

Hari Om

FAQ: Guruji, Please explain: Why do people suffer serious ill health in the present birth when they are good persons in this birth? Why cannot GOD punish people in the same birth itself instead of punishing them in the future (births) -- as they cannot realize that they are punished for a reason of the past? Why do infants get ill or suffer in poverty?

All suffering, pain and pleasure experienced by the senses and the mind are all only effects of past birth actions. The intent and motives behind our actions or reactions to these effects are the cause of karmas for future birth.

A womaniser, an alcoholic, one who wants to abuse others; being a gay or lesbian... these are all only effects of previous birth habits or karmic actions; and the suffering or health issues that one gets are due to the effects of bad habits or actions.

This is the game or sport (Lila) of God. If you want your future births to be happy, you have to think, speak and act with goodness now.

Your entire present life, the good and bad experiences you have, are only effects of previous life actions. What you earn, where you live and whom you marry; to whom you are born, what type of health issues you experience, etc., are all only the effects of previous life actions. The whole life experience is 'effect' karma or 'discharge' karma. You create or cause karma by your free-will, while responding or responding to these effects, and this, will be your fruits for the future births. We have to change our intent, motives and attitudes right now for our future to be good. Every karma, like a seed, takes 10, 20, 30, 40 even 100 or more or less years to give appropriate fruits, as does a plantain, mango or coconut or jackfruit seed.

If you plant a seed now, you won't get fruit today or tomorrow - you have to wait for the right time and circumstances for fruition. In the same way, our karmic seeds caused by our thoughts, speech and actions, will ripen and get fructified at the appropriate time. That is why we experience certain things at certain times.

Also, the body does not experience such pain or suffering - it is the mind enlivened by the soul which experiences this. For this entity is constant to you, be it in the past body or the present one; and time is only a relative factor like we see in physics. The mind, after death, travels to a different body, one that you have acquired thanks to the fruits of your past deeds. The mind, thus acquiring different bodies, discharges the effect karmas.

The mismatch of the timings of cause and effect through body-mind experiences is called Maya. To overcome Maya and become detached to the body and the mind, is the spiritual practice. This leads to Enlightenment.

We have to understand that fundamentally we are not this body or mind (emotions) or intellect or senses, which are ephemeral and finite. We are essentially the eternal soul which is identical with the Supreme soul - God. As long as we believe that we are this body and mind complex, we have the Ego consciousness operating, and the karmas will continue to bind you. You cannot escape their mysterious functioning and their effects through the timing mismatch that I have explained above.

Shedding the Ego is the only way to escape such binding karmas. This can be done either by Wisdom or Gnan by the grace of a Guru; through detachment or through concentrated devotion (Ananya Bakhti), by unconditional surrender.

Hope it is clear.

GF Blessings. Om Tat Sat.



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