same tradition was followed when 'sikhism' came into existence for meeting the crisis then facing the country. To face the crisis each family coming in the area under influence had encouraged one member of the family to seek admission in the "Sikh army" The situation today is no less grave. One talented person from each family should come forward to get associated with the activities of establishing the new world order and get the credit for keeping alive the traditions of the golden era (*satyug*) of ancient India (Bharat). There are clear indications of return of the Golden Era (*Satyug*) in the twenty-first century. People are coming forward to join the crusade for the new creation by reducing their wants of personal and social requirements and contributing the

savings there from. They are also getting more and more emotionally involved and expressing desire to utilize their capabilities for the cause. In this way they are presenting themselves as examples of benevolent idealism to the large mass of indifferent, self - centred people, ignorant to the need of humanity.

Those believing in the world beyond wait impatiently for *heaven*, deliverance, communion with the almighty or some such spiritual goal for which there is no certainty. An idealist courageous contribution to a righteous cause like the one above, on the other hand provides such a degree of credibility to the person and strength and talent to his character which could well be appreciated as bestowal of divine grace. The latter is in every way superior to all the resources and comforts of the material world. The rich and the learned are able to make a place for themselves amongst only a small group of people, whereas talented superhumans change course of the history and fate of entire human community.

Whenever and wherever talents have been utilized in support of propriety, they have been duly acknowledged, honoured and rewarded in every way. Students obtaining higher marks naturally win awards and are granted scholarships. Specific acts of bravery bring gallantry medals to the soldiers. Those exhibiting proficiency in administration are promoted. Leaders are given rousing receptions and honoured as superhuman beings and God brings them within HIS own entourage like Hanuman and Arjun.

Establishing a new order for a century is not an easy task. The change would encompass not merely

some persons or some country but a revolutionary transformation in concepts, character and behaviour of the entire human community living all over the world. Tendencies of degradation gain momentum fast like a tornado. It needs an endeavour of extraordinary courage to stop and transmute them forcefully by diverting human energy towards excellence and creativity. It is like curing a person of cancer and then trying to make him into a wrestler. There were very few events in human history necessitating such great changes. The change of heart of king Ashok after the war of Kaling in which millions of innocent persons were killed was one such event. (After this war Ashok embraced *Buddhism* and became its chief protagonist). How difficult this process could be when it is to be carried out for the entire humanity, can only be appreciated by those who have taken a pledge to succeed in this apparently impossible mission. Views of others who are indifferent to human welfare are juvenile and should be ignored.

Extraordinary talents develop only in those persons who develop unusual courage to undertake apparently impossible tasks particularly for some constructive activity. Only a difficult process of plastic surgery is capable of healing and restructuring a damaged organ bringing it to its normal condition by transplantation. In order to achieve the two-fold objectives of eliminating impropriety and in its place reestablishing a new structure based on ethics for solving the problems of the century such extraordinary personnel are required, who rising above the base tendencies of dependability and narrow attitudes of self-centredness, have the capacity to upgrade their character and simultaneously develop conviction, motivation and zeal for the environment congenial for the wel-

fare of humanity.

For undertaking any big mission, one needs appropriate strength of inner-self. For augmentation of this strength spiritual discipline and worship (*upasana*) is considered to be the exclusive means with the help of which one may hope to fulfill wide ranging desires from worldly aspirations, to entry into *heaven*, deliverance and even an interaction with God in a form of one's own choice and belief. Quite a few hope to acquire *riddhi and siddhi* (extrasensory para-normal capabilities) and as evidence of success they look forward to fantasies and miracles. Their fanciful vision does not extend beyond seeing and showing "magical" performances. Facts, however are otherwise. Activation of inherent nuclei of power in a person is seen only as enhancement of talents supportive of benevolent idealism. Only such talents are capable of counteracting the forces of degradation and have the competence to establish a proper order in the system by a new creation. Such talents in a person may be regarded as divine boons or may be considered as special powers obtained by grace of some *siddha purush* (persons having para-normal powers). The foregoing observations are based on intensive researches in the science of spirituality.

Bhagwan shankar (the disciplinary power of God) had given the weapon to Parashuram to free the world twenty-one times from the stronghold of immoral forces. The mighty power of Sahasrabahu, which was otherwise considered invincible could also be contained by Parashuram by virtue of his inner strength. With the help of bones of Dadhichi, Prajapati had provided the talent of invincibility to Indra with which he could confront with

the demon Vrittasur. Gandiv, provided to Arjun by the divine powers was also a special talent. Chatrapati Shivaji is reported to have got his Sword 'Bhawani from' a deity. The foregoing do not refer to arms but to capabilities with the help of which, even with meagre resources impropriety could be confronted. In his passive resistance (*satyagrah*) movement, Gandhi too had taken the help of followers having special talents.

Riddhi and siddhi are neither meant to make one a magician, nor to provide for an entertainment show of unusual feats. When Vishwamitra had taken Ram-Lakshman with him on the pretext of protection of *Yagya*, his objective was to provide them the knowledge of paranormal powers known as *Bala and Atibala*. With the help of this expertise, they later succeeded in breaking the bow of Shiva, won Sita's hand, eliminated immorality prevailing in Lanka and made return of *satyug* as *Ram Rajya* possible. Vishwamitra had also inspired another of his disciple Harishchandra to use his talents for establishing a tradition by creating a new world order for that period. Everyone knows about the fame earned by him by virtue of his courageous acts.

Chanakya had not provided Chandragupta with some buried treasure. On the other hand, he had only inspired him with a firm motivation which helped him to give a crushing defeat to the raiders and defeating them he became an emperor. The same motivating power and courage provided by Samarth Guru Ramdas to Shivaji made latter fight a long war with the mighty rulers who were considered invincible. Chatrasal was inspired with unusual courage and strength by the great saint Prannath Mahaprabhu with which he attained the status of Rajarshi.

