

## Notes re. Einstein

### Cosmic Religion

1. "Everything that men do or think concerns the satisfaction of the needs they feel or the escape from pain". p 43  
(Note: This co-ordinates with the first of the four noble truths of Buddha which asserts that pain is the distinguishing characteristic of Samsara. Also with statement of Tashi Lama: "All beings desire liberation from misery".)
2. First awakening of religious ideas due to fear. 44
3. Longing for guidance, love and succor provides stimulus for growth of moral conception of God. 46
4. This God is comforter and protector. 46
5. Most religions a mixture of religion of fear and of morality. 47
6. Nearly all the religions of the world come into these two classes. 46
7. These two types have in common an anthropomorphic God. 47
8. Only few individuals and communities rise above these levels to that of Cosmic Religion. 47
9. Cosmic religious sense does not involve anthropomorphic idea of God. 48
10. Individual feels vanity of Human desires and aims. 48
11. Also feels nobility and marvellous order revealed in nature and thought. 48
12. Feels individual destiny as imprisonment. 48  
(Compare with Buddhist doctrine of Anatman)
13. Seeks to experience totality of existence as unity full of significance. 48
14. Religious geniuses distinguished by this cosmic religious sense. 49
15. It recognizes neither dogmas nor God made in man's image. 49
16. Most important function of art and science to keep alive the cosmic religious sense. 50
17. Conflict between religion and science exists with respect to those religions that have a God conceived as interfering with order of Nature. 50
18. Cosmic religion has no conflict with science. 50  
(Note: Buddhists have never felt antagonism to developments of science)
19. Cosmic religious experience strongest and noblest driving force behind scientific research. 52.
20. Terrific exertions and devotions of pioneer scientists tho

turned away from immediate practical life, show presence of cosmic religious feeling. 52

21. Scientist has deep faith in rationality of structure of world. 52

22. Only cosmic religious sense gives investigators power to continue with efforts in face of countless failures and skeptical contemporaries. 53-4

23. Only deeply religious people of this largely materialistic age are earnest men of research. 54

#### Pacifism

1. Pacifists must go beyond words and accomplish something vital for the cause. 57

2. Those realizing immorality of war should disentangle themselves from idea of military duty. 58

3. Two suggestions for practical action:

(a) Take stand in times of peace of refusing to participate in military service. 58-9

(b) Legislation so that war resisters shall take up strenuous and dangerous work for national and international service. 60

4. Later point would prove that their position is not based upon desire for comfort, cowardice or lack of desire to serve. 60

5. No state today would incur appreciable risk by disarming regardless of attitude of other states. 63

6. Evidence is that disarmed or partially armed states are not at disadvantage. 63-4

7. Pacific settlement of conflicts and international co-operation of intellectuals impossible until military service is abolished. 66

8. Of opinion all thinking men should take pledge not to participate in any military activity, directly or indirectly. 66

9. "Peace cannot be kept by force. It can only be achieved by understanding." 67

10. No wrong in patriotism, love of country or race, but this no excuse to assail neighbors or impress point of view by fire and sword. 68

11. "I believe with President Wilson in self-determination for nations and for individuals". 68

In "Living Philosophies"

1. We know not why we come to earth yet sometimes we seem to divine a purpose. 3
2. From the standpoint of dialy life we are here for the ske of other men. 3
3. We do not have freedom at all in philosophical sense. 3.
4. We act from both external compulsion and inner necessity. 3
5. Pondering interminably over meaning of life and reason for ones own existence sheer folly in objective sense. 4
6. He finds joy of living in ideals of goodness, beauty and truth. 4
7. Ethics built only on goal of comfort and happiness sufficient only for herd of cattle. 4
8. Possessions, outward success, publicity, luxury, these have always seemed to him contemptible. 4
9. Passionately interested in social justice and responsibility, yet personally aloof. 4
10. Every one should be respected as individual but not idolized. 5
11. Class destinctions false and rest upon force. 5
12. Degeneracy follows autocratic systems of violence. 5
13. Passionately opposed to such regimes as exist in Russia and Italy today. 5
14. The valuable in life not the nation but the creative and impressionable personality. 5
15. The militia the vilest offspring of the herd mind. 6
16. Man who enjoys marking in line and file falls below my contempt. 6.
17. "He received his great brain by mistake - the spinal cord would have been amply sufficient". 6
18. The mysterious the most beautiful thing we can experience. 6
19. The mysterious the source of all true art and science. 6
20. "To know that what is impenetrable to us really exists, manifesting itself as the highest wisdom and the most radiant beauty ----this knowledge, this feeling, is at the center of true religiousness" 6
21. "It is enough for me to contemplate the mystery of conscious life perpetuating itself through all eternity, to reflect upon the marvelous structure of the universe which we can dimly perceive, and to try humbly to comprehend even an infinitesimal part of the intelligence manifested in ~~ant~~ nature". 7

