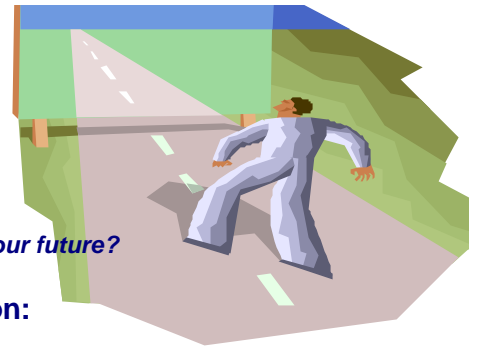


# DESTINY

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2003

## DISCUSSION THEME:

- *What is destiny*
- *Whom or What has written our destiny and can this be changed*
- *What about Horoscopes, palm reading and déjà vu experiences: do they tell us our future?*



The following are some of the comments generated during the discussion:

“Fate”

“Something that’s supposed to happen”

WHAT IS DESTINY?

“Ultimate outcome”

“Pre-ordained”

We have to constantly review and RENEW our actions to make a better life for others

Our life is like a flow chart, at different stages of our life we have the opportunity to make right or wrong decisions, which could change our future through our actions, BUT ultimately, the decision rests on God and whether he feels changing our destiny is required

Lord Shiva was with his wife Parvati when they happened to look down on a young boy. Lord Shiva stated to Parvati that the boy was about to die. The boy was selling milk at the time and offered a serving to a holy personage. Pleased with the boy’s action, the Devotee blessed the boy with a long and healthy life. Moments later, Parvati exclaimed that the young boy was still alive. Lord Shiva explained that he had no other option but to change his destiny, as a result of the boy’s own action and the blessings of a true Devotee

The ultimate force designing and carving our destiny is this Almighty God

WHOM OR WHAT HAS WRITTEN OUR DESTINY AND CAN THIS BE CHANGED?

The almighty creator has written our destiny and is the only one who can change it. However, this can only be done through our own actions (Karam)

We should be prepared to give blessings freely. Whether or not these blessings are accepted is up to God. Never be under the impression that we can change an individual’s destiny with ill thoughts or negative blessings. They will always backfire and we will be the ones to suffer the consequences

No action goes in vain. No effort is lost. As one sows, so one reaps

*What about horoscopes / dreams / déjà vu experiences?*

These tend to be so generalistic that when applied to any situation in any circumstance, they have relevance. There are individuals who do have psychic abilities but these abilities should not be abused, because the ultimate one with the power to do and change all is God. Keep faith in what we know is correct and true: Almighty God!

The law of Karma is governed by cause and effect. The effects experienced at this present moment in time may have had their causes in the past, and the causes of the present shall grow into the effects of the future.

Destiny refers only to our past actions, making man its victim, but the law of Karma infuses the spirit of action, the urge to work and progress by focussing attention on a better future through self-effort. It is the basic formula for right and purposeful living:

*Some people say karma does everything. It is all destiny. I am destined by my karma to be this or that. So why then should I make an effort? It is my destiny. This is fatalism. This will bring disillusionment and misery. This is a false argument.*

*‘An intelligent man will certainly not pose such a question. You have made your own destiny from within by your thought and action’ – Vivekananda*

Shallow men believe in luck. Wise and strong in cause and effect - Plato