



RESTORING VALUES

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Restoring India to her Glory –
PART 3 (Concluding Section)
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Letter written to Hon. Prime
Minister Narendra Modi
by Swami Bhoomananda Tirtha

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Restoring India to her Glory – Part 3

Whole creation rests on inner Consciousness

So in our interactional life, the whole world is but an 'object'. I am the sole 'subject' of all the objects around. 'I' alone makes the world an 'object'. It is the 'I' that objectifies the world and all that we perceive and interact with. The world is but the 'subject's object perception. Perceiving as a process and perception, the resultant, are proceeding from

'I' and resting upon 'I', the Consciousness. Consciousness is the sole subject of all, and all the rest are but objects alone.

Any object can be there only when the subject is first present. But this is not the case with the subject. It can be and is there always, independently. This is what happens in sleep. You sleep alone. You do not sense your body, your mind, or intelligence, not to speak of the world around you.

Everything is effaced, obliterated. Still you survive supremely and wake up and say 'I slept comfortably'. So the 'I' can exist without any object. But no object can be there except in front of the subject, without being referred to by it. So the subject is independent.

Avasthaatraya - Philosophy of Experientialism

On this basis, the direct personal experience and perception, we evolved a philosophy called *avastraya philosophy*. A philosophy based on wakefulness, sleep and dream, the three basic states of the mind, of consciousness. In dream, the consciousness suddenly produces a parallel world, which reveals indisputably the creative potential of consciousness. So I carry the consciousness, nay I am the Consciousness, from which alone has the whole world come. You need not search the world at all because it is an effect or outcome produced by your wakefulness. Being the source, the source of wakefulness is undoubtedly the source of the universe too!

This is wonderful knowledge and this alone will be of sufficient help to live, move and interact untringly, effectively and with fulfilment.

Hidden potential of our Culture

India's achievement, excellence, magnificence is its Cultural Treasure. With this treasure, we cannot be impoverished or enslaved. Without this, anything stupendous will still be hollow and self-defeating. This is the splendour MacCaulay spoke about in 1835.

Mind the greatest Treasure

Let us not be frightened by anything, not disappointed by anything, not disconcerted by anything. We have something sovereign, supreme and unsurpassable with us. Any calamity, distress, misfortune or adversity will only be like mist before this inner cultural splendour.

Do not think that wealth, economic and industrial advancement is great. No, a thousand times. Ultimately all external bounties and glories are only to bring contentment to your mind. Mind can feel extremely unhappy and unsettled with many acquisitions. But the same mind can feel immensely happy, with nothing around.

So far as our achievements are concerned, we have excelled in music, dance, drama and the like. In every subject, we have composed shastra. The word science entered into the English language or dictionary much later. We had the word right from Vedic times. What does it mean?

Rational systematic study makes shastras

When you think about a subject discreetly, with sharpness and insight, and present it systematically with precision and artfulness, evaluating its merits and demerits, virtue and vice, good and bad, it becomes a shastra.

Now we have external and internal excellences alike.

Excellence

What about the Bengal muslin sari which will pass beautifully through a ring? Did we not manufacture it with our fingers? In Aranmula in Kerala,

there is a special metal mirror, made out of an alloy, not disclosed to the public even now. It will reflect your face like a mirror will.

We have the age-old Temple architecture. Some of the temples in the south cannot be constructed even with our five year plan outlay. There are cantilevers made of granite, 10 to 15 feet long. How do they rest and how do they take huge weight?

It is our cultural refinement to commemoration and glorification for Nature and its President God. No memorial for a human has been made by our ancients.

India's incomparable Poetic Excellence

The next point I want to emphasize is our poetic excellence. All the branches of knowledge we dealt with and gained, we were able to render in beautiful memorizable poetry. Our dictionary itself, **amarakosha**, is in poetry. History, Mathematics, Medicinal Science, Astronomy, Astrology, Grammar, Economics, Science of metres, Philosophy, Yoga, everything is in facile poetry.

Decades back when I was lecturing in Kolkata in the Shankara Institute of Philosophy, a scientist from Baranagar Institute of Statistics, told me that a conference held in California, United States, deliberated and found that science and poetry could not join, or be combined. **Poetry is the flow of heart, emotion, while science is an expression of intelligence and knowledge.** Both can run parallel, but not mingle. However, it is true that all branches of knowledge in India have been rendered in

beautiful poetry. Our dictionary was memorized by pundits, as it was not available in book form for students. Printing was not in vogue.

