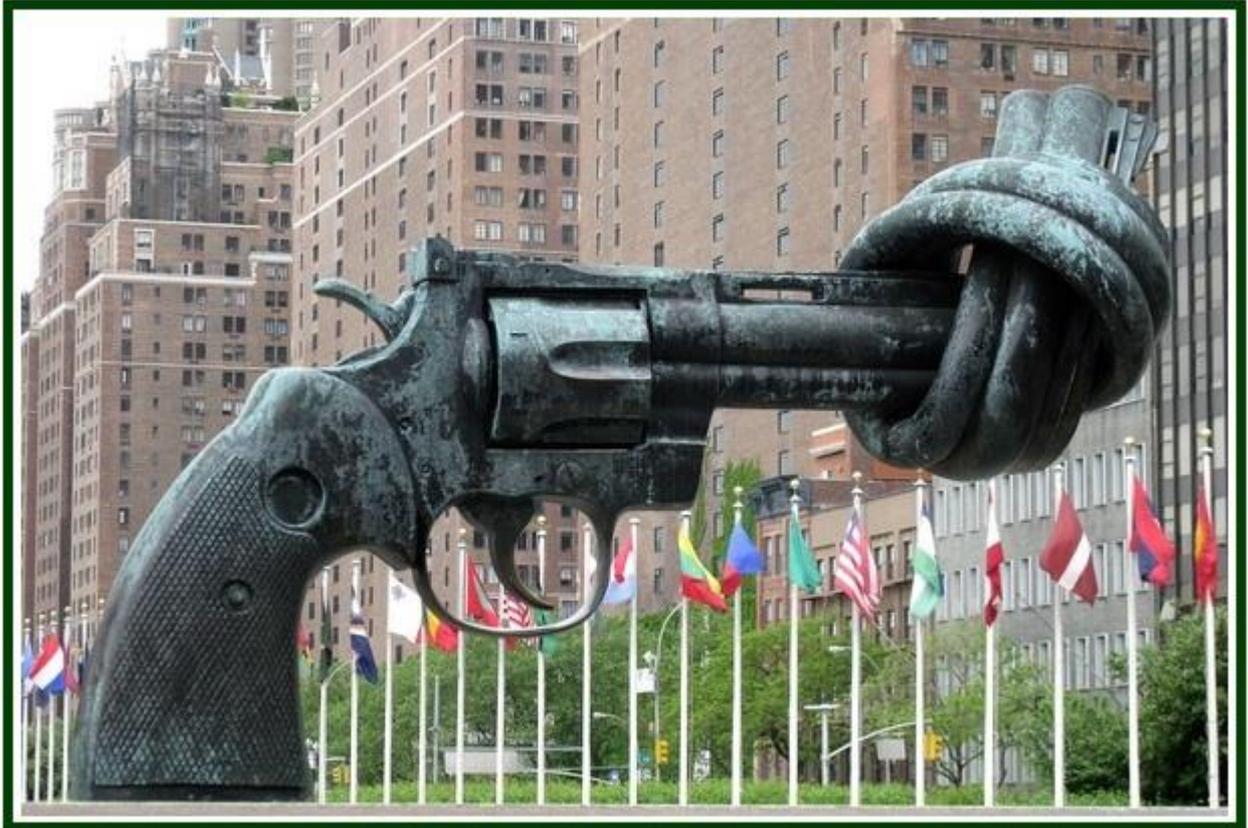


A Prayer for Our Planetary Community

Evoking Common Sense And the Universal Law



The Knotted Gun, is a bronze sculpture at the UN Headquarters in New York

Om.

May the universal Law of Peace enlighten the souls of the heads of state in all nations, especially those now possessing nuclear weapons.

May a deep mutual respect inspire the leaders of the countries which, from a short-term viewpoint and in a military perspective, seem to be the most powerful on Earth.

The higher powers on this planet are not military.

May the Western countries have due respect for Life. Nothing prevents them from acting according to the elevated ethical precepts present in their best religious and philosophical traditions.

By avoiding hypocrisy, Western governments will help build a true planetary community, based on Mutual Assured Goodwill, and Honesty.

I hope in due time nuclear weapons become museum pieces; useful reminders of an unhappy time when ignorance and misinformation *seemed* to reign among us.

Om, shanti. Om. Namaskar.

[See the prayer
on the websites of the ILT](#)

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Making Our Countries Great Again In Fact, Theosophy, Peace, and Nationalism Must Work Together



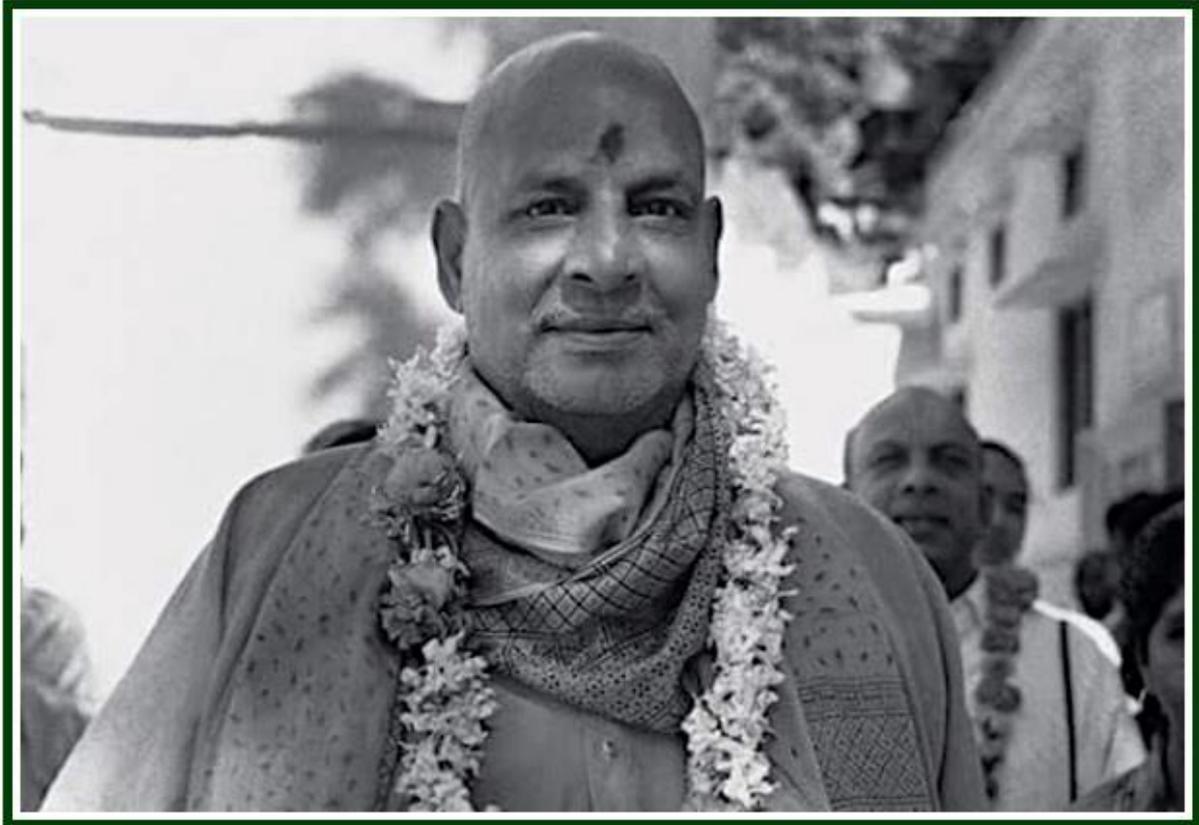
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Making Our Countries Great Again](#)

