

THE POINTLESS PURSUIT OF USELESSNESS AT THE OPEN MULTIVERSITY

Saros is an organization concerned with education. It has a diverse membership from different backgrounds, interests and walks of life. All share a common philosophy. This is the philosophy of Unity, respect and responsibility.

The 'Bangers and Mash' school of philosophy makes the following declaration. Philosophy is not the exclusive domain of clever academics or wiseacreing drunks. The true meaning of philosophy is 'love of Wisdom'. That is, philosophy is the basis for a way of life.

Every man and woman has a philosophy of life. They may not talk about it. They may not formulate it. They may not wish to do so. They may not be able to do so. They may not even be aware that they have a philosophy. Some may simply accept the philosophy of others. But every man and woman has a philosophy. That is your philosophy of life?

A person's philosophy expresses itself in everything they do. It underlies their actions, their emotional involvements. It lies behind the theoretical framework they use to interpret the complexity of our internal and external worlds. Even the most down to earth of us has such a theoretical framework. Our senses cannot detect abstract entities such as electricity or money. They are part of our collective theoretical framework, based on a philosophy.

Every man and woman has a philosophy but not everyone is a philosopher. A 'philosopher' is a lover of wisdom and seeks it with all his heart. Saros philosophy is designed to help such seekers.

The essence of Saros Philosophy is very simple. It can be summed up in three precepts.

- Acknowledge the Unity.
- Respect each and every created being.
- Be responsible for ones own thoughts, feelings and actions.

Unity is that which is within all things. Unity is that within which all things exist. But Unity itself is not a thing for Unity is subject to no limitation. Unity cannot be sensed, felt, imagined or thought of. Unity is the source of all objects, sensations and mental states, but it is not limited by them. In this sense Unity is a sort of nothingness. It is nothing in the sense that it cannot be comprehended. But unity is not 'nothing' in the sense of the absence of things. Unity is not void. Unity is all that is, was and will be.

Acknowledging Unity frees us from our self-imposed limitations. It creates a still space within, from which the merry-go-round of thoughts, feelings and actions can be observed.

Acknowledgement of that Unity which is in all beings brings respect for all beings. But first there must be self-respect. This is not arrogance but the attitude of a responsible being. Such responsibility requires courage. The courage not to blame society, one's parents, Nature or God for one's circumstance; the courage to take responsibility for what one is and what one does.

Responsibility brings freedom, freedom from false gods. Everyone has a god. For some it is their work. For some it is the good opinion of others. Some worship the genitals. For some simply prolonging the duration of the physical body is god.

Every dog has its master. We all have somebody or something, real or imaginary for which we are prepared to sit up and beg. A master for whom we are prepared to roll over and play dead or fetch and carry sticks.

Any man or woman who makes a god of anything less than Unity is a slave. Anything less than Unity is limited. The servants of that which is limited are subject to even greater limitation.

This does not mean that a philosopher negates the world. Unity is in all things. A philosopher may join in all the activities of our common life, but they are not his master. The philosopher constantly seeks that which is highest within himself. if he attains this he seeks that which is higher still. Man was created to walk upright. Walk straight with pride in your humanity.

Unity is acknowledged by returning to source. All beings have within them an urge to regain contact with their ultimate source. This is the aim of 'meditation' or 'prayer'. The creation longs to know its creator. Much of our science and religion is a byproduct of this longing. Both attempt to represent the arising of complexity and diversity from an initial Unity and simplicity. This may take the form of elaborate creation myths involving choirs of angels or hordes of invisible particles. But to bring fulfillment the return to source must involve the whole being. Unity must be celebrated in our thoughts, feelings and actions.

It is evident that acknowledging Unity is a pointless activity and if you persist in it you will become totally useless! Something has a point when it is instrumental in achieving something else. The point of a spade is to dig holes. The point of working overtime may be to pay for a holiday abroad.

The acknowledgement of the Unity has no such point. It is pointless or to put it another way it is the point. The acknowledgement and celebration of Unity is an end in itself. This is the way of a philosopher.

A philosopher is responsible for his own thoughts, feelings and actions. As such he or she cannot be coerced or bribed by those who lack respect. A philosopher may chose to serve in various ways, but he cannot be used by people.

A philosopher knows that we are in Unity and Unity is us. Saros seeks to perpetuate this knowledge.