Place and distinction of Sanskrit

Sanskrit is a very inspiring, empowering and enlightening language. It has been able to survive for many millennia from the Vedic age. It is a very resourceful language, with its own facility, majesty, superb charm and splendour. All India Radio and Doordarshan telecasts have a Sanskrit bulletin. It is a National language, which still unifies and strengthens us, imbuing its votaries with its sublime, unparalleled cultural and knowledge refinement.

Temple worship a great science

Our temples and the different forms of worship associated with them are greatly reformation and refinement processes, revolving around the concept of God, the unchanging presence in the world. When you expose the children to these facts and philosophies, you will find they will grow an unbreakable national and allegiance, which will, if not arrest at least mitigate, the brain drain to a great extent. The cultural exposure will deliver insurmountable strength and confidence.

Be not servile but loyal and proud

So my message to the Government and all others concerned with the Administration of the country is: Let us not be servile to the West. We had our own glory. It was all robbed, we got subdued. None of us is responsible for it all. History takes its own course. This is a huge,

heterogeneous country. Many an event came to pass in the course of time.

We have been robbed for long. But the pity is that even now our wealth is being robbed. The Supreme Court itself has questioned as to what has the Government done in the past 65 years to locate and bring back the black money. Before independence, it was the wantonness of our foreign rulers. But now it is the concerted affront of our own people. Understand, my dear souls, our undue attraction for illegal money is the traitor. Love for the Nation and adherence to our National values can alone set matters right.

Restoring our glory fully in our hands

What can we do to restore our Culture and cultural glory? We can do what Sri Rama did, what Sri Krishna and others did in their times. The world is more educated and we too can claim a good degree of the merit, in a way. Understand Rama and Krishna are our own ancestors. We carry in us the same blood and inner spiritual mettle they carried. This gives us indomitable strength, inspiration, confidence and compulsion,

Propagate Sanskrit, give it the National pedestal it deserves. Imbibe the culture and values it is adumbrated in the vast epic and other eternal literature of the land. In NASA, they have adapted Sanskrit for its modern worth and facility. There are

schools In United States and Great Britain, where Sanskrit education is compulsory. Be reminded of this new recognition. Let us not devalue or get distanced from our own age old treasure, and led before long to beg for it from the west shamelessly. Do you want westerners to teach us Sanskrit?

In the schools and colleges, India's glory, power, majesty and magnificence should be highlighted. All of you should participate in this cultural reconstruction, reinstatement mission. Politics should be kept away from the field of education and enlightenment.

Cash nexus has invaded the sphere of education. This plight should be set right the soonest. Education without National culture and value refinement is adverse and counter-productive.

Our culture and values not Hinduistic or religious

Never call our culture and values Hinduistic. The value treasure is of Bharat and it belongs to Bharat. It is authored by Indians. If Christians, who lived here, have written something good and great, we certainly cherish it equally. We adore the treasure, incorporating its message in us. Anybody writing anything noble, valuable, deserves acceptance. It makes no difference whether the author or thinker is a Hindu or non-Hindu.

Our view, as already explained, is that all belonging to this land are Hindustanis.

From Himalayas to Indusaravara, it is Hindustana. Religion may rise, come and go. But culture and ethnical origin cannot.

Ethnic and Cultural Identity transcends others

What is the difference still brewing between Ireland, Scotland and Great Britain? What is the plight between Bangladesh and Pakistan? They feel their cultural identity transcends their present religion and religious identities.

So the cultural and ethnic identity is deeper and stronger than religious identifications. This deeper National identity is the same for everybody. I think our Judiciary also should start thinking about our eternal culture and values, in which alone rests the unity and National bond of our people. What is this culture? Let us discuss and understand it in a widespread manner, with keenness and zeal.

...to be contd.

17 August 2014

Dear and blessed Sri Narendra Damodardas Modi:

Harih Om Tat Sat. Over fifty eight years of my ascetic life (I am 81) I have been engrossed in disseminating, in India and abroad, our spirituo-cultural heritage. Also I have led some important religio-social reformation movements in Kerala. We, along with some eminent citizens, founded the Foundation for Restoration of National Values (FRNV) in 2008, to work towards restoring our Eternal Values with the aim of establishing a value-based Nation.

For quite some time, my mind has been occupied with thoughts and concerns about you and your government, especially with the hope of seeing the dawn of the long-awaited '**cultural independence**' of this great land.

