

An Introduction to the Third and Fourth Stages of Human Life: Recovering from Difficulties and Illness

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ABSTRACT

Since the time that human life first began, worship has been a very human activity throughout the world. The fourth stage of human life, which is introduced here, can be a time in which human beings experience happiness and lasting peace by communicating with Nature through worship. This is closely related to the third stage of life, in which creations based on individual personality contribute to human society as ever integrating culture even after the passing of human life. In the world today, there are many new human difficulties and illnesses brought about by environmental change caused by the ill-defined concept “time is money”. The purpose of this study is to determine how to recover from difficulty and illness encountered in families, societies, and nations, including ill-treatment and disputes caused mostly by keen competition that might be a precursor to worldwide wars. One of the assumptions is that there should be realms that belong to the present world and realms that belong to another world. To eliminate difficulties and illness, an attempt is made here to discuss the fourth and third stages of life, which heretofore have not been explored.

1. INTRODUCTION

Since the time that human life first began, creation and worship have been inherently human activities. The first and second stages of human life relate to the body and the mind, respectively, and the third is based on individual identity. This originates from DNA and possibly contributes to human culture and thus whole societies even after the original human being has died [4]. The fourth stage of life includes worship as a form of communication between an individual and Nature.

These third and fourth stages may help solve human difficulties and illness caused by environmental disruption stemming from ill-defined concepts such as “time is money”. There are currently an astounding number of conflicting opinions among groups, nations, religions, people of different economical status, etc., with the worst cases resulting in war. Moreover, in terms of conflict on the private level, cases of “bullying”, especially among youth, have been skyrocketing. In our world, there have always been problems that need to be solved. However, it seems that these days they cannot even see which door to open to begin this process. It seems to be a global trend that some people will not object to war so long as they can make money out of it, while others willfully participate in environmental pollution, destroying nature so that they can make a profit.

People also seem to be increasingly busy, leaving fewer leisure hours at their disposal. For example, in Japan, many husbands leave the care of the children to their wives, but the wives are occupied with their own daily and personal affairs, resulting in children who have lifelong difficulty maintaining a vision of the future. Many children are trying to enter good universities, and it is extraordinarily difficult for them to work through issues relating to finding their own identity under such keen competition. To embrace the individual third stage of life, one needs to determine the preferred direction of life. The theory of preference may help with finding that direction [1][2]. Even if individuals are able to graduate from universities and find gainful employment, many eventually lose their jobs due to a lack of planning and visualization of the future.

In terms of envisioning the future, it is important that we accept the concept of the third and fourth stages of life: namely, that these stages are accumulated as human culture that may ultimately lead to eternal life related to the love of Nature (the cosmos consciousness).

2. HUMAN DIFFICULTY AND ILLNESS

2.1 Opposition Among Religions

Religions are a big part of how many people choose to live their lives. However, many innocent people, including women and children, have been brutally killed by conflict among religions. The original intention of virtually all religions was to make people happy. However, religious conflict has been around for thousands of years. It does not seem to be a phenomenon limited to “today”.

We hope that circumstances in which people belonging to different religions hate, fight, and even kill one another can be avoided. It is certain that “Buddha is ashamed of conflict among the students of different sects of Buddhism”. Misuzu Kaneko [3], a Japanese poet, said, “Everything is different, but everything is good”. We must advance together as unified humankind, moving beyond differences of religion, nation, and race. Each person or each thing has something good to offer.

The expression of God or Buddha is different depending on the religion. Even so, we might express commonly a “something great” as “the will of cosmos”. Religions must not contradict the universe or natural science.

2.2 Economic Gap

The gaps between the rich and the poor, from the level of individuals to the level of nations, are widening. It is a serious problem. Moreover, people in command of a particular economic power tend to strengthen the pressure they wield and distort it, and in some countries, corruption due to a higher position is becoming a disturbing social problem. It seems that egoism is making a huge selfish profit. People and countries want wealth in all its material forms, and on the worldwide scale, we must consider a way of living that moves beyond material wealth.

2.3 Politics and the Preservation of Peace

From the historical point of view, in the old days, rulers reigned over their subjects by force. In modern times, more people have been claiming their democratic right, and today, conflicts between these two powers are seen in many areas. In his view, the most important thing is that people be able to live in peaceful environments within a desirable political landscape.

2.4 Health

Progress in the medical field and improvements to living environments have led to the extension of the average human life span, but even today, many people suffer due to ever increasing stress and toxic environments and unfortunately insufficient medical care. For example, the effects of nuclear radiation are serious and a known

hazard, but medical treatments for exposure to it remain largely unknown. These days, there has been an increased focus on natural healing power to combat cells such as cancer. On October 14th, 2013, Tokyo hosted a Japan psychic science conference at which many people heard presentations about spontaneous healing power and the mind.

In some countries, child labor is carried out in order to output products more cheaply. Maintaining the health of children is of crucial importance and should be guaranteed in all regions. Counterfeit medicine is also a serious issue in some countries. Agrochemicals in agriculture are a serious problem, also.