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Inner Yogic Discipline

The Path to Everlasting Peace, Infinite Bliss and Supreme Joy

Swami Sivananda



Yoga is the discipline of the mind, senses and the physical body. Yoga helps in the coordination and control of the subtle forces within the body. Yoga brings in Perfection, Peace and everlasting Happiness. Yoga can help you in your business and in your daily life. You can have calmness of mind at all times by the practice of Yoga. You can have restful sleep. You can have increased energy, vigour, vitality, longevity and a high standard space of health. You can turn out efficient work within a short time. You can have success in every walk of life. Yoga will infuse in you new strength, confidence and self-reliance. Through Yoga you can have complete mastery over the mind, passions, emotions, impulses, temper, tongue, and so forth. The body and mind will be ever at your beck and call.

God-consciousness or communion with the Lord is the acme of the ethico-religious discipline of Yoga. This is attended by a remarkable sense of freedom and moral elevation on account of the crumbling down of the false, illusory, little "I". The Yogi is in possession of all Divine Powers now. He enjoys unalloyed eternal Bliss.

Power of endurance is a virtue to be possessed by a Yogi, a Jnani and a Bhakta. Many hardships and privations have to be faced by the aspirant in the successful performance of Yoga. Titiksha develops will-power. That is the reason why Lord Krishna says to Arjuna: “The contacts of matter, O son of Kunti! giving cold and heat, pleasure and pain, they come and go, impermanent, endure them bravely, O Bharata! The man whom these torment not, O chief of men, balanced in pain and pleasure, steadfast, he is fit for immortality.”- Bhagavad-Gita: Ch. II-14, 15.

Moral excellence or ethical perfection is not, however, the final goal of the Yogi. It is only a means to the attainment of the end of life. Ethical development is more difficult than the attainment of intellectual eminence, because the truth can only be grasped by the Yogi who possesses a pure or untainted heart.

The essentials of moral life are straightforwardness, honesty, mercy, humility, respect for life or tender regard for every creature that breathes, absolute unselfishness, truthfulness, celibacy, non-covetousness, absence of vanity and hypocrisy, and cosmic love.

The student of Yoga should be abstemious in his diet. He should avoid laziness, ease, habitual languor and excess of sleep. He should observe silence and occasional mild fasts to ensure a good tone to his constitution. He should develop correct habits. He should check all sorts of ambitions and counter-currents of worldly desires by enquiry, thinking and discrimination. He should say unto the deceiving mind:

“O mind! I know your tricks. I have got dispassion and discrimination now. Do not wag your tail now. I will snip it off ruthlessly. I have learnt many lessons. It is only ignorance that makes man prefer a transient gain to permanent benefits. I do not want again these sensual enjoyments. They are like vomited matter for me. I have resolved to attain the free, everlasting fruits of Yoga viz., EVERLASTING PEACE, INFINITE BLISS AND SUPREME JOY.”

Yoga advocates complete detachment from secular interests for the sake of practising uninterrupted meditation. It recommends meditation on the inner Light of the heart or anything that is pleasing to you. It prescribes that one should withdraw oneself from the ordinary affairs of life for the purpose of practising constant meditation. Yoga can also be practised at home by having well-regulated life.

A Yogi claims that he can attain extraordinary powers and knowledge by subduing the passions and appetites and by practising Yama, Niyama and Samyama (or the practice of concentration, meditation and Samadhi at one and the same time). Patanjali Maharshi, the author of ‘Yoga-Sutras’, clearly warns the students that they should not be carried away by the temptations of powers. The gods themselves tempt the unwary Yogi by offering him a position similar to theirs. Students seek more after Siddhis than after Truth and spiritual attainment despite the clear note of warning.

Desire for power acts like puffs of air which may blow out the lamp of Yoga that is being carefully tended. Any slackness in feeding it due to carelessness or selfishness for Siddhis will blow out the little spiritual light that the Yogi has kindled after so much struggle and will hurl him down into the deep abyss of ignorance. He cannot rise up again to the original height to which he had ascended in the Hill of Yoga. Temptations are simply waiting like vultures to

overwhelm the unwary student. Temptations of the astral, mental and Gandharva worlds are more powerful than the earthly temptations.

Success in Yoga is possible only if the aspirant practises profound and constant meditation. He must practise self-restraint at all times, because all of a sudden the senses may become turbulent. That is the reason why Lord Krishna advises Arjuna: “O son of Kunti! The excited senses of even a wise man, though he be striving impetuously, carry away his mind. For the mind, which follows in the wake of the wandering senses, carries away his discrimination, as the wind (carries away) a boat on the waters.” - Bhagavad-Gita: Ch. II-60, 67.

