

## **Document 1:** Observations and Sharing of Barnabas Tiburtius (TIB)



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***Taking Diversions and U-Turns: Conversations and Dialogues on Sustainable Futures and Spirituality***, Loyola College, Chennai; 11 – 13 February 2015

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### **Open Sessions**

There were two open sessions "Cosmological Understanding of Spirituality" and "Futuristic model of Sustainable Enterprise" wherein I was the HOST and in one open session on "Rituals and Spirituality" hosted by Dicky Sofjan had a very active participation and contribution.

### **Cosmological Understanding of Spirituality**

- Understanding the Inner ecology of human beings as a complex organism consisting of 100 trillion cells, each having an energy centre and communicating through Bio-photons.
- Each and every atom consisting of electrons and nucleus, which again is made up of protons and neutrons consists of 99.9999999% empty space.
- Inter-atomic and intra-atomic communication takes place through an immeasurable field which is beyond space-time and violates the special theory of relativity ( travelling at speeds far exceeding the speed of light). Theory of Quantum Entanglement which has been experimentally verified many time over very vast distances proves the existence of this hyper-dimensional field through a conscious observer instantly ineracts with the object of observation.
- Karl Pribram found what we call "Phantom DNA" effect. Human DNA responds to coherent Bio-photons in the ultraviolet range and retains its alignment even when the communicating source of light is removed.
- Human beings are able to affect non-living entities through conscious intensions. In an experiment conducted by IONS (Institute of Noetic Sciences - <http://noetic.org/> ). A random number generated was influenced by ordinary people.
- The earth's magnetic field shifted rather very erratically even one hour before the Twin tower attack on 11 September 2001 - Deducted by the GOES satellite (Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite).
- Dr. Michio Kaku, a leading cosmologist and String Theory expert says that we live in a consciousness field which has a hierarchical structure starting from the individual to planetary to Solar and the on to the Galactic level.

- A sense of humility and our interconnectedness at the cosmic level with all creations leads us to a non-judgemental and participatory role in our lives.
- The purpose of life was discussed and the role of Karma and our need to elevate our consciousness through every life cycle was positioned as we are all the different manifestations of the very same substratum namely; Cosmic or Divine consciousness.

### **Futuristic model of Sustainable Enterprise**

- The session focused on why we have this current model of enterprise which focuses purely on profit.
- Ever since the onset of the industrial age and the technology driven model of "Creative Destruction", the consumer and the corporate profit which is seen as the driver of growth have been the primary target. In the last century the larger corporation which are stock holder owned have been seen as the best model for quick growth.
- In the earlier time of industrialization and technology development, family owned or small management team owned corporations focused on organic growth through in house development which were more sensitive to the ethical issues such as the impact of organizational growth on the employee and the environment.
- The moment the need for rapid growth spurred growth through acquisition, the primary driver became share holder value at all cost.
- The visibility of the company vision and mission became blurred and the individual within the corporation became a mere paid resource.
- This led to rampant downsizing and asset stripping with terrible impact on individual morale.
- The reward system within companies also contributed to a very skewed model with share holders and the top management getting the bulk of the profits and increase in their wealth.
- The pressure from the cost of manufacturing resources both men and material as well as a more equitable distribution of profits in retaining creative and knowledge capital, led to flatter organization with low direct cost. This has developed a large group of niche organization specializing in various areas such as finance, legal, manufacturing and design. Companies have either totally outsourced these activities or they co-own external resources with tight control on legal and patent issues. This model is now prevalent in knowledge and high-tech industries.
- The age of the individual owned large corporation is likely to find its natural demise. The reason is the response needed in the complex market place, with competition on hyper drive, is inversely proportional to the number of parameters that influence the product or services positioning. Hierarchical structures are the mammoth of yesteryears. The two golden sayings "Think Global but act Local" and "Organizations need to be nimble destroyers and not mammoth battleships" are very vital in the coming days.
- The model that can survive within the present system in the next decade cannot look for a radically new stock market or financial model. But an enterprise that focuses on "Triple Bottom line Approach" namely; people, planet and profit

- Concept of employing "KAIZEN" - small improvements over great innovation in adding value to business enterprise will predominate.
- This model must aim at niche markets, very special skills, low cost and organic growth. Some of these models are already operative in:
  - Organic farming
  - Solar cooperatives at village or community level
  - Microfinance driven initiatives at the level of SHG (Self Help Groups).
  - Zero emission initiatives (animal farm waste for plant feed)
  - Low cost prototyping and 3-D printing
  - Biomimicry led innovations
  - Niche manufacturing for a specific technology driven sector
- SMME (Small, Medium and Micro Enterprise) sector is the growth sector that is being targeted as the potential level playing field in the Agro, Renewable energy and other futuristic technology areas.

