

Where is our society heading and how can we make things better?

I've recently met with a writer Alexander Usanin and after the meeting, he sent me a very interesting material from his book. I am sure it will be useful and interesting for you. Alexander has been a follower of Vedic knowledge for more than 25 years, and bases the article around it, but even without that there are a lot of interesting facts in it.

With love, Rami Bleckt

There are three types of social control: control through money, control through ideology and control through love. Vedic world order is based on the spiritual progress of the people, the development of superior qualities, the management of matters through love. In Vedic society the rulers were enlightened and noble personalities, and people obeyed them out of love. Socialism, which existed in the Soviet Union was based on the management of society via the ideology of justice, equality and fraternity. Capitalism is based on the management through money.

To force the peasants to work in the factories, their land was taken away from them through deceit and force, as well as by the excessive tax increase. When they were feeding from their land, they were independent in the ability to provide for their needs, but in the city they have become dependent on the employer's money, services and many artificially created factors. The capitalists continuously improved production technology, automated it in order to increase the profits through reducing the production cost to expand their sales market, which eventually led humanity to an era of overproduction.

Today, technology is so advanced, that the level of production exceeds the level of potential consumption. In order to not reduce the volume and rate of production, not to close plants and factories, there was a need to artificially create new necessities for the people and simultaneously impair the resource and technical characteristics of the products, introducing the system of deliberate obsolescence of manufactured goods, as well as developing various schemes to optimize sales, forcing people to buy more and more new things. Cars and household appliances today are intentionally made less durable than before, so that they would quickly break down, and the buyer would be forced to come for new ones.

Now the main threat to the planet comes from the artificial overproduction of goods, arising from antisocial, atheistic and demonic, in fact, focus of the business owners on profit, rather than on service to God and on care of all beings, of all human beings as particles of the Almighty. Technology has twenty years ago reached the level at which cars, computers, telephones and all household appliances can last for decades without breaking. In 1946 in the Soviet Union was producing the car "Pobeda" ("Victory"), which was able to function for 50-60 years. A quarter of a century ago, the company «Volkswagen» released cars with mileage guarantee of a million kilometers, but quickly withdrew them from production, as people who have bought them did not need to purchase a new car for a very long time. Therefore, the highest resource of the cars, which are produced presently, is artificially reduced to 200.000 kilometers. The level of technology and science already easily allows cars to work without breaking for 100 years or more. But they are deliberately made in a way that makes them unusable in 5 or 6 years. The same situation is present in all contemporary areas of production.

Scientists have calculated that in order to maintain humanity's current state of living, a person would need to work an hour or two a day, provided that goods we use are not made to deliberately become obsolete. It's not a secret that such companies as "Timberland", "Reebok" and "Nike" were

four times more reliable and durable about twenty years ago. I used to be able to wear my "Reebok" sneakers for four years straight very intensively on a daily basis throughout summer and autumn. Now they last for one season only. Light bulbs, too, for a long time already, could have been being made almost eternal, and it's not a secret nowadays. But during the year only in the kitchen I have replaced several bulbs.

So, in order to maintain and increase the GDP - the rate and volume of production, goods are made deliberately short-lived. In fact, mankind today can be compared to a huge combine, which moves across the planet, processing into garbage the resources of Nature, which It accumulated over millions of years, and destroying on the way the habitat of various forms of life. Scientists predict that all the fish in the oceans will disappear in the next thirty years. If we do not spiritualize our attitude to life, in the next hundred years humanity may lose the natural renewable resources of the planet, which could otherwise give us eternal life of health and safety.

The founder-acharya of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness Prabhupada called a society managed by pure hearted politicians, who developed in themselves a love for God, a "spiritual communism". The mistake of the Marxists and Leninists was that they have tried to eliminate exploitation in society by eliminating the exploiting class- entrepreneurs, businessmen, creating a classless society and declaring all men equal. While the spiritual approach is in the recognition that we are all at different levels of spiritual development, with different abilities and therefore will always have a different position in society, but what unites us all is that we all are the different parts and pieces of parts of the Supreme Personality of God.

The distinction between Leninism-Marxism and God-centered society lies in the fact that the Socialists have tried to eliminate the "exploiting class" - businessmen, while the spiritual God-centered view of life eliminates the exploitative spirit in human relations. The similarity between these two society management systems is that they both focus on the wellbeing of all people in the world, rather than of a handful of entrepreneurs with demonic mind, who for the sake of satisfying their continuously growing ambitions and greed unleash international conflicts and wars. Attempts to eliminate the exploitation of man by man through the elimination of entrepreneurs and businessmen as a class are rather artificial. Because in any society, there are those who are able to work (people with "golden hands") but who are not able to sell the goods made by them, to organize the supply of raw materials, marketing; and there are those who can excellently organize the work of others.

Both in a socialist and in a God-centered society, the aim of the rulers is the general prosperity, wellbeing of all people in society through the improvement of their relationships to each other. The number one problem of international politics is that the current rulers are unable to perform their main duties, which consist in the systematic improvement of people's attitudes towards each other. The spiritual world is a world of relationships and of active, pure, unconditional love. Spiritual life is a life of relationships, life in pure and unconditional love. And the spiritual progress is a progress of relationships.

