Career vs Self-realisation

BY SADHGURU

In our struggle to achieve certain goals in our career we remain busy. How do we take the time out for self-realisation?

First of all let us clear whatever ideas you or anybody may have about self-realisation.

Consider a cell phone or camera. Whatever the instrument, the more you know about it the better you can handle it. True? If you give this camera to somebody who doesn't know how to operate it, the person won’t even be able to turn it on in the first place. Now, give the same camera to somebody who knows how to use it; he will produce such magic with this little camera that people will be willing to sit in the dark and watch his work for hours.

Tomorrow if you come on a drive with me I will show you what you can do with a car. The more you know about something, the more enhanced will your output be in that context. If this is true with everything that we handle, then is it not true with your Self? The more you know about it, the better you can handle it. So, do not think of self-realisation as something that happens in a Himalayan cave. It did happen there also, but I want you to understand it in your context.

Self-realisation means just knowing your self. How can it be against your vocation? How can it be against anything you wish to do in your life? I am asking you, how can you live an effective life without knowing anything about your Self? People are trying to teach each other how to be confident without knowing anything about the life process. Confidence without clarity is a disaster. The world has recently been going through a cascade of economic meltdowns, which started in United States, essentially because of people who have phenomenal confidence without any clarity.

Unfortunately, we think confidence is a substitute for clarity. Let’s say we blindfold you and ask you to walk around. If you are sensible, you will feel your way around, walking slowly, touching the walls, feeling with your feet and hands. But if you are very confident and you walk without feeling your way around carefully, the rocks are not going to be kind to you. Life is not going to be kind to you either if you are confident without clarity. To perform your activity in the world, to be successful in whatever you are doing, to do anything well in your life, you need clarity, not confidence.

So, the more you know about your self, the greater the things you can do with your self. Other instruments you can only know from the outside. Your self you can know inside out. You can look at it from the inside. If you know it inside out, it becomes like magic. Whatever you do will be magic. If you sit, you can do things; if you close your eyes, you can do things; if you sleep, you can do things. Whether awake or asleep, you can still do magical things with this system once you know it inside out.

(Next Inner Engineering Program: December 8 at Vasco, January 12 at Panaji and Margao Contact: 9822100306, goa.ishafoundation.org)