### **Rituals and Spirituality - Open Session by Dicky Sofjan**

- The loss of meaning among the youth on the significance of religious rituals and his own research among the various religious traditions of south east Asia and Japan was highlighted in Dicky's session.
- My input was that rituals from Pagan times have a deep connection to the individual's consciousness and how the individual starting from the time when humanity was hunter gatherers was relating to nature and the ecosystem.
- Archaic consciousness of humans 200,000 years ago was integral to nature. They saw themselves as part of the ecosystem. But when man moved larger geographical areas due to shortage of food and increase in population within a domain, a magical consciousness set in around 50,000 years ago. The assignment of divinity to the incomprehensible causations led to worship of a God outside of the human psyche.
- This led to worship and rituals and most early rituals were either as appeasing the deity or a thanksgiving. The Divine feminine and Fertility Goddess was a very common theme.
- When the agrarian era started, with people settling in communities around 10,000 years ago, the mythical consciousness evolved which gave rise to complex rituals.
- With the enquiry into philosophy and theology of the Greeks and the later generations, the rational consciousness predominated and the meaning of mythology and rituals started to lose their significance in the spiritual elevation of consciousness.
- Mythology and rituals provide the path to the deeper unconscious (Carl Jung) and the classical example is the life journey of the HERO in mythology.
- Modern generation is so disconnected from mythology as old wives tales that we are beginning to snap the psychic connection between the waking consciousness and the deeper levels of the human psyche.

### **Contribution During the Wisdom Circle Session**

"The two candles on the central lamp of wisdom, calls us to evoke the wisdom of the ancients and the wisdom of nature.

- WISDOM OF THE ANCIENTS: "The Constitution of the Iroquois Nations: The Great Binding Law." is a document which was used as a principle guideline in the native Indian community and it states according to Oren Lyons, Chief of the Onondaga Nation: "We are looking ahead , as is one of the first mandates given us as chiefs, to make sure and to make every decision that we make relate to the welfare and well-being of the seventh generation to come. . . ." "What about the seventh generation? Where are you taking them? What will they have?" This great wisdom is the pillar of sustainability on which all our actions must be based.
- WISDOM OF NATURE: The leaf cutter ants of the Amazon have survived for more than 50 million years and they were the first farmers. They have a complex symbiotic system of mutual cooperation with their environment. (Annexure I)

### **Concluding Remarks at the End of the Unconference**

- We are trapped in a system that we know is not working and yet it is so powerful that it tends to subsume any endeavour we may undertake to counter its grasp on culture and mindset it has inculcated. We need to be like blind moles using senses which the predominant system will not have namely; a conscious awareness to higher reality.
- The solution lies in the elevation of the consciousness of the younger generation of students and discerning individuals so that a future generation with a different mindset evolves.
- The parameters that are at the tipping point or that have exceeded the planetary sustainable level, will have negative impact on human survival not on planetary survival. The planet will survive even if there is a Gamma ray bombardment due to a near nebula explosion.
- To quote Einstein: "Problems cannot be solved by the same level of thinking that created them."
- The system we are trying to evolve, in any area of human enterprise with a sustainable future, is so complex that the tools we need to employ have to be radically different.
- The academia must now look to newer disciplines such as Chaos Theory, Cybernetics, Non linear system and Stochastic Process Theory, etc. to understand current problems and evolve innovative solutions.

### **Conclusions:**

I thoroughly enjoyed and benefitted from the three days of open exchange. My observations are that still we have pet frogs in our cabinet and we need to move beyond. There seems to be a clear divide between activists, alternate thinkers and academia. The need for appreciation of the mutual benefit that can increasingly be derived through the unconferencing approach, with a narrower specific target areas. Should be an ongoing process.

## ANNEXURE I

### **Ancient Farmers of the Amazon**

Fifty million years before humankind began farming, ancient ants were already in the agriculture business.

Over time, leafcutter ants have evolved a complex system of agriculture in their nests, cultivating bumper crops of fungi that are the ants' sole food source. Foragers cut pieces of leaves from trees and drag them home to their nest, where others chew them into a paste that becomes the fungi's dinner. There are, however, at least two more participants in this relationship. Surprising the scientific community, graduate student Cameron Currie discovered a mold that threatens to kill the fungi, and the antibiotic which the ants produce in order to control it.

This alliance is an example of mutualism, a form of symbiosis, an intimate relationship between different organisms whose survival depends on one another. Other examples include bacteria that colonize human skin and digestive tracts, goby fish that live in burrows dug by marine shrimps, and aphids that feed on plant sap and excrete a sweet "honeydew" that ants find delicious.

One common instance of symbiosis teams up microbe and plant. Legume plants, such as peas and beans, have bacteria on their roots that convert nitrogen from the soil into an organic form the plants can use. The bacteria, for their part, are nourished by the plants.

Symbiotic relationships develop through coevolution -- reciprocal adaptations between interacting species. It includes not only mutually beneficial interdependence, but also relationships in which one organism benefits and the other does not, or where neither party benefits. Often, one organism lives inside the body of the other, and sometimes it even lives within the cells of the host.

In his interview for *Evolution*, E.O. Wilson asserts that besides predation, "There's another force equally important and responsible for the buildup of a great deal of the magnificent superstructure of the Earth's biodiversity. And that is cooperation, what we call symbiosis, and particularly mutualistic symbiosis, that is intimate living together of different kinds of organisms in which there's a partnership which benefits both of the partners."

*Get Off the Highway*  
**TAKE DIVERSIONS AND U-TURNS**