KANZ NEWS – June 2018

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There's no essential difference between the old and the young

Both are slaves to their own desires and gratifications. Maturity is not a matter of age, it comes with understanding. The ardent spirit of inquiry is perhaps easier for the young, because those who are older have been battered about by life, conflicts have worn them out, and death in different forms awaits them. This does not mean that they are incapable of purposive inquiry, but only that it is more difficult for them. While one is young is the time to investigate, to experiment with everything. (Source: Education and the Significance of Life)

Why does the mind grow old? It is old, is it not, in the sense of getting decrepit, deteriorating, repeating itself, caught in habits – sexual habits, religious habits, job habits, or various habits of ambition? The mind is so burdened with innumerable experiences and memories, so marred and scarred with sorrow, that it cannot see anything freshly but is always translating what it sees in terms of its own memories, conclusions, formulas, always quoting; it is authority–bound; it is an old mind. You can see why it happens. All our education is merely the cultivation of memory. Your brain soaks in what they have repeated, and you get your degree and go on with the process – the job, the routine, the incessant repetition. So, what is happening is that through pressure, through stress, through strain, our minds are being crowded, drowned by influence. We are wearing down the mind, not using it. (Source: The Book of Life)

The image and quotes above are taken from a series of exhibition panels created by Vikram Parchure. The title of the exhibition is "To the Young".

Vikram is a designer exploring design as an instrument of social change and value education.

Krishnamurti's deep concern for the young led him to exhort youth to insightfully understand that the old ways of problem-solving will prove too inadequate to deal with the complexity of present-day world dilemmas. He said that only a mind that is fresh, youthful, perceptive and ever-willing to face the challenges of uncertainty can deal with this challenge successfully. What makes for such a youthful quality of mind, regardless of the body's physical age? This is the vitally important question that is explored in these panels.

Each KANZ newsletter is presenting one of the panels developed by Vikram for the reader's interest and reflection on the key themes of this exhibition.

David Bohm and Krishnamurti: Collected Recordings



David Bohm heard about Krishnamurti in the late 1950s and they first met in London in the early 1960s.

In an interview where he is likely to be describing their first private meeting, Bohm said:

[Krishnamurti] came in and there was a long silence, but then we began discussing. I told him all about my ideas in physics, which he probably couldn't have understood in detail, but he got the spirit of it. I used words like 'totality', and when I used this word 'totality', he grabbed me by the arm and said, 'That's it, that's it!'

Bohm described those initial meetings as follows:

We began to meet every time he came to London and had one or two discussions. In the first year, I wanted to discuss the question of the universal and the particular with him, and we raised the question 'Is mind universal?' and he said yes.

• • •

When we left, I had the feeling that the state of mind had changed, I could see that there was no feeling, but clarity.

Over the following years, Bohm became profoundly acquainted with Krishnamurti and deeply involved with the activities at Brockwood Park in England. For more than two decades, they took part in several remarkable series of one-on-one conversations and group discussions. In the many audio and video recordings documenting their meetings, the alchemy between the two is palpable. Due to his sensitivity—and an interplay of scientific exactness and creative approach—many consider Bohm to have been the perfect interlocutor for Krishnamurti, arguably acting as a sort of translator, or doorway, leaving no stone unturned in the process of their inquiry.

The Krishnamurti Foundation has collected these recordings and made them available for free on the Foundation's YouTube channel. They are grouped in two playlists, the first containing <u>one-on-one</u> <u>conversations</u>, the second, <u>group discussions and seminars</u>, where Bohm and K's participation played a major role (including the key series *The Ending of Time* and *Nature of the Mind*). There are over 50 recordings made available spanning from 1965 to 1983; some of these have never before been released.

Playlists on YouTube

- <u>One-on-one converstions</u>
- Group discussions and seminars

The immeasurable is not of this world



"The immeasurable is not of this world; it is not put together by the mind because what the mind has put together, the mind can undo. To understand the immeasurable, which is to enter into a different world altogether, we must understand this world in which we live, this world which we have created and of which we are a part -the world of ambition, greed, envy, hatred, the world of separation, fear, and lust.