.... The focus of modern politics on the economical wellbeing of people without continuous structured effort to improve their relationships with each other can be compared to the concentration of a school headmaster on school's equipment only, without any regards to the learning process. What'd be the point of him having superb multimedia equipment, new desks, good refurbishment, if the children do not learn anything in there??? This material world is the school of sublime relationships. And the presidents of our countries are headmasters of schools,

representatives of the education system, the governors of God, who should monitor the material support of the school, but in the first place - the educational process. Good schools are those schools in which the educational process is well organized at all times and conditions. Therefore, the happiest people on this planet live not in the countries with the biggest profits, but in those where there is more love in the relationships.

.. Another similarity of goals of socialism and God-centered society is providing people with free time for self-development. Prabhupada formulated it this way: *simple life is high thinking*. Ancient India is a very good example here. The minimum temperature in winter in South India (Kerala, state Tamil Nadu) is +26 ° C; the maximum summer temperature - + 36 ° C. Almost all year around you can walk there in light clothing. It impossible to freeze to death there or die of hunger too: subtropical vegetation all year around abundantly provides many edible plants almost everywhere, including the jungle.

Exactly in this place, where people have been spending a minimum of time to maintain their bodies and where they have had much time for self-improvement, the greatest cultural development has happened. The science flourished there and brought many benefits to our world. This place - Kerala, Tamil Nadu - is the birthplace of Ayurveda and Yoga, the birthplace of Kalaripayattu - the progenitor of Wushu and Kung Fu. Indian mathematics, astronomy and astrology, Vastu - the science of building houses and social buildings in a way to bring harmony and health for residents, the Indian architecture and music, Indian dance art – all reached a level of excellence that remains unsurpassed to this day on the planet.

Modern musicians distinguish now mostly a tone or a semitone. Rostropovich was the only composer in the Western world who has used a quarter of the music tone. A special grand piano was created for his personal use. Indian ragas performers distinguish one-eighth and even one-sixteenth of a tone. The scriptures mention that people with crystal pure soul and the most refined musicians - the gopis (girlfriends) of Sri Krishna, distinguish one thirty-second of a tone (!!!). This exquisite aesthetic perception of the world comes to a person as a result of spiritual development and purification of the heart.

Now instead of producing quality things and work an hour a day, and the rest of the time devoting to children, self-development and family, people work eight hours a day and spend on transport and queues 3-4 hours a day, just to buy new things to replace the old ones: to constantly buy new cars, washing machines and refrigerators, new phones, computers, etc. etc. to replace the old prematurely obsolete goods, or to eat food which does not contain the necessary vitamins and minerals.

In fact, people do not necessarily need to live in megalopolises. In the production of high-quality things the need in big cities disappears. Technologies allow you to live on your own land with all the modern facilities. I have lived in Denmark for about half a year and I liked the Scandinavian style of their villages: wooden unpainted log houses, thatched roofs, inside there are a heated floor, fireplace, glass computer table, hot shower, in the kitchen there is gas supply from the compost barrel in the garden, where rots everything that goes to waste ...

The progress of humanity must lead not to an increase but to a reduction in GDP. The countries must be assessed not in terms of GDP, but in terms of the quality of the relationships between people. Evaluation of the success of the state through its GDP has been imposed on all States by the bankers, who want to control humanity through the credit and financial system. That is why in Europe 30% of all produced food is getting destroyed. It is done to prevent the drop in prices

and reduce the profits of a handful of bankers. This approach is beneficial only to a handful of sociopaths - parasites of the social body. No one else benefits from this: neither our planet Earth, nor rulers, nor the common people.

If we are really reasonable mature adults, and even more so, if we aspire to the title of spiritual beings, then we need to use the growth of technologies to increase the quality of produced goods (and not to lower it), to reduce the quantity of production, which will in tens and hundreds of times reduce the load for the energy consumption. Because now 90% of the fuel is spent simply on people's travels to their work places and back home; for transportation of raw materials and various goods, for recycling.

Artificial increase in sales is also connected to the invention of "fashion trends", stimulating people to greed, unhealthy ambitions and "feeling of prestige." People are forced to buy more and more new things to replace old ones, which are not any more "prestigious" or "fashionable".

It is obvious what a terrible burden that is on nature: people take from nature hundreds of times more resources than they actually need for living without any problems, and turn those resources into the trash. In Russia alone, according to the Audit Chamber of the Russian Federation, in 2011, 181 million tons of food was produced as well as more than seven billion tons of waste - the side effect of consumption.

In Russia, only 3.5% of municipal solid waste is processed in industrial way, the rest is exported to landfills and dumps, which can not cope with the ever-growing volumes of waste and currently occupy an area of 4 million hectares, and each year new lands of more than 0.4 million hectares are needed for the garbage. Their total area is comparable to the territories of such countries as the Netherlands (4.15 million hectares), Switzerland (4.12 million hectares), Moldova (3.4 million hectares) and Belgium (3.3 million hectares). The main problem is that the number of enterprises for neutralization and disposal of toxic industrial waste, fulfilling the necessary requirements, is negligible in Russia, and the equipment for these purposes is hardly produced. The greatest danger to the environment and human health is radioactive waste generated in the reprocessing plants, nuclear power plants, hydro-metallurgical plants and in research centers. One of the most troubled regions is the Urals. Only the Sverdlovsk region produces about 160 million tons of toxic waste annually, with a total population of the country of 140 million. If the consumption with all its side effects is an indicator of a society development, then soon we will all live in the garbage site.

If you like these thoughts, please share them as widely as possible in your lectures, seminars, etc. Only together we can save the world!

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