Very often various sorts of obstacles come in the way of the Yogi. Disappointment, despair, sickness, depression, doubt, indecision, lack of physical and mental energy, slothfulness, unsteadiness, craving for sensual objects, blunder, act as stumbling blocks. He should not be discouraged. Patanjali Maharshi prescribes *Eka-Tattva-Abhyasa*, i.e., practice of concentration on one subject to overcome them. This will give him steadiness and strength. He further advocates the practice of friendship between equals, mercy towards inferiors, complacency towards superiors and indifference towards wicked people. This practice will generate peace of mind or composure and will destroy hatred, jealousy, etc. A new life will dawn in him when he practises these virtues. What is needed is perseverance. It is the key-note of Yoga. The Yogi is amply rewarded, when he gets full control over the mind. He enjoys the highest bliss of Asamprajnata Samadhi.

-- To be continued.

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Reproduced from pages 383-386 of the book “**Sadhana**”, by Swami Sivananda: The Divine Life Society, India, eleventh edition, 2019, 702 pages. The Independent Lodge of Theosophists recommends the study of the work.

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Good Sense in Approaching Raja Yoga **The Science of Self-Knowledge and Self-Control**

The fact is well-known that special techniques of Raja Yoga quickly develop some of the potentialities present in human consciousness.

Such a course of study, however, cannot be pursued in the magnetic atmosphere of a materialistic civilization. From a practical perspective, it is both harmful and unnecessary in present-day nations. It will only lead naïve students to self-deception and defeat. The fact does not mean that all of this Yoga should be avoided.

[Click and see the full text](#)

[Good Sense in Approaching Raja Yoga](#)

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From the Land of the Tsars **Russian Thinkers, on Willpower**

Olga Attovna Fedorova



Olga lives in her dacha near Moscow

Willpower allows a person to be himself, make independent decisions and overcome obstacles in life. The stronger the willpower, the faster the obstacles are overcome.

The effect of willpower is similar to the alchemical process of turning a base metal into gold. You can also compare willpower with controlling the flight of an arrow, realizing the indisputable fact that an arrow is destined to break off the bowstring anyway, but willpower allows it to do so only when the target is chosen correctly.

This is a selection of maxims from Russian authors on how a good-willing person can better develop a strong will.

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*** Honest and selfless activity is the only condition for human dignity, and willpower is the sole condition for our success in our chosen field.**

(Vissarion Belinsky, *Collected Writings*, 1953-1959)

*** I had enough willpower to accomplish my task, and I could be ferocious in the struggle to accomplish it.**

(Berdyayev N. A., *Self-knowledge*, 1949)

*** In public life, everything lies in strength, in the energy of the spirit, in the character of people and societies, in their will, in their creative thought, and not in abstract principles, formulas and words that are worthless.**

(Berdyayev N. A., *The Fate of Russia*, 1917)

*** The future of a great nation depends on itself, on its will and energy, on its creative power and on the enlightenment of its historical consciousness.**

(Berdyayev N. A., *The Fate of Russia*, 1917)

*** Apart from any philosophical theory, any gnosiology, I have always been aware that I know not with my intellect alone, not with a mind subject to its own law, but with a combination of spiritual forces, as well as with my will to the triumph of meaning, with my intense emotionality.**

(Berdyayev N. A., *Self-knowledge*, 1949)

*** Freedom from the “world” is a connection with the real world, the cosmos. Getting out of yourself is finding yourself, your nucleus. And we can and should feel like real people, with a nucleus of personality, with a substantial, not a ghostly religious will.... A mature and free will directs its act of willing, its action towards cosmic, divine life, towards the rich content of life, and not towards emptiness. Mature and free will is the creative will that goes out of itself into cosmic life....**

(Berdyayev N.A., *The Meaning of Creativity*, 1916)

*** What is a will but a thought that turns into a deed?**

(Alexander Bestuzhev-Marlinsky, *On Romanticism*, 1826)

*** You need to have perseverance and willpower to succeed.**

(Chekhov A. P., *In the Spring* - “Monologue of the Cat” -, 1887)

*** The moral character and moral value of a person’s personality depends above all on its direction and willpower.**

(Metropolitan Filaret - Voznesensky -, *The Christian Catechism*, Ch. 13, 1936)

*** A man of great willpower, who one year earlier was not recognized by anyone, with a complete lack of upbringing and education, accomplished the almost impossible.**

(Gilyarovskiy V. A., *Moscow Gazetnaya*, 1935)

*** With his inner strength, he repels external hostile fluids, but his fire burns inextinguishably and he does not deviate he does not change the harmony of mind, heart and will; he makes his journey flawlessly and still stands at the height of mental and moral development, at which, perhaps, nature and fate have placed him ...**

(Goncharov I. A., *The Precipice*, 1869)

*** The Russian people are fulfilling their great national and human task, and all forces of this great people are working together, from the tsar to the ploughman and the soldier. When everything is quiet and calm, everyone, like ants, lives and works as if there were no union; they think and feel privately and for themselves; they speak, perhaps, different languages; but as soon as a cloud appears on the horizon, a war breaks out or a contagious disease or famine overtake Russia - see how all moral and material forces unite, everything merges into one feeling, one thought, one purpose - and suddenly everyone, as if under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, instantly understands each other and speak the same language, with the same power!**

(Ivan Goncharov, *Literary Evening Party*, 1877)

*** Don't lose your courage. Willpower is more effective than any medicine.**

(Maxim Gorky, *The Life of Klim Samgin*, 1936)

***... And so I return to where people free the souls of their neighbours from the captivity of darkness and superstition, gather the people together, illuminate their secret face before them, help them realize their willpower, show people a single and true path to universal unification for the sake of a great cause ...**

(Maxim Gorky, *Confession*, 1908)

*** If the gap between will and reason is a grave drama in the life of an individual, then this gap is a tragedy in the life of a nation.**

(Maxim Gorky, *The Watchman*, 1921)

*** Nothing is done by itself, without effort of will, without sacrifice and labour. The will of man, the will of one firm man, is tremendously great.**