Siddharth had received divine inspirations to abdicate the throne and work for promotion of religion. Gorakhnath who was considered to be a great saint had inherited his spiritual powers from his *guru* Matsyendra Nath. Ramanand had not handed over a golden treasure to Kabir. He had provided him with that talent with which in spite of his humble lineage and lack of education, he became famous and earned the distinction of being the most powerful protagonist of religion in his time. Narad is known amongst the most zealous devotees of God. He was gifted with unusual zeal and talent to sow seeds of devotion and empathy in hearts of all living beings, incessantly. Pavan had given that strength to Hanuman with which he proved to be the backbone of Ram's army in his war against Ravan. Gandhi had inspired Vinoba with that element of empathy which made him dedicate his entire life for great objectives. He in turn had passed on this unusual talent to persons coming in contact with him, who by virtue of their character and acts of benevolence left a deep imprint on the minds of people.

Saint Yadvendra Puri had ushered in his disciple Chaitanya in the activities for awakening of the masses. Dayanand was similarly inspired by his *guru* Virjanand for similar actions. The path on which Vivekanand was taken by Ram Krishna Paramhans was the highway for resuscitation of the dying culture of India for which the former dedicated his life and as a consequence earned name and fame throughout the world as an elevated soul.

The great rishi Agastya had motivated Bhagirath to abdicate his throne for undertaking the stupendous task of exploration of Ganga (*Gangavataran*). The objective was so noble that Shankar himself had come down from

his abode in Kailash to help him. Vikramaditya could become an ideal ruler under the guidance of his brother, *Yogi Bharthari*. For his philosophical pursuits Gopichand too was motivated by his uncle Bhartahari. Could one give a greater gift to his friends and relative?

The inspiration which emperor Ashok had from Buddhist philosophy was passed on by him to his worthy son Mahendra and daughter Sanghamitra. Working as *parivrajaks* they dedicated their whole life for propagation of Buddhism. Buddha himself had initiated his son Rahul for the same. This tradition was later passed on to many like Amrapali and Kumarjeev who gave up all physical comforts for furthering the cause of Buddhism. The credit for bringing in the central-east-Asia under the influence of Bhartiya culture goes to Kaudinya who dedicated his whole life for this noble cause.

There are numerous instances of outdated persons in history who made efforts for acquisition of comforts and status for fulfilling aspirations of leaving large properties for their offsprings. They must have laboured hard and their endeavours would not have been lesser than those of the noble persons mentioned above. Nevertheless, such persons had at one stage or the other felt repentant about their meaningless efforts within limits of narrow selfish interests, because of which they lost the rare opportunities of earning name and fame for the cause of humanity. On the other hand there were quite a few personalities like Maharshi Karve, Hiralal Shastri, Baba Saheb Amte, Mahamana Malviya, Bhamashah, Swami Shraddhanand, Ahilya bai, Subhash Chandra Bose etc., who had by accepting bare minimum sustenance for themselves and sacrificing social stature, dedicated their

entire life for benevolent activities and thus became immortal. Amongst the talents of other countries names of Kagava, the Gandhi of Japan and Baden Powell are carved in golden letters in the history of the world. As a matter of fact, there is no dearth of talents in this world. The prosperous persons, administrators, businessmen, scientists and intellectuals are found shouldering responsibilities and achieving miraculous success in their respective fields of action. The contemporary celestial wave of creation (*Yug Chetna*) sweeping across the world these days is not going to leave these individuals untouched. It is going to force them to change according to changing environment. Till now they might have been supporting narrow selfish objectives or wasting time in lethargy, but henceforth they will be compelled to remould themselves and channelise their efforts for creativity only.

Irrespective of their place of origin, tornados, earth quakes and revolutions in society once gaining momentum, go on pervading larger and larger areas. History tells us about the series of revolutions against autocracies which brought the downfall of one ruler after another. Activities of creation move like a giant wave. In the past too the golden age of *satyug* became possible because of such mass movements.

The darkness of night does not last forever. Day does find an opportunity to appear. Then not only birds chirp, sound of elephants and roar of tigers also resonates in the forest. There is no doubt that such a golden time is approaching. We must prepare to welcome it.

IMPROVEMENT OF TALENTS NECESSITATES COMMENSURATE ACTION

The Gandhi era produced many *satyagrahis* (Freedom fighters who used passive resistance for upholding truth). They earned fame as freedom fighters. Later they were honoured by various benefits of *tamra - patra* (a national award), special pensionary benefits and free of cost travelling facilities throughout the country. Those who took the lead and made special contributions joined senior ranks in the government of the country and were counted amongst the elites. Memorials of persons like Nehru and Patel who were close associates of Gandhi are revered today. Acts of their valour found place in the pages of history and they continue to be remembered with respect. All this happened as a consequence of brightness of their talents only. Had they kept their outlook narrow and, their interests limited to their personal affairs only, they would at the most have had the satisfaction of some comforts but would have missed the rare opportunity of becoming "light-houses" of Indian freedom movement. Those who suffered from indecisions and inhibitions during this movement keep on repenting today on finding their status inferior to the freedom fighters. Do time and tide wait for any one?

The great achievements of Buddha, Gandhi, Dayanand, Vivekanand and Vinoba make conscientious persons think that had they been provided such opportunities, they would also have achieved such high status. But who would sympathize with contemporaries of these great men, who did not avail of the opportunities then? Day-dreaming has never lend credit to anyone. There are many who make castles in the air throughout their life dreaming of becoming multi-millionaires or supermen but

ultimately have to face the harsh truth that they have simply been passing time aimlessly, working hard like a galley slave haphazardly without any specific goal in sight. Such persons are always plagued with indecisions and inhibitions and do not let others also do something worthwhile.

Fortunate are those who associate themselves with activities for promotion of ideals, choose the highway to greatness and perform such feats, emulation of which provides fame and dignity to them and brightens the path for millions of others. This is the crossroads where one has the freedom to choose either the way to eternal name, fame and success or to wealth, luxury, and ultimate death in anonymity. That unique opportunity is also available these days, which Bhageerath and Arjun had benefitted from for exhibiting unusual courage. Divine grace does not descend casually. Does God oblige the unmeritorious and incompetent? Only the capacity of a large tank enables it to collect rain water in large quantity.

