

The Peel or the Fruit: Choose

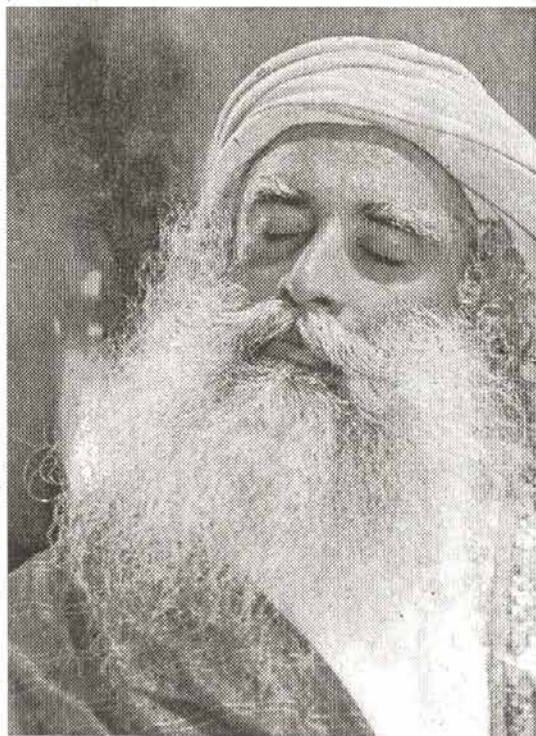
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So, why does this question arise in your mind? Suppose you are extremely blissful or ecstatic, would you then think about the purpose of this life? No. Somewhere this question troubles you because what you are doing doesn't mean anything to you at a certain level. And therefore the question - 'what is the purpose of life?'

Now, let us say you are eating a mango and you taste only the peel. Halfway down the peel you will ask the question - 'what is the purpose of eating this mango?' If you had known the sweetness of the mango such questions wouldn't come up. Aren't you're children asking, 'why should I drink milk?' That's because they don't like it. You give them chocolate. Will they then ask 'why should I eat chocolate?' It doesn't matter why they will just eat it.

These questions are bound to crop up when you're just eating the peel of the fruit, but had the peel been very bitter then by now all of you would have been enlightened. The problem with the peel is because of its association with the fruit it has imbibed a few spots of sweetness. Most people think that they have to somehow extract fruit juice out of the peel. That's the effort that is going on. That's the great effort that is going on worldwide. Somehow everyone wants to extract juice out of



What is the purpose of life in this world? Where am I heading?

the peel.

Somewhere nature trusted your intelligence. If you put a drop of honey here and put the honey jar up there, the ants will come here, taste the honey and go straight up there to the jar. Nature trusted your intelligence. It overestimated you.

So if you want to truly understand what the purpose of life is don't cook up philosophies. 'The purpose of life is to reach God, the purpose of life is to go to Heaven; the purpose of life is to this or that.' Life is a purpose unto itself. You don't need another purpose to it. Only when you have not realised the immensity of what life is the question of finding a meaning or a purpose to life arises. If you taste the fruit within you, you will not ask these questions. It is for this reason we have been teaching Isha Yoga to people for the past decade and half - to give people methods to taste the fruit within themselves.