(Alexander Herzen, *Herzen's Lithographed Address*, 1853)

*** A person's will can do a lot, its power is tremendous, there is almost no limit to it when it is pure, selflessly devoted to the cause, and feels like having the ocean currents inside itself.**

(Alexander Herzen, *Great Western*, 1863)

*** The wise man does not submit to the reckless will of the crowd, but gives it a direction himself.**

(Ivan Lazhechnikov, *The Last Novik*, Vol. 1, 1831)

*** Rules for developing a sense of will: Live always with less comfort than you could live. Don't change your lifestyle, even if you become ten times richer. Use every increment to your estate not for yourself, but for society.**

(Leo Tolstoy, *Diaries*, 1847)

*** Our will, like our muscles, grows stronger from a constantly increasing activity; without giving them exercise, you would certainly have weak muscles and a weak will.**

(Konstantin Ushinsky, *On the Education of Children and Youth*)

*** The firmness of the heart consists in accepting every event as something natural, as the best for us. Not everyone is given such firmness.**

(Vasily Zhukovsky, *Letter to I. F. Voeikov* dated May 2/14, 1847. Frankfurt am Main)

*** There is nothing wrong. There is firmness. There is faith. There is respect for life. There is self-respect. At the same time, one can keep calm. One can look at misfortune as a chance to be better, as a way to do something according to the Creator's heart. (...) Here's a reason to say: reject all low things!**

(Vasily Zhukovsky, *Letter to A. P. Elagina*, summer 1814)

*** Firmness is a force based on the union of reason with will.**

(Vasily Zhukovsky, *Collected Writings*, 1869)

*** Stubbornness is a weakness that has the appearance of strength; it comes from a violation of the balance in the union of will with reason.**

(Vasily Zhukovsky, *Collected Writings*, 1869)

*** The circumstances of life, happy or unhappy, are a husk. You will say that I am preaching from a calm shore to a drowning man. No! I stand on an empty shore, I see a strong man in the waves and I know that he will not drown if he uses his will, and I only show him the best shore, to which he will certainly swim if he wants to.**

(Vasily Zhukovsky, *Letter to Alexander Pushkin* dated November 12, 1824. Petersburg)

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Russian theosophist Olga A. Fedorova lives in the outskirts of Moscow, and is an associate of the Independent Lodge of Theosophists. Among the theosophical works translated into Russian by Olga is "[Theosophy in the Qabbalah](#)" by Grace F. Knoche, which is [available online](#).

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Read more:

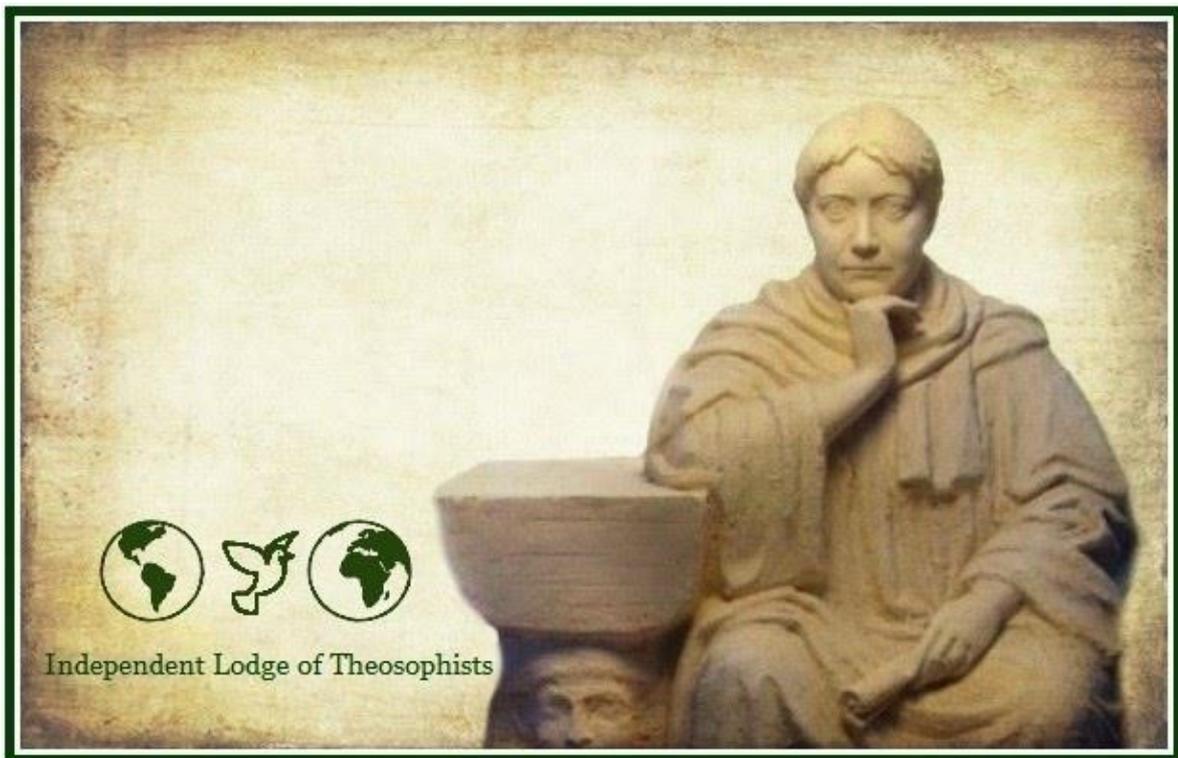


* [A Theosophist in Russia.](#)

* [Other writings by Olga Attovna Fedorova.](#)

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The Aura of HPB and the Aura of the Movement



Click and see
The Aura of HPB and
the Aura of the Movement

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The View of Life of a President

A Selection of Excerpts From His Books

Donald J. Trump



* **O**ftentimes, with success you will hurt your family life. Now if you are married to a person that wants you to be successful and is proud of your success, then you are more likely to be successful in both your business and your marriage.

[“Think Big”, Donald J. Trump, with Bill Zanker, Harper, HarperCollins, N.Y., 368 pp., 2007, p. 314.]

