

RIGHT VISION

By Ven Hedigalle Pannatissa Nayaka Thera

IT gives me great pleasure to pen a few words from the sacred Land of the Enlightened One, to this journal, especially at a time when scientific knowledge penetrates the atmosphere and reaches the heavenly bodies like the moon.

Undoubtedly, the man's visit to the moon is a unique event in the history of mankind and the advancement of Scientific knowledge. Yet, it will take a long time to realise as to what benefit the Human Being is to derive from his venture to find and reach planets, when he is ignorant of the very purpose of his sojourn here and his fate after death.

It is in finding out the Truth upon which the worldly bodies including the human beings depend, exist and disappear that Our Teacher, the Blessed One made history 2559 years ago. On his enlightenment, under the Bodhi Tree, Thathagata realised the Great Doctrine of Cause and Effect embodies in the Four Noble Truths. Then only the entire middle of the man's birth existence death and rebirth was solved.

Having realised the four noble Truths, the Blessed One revealed the way to end the recurring sorrows, and this way is widely known as the Eightfold Path. Samma Ditthi or the Right Vision is the first of those. When we contemplate on the illusion of life and innumerable sorrows that one temporarily taken as pleasures, it becomes clear that every form of supposed to be enjoyment is something quite impermanent, and the desire to derive happiness too often leads to sorrow and inconvenience. That is why clear thinking and Right Vision is of paramount importance to find out the Truth and the way to end suffering.

Analysing the success or failure of a particular human being will clearly show that such success or failure was mostly due to the wise or unwise actions of the very being, and only partly due to the outside agents. Thinking rightly on this line will undoubtedly show one reaps the results of one's own action sooner or later. This naturally leads to the realisation of the ultimate Truth of Cause and Effect and dispel the ignorance of attributing every phenomena to an unseen and unknown Divine Power.

On the path of right vision as envisaged by the Blessed One, anyone can see that inconveniences of life caused by illness, old age, separation from the beloved ones, contact with those whom one dislikes, absence of the things that are desired are in one and only category of Dukkha or suffering. If anyone is

responsible for the creation of man, he has been the actual cause of all these suffering this will not end even by Death only consolation is that when one gets the right vision, he rightly grasps the cause, and mends his own actions for the good of not only himself, but also for the entire humanity by practising Metta the all absorbing kindness.

MAY ALL BEINGS BE HAPPY