During this dawn of *Yug-Sandhi* (juncture of the centuries) *Mahakal* (the supreme Disciplinarian) is in dire need of energetic talents. The will of divinity is translated into action through the medium of superhumans amongst mankind only. The invisible powers of almighty merely descend on man as inspirations and motivations. He has been given freedom to either accept or reject them. Krishna had told Arjun that annihilation of the vicious Kauravas was predestined. They have already been deprived of their capacity to fight and Arjun was only required to fight for the protection of the righteous and get the credit for victory which was a foregone conclusion.

The situation is no different today. Almighty has already taken a decision to set right the disorders prevailing in the world today. The *mahayagya* (a Yagya symbolises dedication of resources for benevolent objectives) for the new order of the twenty-first century is bound to be performed for creating an environment conducive to promotion of peace, prosperity and lasting progress. This *Yagya* will begin the process of replacement of tendencies of destruction by up-gradation of human character and deployment of physical and sentient capabilities of man exclusively for activities of human welfare. This is the golden age being foreseen now as the "*Return of Satyug*". In the past, suppression of evil influences of immorality had become possible by the cooperative endeavour of the righteous persons (*devtas*). The power of God had then appeared as an incarnation of Durga (a symbolic representation of power of God bestowed to cooperative endeavours). More or less the same ancient scenario is being repeated now, though entirely as a new event and in a new form. The giant wave of this event will carry even those who would make minimal effort to the ocean of fame and magnanimity.

The process of human transaction takes place in two ways. One either approaches someone at some place to ask for something or calls the other person for his requirement. Today the omnipotent God has invited deserving persons to associate them in HIS own work. The status of giver always remains superior to that of receiver. When one goes to ask someone for a favour his status is more or less that of a beggar whereas on the other hand the giver naturally assumes an attitude of superiority. On the contrary an invited person is respectfully received and accommodated with all comforts. The

visiting guest is also given a priority for interaction in order to make the invitee understand the objective of invitation as well as to make his attitude favourable for cooperation. The invitations extended by *Mahakal* to *Pragya parijans* should also be viewed and understood in this perspective.

Ram himself had gone to the Rishyamook Parvat where he had persuaded and brought back with him Sugreev and Hanuman for cooperation. Ram Krishna had approached Vivekanand to make him agree to work for resurrection of the divine culture of ancient India. Krishna had taken the initiative in persuading even compelling Arjun to participate in the holy war against Kauravas. In the same manner Shivaji and Chandragupta were initiated by their *Gurus*, Samartha and Chanakya respectively. The latter had also arranged for appropriate coordination of necessary resources and power for success. Those blessed with extra-sensory perception are aware that *Mahakal* has not adopted the process of pleading for help before the energetic talented persons by expressing HIS own helplessness. On the contrary, HE has chosen a selected few to grant unbelievably great favours by making them participate in predestined events. Those who remain indifferent to this unusual, unasked for favour of God could only be considered myopic and unfortunate ones. When God has granted freedom even to the lower orders of beings to choose entanglements of greed and attachments, why should man, who belongs to the most evolved species insist on shaping the dignified destiny of mankind in the manner of the lowly beings? Unless he decides to rise above base instincts, he would not be considered better than an animal.

When a government sends its army on the warfront, it also makes arrangements of arms and ammunitions, transports, food and other logistics for the soldiers. The family members of the soldiers are also well looked after. Those who tighten their belts for creation of the new world order will not find themselves wanting for God's grace of necessary talents, resources and appropriate environment. There is not an iota of doubt that the New World Order is going to be established since otherwise this cosmos will come to an end (*Mahapralay*) which the Creator does not wish to happen now.

Today, man and society have become totally inter-dependent. None in the present world can hope to find happiness exclusively in personal progress, prosperity and conveniences. If the environment all around is disturbed one would not be able to protect his place and happiness. Fires and epidemics do not remain confined to a few homes only. Indiscipline and hooliganism too spread fast, disturbing large areas. With the fast growth in population and modern progress, one cannot remain contented by remaining concerned about his personal life only. Hence an attempt at changing the attitude of the masses towards betterment, indirectly helps the individual in safeguarding his own environment. Man is destined to live a community life. In the present context cooperation has become all the more necessary. The narrow-minded self-centred persons hardly appreciate that in order to be truly happy they have to become a constituent of a prosperous community.

For developing one's talents, one is especially recommended to live in an evolved environment, think high and keep oneself engaged in pursuits for promotion

of ideals. In absence of this much of minimal effort even reformation of one's own self for betterment and personal progress does not become possible. Unless one becomes involved in welfare activities and develops benevolent characteristics, one cannot hope to get an opportunity to become influential only on the basis of physical appearance. It is only with augmentation of virtues and practice thereof which makes one capable of earning respect and cooperation from others. This is the scale on which talents and dignity of a person are evaluated.

It is very much necessary to safeguard against the tendencies of utilization of all of one's capabilities and resources for fulfillment of narrow selfish interests only. It would involve more loss than the apparent gains. In all-pervasive interest of society as a whole, lies the interest of an individual. Those dedicated to act of benevolence are decisively helping themselves and at the same time making others coming in contact also dignified. The primary lesson for augmentation of talents is service unto others. The highest level of service that one can render to mankind is based on two basic principles—one augmentation of righteous traits and two, elimination of regressive evil tendencies. For pursuing the above two objectives one should appreciate the importance of regular application of a part of one's time and resources to welfare activities. A firm resolve is to be made in this context which should be meticulously translated into actions as a proof of one's faith, dedication and intellectual level. This is the fee to be compulsorily paid for augmentation of talents (*pratibha parivardhan*). Time would change through this process only.

EVERYONE HAS SEEDS OF TALENTS

On a road we see only the wheels of vehicle in motion whereas its source of power lies in the combustion of oil within the engine which is not visible externally. The battery and dynamic parts of machinery have their own role in the motion. They function collectively and make the vehicle run. Human entity is also like a car. His apparent activities are performed through the medium of hands, feet, head, torso, eyes, mouth etc. Beneath the skin lies the energy system comprising internal organs regulating the flow of blood through heart, contraction and expansion of muscles, exhalations and inhalations of respiratory system etc. The movement of these organs generates energy through the medium of which various organs of body perform the assigned functions. The source of this energy, the epicentre of this energy, however, lies still deeper in the central part of human brain known as the *brahmrandhra*. This focal source too is incapable of generating energy independently. It derives the necessary power by interacting with the Super Energy (*Maha Oorja*) pervading entire cosmos.