* **I**t’s a funny thing, but sometimes you find that the more opposition you encounter - or create - by your actions, the more energy you get! Try that approach sometime instead of throwing in the towel or being disgusted when you run into opposition. You’ll find out how tough and smart you really are.

[“Never Give Up”, Donald J. Trump, with Meredith McIver: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., copyright 2008, 179 pages, see pp. 122-123.]

* **I**t was Thoreau who wrote: “If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost; that is where they should be. Now put the foundations under them.” I couldn’t have said it better. Get your vision, get focused, and then do the work - starting today!

[“Never Give Up”, Donald J. Trump, with Meredith McIver: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., see p. 143.]

* **R**emember how exciting it was to learn to ride a bike? Ever watched a child taking their first steps? It's a momentous occasion. If we can capture that kind of excitement every day, I think we are on our way to wisdom. Albert Einstein said: 'The mind that opens to a new idea never comes back to its original size.' I agree. Once you've learned to walk, why would you want to go back to crawling around? It wouldn't make sense. We all have a purpose in life, and that's to do our best to live up to our potential.

[The above words are quoted in the article "[Donald Trump as a Mirror](#)".]

* **S**hakespeare put it in this way, in a famous quote from "Julius Caesar": "The fault is not in our stars, dear Brutus, but in ourselves." That's a clear message. We are responsible for ourselves. We are responsible for our own luck. What an empowering thought! If you see responsibility as a bum deal, then you are not seeing it for what it really is - a great opportunity.

* **L**et's say you're facing some big challenge today. I can tell you right now you've got a lot of company. What will separate you from the complaining crowd will be how you choose to look at your situation. If you believe you are in control of it - and you are - you will know exactly who to look for when you need help: yourself. You could be your greatest discovery yet for success, luck, power, and happiness.

[The two paragraphs above come from "Never Give Up", Donald J. Trump, with Meredith McIver, published by John Wiley & Sons, Inc., Copyright 2008 Trump University, 179 pp., see p. 46.]

* **Y**ou may have heard the saying, "luck is when opportunity meets preparedness". I agree. I've often heard people talking about how so-and-so is so lucky (as if to emphasize that they themselves are *not* lucky). I think what's really happening is the complainers aren't "working themselves into luck". If you want to be lucky, prepare for something big.

* **S**ure, it might be more fun to watch movies but unless you're going into the film industry, it's not the best use of your time. Developing your talents requires work, and work creates luck. Having this attitude toward success is a great way to set yourself on a rewarding course for your life.

[The two paragraphs above come from "Never Give Up", Donald J. Trump, with Meredith McIver: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., p. 45.]

* **T**ake the pains required to become what you want to become, or you might end up becoming something you'd rather not be. It's like the hub versus rim theory - do you want to be the hub, or the rim? Being the hub means you're more centered, more central; being on the rim is being away from the action or the driving force. When I emphasize the importance of focus, that is one way of visualizing it. Focusing on the center, on what's really important in your life, can make the difference between your being the hub or on the rim.

[From "Never Give Up", Donald J. Trump, with Meredith McIver: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., Copyright 2008 Trump University, 179 pp., see p. 143.]

* **I** often tell people that I listen to everyone, but the decision will ultimately be mine. That's a good way to be in life and in business. Listen to others, but never negate your own instincts.

["Never Give Up", by Donald J. Trump, with Meredith McIver, p. 11.]

* *“I will study and prepare, and perhaps my chance will come.” - Abraham Lincoln, 16th President of the United States.* I have always liked reading the quotes of great men and women in history, and this one by Abraham Lincoln has resonated with me since I was in school. I am someone who likes to be prepared, and my work as a developer has required that I do a lot of groundwork before embarking on any venture. There is no room for guesswork when it comes to construction - the work has to be solid from the get-go. In short, as a builder, I have to be prepared.

* **I** have recently experienced an arduous campaign, and the fact that I have won the election for the President of the United States is not a great surprise to me. Believe me, I never took this outcome for granted, but I have been preparing for this for many years. I have always been a patriot, and my love for this country has been an impetus for achievement since my boyhood. My dedication runs deep, and my focus has never once wavered. I was ready, and I was prepared.

* **W**hen there is something that you care about deeply, it can give you incredible energy. I call it passion. I am known for saying that without passion you cannot have great success. This is something that my father taught me (...).

[From “Great Again”, Donald J. Trump, Threshold Editions, NY, London, 2015-2016, 192 pp., pp. IX-X.]

* **W**hen I encountered enormous financial challenges back in the 1990s, I was mature enough to assume responsibility and know that the problem was mine. I knew it wouldn't do any good to blame other people. That would be a waste of time, and that's one kind of loss I don't like.

Time is something that cannot be replaced. If you find yourself slipping into the blaming others mode, get out of it quickly.

Give luck the chance it needs to play itself out in your life. No one can do it for you. As soon as you discover that luck is yours to create, you'll be thinking and seeing things in a whole new way. So work hard, have fun, and good luck.

[The three paragraphs immediately above are reproduced from “Never Give Up”, by Donald J. Trump, with Meredith McIver, 179 pp., see pp. 46-47.]

