

## Occidental Science and Yoga Philosophy.

### I. Introductory.

- A. Lecture not given in the spirit of discussing and intellectual curiosity, but from standpoint of one who is convinced of soundness of principles involved.
- B. While Yoga Philosophy brings implications re theory of far reaching character, this of secondary importance to its main purpose.
  - 1. Brief reference to these implications to be made at close of lecture.

### II. Contrast of point of view of Occidental Science with Yoga, Phil.

- A. Traditionally W. Science positivistic and rather naïvely Naturalistic.
  - 1. Development in physics and mathematical physics since 1896 has driven leaders of physical thought away from an uncritical assumption of a Naturalistic Metaphysics.
    - a. Significance of of Relativity Theory - Physical relationships not to be taken independent of observer.
      - (1) Implies a recognition of the Epistemological problem as underlying scientific analysis of physical universe.
      - (2) The independent Realism of Newtonian mechanics and dynamics now a thing of the past.
        - (a) While this fact has not yet worked into general public consciousness it is so for the van-guard of physical research.
    - b. Development in physics of the atom and radiant energy has destroyed old mechanical view of matter.
      - (1) Conservation of matter and energy has become conservation of matter-energy.
      - (2) Break-down of matter into energy is spontaneous and not subject to any mechanical control.
        - (a) Said to be a function of time only so far as physical determinations can go.
        - (b) Order of energy released in destruction of matter 10 million times that released by combustion.
- B. All this marks a radical departure from the physical outlook of 19th century.
  - 1. Refer to lecture in Germany in 1894 announcing the finish of all important discoveries in physics, and discovery of X-ray two years later.
- C. While this development going on in physics, psychology retrogressively seeking a mechanistic interpretation of of consciousness in behaviourism.
  - 1. Refer to effort of biologists to reduce life to chemical phenomenon, and the Chemists protest.
- D. General physical theory of 50 years ago in violent contrast to position of Yoga Philosophy.
  - 1. Development since then is a rapid approach toward agreement

### III. Yoga Philosophy not to be regarded as a purely speculative Philosophy.

- A. It is proclaimed as a direct realization through the

awakening to activity of latent apperceptive powers latent in most men.

B. Primarily it does not submit its case to a purely theoretical reason.

1. To the student it says; "Follow this discipline and there will awaken in you the power to know these principles directly in your own right."

(a) To give to the philosophy more than a purely intellectual interest this course is necessary.

2. At the same time the purely metaphysical penetration and critical valuation will not be thrown into shadow when compared with any occidental Philosophy.

(a) Deussen statement that Cankara recognized critical problem more than 1000 yrs, before Kant.

IV. Yoga Philosophy views the Universe as a projection from and in Consciousness.

A. All form is but an enrobing of Consciousness.

B. Consciousness has both logical and causative primacy.

1. Thus all objective forms are considered as living and conscious.

2. They are in the last analysis forms of my consciousness.

3. Soundness of this view.

a. The only world we know is the world in our consciousness.

(1) There is nothing outside our consciousness which can serve as a norm of comparison.

(2) We never really touch the consciousness of another Self as something independent. When we are aware of it it is our consciousness.

(a) It follows that the whole Universe that can have any meaning to me is My Universe.

(b) All that I perceive are but forms of Myself.

V. Practical implications of this point of view.

A. When the above idea becomes a realization then the student has become a Yogi and from that comes the practical power to mold his world from the level of Consciousness.

B. This means attainment of both Freedom and Power.

VI. Illustration of such subjective molding in the phenomena of hypnotism.

A. Hypnotised subjects may be made to experience a world wholly different from that experienced in the so-called normal state.

B. In so-called normal suggestion this same force at work in political, religious fields and every department of social life.

1. Taking such constructed worlds as being what they appear to be is to be caught in an illusion when ordinary experience is taken as a base of reference.

VII. Yoga Philosophy says the general state of human consciousness is analagous to that of the hypnotised subject.

A. It does not deny relative reality to these states but when taken as having an objective independent reality they become a Maya or illusion.

*Synthesis of -  
scientific, phil.  
and religious spirit.*