Apparently human organs and its components appear to be composed of blood, flesh, bones, marrow, fats etc. but within them are active millions and trillions of biological cells etc., incessantly engaged in creation, augmentation and transformation of independent systems. The biological cells which appear to be bound by the disciplines of the system at their respective locations, remain actively engaged in their assigned role throughout the period of their limited existence. In the course of their work these cells present another miracle in producing identical cells filling into the voids created after the short duration of their existence. The dead cells are expelled as refuse through the numerous openings of exit in the

body. The living cells are ever engaged in multifarious activities ranging from acquisition to assimilation of nutrients derived from food, liquids and air.

This continuous process of activity taking place in each and every particle of body is so fast that it may be considered a wonder of nature. It is also not less surprising that such a big working system of human body is made of such small components. The biggest miracle is the activity of each small cell which within its very limited field of activity conforms to the discipline of the small sub-system to which it belongs. How does it happen? Wherefrom does the energy for this activity come from? Who provides the resources? Answers to these questions point towards a single causative factor which is the biological current pervading each particle of human body and continuously flowing through it. Since these components of body are infinitesimally small, the charge of biological current in them is also not measurable by modern means of science. Nor this current is felt by the person. Nevertheless, the power of this current is without any doubt tremendous. Had it not been so, the innumerable small components of body would not have worked so regularly, competently and systematically.

It must be appreciated that viewed cumulatively, the energy being generated by the numerous small and big organs of human body would not be less than that under generation in a big powerhouse. Is this statement an exaggeration considering the numerous activities of various kind performed by human body uninterruptedly from birth to death? So great a capacity of energy generation is hidden in a human body (of an average height of five foot six inches) that if an attempt is made to create it

through modern scientific equipment, one would require several square kilometers area to accommodate the machinery. So vast and full of innumerable possibilities is this large storage of energy in man.

Generally only a very small fraction of this energy is used by a human being-only that much which is required for the ordinary day to day living. Thus only that part of energy remains active which is being effectively used. While breathing shallow, only partial capacity of lungs is utilized as a consequence of which its remaining part somehow retains its existence in an ineffective poor state. Lazy persons are disinclined to work or do exertion. Due to this reason, most of their physical faculties remain inactive and in a state of degeneration. This is taken advantage of by the germs, bacteria and virus of diseases. Having strengthened their hold on the body, they make it weaker from within and changing colours like chameleons keep on assuming many forms. The same holds true about the brain. Generally man has limited desire and aspirations and his mental activities revolve round catering to their requirements only. In this way only a very small fraction of mental faculties and intellectual capacity is used for this work. The faculties which remain unutilized tend to become dormant lying in more or less in a dazed condition in some unknown corner of mind.

If the immense capacity and utility of the power stored in a human body could be scientifically assessed, one would have no hesitation in reaching the conclusion that it is not adequate only for self but could do much to help others. This is the power which has been used by man from time to time for miraculous performances

throughout the course of history. In every day language one refers to the competence for such acts as divine gifts or repository of *riddhi* and *siddhi* (Paranormal celestial attributes). Considering the authenticity of most of legendary performances by man, one comes to the conclusion that a human being is undoubtedly a storehouse of powers of limitless capacities. One may also say that by devout austerity and spiritual practices higher levels of attributes or boons from the deities can be acquired. The fact, however, remains that whatever extraordinary emerges in man, exuberates from within his own self.

Here it is meaningless to talk about those whose interests are confined to their stomachs and sex and who do not think it necessary to rise above their base instinct of personal greed, attachments and ego. On the other hand those who aspire to achieve something significant in life, find alternatives in endeavours for activation of these dormant nuclei of energy and strengthen them by constant practice to a level in which they become capable of undertaking big task and achieving higher goals. One should make it a point to be least dependent on others. Exuberance of competence and industry in self itself makes the person bloom like a flower which naturally make butterflies hover around and bees sing in praise.

The philosophy of spirituality in a nutshell, is only 'know yourself' (*atmanum viddhi*), develop your own faculties so as to be able to choose a highway to some higher goal. This adage is for one's own self. Only after its acceptance and imbibition can one look forward to some support, assistance and donation from others. God too grants boons but only to saints. The rest keep on moving to temples, mosques, churches places of pilgrim-

age, collecting miracle-producing ashes, talismans and flowers. In this way they behave like beggars. Everyone is aware of the limits of earnings of beggars. Throughout their life they are found complaining about deprivations and indifference of others.

Having understood this basic truth, one should direct all efforts in making oneself more creditable, a person of high integrity and effective. This is the correct and true way of life instead of offering some pledges to God in return for fulfillment of desires. Before taking the first few steps in this direction, one must get assured of the authenticity of the enormous repository of competence lying dormant within self. The creator has made man full of potentialities of high levels of achievements. The need only is to muster courage to break open the thin wall of obstacle separating him from this treasure. On getting strength a chick breaks open its shell. Then only mother comes to its help. There is only one reason for labour pains. The child makes an attempt to find its way out. Where the development is premature or the infant is too weak or unconscious, the process of delivery becomes difficult.

For generation of heat, friction is required. Movement or progress too are dependent on it. For augmentation of talents the same process is needed. Who can ever become a gymnast without practicing hard in a gymnasium? Soldiers are subjected to difficult exercises and drill every now and then. In order to flow forward, a river has to remove obstacles and break through many rocks. For success on a war-front one has to exhibit experience in its strategy. Only that boatman is given the honour of efficiency who exhibits the courage to negotiate the boat

fast across the rapids in a river.