3. AN ATTEMPT AT SOLVING THE PROBLEMS

Now, an attempt is made using the third and fourth stages of life as one approach to solving the above problems. As suggested by Ando [1], a union of art and science may help uncover individual preference or identity (the basis of creation defined as the third stage of human life). From the viewpoint of the minimum unit of society, a lasting peace on earth may be achieved by releasing each personality given by Nature. It is worth noting that each person has their own potential for unique creation defined by the third stage of life, so each individual feels respect for others [4]. This respect is obtained by participating in worship rather than competition by recognizing the absolute value of every person, none of whom will ever be born again. In addition, individuals may pray to Nature (God) on behalf of other persons, which is defined here as the fourth stage of life. These two stages of human life might be a key to solving human difficulties and illnesses. Now, let us discuss how each problem mentioned above might be solved by means of these two stages of life.

3.1 A Solution to Conflict among Religions

The concept of “time is money” is a huge source of conflict because the principle of competition has a powerful influence.

If we can show creativity by taking advantage of the inherent ability provided to us by nature in the whole society, we might enter into the third stage of life. Integration of this stage into the social culture could be linked to permanence.

The individual third stage of life features taking chances by respecting one another, and the fourth stage of life features a noble prayer that may be the key to resolving religious conflict.

3.2 A Solution to the Economic Gap

The economy is an essential factor in the realization of a wealthy human life, but it is not everything. Human beings integrate another essential factor: “culture”. Two

other essential factors—time and space, including the environment—make up the development of the individual third and fourth stages of life.

If the environment is designed considering the preference theory of maintaining life [2], it will be helpful for the development of all stages. The international symposium featured on temporal design of the environment in order to develop individual personality. Temporal design could be considered all the time from the first stage of life through the fourth with an emphasis on the particular individual's aim for his or her life. It is remarkable that in Bhutan, Gross National Happiness by President Karma Ura, Center for Bhutan Studies, is popular now. This seems to suggest a role for life that is separate from “time is money”.

3.3 A Solution to Politics and the Preservation of Peace

People often assume they have learned from the tragedies of human history to avoid war. However, wars are never finished, not even in the present day, when we consider the first stage (body) and the second stage (mind), which we can think of as “animal stages”. In contrast, the third stage of life (identity) and the fourth stage (from praying) are never connected with bullying on the individual level or with war. Now is the time to consider the role of education in terms of the importance of moving from the first and second stages of life to the third and fourth ones. Just as our brains are developed before entering kindergarten or primary school, we have to think seriously about our environment, which may play a role as a non-verbal teacher.

3.4 A Solution to Health Problems

If we understand the concept of the third and fourth stages of life, we should be able to manage our hours well in terms of thinking of how we can develop these stages.

If we have an interest in learning about the meaning of life, we can maintain our health even as we grow older or become ill as long as we have a strong will to live. Thus, we can enjoy healthy experiences right up until the moment that life ends.

4. DISCUSSIONS AND REVIEW

It is clear that the world is full of affection and can be considered happy from the point of view of individual persons when they are functioning within the third and fourth stages of human life. This is quite different from an animal's life, which consists of the first and second stages only.

There are many challenging problems in the world, and it is said that humans are the most harmful animals now walking the planet. It is crucial to arrange the environment and to understand the limitations of money, property, and territory that they

can see and to focus on establishing a peaceful world in which innocent women, children, and aged people do not lose their lives in conflicts.

Our consciousness is connected with the present consciousness, with the subconscious, and with the cosmos consciousness from previous lives.

The author, personally, has seen the same spirit and heard the same voice of the spirit with other persons. He has experienced physical phenomena by the spirit that have never been explained by modern science, and he believes in the existence of an afterlife.

He has practiced hypnosis since he was young and feels that it's an effective and scientific method of working on the subconscious. Indeed, it helps people to excel in many fields. He is keenly interested in the invisible and mysterious world —telepathy, psychokinesis, dowsing, remote viewing, and so on.

Many religions have taken the stance that prior lives and subsequent lives are superior to our present lives. People call this Paradise. Spirit is sometimes called "ectoplasm". Many people have researched the spirit and the spiritual world, including explorations into near death experiences. Hopefully in the future we will gain more insight into these topics.

Mr. Hideto Oda, a famous researcher of spirits, once said, "Don't seek Buddha's or Jesus Christ's doing. Seek what Buddha or Jesus Christ *sought*".

Musashi Miyamoto, one of the most talented and famous Japanese Samurai, wrote in "The Book of Five Rings" [5] that "the eyes of the seeing are weak, and the eyes of insight are strong". This hints at the ways in which we gain insight into the true nature of things.

Future Issues

It is hopeful that all of religions gather together at the future symposia of temporal design and discuss common concept or philosophy to solve these problems that form the basis of maintaining lives and environments in terms of time.

We can't directly perceive air, electricity, and so on with our eyes. But we know that they really exist, and that there is an invisible world all around us. We are all connected in the common subconscious by synchronicity, which is sometimes called connection or fate.

"There is no coincidence. There is only necessity."

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