

The Trail of Human Lives. (Milwaukee Feb. 3, 1929)

- Des Moines, 4/25/29*
- I. A correct understanding of life cycles is essential to an understanding of the significance of liberation.
  - II. Christian theology has trained us in the idea of the world and man being the creation of the arbitrary will of God.
    - A. This concept implies an essentially irrational universe.
    - B. Implies the negation of moral order in Universe.
      1. Makes man the pupit of arbitrary will.
  - III. Science in revolt from this idea introduced in place of extra-cosmic God the idea of Law in the mechanistic sense.
    - A. While a step in advance in taking man out of superstition, yet fails in that it leaves him in the hopeless position of materialism.
    - B. The science of this century is rapidly departing from the mechanistic view and thus coming closer to the Wisdom Religion.
  - IV. Yoga Philosophy agrees with science in maintaining that the whole manifested Universe is the expression of invariable law.
    - A. But this Law is not mechanistic but the operation of intelligence within a matrix of intelligent Being.
    - B. Pragmatic presumption in favor of this concept of Law is found in practical control science has achieved over Nature.
    - C. Philosophical ground is the deep-seated demand in human consciousness for orderly interpretation of Nature.
    - D. The idea that Cosmic Law is intelligent satisfies the basic moral demands of man, which the mechanistic concept does not.
  - V. Essentially the Law is the principle of Balance which maintains the Universe in equilibrium.
    - A. It implies the principle of the conservation of matter-energy of physics, only taken in a far more generalized form.
    - B. In terms of time it implies periodic action.
      1. For only by periodicity can the resultant of all action be a mutual cancelation, which is necessary for a universe maintained in balance.
    - C. It also implies that all manifested Being is always in a state of Becoming.
      1. Physical science is progressively verifying this in the progressive elimination of objective invariants.
        - a. Time, space, atom, etc.
    - D. Observed principle of mutation of form in matter.
      1. Transmutation of elements, and suggestion of men like MacMillan that the reverse process takes place somewhere.
      2. Evidence of the actual destruction of matter and its transformation into energy, probably followed by the reverse process.
      3. Geological transformation from igneous to stratified form et visa versa.
      4. Cycle from earth to plant material back to earth again, etc.
      5. Cycle from plant to animal to earth to plant, etc.
  - VI. Yoga Philosophy asserts the universal application of the foregoing principle on all planes of differentiation.
    - A. Thus when a man dies the energies of his mind and desires are not destroyed but continue in another state.
    - B. When child is born its endowment of capacities, desires and

inclinations cannot be ex nihilo.

- C. Thru reincarnation and karma the apparent loss and and de novo acquisition are reconciled.
- D. Principle of periodicity implies man's return to the same plane on which he set up causes

VII. Re-incarnation is accepted as a matter of course by most peoples of the earth.

A. Evidences of the belief as being current among Jews of Jesus time and early Christians.

1. Levites asked John: "Art thou Elias?" and "Art thou that prophet?", etc. (John 1:27)

2. "They who shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world --- neither marry --- neither can they die any more".

Luke 20: 35-36

3. "Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the Temple of my God, and he shall go no more out". (Rev. 3:12)

B. Taught in Church until council of Constantinople, 500 A.D.

C. Evidences from testimony of children and others.

VIII. Analysis of objection that most do not remember, and consideration of reminiscence.

A. We do not remember at all moments all our knowledge, though we can draw material out of pool of memory at will.

1. It is possible with sufficient effort to regain memory of passed lives.

B. Evidence from Reminiscences.

1. We are drawn to various things, trees, streams, persons, etc.

a. This is due to past association.

IX. Discussion of what it is that reincarnates.

A. It is not the personallity.

B. It is not the Divine Self or Monad.

C. It is the Higher Mind or Higher Ego.

X. Purpose of reincarnation.

A. To gain experience.

B. So that Self-knowledge may be achieved.

XI. Purpose of Yoga training to break out of re-incarnational cul-de-sacs.

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- I. Primary tenet of Wisdom Religion that the Universe is governed by inviolable Law.
  - A. Pragmatic presumption in favor of this is the success in practical control over nature science has achieved.
  - B. Philosophical ground is the deep-seated demand in human consciousness for orderly interpretation of Nature.
- II. Closely related and implied is principle that Justice directs moral government of Universe.
  - A. Evidence for this in deep-seated love of Justice in heart of man
  - B. From notion of Law and Reason the idea of Universal Justice follows logically.
- III. Observed principle of the mutation of form in matter.
  - A. Geological transformation from igneous to stratified and again to igneous form ceaselessly.
  - B. Cycle from earth to plant material back to earth again etc.
  - C. Cycle from plant to animal, to earth, to plant, etc.
- IV. Hermetic axiom a fundamental logical principle of Wisdom Religion.
  - A. Echoed in principle of Uniformity of Nature of Science
  - B. It follows that what is found true of one aspect of nature will be reproduced in principle throughout nature.
- V. Foregoing considerations applied to man.
  - A. Differences in endowment or character of different individuals due to causes that must be just.
  - B. Hence idea that man must have lived before to produce effects he now reaps.
  - C. The principle of periodicity, previously illustrated, implies man's return to the same plane.
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  - A. Evidences of the belief as being current among Jews of Jesus' time and early Christians.
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    3. "Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the Temple of my God, and he shall go no more out". Rev. 3:12.
  - B. Taught in Church until council of Constantinople, 500 A.D.
  - C. Evidences from testimony of children and others.
- VII. Discussion of what it is that reincarnates.
  - A. It is not the personality.
  - B. It is not the Divine Self or Monad.
  - C. It is the Higher Mind or Higher Ego.
- VIII. Purpose of reincarnation.
  - A. To gain all experience.
  - B. So that Self-Knowledge may be achieved.
- IX. Purpose of Yoga training to break out of reincarnational cul-de-sacs.