The first pre-requisite for improvement of talents is to struggle with one's own self against the traits of laziness and procrastination. Discarding such traits one is required to cultivate a habit of keeping ever alert, active and prepared for any eventuality. A persistent struggle is made against negative traits such as despair, disinterest, apprehension and restlessness, till positive traits like hope, pleasure, zeal, certainty, fearlessness and civility occupy a permanent place in behavioural patterns. It requires constant deliberation and persistent practice and endeavour which has to be carried out without any interruption, despondency or surrender.

Talent is like a *triveni* (tri-junction of three holy rivers). It requires awakening, energizing and bringing in effectiveness in physical efficiency and personal magnetism (*ojas*), mental efficacy (*tejas*) and inner strength (*varchas*). An enforcement of this discipline would ensure freedom from bodily or mental disease or decay of mental or physical faculties. Once an appropriate objective is chosen and effort is made to fulfill it with maintenance of interest, concentration and promptness, the person begins to perform even the routine work more and more intelligently and efficiently. This is the basis for acquiring that much of *ojas* in body and *tejas* in mental faculties which could be considered satisfactory and for which one may feel contented and dignified. *Varchas* is the name given to an unwavering and profound faith in the concept of well-being of others. Idealism is based on this concept itself and excellence requires nothing less. The appearance of attribute of *varchas* in the innerself of a person renders him full of civility, benevolence and gentlemanli-

ness. The more this celestial attribute becomes available to the person the greater he should feel grateful to the almighty.

Tejas or *brahmtejas* is nothing but a high level of talents in a person. Irrespective of form, appearance of strength of body, appearance of *tejas* in a greater quantity equips the person with unusual development (*prakharta*) of his spiritual power (*Chetna*). With it persons are known to have performed such commendable acts which were considered worthy of emulation and appreciation for ages. The example of God incarnate Buddha proves the point. He had, during his life time itself sent ten million *bhikshu* and *bhikshuni* as cultural ambassadors for spreading the message of religion. All of them had succeeded in getting higher and higher honours for their missionary zeal. Emperors of high status like Ashok and Harshvardhan were so much impressed by their message that they had put their enormous wealth at their disposal. Amrapali and Angulimal and many others gave up their vices and were totally transformed by accepting a virtuous way of life under the guidance of these ambassadors of Buddhism.

With his independent planning Chanakya had compelled the invaders and terrorists attacking India to run-back to their respective foxholes. Because of his unusual talents many experienced man on seats of power at that time had agreed to come to his assistance. With his extraordinary talent, Chanakya was not only able to establish a university of the size of Nalanda but had also succeeded in shouldering the responsibility of its management. Just as with its natural property of magnetism, a magnet automatically attracts magnetic substances,

persons with high talents do not find it difficult to seek associates.

Mahamana Malviya was, in the beginning of his career only an ordinary lawyer and editor. Yet he was able to establish a five hundred million rupees worth Hindu University with the help of total strangers. Arjun was able to intercept an aquifer deep down in the earth to quench the thirst of Bhishma with pure subterranean water. On the other hand Bhishma was no less talented. Lying on the bed of arrows and suffering unbearable agony of wounds, he had resisted death till the planetary position of sun became suitable to him. Savitri had the determination to persuade Yamraj (the deity of death) to make his dead husband alive. It is well known how Damyanti with her extrasensory vision had made *Vyadh* burn to ashes. It was also a historical event when Gautam Rishi had killed the sons of Sagar by sheer will-power.

Rana Sanga could fight the enemies till his last moments in spite of having eighty wounds. One cannot but wonder about the courage of Waltair who created such monumental work from his bed in a hospital during his sickness. History is full of names of umpteen millionaires who hardly had any qualifications or resources of their own earlier, yet fate inspired them to utilize unfailing courage and intelligence for becoming masters of treasure troves. One finds a long list of such persons including Bata, Tata, Henry Ford and Rockefeller.

The high stature of personality of Sardar Patel is reflected in the ease with which he had persuaded the revolting princely states to accept merger in independent

status of India. Leadership of the non-violent movement of Bardoli too was superb exhibition of the force of his personal magnetism. Kagava, the Gandhi of Japan who had begun his social career in a dirty slum had finally earned the unusual distinction of being the saviour of the downtrodden of Japan. An ordinary farmer in the state of Bihar took a pledge to plant a thousand mango trees and became famous throughout the country as *hazari*.

The list is endless. As in the past, there are countless such persons achieving greater and greater successes in many fields of human activity. It is, however, not indicative of specialities of some person or persons in particular. On the other hand, achievement of each of the above persons reflects the miracles of his talents which was perfected by him. One needs only a firm resolve, perseverance and consistent planned endeavour to obtain the maximum benefit from his talents.

HIGHER OBJECTIVES NEED BETTER TALENTS

In ancient times cannons built with special alloys were needed to destroy strong forts. For levelling the rugged mountain slopes one requires powerful explosives. Only a heavy duty crane is capable of putting a derailed railway coach back on its track. For victory on a difficult battlefield, one needs a commandant who is efficient, experienced as well as courageous. Wherever the goal is set high, efforts necessarily have to be commensurate.

In ancient times, for protection against an attack by sword, shields made of hard hides of rhinoceros were used. Where one requires transportation of millions of tons of cargo, a large ship is needed. This job cannot be entrusted to small boats. For levelling large tracts of rugged terrain, no equipment smaller than a bulldozer is helpful. To pull an elephant out of quicksand help of a much larger and more powerful elephant is taken. Blue-prints of new townships and big dams are made by only experienced senior engineers.

The responsibility for formulating and implementing big projects always falls on the shoulders of persons having supra-normal competence. Though ordinary people also contribute their little bits yet unless someone amongst them exhibits some exceptional qualification, none is entrusted with big responsibilities. One hundred cart-horses taken together cannot match the performance of one racing horse. To implement big projects, one looks for exceptionally qualified persons.

Soon we are going to witness great changes in the world order. Stinking garbage and filth of evil accumulated in human society over the centuries is required to be swept in the dustbin. It is not easy to develop a beau-

tiful garden in a desolate expanse of thorny bushes. On the other hand, there are instances of human endeavour transforming hot sandy desertic lands into beautiful pleasing tracts full of lush green fields.

