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Searching For Our Life's Dharma At The Dawn Of The New Year

United Lodge of Theosophists, London, UK

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE WINTER SOLSTICE AND THE NEW YEAR

“Let no one imagine that it is a mere fancy, the attaching of importance to the birth of the year. The earth passes through its definite phases and man with it; and as a day can be coloured, so can a year. The astral life of the earth is young and strong between Christmas and Easter. Those who form their wishes now will have added strength to fulfil them consistently.” HPB (U.L.T. Pamphlet No. 23, Foreword)

- December 25th: The ancient festival of the Winter Solstice, the pagan festival of the birth of the Sun was celebrated long before the era of Jesus, and came to be adopted by the Christian Church as the nativity of Jesus, and was called Christmas
- The Gospel accounts were simply a carnalization of metaphysical allegories and symbolism and a degradation of the true spiritual idea of Christ, buddha, krishna etc found in all civilisations.
- The winter solstice and or christmas is the time of the year which reminds us to turn to the Christ or Christos within us. It is a festival which precedes New Year, and what applies to Christmas also applies to New Year

THE UNIVERSAL ETHICS OF DHARMA OR DUTY

“Duty...is for us stronger than any friendship or even love; as without this abiding principle which is the indestructible cement that has held together for so many millenniums the scattered custodians of nature’s grand secrets—our Brotherhood, nay, our doctrine itself—would have crumbled long ago into unrecognizable atoms.” - A Master of Wisdom

“A soldier of the Kshatriya tribe hath no duty superior to lawful war, and just to thy wish the door of heaven is found open before thee, through this glorious unsought fight which only fortune's favored soldiers may obtain. But if thou wilt not perform the duty of thy calling and fight out the field, thou wilt abandon thy natural duty and thy honor, and be guilty of a crime”- The Bhagavad Gita, II,

THE UNIVERSAL ETHICS OF DHARMA OR DUTY

- Dharma or Duty: a moral obligation to all that lives
- Duty begins on the mental plane the plane of ideation
- One's duty is the fulfillment of one inner nature
- Commitment to the higher self, the self of all the self in all
- Reliance in the law of karma
- Renunciation of fruit of action
- Service to humanity to friends and foes alike
- Performance of duty the foundation of universal brotherhood
- Performance of one's duty in life:the path to perfection and self knowledge
- Selflessness in action
- It is the duty of man to raise the self by the self
- One's duty: the result of one's own thoughts and actions in this life or past lives
- Duty performs unselfishly and without attachment to results is beneficial for the overall good of humanity

HOW SHALL WE FIND OUR OWN DUTY IN LIFE

“The performance of the duties of a man’s own particular calling, although devoid of excellence, is better than doing the duty of another, however well performed; he who fulfils the duties obligated by nature, does not incur sin. A man’s own natural duty, even though stained with faults, ought not to be abandoned. For all human acts are involved in faults, as the fire is wrapped in smoke.” - (Gita, XVIII)

- In the daily events of life brought to us by karma
- In the conscious fulfillment of every duty great and or small
- The difficulty of discovering one's own duty in life due to an attempt to do so before the necessity has arrived
- Meditation on one's own duty in life - when one is in doubt or confused about one's own duty one should listen to the voice of the silence within and through study and the application of universal ethics
- Total reliance in the law of karma
- Live a life of service with a pure heart, an eager mind
- Practice of yoga aphorisms of patanjali



Questions & Answers