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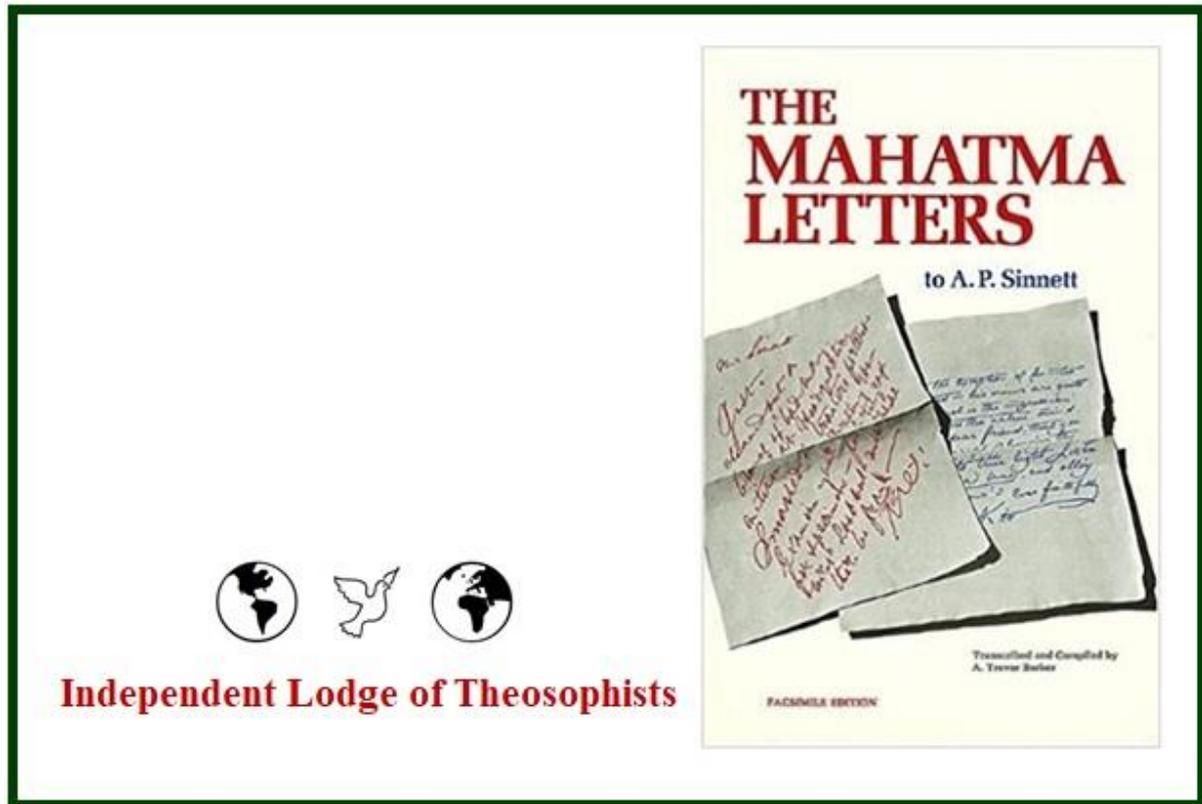


- * [Sacred Aspects of Serendipity.](#)
- * [Donald Trump as a Mirror.](#)
- * [Obstacle, a Precondition of Willpower.](#)

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Thoughts Along the Road

Obvious Things May Get Invisible in Theosophical Life



The TUP - Pasadena edition of the Mahatma Letters, in paper

* *Familiarity breeds contempt*, writes Lin Yutang.[1] That which we think we know, that we leave aside and do not examine. Let us see a few examples.

* Everyone knows that world peace and brotherhood among nations are central goals for every citizen, and more especially theosophists. So, who cares about that? Let atomic bombs be fabricated every day side by side with feelings of selfishness. We have no duty regarding the future of mankind.

* The Independent Lodge of Theosophists seems to be the only theosophical group to have actively defended peace and denounced the danger of nuclear escalation in recent years. The ILT is not paralysed by a bureaucratic view of life, or by an attachment to the dead letter of second-hand teachings, as it prefers to look directly at reality and tries to work on a buddhi-manasic level that is not guided by mere appearance. The ILT also sees the obvious fact that the spiritual Path as something difficult and full of challenges, not a sea of roses.

* It is another well-known fact to every member of the theosophical movement that the highest sources of wisdom and teachings are called Mahatmas and Masters of the Wisdom. The same kind of Sages, as everyone knows, is mentioned by other names in Hinduism, Judaism, Taoism, and so on.

* So, it would be an important task to study and understand “[The Mahatma Letters](#)” and the “[Letters from the Masters of the Wisdom](#)”, and see the various layers of meaning present in these documents, right? Not at all. The Letters deserve no attention - except as a pseudointellectual activity and an occasion to play the part of a scholar, showing others how clever one can pretend to be.

* Of course, no one can dispute the fact that the letters from the masters constitute by far the only reliable first-hand material for study of *actual discipleship*, with its obstacles, blessings, dangers - and defeats. It is reliable, because it comes from the Masters themselves. The letters show how discipleship evolves as a living process. That they are still not central factors and guiding lights in the life of the movement only shows that the movement did not awaken yet to the reality that *a strong will is needed to follow the Path and face its challenges*. The movement still needs to see that it is not worthwhile to invent false mahatmas who will give you several initiations, an imaginary clairvoyance, and reasons for you to pretend that the path is easy, and you are wise. Such an illusion of self-importance - by the way - would only make you become a rascal.

An Almost Invisible Lineage

* There is a still unsolved mystery regarding the theosophical movement. Everyone knows that H.P. Blavatsky is its main founder, and that she is by far the main author of the theosophical literature, both in *quantity* and in *quality*. And yet the movement is divided in two main currents, none of which follows her *practical* teachings. Why is it so? Discovering, or perhaps *uncovering* the causes of the fact, is indeed a complicated task.

* On one hand, more than 90 percent of nominal theosophists adhere to the Adyar Theosophical Society, whose “esoteric” structures were all created during the time when Annie Besant was trying to organize the fake “Return of the Christ”. The inner body of Adyar is entirely based on false clairvoyance. What about the rest of the movement? Nearly all of it follows William Judge and his own students. The Independent Lodge of Theosophists is the first representative in the 21st century of the so far almost invisible *Blavatskian lineage* of the movement. The ILT is an attempt to bring the *Blavatskian view of theosophical action* into the outward and objective world. [2]

* What about the “Blavatskian” theosophists of Adyar Society? They work for that ill-informed ritualistic institution which has nothing to do with Blavatsky. *They read Blavatsky, and act Besant*. On the other hand, the United Lodge of Theosophists has much in common with the Independent Lodge. Its inspiring magazine “The Theosophical Movement” is the main monthly publication of the whole movement in paper, and it is published in India not by chance.

* Still the small ILT seems to be *the strongest attempt so far* in the history of the movement, since 1891, to adopt the **Mahatma Letters** and the other letters from Masters as the first priority for study: (1) in terms of Pedagogy, *id est*, in terms of methods of teaching and learning; (2) regarding action in the realm of search for discipleship; and (3) as a reference in building a theosophical lodge, in creating leadership mechanisms, and dealing with the problem of guiding and inspiring the movement.