However, for problems of this magnitude one must have an acute sense of understanding and must gather appropriate resources. Who else but the great Hanuman could negotiate the vast ocean and uproot and bring the large mass of rock containing the *Sanjeevni* herbs? Did any of his compatriots have this courage? When people all over the country were suffering under the rule of King Ravan, only some super beings and their super schemes could succeed in achieving the desired objective of establishing the golden order of *Ram Rajya (Satyug)*. No one could expect such miracles from ordinary persons of that time. Could anyone else than Muni Agastya take up the challenge of emptying an ocean?

These days mankind is facing the biggest challenge in centuries. The flood of undesirable practice pervading all fields of human activity has to be stopped. The challenge of replacement of existing value system with the new world order is no less than trying to develop a garden in quicksand. Today humanity is facing two formidable challenges. One-the regressive trends fast engulfing entire human community are to be stopped forthwith and two-people are required to be enthused for contributing to the establishment of a *New World Order*. It is like trying to fill a deep trench and then building a high tower over it. Efforts are therefore, required not merely for reversing direction of prevailing trends but also giving them a new direction. Although man has been known to have changed apparently impossible tasks into

a possibility, here he is not only required to show courage by taking a resolve but also to prove his worth by his actions. In millions of years in human civilization such rare moments arise when the end meets the beginning. This is going to transpire soon.

Today humanity is passing through a very critical phase. In each aspect of life man is facing crisis, current events are spelling doom for the very existence of human species. Corrupt thinking of man has reached such a state that he is likely to fall in the deepest abyss of degradation. It is so easy to accelerate this process of retrogression, but only the superhuman effort of a *Vishvakarma* (the architect of God) can reverse it and at the same time plan to reorient towards constructive endeavours. Destiny is looking for such *Vishvakarmas* everywhere. Time is eager to identify such superhumans and motivate those who are indifferent to the needs of humanity. It is only superhumans who can undertake a task of this magnitude.

The crisis referred to is neither related to the environment of some particular region of the world nor it has relevance to some class of people. It is also not connected with material needs of mankind for which acquisition of resources becomes an unavoidable necessity. The most difficult task confronting us today is to find means to remove corruption pervading the thinking process of man throughout the world. The task is so big that pen, speech or the variety of media available to us today would only be partially effective. Besides, the pace of change is also not likely to be fast. The crux of the problem is to find ways to eradicate the corruption which has become so deep-rooted in concepts of man. Ways are to

be found to plug the consequential corrupt behavioural patterns at the source itself. Man has become so much cunning and conceited these days that he is impudently ignoring all codes of conduct and discipline without any fear of law and order or divine displeasure and flouting ethical norms. Those professing to be staunch supporters of human-welfare are now committing worst crimes against humanity under various pretexts. Who is expected to advise them and how? How does one explain the harmful consequences to someone who deliberately indulges in misdeeds? The media is losing its credibility. This is because it is promoting those very concepts, against which it is apparently working. Where does one find the basis to believe it?

Under the prevailing circumstances one exclusive alternative emerges. New energetic talented persons must come forward and put their own examples before the masses to prove that neither it is a losing proposition to follow a righteous path, nor it is impossible or impractical to do so. When all avenues of moulding public opinion have been exhausted, the only alternative left is to put a credible example of practicable ideal life before the people and make them agree to the viability of such a proposition, thereby providing a strong motivation for adoption of similar mode of life. Wherever there is found a conformity between words and actions, it is not difficult to seek support. Examples of this dictum are seen in everyday life amongst thieves, gamblers, vagabonds, debauchees, drug addicts, and immoral persons, who by what they preach, easily make many agree to follow their style of living.

In ancient days, *Rishis* were embodiments of ideals

of living. They had formulated codes based on high ideals and adopted life styles conforming to the concepts and behaviour specified in these codes. In each period of civilization through the course of history, saints like Vashishta, Vishwamitra, Charak and Yagyavalkya have been doing research on ideal codes of human conduct suitable for that period, proving their credibility and viability by following them themselves and thus benefitting the multitude of their contemporaries. This is how Buddha came to be known as an incarnation of God and on passing through this test Gandhi earned the distinction of father of the nation. The problems of modern times too are demanding this magnitude of solution from talented leaders of the present century.

The talented crusaders are required to brace themselves for war on two fronts. One-the prevailing evil tendencies of corrupt regressive values and consequential actions are to be eradicated (*dushpravitti unmoolan*) and two-trends of idealistic righteous thoughts and actions conducive to human welfare are to be promoted (*satpravitti samvardhan*). A good beginning in this noble endeavour could be made by disciplining one's own self and thereby setting an example for family members. Following this initial step neighbours, friends, relatives, acquaintances and close associates falling in one's influence could be motivated and enlightened.

At times such traits may inadvertently become part of one's nature, which appear unharmed but continue to erode efficiency unknowingly. One should begin his war against personal inadequacies by tackling these weaknesses. The worst and the most prevalent habit amongst these is lethargy or inaction. A robbery is committed in

many ways but the one which inflicts maximum harm to self and close associates is robbing oneself of time and action. Apparently it creates an impression of comfort and effortless living, but the truth remains that a habit of laziness makes man progressively ineffective, unsystematic, inefficient, disqualified, incompetent and functionally weak. All possibilities of progress give a wide berth to a lazy person.

One must understand that each drop of sweat is akin to acquisition of a pearl. The valuable chain of time i.e. life is made of numerous small links of small moments. Only those persons have prospered in life who understood the value of time and used its each unit for best, systematic and active utilization. Those who waste time in lethargy and procrastination, and pass it leisurely in an unplanned manner, somehow manage to pass life without any noteworthy achievement. Such persons miss even the easily available advantage of developing their talents. One has to be vigilant to safeguard one's own self as well as one's near and dear one's against such degenerating tendencies. Though persons engaged in arduous and difficult work do require intermissions of rest, this necessity is fulfilled simply by changing the type of work or diverting mind to some other subject of interest.

Ever since man comes into existence till his death, his heart continues to work and even takes rest for a few moment in between successive beats. One must coordinate periods of work and rest in the same way.