In the cultural history of India, this is a remarkable **turning point**. The ardent lovers of the Motherland have been helplessly watching the demeaning ways our National heritage is being treated. Such people, I thought, would rally around your promising entry into the National arena. They have apparently done so. I think millions in India have been looking expectantly towards you.

I remember how I was there from Kerala in the Taala Kholo movement from Ayodhya to Lucknow, and addressed the massive gathering of people at the Begum Hazrat Ali Park. I remember having thundered that "this Bhakti-Ganga that has begun to flow from Ayodhya will flood the capital and the Parliament." Providentially, the words have come true once again, with redoubled force!

May you have all the health, agility and humility to embrace all concerned for winning consensus in crucial moves the country needs and its faithful citizens cherish. Already we are seeing signs of India confidently taking up a **principled stand** in the international stage. Hope we will be able to keep to this lofty, all-embracing, bold mindset of ancient Bharatavarsha in the days to come.

I have some specific thoughts for the country and the Government:

1. The Centre should take up the task of **imparting the eternal values and culture** of our land. Our success lies in making all know that our eternal values are ‘universal and do not brook any parochial or religious character’. They are cultural, ethical, and spiritual, resting solely upon the inner personality, independent of racial, religious and linguistic differences.
2. It is the cultural poverty that led the framers of our Constitution to avoid even **mentioning the grandeur of our millennia-old heritage in the Preamble**. Later, addition of the word “**secular**” caused further confusion and damage to our national character. These grave lapses must be boldly addressed and rectified. It is true to say that the framers of the Constitution did not think of any ‘secular’ character at all. Sovereign, democratic republic, was and is still amply sufficient. Democracy itself ensures all citizens born in this land are equal for the Government.
3. **Religious minority** is obviously a misnomer **under a secular framework**. If on social/educational/economic ground, any one or group needs special attention and favour, it can always be extended on that basis alone.
4. It is undemocratic and inhuman to subject a section of our women to primitive personal laws, especially regarding polygamy and divorce. Parliament alone is the ruler here. “Secular India” is not under religious administration!
5. Any sound administration will have to take bold decisions sometimes, which can prove bitter but substantial and beneficial, as Bhagavadgeeta pronounces (18.37). The people are looking for such a National and Strong Government. Any opposition is bound to subside before the discernment of the rulers as well as the ruled, especially when the Constitution explicitly advocates such amendments.

6. Whether farming products or industrial goods, supplies or services – all come from earth's contents and resources alone. Even the large industrial houses have all their products bought by the people, among whom the poor are incredibly larger in number. Whether it is share value, goods or services value, the money comes from the people alone!

Thus the rich must heartily cooperate with the well-intentioned taxation measures so that all sections of the people are benefited. On the other hand, considering that the Corporate tax is of significant proportion in the National budget, the business institutions should have enough participation in the governance. At the same time, to generate money and enhance tax revenue, by which alone the poor can be helped, a **climate favourable for investment** should be ensured. No thinking person or party can voice against this well-thought out policy or measure. Money can be generated only when the rich invest their money, and the Corporate intelligence discreetly transforms the investment into useful goods and services, to be availed of by the public.

7. As is instituting value education important and imperative, so is the **revival and strengthening of Sanskrit**, our Nation's greatest and most wonderful contribution, the backbone of India's heritage and intellectual excellence. I have some definite thinking and plan in this. May be sometimes, I may share it with your august self, to enlist the Nation's participation and support.

With all love, regards and benedictions,

In the Service of the Nation,

Antaraatma,

Swami Bhoomananda Tirtha

Delhi Assembly Elections 2015

Now that the schedule for Elections to Delhi Assembly has been announced, it is perhaps time for us to dwell on what we have to do as responsible citizens of Delhi. As usual, political parties have been promising us that everything desirable will be done once they are elected. What we have to do is to not accept any promise at face value; we have to find out whether the candidates have a record of public service and are not tainted by scandals/corruption etc. Let us not be swayed by rhetoric, or by appeal to religion, caste and other considerations.

Let us not sit at home, thinking of what difference it will make if we do not vote. The usual irresponsible talk is all politicians are corrupt anyway, and what difference will my vote make? In democracy, where we subscribe to the First Past the Post System, every vote will count. So let us leave our scepticism aside and behave as responsible citizens on voting day; let us vote for the candidate/party whom we think, in our opinion, will work for our good and the good of the state/country. Let us be proud of our democracy and our participation in making this democracy work in practice. Let us show the world our inked finger, the proof of our having voted in the Delhi Assembly Elections 2015!