* The mystery is - why is it that the ILT should have such an exclusive privilege? Is it because the privilege comes with difficulties?

* Is it because many theosophical leaders have no time to pay due attention to the direct writings of Immortal Sages, or to recognize such documents as central guiding tools to be used during the Dawn of the new age? Or is it because of the politically incorrect fact that the Letters teach, as in Letter 62, first paragraph, for instance -

* "... That the path to Occult Sciences has to be trodden laboriously and crossed at the danger of life; that every new step in it leading to the final goal, is surrounded by pit-falls and cruel thorns; that the pilgrim who ventures upon it is made first to confront and *conquer* the thousand and one furies who keep watch over its adamantine gates and entrance - furies called Doubt, Skepticism, Scorn, Ridicule, Envy and finally Temptation - especially the latter; and that he, who would see *beyond* had to first destroy this living wall; that he must be possessed of a heart and soul clad in steel, and of an iron, never failing determination and yet be meek and gentle, humble and have shut out from his heart every human passion, that leads to evil" - is that the reason?

The Hidden Causes of a Privilege

* The exclusive privilege of the ILT in pointing to the narrow, difficult, uphill path really taught by the Masters must be investigated in its origins. Is it fear of truth that kept other organizations from accepting such a basic fact? Is it attachment to the idea that being spiritual is easy and self-purification unnecessary? There may be other causes as well.

* True, people love to think that the Path is comfortable and ritualistic; that the road to wisdom is tamasic and routine-oriented. That the real Masters are too distant, and fake masters are more agreeable to hear. But some sincere theosophists have had enough self-delusion already, and are inclined to build something real instead. Especially now that the first quarter of the 21st century is finishing, and the Besant cycle closes.

(CCA)

NOTES:

[1] See the novel "**A Leaf in the Storm**", The John Day Company, New York, 368 pp., 1941 edition, page 83.

[2] See "[**The Prehistory of an Independent Lodge**](#)".

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Read more on the Adyar variety of false clairvoyance:

* [**Leadbeater on the Daily Life on Mars**](#).

* [**Political Life on the Red Planet**](#).

* [**Besant Announces She Is an Adept**](#).

* [**Besant and Jung in Esoteric Philosophy**](#).

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Independent Lodge of Theosophists

“A group or branch, however small, cannot be a theosophical Society - unless all the members in it are magnetically bound to each other, by the same way of thinking at least in some one direction ...”.

H. P. Blavatsky

Image reproduced from the original manuscript of Letter C (100) in “Letters of H. P. Blavatsky to A. P. Sinnett”, TUP, Pasadena, California, USA, p. 222:

A group or branch however small, cannot be a theosophical Society - unless all the members in it are magnetically bound to each other, by the same way of thinking at least in some one direction

(The founders of the Independent Lodge obtained from the British Library a complete copy of the original of Letter 100)

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Join **E-THEOSOPHY** group on **Google Groups**, and study a little bit of theosophy every day: <https://groups.google.com/g/e-theosophy> .

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Willpower Through the Practice of Mouna [Silence]



You will derive immense benefit from the practice of Mouna [silence]. Real Mouna is silence of the mind. Physical Mouna will eventually lead to the silence of the mind.

Mouna develops will-force, checks the force of Sankalpa [spiritual intention] curbs the impulse of speech and gives peace of mind. You will get the power of endurance. You will not tell lies. You will have control over speech.

Mouna develops will-power. Mouna checks the impulses of speech. It is a great help for the observance of truth and control of anger. Emotions are controlled and irritability is checked. A Mouni [the student who practices Mouna] will use measured words and his speech is very impressive. In ordinary persons there is not a bit of control over speech. They speak at random whatever they like. They cannot put a check on the current of speech. A Mouni first thinks whether the word will wound the feelings of others or not, what sort of impression it will produce on the minds of others, etc. He is very careful in his speech. He is very thoughtful and considerate. He weighs every word before it comes out of his mouth. A Mouni can stay even for a long time in seclusion. A worldly talkative man cannot stay even for some hours in solitude. He always wants company. The advantages of Mouna are indescribable.

Practise, feel the peace and enjoy the silence yourself.

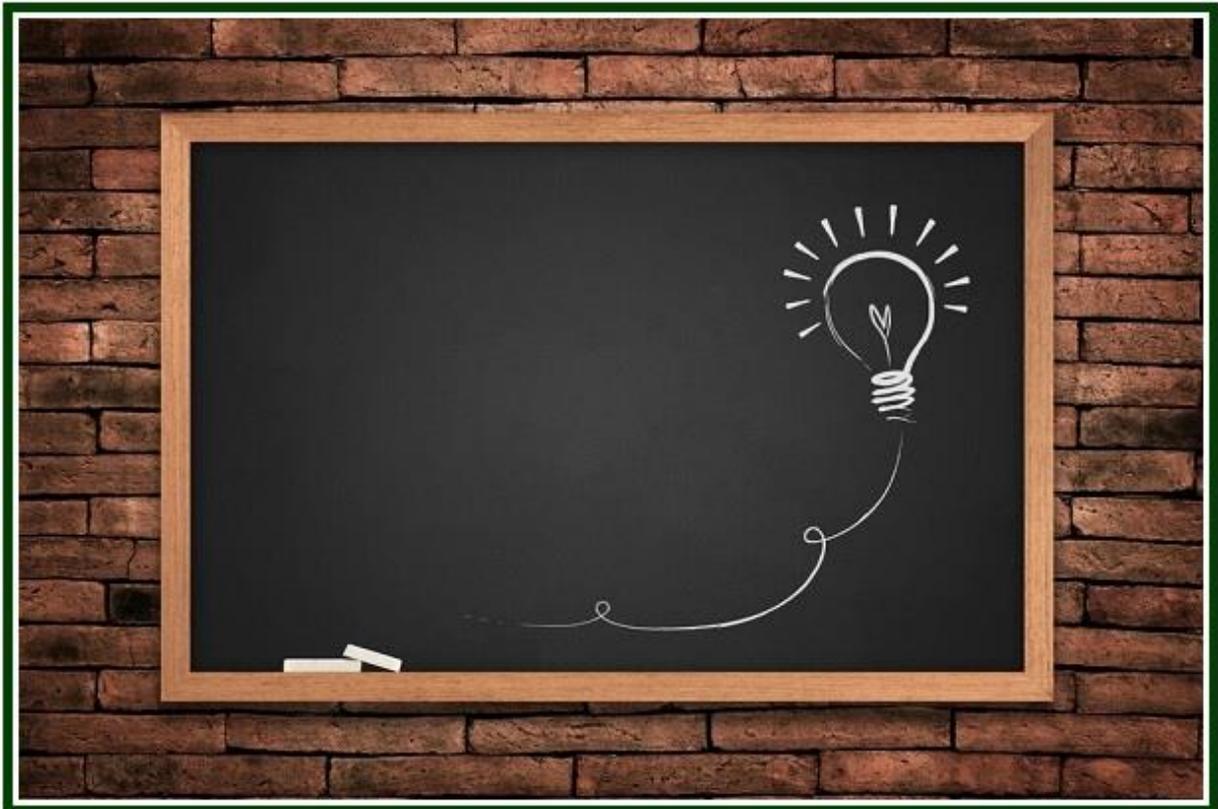
(Swami Sivananda)

