

EXERCISE 2

To tread the path of philosophy is to seek after truth and follow a way of life. Before a man sets out on the quest after truth, he must fulfil certain conditions. First, there must be discrimination between the real and the unreal. The statement means, not that a man must possess complete knowledge of absolute reality, which is attained only after long practice of meditation, but that

he must unfailingly subject the nature of things to a rigid analysis by discriminating between what is transitory and what is abiding or between what is true and what is false. The second condition is detachment from the selfish enjoyments of life. The aspirant must learn that the highest good is realised not through worldly pleasure, but through a continuous search for the infinite, the enduring joy. This ideal of renunciation must be realised by a gradual purification of the seeker's heart and mind. A third condition is that the student must acquire tranquility of mind, self control, patience, poise, burning faith in things of the spirit and self surrender. These are called the six treasures of life. The thirst for release is the fourth condition. Deliverance from spiritual darkness, entrance upon the path of illumination comes only through annihilation of the false ego. When the ego dies, all troubles cease says Sri Ramakrishna. Such a condition of being does not imply the loss of one's individuality but rather the attainment of a great individuality, for we can lose nothing that is real. Kalidasa, the great poet and dramatist, has beautifully expressed this truth. He says that the ideal of renunciation consists in owning the whole world while disowning ones own self. (280 words)

The Search of Truth

The path of philosophy requires man to seek truth and his ability to differentiate between real and unreal. He must not shine for years, but observe the boundaries between original and fake. He should pardon worldly pleasure and purify his soul for such highest achievement. Peace of mind, self control and patience are equally important. Man should shun his ego and attain best of his individual being. While disowning his ownself he can own the world. ~~However, own~~ (84 words)