

Back in Europe, Basel

Letter by Sadananda
to Vamandas, Hella and friends, June 19, 1961

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Dear friends,

I am sorry for not being able to sit among you and listen when the author Walther Eidlitz, whom I know as Vamandas, tells you of a philosophy of life and of the world that leads to a *more profound* understanding of existence – the what, how and why of all existence – than we generally have in the world.

You must not forget that Eternal Power, wherever it is at work in the world, is expressed in the thought images of the prevailing time and culture. To really be able to gain a factual and positive insight from Vamandas' lectures and implement it in our own lives, we must try to see beyond the seemingly Indian appearance and see the essence – for true knowledge is conveyed to *mankind* and is never Indian, Asian, European or African.

Since childhood we are all brought up within a particular world view, and this world view will determine our way of thinking, our ideas and our opinions, which we all too quickly and easily tend to consider to be absolute, to be the only possible and correct ones.

If you *try* to be just like children and forget everything that you consider yourself to know, believe and have understood; if you put your beliefs within parenthesis for a while, are completely still and try to take in something *completely* different; then, once you are back home, you can objectively assess if you have received something new and more profound than you already had or *not*.

You should *not* be romantic or sentimental, but calm and objective, and think *actively, with an attitude of service*; and ask – always ask – *who* are we, why are we here and what is behind this edifying play of millions of universes that now perish, now appear, now move blossomingly in space.

Don't we all need an inner security that grants us the power to view the appearance and disappearance of our universe and all universes as a multicoloured, quickly changing curtain behind which *true* reality is concealed? A security like that of a sunray which shines into the darkness, being seemingly violated by dust, mist and clouds, but still knows that it *eternally belongs to the*

Sun, to God if you wish, and is Light, of God's Own nature – and a firm knowledge that in reality we are neither men nor women, neither Indian nor European, but according to our inner nature meant to *serve* God and those who serve Him, and thus can make the passage beautiful for ourselves and our fellow beings and create a noble, bright world where we understand each other instead of fighting each other in the battle of life, in which even the best persons degenerate into intellectual, psychologically complex animals.

Let us learn to see the worlds and God – from the Centre, no longer from the periphery as we are used to. If we call the centre Krishna, like the Vedas do, I can send you my own teacher's blessing – "Krishne matir astu" – may our thoughts be directed towards Him, the Centre.

I am at the hospital at the moment and don't know when I can be with you – in your wonderful country to which I owe so very much – but if you all strive towards Krishna, towards the Centre, I am sure that the power of this very Centre will bring me to you – against all seeming obstacles. Here in Switzerland I am already closer to you than I was in India.

I look forward to seeing you!

Your old and new friend

Sadananda