

Those who regard the decay of civilisation as something quite normal and natural console themselves with the thought that it is not civilisation, but a civilisation, which is falling a prey to dissolution, that there will be a new age and a new race in which there will blossom a new civilisation. But that is a mistake. The earth no longer has in reverse, as it had once, gifted peoples as yet unused, who can relieve us and take our place in some distant future as the leaders of our spiritual life. We already know all those that the earth has to dispose of. There is not one among them which is not already taking such a part in our civilisation that its spiritual fate is determined by our own. All of them, the gifted and the un-gifted, the distant and the near, have felt the influence of those forces of barbarism which are yet working among us. All of them are, like ourselves, diseased, and only as we—recover can they recover. It is not the civilisation of a race, but that of mankind, present and future alike, that we must give up as lost, if belief in the rebirth of our civilisation is a vain thing. But it need not be so given up. If the ethical is the essential element in civilisation, decadence changes into renaissance as soon as ethical activities are set to work again in our convictions and in the ideas which we undertake to stamp upon reality. The attempt to bring this about is well worth making, and it should be worldwide. It is true that the difficulties that have to be reckoned with in this undertaking are so great that only the strongest faith in the power of the ethical spirit will let us venture on it. Again the renewal of civilisation is hindered by the fact that it is so exclusively the individual personality which must be looked to as the agent in the new movement. The renewal of civilisation has nothing to do with movements which bear the character of the experiences of the crowd, these are never anything but reactions to external happenings. But civilisation can only revive when there shall come into being in a number of individuals a new tone of mind independent of the one prevalent among the crowd and in opposition to it, a tone of mind which gradually win influence over the collective one, and in the end determine its character. It is only an ethical movement which can rescue us from the slough of barbarism, and the ethical comes

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## Morals: The Base of Civilizations

The author declares it a mistake

to be unbothered on the decay of a civilisation.

No new civilisation will emerge if the current dies. The reason is that not even a single individual possesses that spiritual ability to recreate such civilisation. On the contrary, ~~the~~ a civilisation can be restructured

on ethical basis. It would require a collective global effort. A great amount of faith. The limitation of individual personality as a road map to beginnings halts the renewal process. The author opines that innovative mindset can overshadow crowd narrative and revive a legacy.

Individual aptitude and abilities are the true drivers of time. The prime traits lies in man's moral worth. The decline of such moral decency results in crash of society. Recurring shocks to the current civilisation are indicators of moral and ethical weakening. Individuals must uphold and progress in ethics in order to sustain.

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