A capability of systematic arrangement for execution of responsibility is indicative of high level of farsight-

edness, intelligence and working-efficiency of the person. In industrial establishments as well as in offices efficiency of operation and development depends on the qualification of managers. In the government machinery, governors are considered to be patrons of states. During the British rule, the supreme manager of India was known as the Governor General. The word superintendent too has the same connotation.

Whenever and wherever, big achievements have been made possible by anyone, the system of management has played a key role. The efficiency of a commander is evaluated by his war-strategy. For execution of big development projects, systematic planning becomes a pre-requisite. Adequate arrangements of work, labour and resources themselves do not guarantee the desired level of success for a project. It always depends on the best utilization of the resources available at the time of execution of work. It also depends on the earnestness and pragmatism of assessments of negative and positive aspects of matters related to the project in hand. It also requires arrangements of timely improvisations to meet contingencies. Success seeks only those brilliant persons who follow the foregoing discipline of work. Only such individuals get acclamation by the society whereas others whose approach to work is casual and who work only as some sort of bonded labour, are not better than ordinary paid workers. The latter are always deprived of the credit of becoming managers. Irrespective of ordinary qualifications and limited resources of the person involved, the success of an endeavour aimed at big objectives depends on totality of interest, single-mindedness, appropriate zeal and an uncommon courage to take the lead. Those possessing above qualifications are undeterred by adver-

sity of circumstances. They use their entire energy to make the circumstances suit their need. Only such persons are worthy of taking leadership, though there is no dearth in this world of monkeys amongst men (*nar vanar*) aspiring to hold high offices and get distinctions in the society.

In personal life effort for improvement of one's talents and brilliance should begin with assigning a high priority to discarding the habit of lethargy and procrastination. Trivial responsibilities should be handed over to associates and charge for implementing bigger, difficult and heavy duties assumed by self. Those who habitually look for simpler and easier tasks of light responsibility with a view to passing a leisurely life remain irregular, unsystematic and disorganized throughout their life. On the other hand others, who while performing the assigned duties also keep in view the consequences of their actions on all aspects related to total operation and side by side politely keep on advising the related personnel for improvement, are in fact considered as the key figures in any project. Such persons are neither egoists nor stubborn in attitude. They do not dictate terms. They put forward their proposals in such a way that no one in them sees any trace of exhibition of ego, expertise or any direct or indirect attempt at casting aspersions or denigration of others. An honest piece of advice is welcomed whereas a contemptuous order is ignored because it hurts the self-respect of other persons.

Life devoid of any objective is meaningless. Even a frog in the well keeps itself busy in some routine. Speciality lies in keeping in view all aspects of the work irrespective of the part assigned. One who considers all

contingencies and is prepared with many alternative moves to reach the goal as is done in a game of chess. Only those persons become efficient managers, who besides taking care of the part of the work given to them also prove by their efficiency their worth for overall arrangement for the entire project. Only such persons are given greater and greater responsibilities successively. They are the true devotees of work. Only after earning this basic qualification mentioned above can one successfully imbibe ethical values like non-violence, truth and continence in life. An initiation necessarily requires imbibition of a habit of keeping oneself ever engaged in work with full enthusiasm. For a talented person a convenient field of experiment for progress could be found in his own house amongst members of his own family. The latter are always in close contact and are also emotionally attached. Hence it becomes easier to enforce discipline amongst them by entreaties or persuasion. When this practice is extended over to larger areas of society or business, greater success accrues and the person progressively benefits from improvement in his talents.

BE EMINENT AND ACQUIRE GIFTS OF TALENTS

Talents do not descend down on a person from heaven. They are acquired with hard endeavour, perseverance, and firm determination. The path of progress of all talented persons had identical common denominations. They were full of zeal and enthusiasm for the work undertaken, had total involvement and single-mindedness. They had confronted the obstacles as though their capacity to work was at stake and proved their efficiency by changing adversity of circumstances into congeniality.

These are the basic ingredients of success. Success boosts moral and the person is invigorated to work with greater enthusiasm. In this endeavour talents are developed and are also made effective. These are evolutionary trends. These are the signs of progress which bring credits to the person. The twenty-first century is going to be the working-field of talented persons only. They are going to achieve that which has been regarded so far as utopian or at least formidable.

Congeniality of environment plays a significant role in progress. One finds it easy to move faster in the direction of wind. A seed sown during monsoon sprouts easily and does not take much time to grow into a blooming plant. Females of many species exhibit greater number of pregnancies during spring. Adolescence generates a natural attraction towards the opposite sex. Thus it is seen that conformity of environment accelerates the process of endeavour, generally taking it to a successful culmination.

Those who are gifted with divine foresight and inspiration feel that this is the moment of change of time for ushering the *New World Order*. The common man has become weary of prevailing undesirable elements in the society. His impatience for betterment is eagerly seeking a way for freedom from the suffocating environment. He now wants to breathe freely. The global environment also appears to have decided to expedite reversal of the process of impropriety in order to reinstate order in the world. Changes in global environment occurring these days clearly indicate the inevitability of appearance of wisdom of mutual cooperation amongst the large mass of humanity to meet its present requirements.

When the omnipotent God decides to take action

against evil even individuals appearing to possess limited strength and resources are found confronting formidable obstacles. For annihilating the cruel Demon Ravan and destroying his vast empire, HE had used two young ascetics (Ram and Lakchaman). Prahlad, a mere child proved to be the cause of destruction of the mighty invincible Hiranyakasyap. At times a spark of fire destroys large expanses of impenetrable forests. The giant and mighty Tadka and Pootna were killed by Ram and Krishna, when they were mere children. One should, therefore, not be least surprised in finding the resolve of *Mahakal* for reestablishing the new world order appearing as an effective coordination of persons and resources.

Some of the events of immediate future are so certain and predestined that whoever thinks of associating in shaping them can be assured of success. He can also be certain of obtaining the double benefit of credit and fame for helping in achieving a goal which the almighty has already kept within reach. It would be like Arjun's war against his adversaries, who he knew were destined to die by the will of God.

