

Practice paragraph

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 tranquillity 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.

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The Path of Philosophical truth

Walking on the path of philosophy means searching for truth. The quest for truth demands certain conditions. The seeker must discriminate between reality and illusion, and between the temporary and the permanent. He must realize that the highest truth cannot be discovered through worldly comforts, but through renunciation. A firm belief in spiritual realities is essential. The journey from spiritual darkness to illumination requires renunciation of ego. When ego dies, many problems come to an end. Living up ego does not mean loss of individuality; rather, it leads to a higher individuality.

(Total words in paragraph: 280
My words in precis: 93)