



Moksha or The Final Exit From the Stage of Life

KEYWORDS

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➤ Moksha or the Final Exit from the Stage of Life :

What is Moksha in Hinduism ? Dr. Radhakrishnan defines it 'as the state of freedom where there is neither day nor night, where the stream of time has stopped. --- It is like the heaven of the Christian, an inheritance, incorruptible, undefiled, that fades away----. The freed soul does not see another but sees himself in all.

The Hindus regard Moksha and the Buddhists Nirvan as the final goal of life. They ensure total freedom from the cycle of births and rebirths and ultimate union with the Supreme Soul. Will Durant thinks that 'the Hindus were deeper than the thinkers of Europe, because their interpretation of the world was internal and intuitive, not external and intellectual; the intellect divides everything, intuition unites everything; the Hindus saw that the "I" is a delusion, that the individual is merely phenomenal and that the only reality is the Infinite One- 'That art Thou' (Tat twam asi).'

Can there be better view of life than the one envisaged by Indian sages viz. that when man attains the stage where his 'freed soul see himself in all he should ungrudgingly prepare himself to leave this world. This marks his liberation from the inexorable law of Karma.' As the Chinese proverb says 'when you reach the last page, close the book.' We should never be under the delusion that after death we are free and the world shall forgive and forget our deeds. Whatever attempts we cleverly make to hide

reality or distort or manipulate our actions, posterity shall set the record straight. This is the lesson one should learn from history. 'The total picture of life is too painful for contemplation.'

The Pious Christian Sings :

Blessed Saviour
You will guide us
Till we reach that blessed shore
Where the angels wait to join us
In your praise for ever more.

- M.E. Abbey

Let us not forget that we came in this world without our asking and we shall also be given marching orders from here despite our vain protests. We have already quoted the poet who said that life is a sort of loan which is ultimately to be returned. Let us therefore learn from the mood of stars and discard all fear of death by chanting the following lines of the poet- philosopher, R.W. Emerson:

Teach me your mood, O patient stars;
Who climb each night; the ancient sky,
Leaving on space no shade, no scars,
No trace of age, no fear to die.

REFERENCE

1. Layman's Introduction to Philosophy and Life, B.N. Bahuguna, | 2. Reproduced by Aloysius Michel in his book : Radhakrishnan on Hindu Moral Life and Action. | 3. Will Durant : Pleasures of Philosophy, P.339. |