Participation in the crusade for establishing the new world order would also provide the individual additional advantage of improvement in his inherent talents, thereby providing him a coveted position amongst the elites who would shape the events of the century for the benefit of mankind.

Just as flies and mosquitoes disappear with the advent of winter, the evil traits and practices prevailing in modern world are going to become extinct by themselves. With the appearance of dawn of farsighted prudence, superstitions, dogmatism and illogical traditions will make a hasty retreat to their foxholes. The world of

tomorrow will not tolerate egoistic exhibitionism of those indulging in accumulation of wealth and resources for personal use. Nor will it appreciate extravagance of any order. Hoarders, lazy and greedy persons will then have no basis left to consider themselves fortunate. The greatest change, which the next century is going to witness, is in the status of woman in the society. The perpetually neglected class of women will not only gain its due status and dignity in the society, it will also have the honour of providing leadership to the male world. Villages now lying in a state of neglect and deprivation would become prosperous with acquisition of all those civic facilities, the lure of which is driving their inhabitants to towns, today. All obstacles detrimental to equality and unity would gradually disappear by themselves clearing a way for prosperity with establishment of a well ordered social structure. In future, instead of his wealth and status man will be honoured for mustering courage for making sacrifice for promotion of ideals. Vulgar showmanship, which has been a very common practice for creating favourable impressions since long, is not going to last any longer.

Those who would believe in the foregoing shape of things to come (revealed through these pages) and would mould their way of living accordingly, are assured of benefits in every way. What is today considered as counter productive and ridiculous, is going to become useful in tomorrow's world. There will be many who would see the truth and change themselves by discarding false values before it becomes too late. Those who are full of zeal and alertness and have a keen sense of perception would certainly get activated by the present divine cosmic energy (*Yug Chetna*). They are bound to get bored of leading a humdrum life and the cosmic energy is going to create such a oceanic commotion in

their inner self that they would be forced to take some action or the other which is desired and required for changing the existing order in the society.

There is a time for a snake to shed its skin. This is the right moment for energetic persons to cast off the old skin of their dogmatic decaying concepts. Concentrating all their faculties, they are advised to bring out a total transformation in their way of thinking so that their future actions incorporate such elements which make them architects of destiny of humanity worthy of emulation and praise. They must give due respect to ideals irrespective of views and advice of their so-called friends and relatives. Prahlad, Vibhishan, Bharat, Meera etc. had followed the disciplines based on ideals in total disregard to their relatives. The focal point of expression of a high level of courage in life is only one i.e. imbibition of spiritual discipline (*sadhana*) in life which could bring credit to the society. It however, requires self-control and strict discipline in life. Traditions tempt one to follow an easy way of life by adopting base level attitudes. Water flows down the slope. It falls downwards towards ground. Similarly man finds it easier to follow the effortless path of degradation. On the other hand an attempt for evolution requires an exceptionally high level of courage of a soldier. This is a rare opportunity to show one's worth of valour. There is very little possibility of coming across such an opportunity in one's life time.

The spirit of benevolence is always welcomed. A heavy downpour of dark clouds fills the hearts of farmers with hope, enthusiasm and joy. Lightening bows down to the clouds giving them hundreds of gun-salutes. The peacocks begin to dance. Birds start singing. Greenery smiles to welcome them. Why do they all welcome the clouds? This is because the latter collect water and very

humbly spill it on to the ground, for the benefit of others.

These are many ways of improving and using one's talents. Terrorists and immoral persons too use their talents to terrorise many like ghosts and spirits. Only those talented persons are appreciated who are humble and do not loose any opportunity in sacrificing their wealth and resources for furtherance of ideals. Whether they have high or low status is of no consequence. Irrespective of their lowly status in society (like Shabri, Gilahri, Kevat) many persons have made history and inspired many more to follow their examples. With their personal magnetism such persons miraculously collect help and resources from odd quarters and seeds sown by them grow into a large tree.

Today there is a golden opportunity before us for availing of a momentous event for improving our talents. This crucial period of *Yug Sandhi* requires energetic persons having unusual courage. Only persons of high caliber can confront with the undesirable elements of the magnitude corrupting the world today. Only valiant persons dare to take big challenges and in spite of having no initial expertise or experience exhibit their competence in achieving big objectives like Hanuman and Angad who succeeded in destruction of the strong fortress of Lanka and countering the evil influence of Ravan for reestablishing the golden order of *Ram Rajya*. This is a rare occasion of acid test for mankind. Those who are seeing the signs of time and show their valour without losing opportunity, need not resort to any additional religious pursuits (*Anusthan*) for acquiring rich talents. Self-discipline and courage takes such persons to highest peaks of success. The highway of piety and benevolence takes everyone to his cherished goal to success. *Sadhana* of self and *sadhana* of humanity are only two sides of the same coin.

An appropriate imbibition of one becomes inseparably integrated with the other.

After taking a decision on the objectives, means and resources, it becomes easier to choose responsibilities suitable to one's own taste and personal environment, keeping in view the overall requirements. Thereafter each successive step takes one to ever greater success, culminating in achievement of the highest order, which one could not have even dreamt of in the initial stage. Here this is to be kept in mind that a person is able to utilize the full potential of his talent only after associating with others of identical level. Singly one can hardly achieve anything. The only way to improve upon the talents of one's own as well as those of co-workers is to seek higher goals with the cooperation of like-minded close associates.

The omnipotent, omnipresent, omniscient God, who is an ensemble of righteousness and high ideals is also an ensemble of talents. Establishing a contact with him though necessitates a surrender of narrow self-centredness, yet there is no doubt one associating with Him acquires glory like a mass of fuel on coming in contact with fire. A person moving on the path of righteousness never finds any scope for complaining against limited gains from God's storehouse of talents.

Once the goal is in sight, one does not have to seek far for guidance. Even in absence of a proper guide one's inner-self instinctively shows the right path. A talented person neither accepts defeat nor complains about paucity of resources. He does not have any need to find an excuse for his inaction or failure in non-cooperation of some particular person or complain against obstacles created by someone on his way to progress. Talent is in fact the foundation stone of humility and progressiveness●