That means we must understand ourselves, the unconscious as well as the conscious, and this is not very difficult if you set your mind to it. If you really want to know the totality of your own being, you can easily discover it. It reveals itself in every relationship, at every moment, when you are entering the bus, getting a taxi, or talking to someone. But most of us are not concerned with that because it requires serious endeavor, persistent inquiry. Most of us are very superficial; we are easily satisfied with such words as God, love, beauty. We call ourselves Christians, Buddhists, or Hindus and think we have solved the whole problem. We must shed all that, let it drop away completely, and it will drop away only when we begin to know ourselves deeply. It is only through understanding ourselves that we shall find something which is beyond all measure."

J. Krishnamurti Hamburg 1956, Talk 6

View short video – <u>here</u>

Why Do You Say There is No Psychological Evolution?



"We have evolved not only biologically but also psychologically, inwardly, subjectively. Psychologically, we think we can grow; we can become something: more noble, more courageous, less violent, less brutal, less cruel, you follow? To us the idea of psychological growth is tremendously important. Otherwise the ego has no meaning.

I don't know if you follow this. I meditate in order to become. I breathe in order to keep the brain quiet. I am becoming all the time. Either in the business world, in the world of technology, in the world of skill, I am always becoming something better. I'm a better carpenter than I was two years ago, better electrician, better chemist, better this and better that. And I apply the same movement to the psyche."

View short video <u>here</u>.

Book Review - The First And Last Freedom



The First and Last Freedom" is a book that covers all aspects of "The Teachings" comprehensively, and as such, it might be regarded as a good introduction to K and the understanding of the fundamental issues of life. Here is a list of some titles from the first 21 chapters:

- Introduction
- Self–knowledge
- Action and Ideals
- Belief
- Effort
- What is the Self?
- Fear
- Awareness
- Desire
- The Thinker and the Thought
- Can Thinking solve our problems?
- The Function of the Mind
- Self-centred Activity
- Time and Transformation

The second half of the book consists of some of the questions that were put by individuals to Krishnamurti at various times, Thirty eight in all. For example:

• On the Present Crisis

- On Loneliness
- On Suffering
- On Gossip
- On Prayer and Meditation
- On the Conscious and Unconscious Mind
- On Death
- On God
- On the Meaning of Life
- On the Stillness of the Mind

In addition, the book carries a foreword written by the well known author Aldous Huxley, who was a long-term friend of Krishnamurti.

The book was first published in 1954. According to Wikipedia, there have been over 140 editions published in ten different languages. The work has also been made available as a freely readable electronic document through *Krishnamurti Online*, the official Krishnamurti online repository. (click here)

"The First and Last Freedom" is just one of the many books available for loan from the postal library. For a full catalogue, see:

http://www.krishnamurti-nz.org/library

"The problems oF the world are so colossal, so very complex, that to understand, and so to resolve them, one must approach them in a very simple and direct manner; and simplicity, directness, do not depend on outward circumstances, nor on our particular prejudices and moods. As I was pointing out, the solution is not to be found through conferences, blueprints, or through the substitution of new leaders for old, and so on, The solution obviously lies in the creator of that problem, in the creator of the mischief, of the hate and of the enormous misunderstanding that exists between human beings, The creator of this mischief, the creator of these problems, is the individual, you and I, not the world as we think of it. The world is your relationship with another. The world is not something separate from you and me; the world, society, is the relationship that we establish. or seek to establish, between each other"

from The First And Last Freedom, Chapter 4, "Self-Knowledge

Christchurch Dialogue Meetings

...so let us find out what is involved in pleasure and whether it is possible to live in a world that does not contain pleasure but a tremendous sense of joy, of bliss.

You may ask why then should life not be guided by pleasure: For the very simple reason that pleasure must bring pain, frustration, sorrow and fear, and, out of fear, violence.

Saturday, 30 June, 2:00pm – 4:00pm Christchurch City South Library Learning Centre 66 Colombo Street, Sydenham Room

(Please use the back door to the right of the main door)

Enquiries: aakaasha@glenrowan.nz, 03 329 4789

Showings of Krishnamurti videos and group dialogues:

CHRISTCHURCH

- monthly: contact Pauline Matsis 03 312

1470 / paulinematsis@gmail.com

- monthly: contact Kyoko Giebel 03 329 4789
- / aakaasha@glenrowan.nz

NELSON

- contact David Jones / d.bones@kinect.co.nz

PALMERSTON NORTH

- monthly: join online Meetup group here

HAMILTON

- contact: Clive Elwell 022 085 7184 / clive.elwell@gmail.com

AUCKLAND

- the last Sunday of every month: contact Krishna Umaria 09 488 7482 / krishna.umaria@gmail.com



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