

## THE POPULATION EXPLOSION

Lakshmi Devi (Gertrude A. Wolff)  
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Q.: How do you account for the present population explosion?

A.: Here are two answers, one covering a vast scale and the other more immediate. The latter first:

It is a matter of record that after every war there is a substantial increase in births. Exoterically it is so because many, fearing enlistment, separation from a loved one and possible death on the battlefield wish to establish their immortality beforehand through heirs; or in some cases many who do not wish to fight or be drafted may hope for a reclassification through marriage and fatherhood. Also, there is a general moral laxity in time of war. Then there are other reasons, mainly of a psychological nature, associated directly with the war.

Esoterically, many who have sacrificed their lives in battle for their country, and who have lived but a portion of their allotted four-score and ten, have won the right to almost immediate reincarnation, retaining the same astral body. Some are able to remember something of their previous incarnation, through having returned with their old astral.

On a far vaster scale, our population explosion may represent an influx into the earth evolution of lesser evolved entities seeking a final try. This represents perhaps their last chance. Afterwards, it will be too late for those younger souls, or those who have so far failed, to keep up with the evolution. Those failures this time may have to wait for the next Manvantara or find similar, suitable conditions on another planet. Civilization is already 145,000 years behind where it is supposed to be, and we have seen in our lifetimes such an acceleration that it behooves most of us to keep up with it. It is conceivable that the majority will fail.

Q.: If all entities of our evolution would be in incarnation at the same time, how many would there be?

A.: Estimating the average Devachanic period to be about 1500 years and physical incarnation to be less than one-tenth that, or about one-tenth of the total, and the number now in incarnation being between two and three billion, then there may be about 28 or 30 billion.

Q.: Could the earth support that many people at one time?

A.: With advance in technology continuing as it has been going, it is conceivable, but we might be very crowded. However, most of the earth's arable surface today is not even in cultivation. It is very improbable that all human monads would be in incarnation on this earth at the same time.

Q.: What about social and political conditions in an overpopulated world? Could there be as much freedom as in a sparsely settled society?

A.: Probably not. The smaller a group the more informal it usually can be; the larger it grows the more unwieldy it becomes and the more it must be regimented. The Chinese demonstrated this. In order to get along in such dense population, life became quite stylized.

Q.: If there are so many young souls now in incarnation, wouldn't they tend to pull down our civilization?

A.: Definitely and this may be one of the reasons for our present moral breakdown.

Q.: Can't those older, more advanced souls help their younger brothers and reestablish law and order?

A.: To a limited extent. The more advanced the entity, the more he will work to aid all humanity, for in the last analysis all are one, and in helping others he helps himself; but he must be able to help himself before he can help others. But these most advanced beings are far outnumbered, and unless they have a purity beyond danger of contamination, they, or at least those moderately advanced, may be pulled down farther than those young or evil can be raised.

Q.: Is there a genuine threat to our civilization?

A.: Yes. Conditions may become such that it will be impossible for the higher entities to function on this earth, and they will just stay out of incarnation until another age.

Q.: Can they do that?

A.: The more advanced entities can. The younger souls may not have any choice.

Q.: If civilization were to be wiped out on this earth, what difference would it make if young or advanced souls returned? Wouldn't it all be a cave-man existence again? Would an old soul be apt to retain any knowledge from previous lives?

A.: An advanced soul would be pretty hampered in primitive conditions, but having siphoned off the wisdom garnered from the experiences of so many past lives he would learn more quickly than a younger soul and would bring through his own intuition. He would probably have a much greater imagination and deeper understanding generally, and would obtain a better grasp of things. His progress may be held back, however, by any younger souls with whom he must associate. Progress of the younger soul, not having so much within himself to draw upon, would be much slower.

Q.: Who are the "old souls" and who are the "new"? How can you tell?

A.: Presumably the door to the human kingdom was closed during the Atlantean Age, and those last in would be the new or young souls. Old souls are among the earliest humanity on this earth. As for telling them apart, for the average person it may be very difficult. Though the extremes may be seen more readily. In addition to qualities mentioned above, an old soul should

presumably not make the same mistakes over and over; he would have a higher moral sense generally, and could gain a better grasp of the abstract. These would be most apt to incarnate in the highest civilizations which the world has to offer, and may be born in better circumstances generally, although this depends on the individual's karma and soul-needs. It does not necessarily follow that all individuals in a high civilization are advanced. Some are quite young, also some are quite evil.

The youngest souls would be found mainly among the most primitive tribes, as the Australian and African Bushmen. And, incidentally, what the well-meaning missionaries bring to them may be largely lost on them, for they are not capable of grasping the concepts of Christianity. They only distort it beyond recognition.

Q.: But do not these belong to the Fourth Root Race, which is older than the white race, the Fifth Root Race? Shouldn't the older race be the "Old souls"?

A.: The Fourth Root Race, though older, has degenerated as a race. They furnish the bodies for those more recent arrivals into human incarnation. The more evolved entities tend to abandon these old races.