[From the book “Sadhana”, by Swami Sivananda, published by The Divine Life Society, India, eleventh edition, 2019, 702 pages, see pp. 122-123.]

The Path of Spiritual Evolution

Towards The Right Use of the Creative Powers of Thought

Steven H. Levy



The fundamentals principles of Theosophy offer for consideration the grand prospect of a Path of Spiritual Evolution. The enduring, hence real inner Man is a thinking spiritual entity evolving over many lifetimes, each of which provides a different temporary body, bundle of personal attributes, and conditions for the acquirement of the experience necessary for spiritual growth. That growth leads to self-conscious realization of the one Higher Self of All, and the responsibility, power and wisdom to raise the consciousness of the beings in all departments of nature to the point of self-consciousness, and humanity to the stature of self-conscious god-hood.

At this time of year when we formulate and resolve to make ourselves better to help and teach others, it is important to remember the teachings of Theosophy regarding our duty as creative spiritual beings, our responsibility for the use of our creative powers, and our place in the greater evolutionary process going on around us physically, mentally, and spiritually.

Human perfectibility and spiritual evolution are not religious sentiments, or abstract philosophical ideals. They are facts in nature. There are human beings who have perfected their physical, mental, psychic, and spiritual natures to the highest possible degree. They are

friends of humanity who continuously watch over the progress of humanity and take the opportunities available under cyclical and karmic law to assist in that progress.

The accumulated wisdom of the Ages, which They know and preserve, is based on a central idea that One, beginning-less and endless, omnipresent, all-inclusive, unconditioned reality is the source and cause of the universe and everything and every being in it. Primordial Substance, Universal Spirit, Boundless infinite and eternal Space, and ceaseless motion are the highest abstract ideal qualities the finite human mind can conceive of That which is infinite. Yet, It is all of these and none of these.

The universe is the periodical manifestation of this unknown unmanifested eternal, all-inclusive Reality. The universe is not created out of nothing, nor is it the creation of a Supreme Being above, beyond, and separate from it. The universe is an emanation proceeding cyclically and in various stages from within, without, above, below, through a lawful process of evolution.

Every temporary thing and being in the universe, in every department and kingdom of nature, partaking of and sustained by this eternal emanating spiritual-material essence, is conscious and endowed with its own degree of consciousness, perception, and intelligence. This spiritual core of all beings is the enduring noumenal essence of all the fleeting and ever changing phenomenal forms of being.

The universe is worked, guided, created if you will, in all its progressive, emanating, appearances and conditions from within outwards through the creative influence of these intelligent conscious essences. Similarly, every external human motion is produced and created by an internal feeling, motion, volition, or thought, consciously or unconsciously.

The entire universe is guided, controlled, animated, intelligently designed by an almost endless series of hierarchies of sentient spiritual beings, who are emanations of and collectively universal soul. They have taken part in the progressive evolution of human beings and have provided humanity with its physical, emotional, mental and spiritual faculties and instruments. They are the parents and progenitors of humanity, just as humanity is the manifestation of their creative powers.

As humanity has lost awareness and recognition of this relationship with the divine due to effects of causes set up by the misuse of the creative power of thought, humanity has been called orphaned humanity because of the loss of this spiritual knowledge. This is why such knowledge is considered the birthright of every human being and must be given freely with no obligation imposed or implied, except that determined by the free will of every human being.

Every moment of life is an opportunity to create through thought and feeling present and future conditions that will assist the spiritual evolution of all beings. However, January 4th is a special day when the sun is closest to the earth and the astral life and energy of the earth are young and vibrant. It is a time of year particularly advantageous to those who desire to improve themselves and others by resolutions to make themselves better able to help and teach others. It is a time when one's higher aspirations have a more profound effect and can impress the mental and moral atmosphere that surrounds the earth and humanity with beneficial influences that work from within to elevate the heart and mind of humanity. Now is the season to recall the gift of spiritual wisdom that has been laid before us. Now is the

opportunity to rededicate our efforts to reclaim that knowledge for the benefit of ourselves and others. Now is the best time of year to create new conditions that will provide the opportunity for the evolving spiritual beings that we truly are to perform their rightful duty in the world.

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New Items in Our Websites



On January 10th we had 3461 items on the websites of the Independent Lodge of Theosophists, including texts, books, poems, audios and videos.

Of these, 27 items were in [Russian](#), 46 items in [French](#), 368 in [Spanish](#), 1493 in [English](#) and 1527 in [Portuguese](#). [1]

This month a few obsolete articles were eliminated from the online collection.

The following items were published in English, French and Spanish between 13 December and 10 January 2025. The more recent titles are above:

1. **La Autocrítica de Helena Blavatsky** - Carlos Cardoso Aveline
2. **Foi en Soi-même** - Jean des Vignes Rouges
3. **El Teósofo Acuario 038, Enero de 2025**

