



The Divine Life Society

The mighty blue-coloured waters of the vast ocean roaring in majestic grandeur and dazzling in splendour get caught in the dark rain-clouds and become separated from the ocean. Thus imprisoned, they are carried away from their pristine abode by the blowing wind and hurled down upon strange lands. The moment they enter the earth and mingle with mud, that very moment they lose the pristine purity. And they start flowing in muddy swirls through marshy lands and meadow, under clattering wheels of carts and carriages, and in the drain, gutter and sewer. In this dirty condition, none would imagine these self-same waters were once a part and parcel of the great ocean. Seeing them in the city-sewer, we never think for a moment that sooner or later, somehow or other, all these waters will ultimately find their way back to the great ocean from whence they come.

Brahman is verily the mighty ocean-transcendent, the *Sat-Chid-Ananda-Sagara*. Comes the dark cloud *Maha-Maya*. Caught up in Her all enveloping bosom, these waters feel themselves as individual consciousness. The wind of the world-process of creation-preservation-destruction hides them away from their *nija-dham* (original abode – the non-dual Brahman) and hurls them down into this phenomenal world of *samsara* with its innumerable diversities. From here the undivinising elements enter into them and soon divest them off all divinity and spirituality. Its former nature is lost. That purity and absolute clarity is gone. Filled with earthly impurity, the individual consciousness becomes now the human ego. Thus, the individual human soul is altered beyond recognition, and is totally unlike and different from the Supreme *Paramatma*.

Even the dirtiest and the muddiest water is in reality quite pure! Its muddiness, colour and odour are not in truth its original nature. All dirt etc; is only acquired and added later. And what is acquired can be removed too. This is done through the process of filtering. Filters are of many kinds. Even thus, the muddiest waters of countless individual consciousness are filtered and purified in this cosmic laboratory called "Life". The saints and seers are the purifiers and filters and they even make us wonderful filters. They are scientists of compassion. There is one such great filter in a quiet spot upon the Ganges bank called "The Divine Life Society". This divine filter purifies individual souls of their *mala* (impurity) and makes them capable of reflecting the pure way of the *Atmic Sun*.

May God Bless You All!

■ Swami Chidananda