



Five Looming DISASTERS

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The future remains always unknown and takes strange turns which no one would have ever conceived. Moreover, my approach to life is to not be bothered with the past and future. The past is no more, the future is not yet -- all that we have got in our hands is this moment. The past is dead and the future is unborn.

Keeping this approach in mind, I would like to say a few words. First, there is every possibility that there will be no future as far as life is concerned. We are coming closer to a dead-end street. It is sad to recognise the fact, but it is good to recognise it, because then there is the possibility of taking a different turn. As things are moving today,

the logical conclusion is a global suicide.

There is only one hope: that life does not follow logic, that it is irrational. If it was rational, mathematical and logical, then you could not give more than twenty years to life on this earth.

The reasons are five:

First:

Nuclear Weapons

First, the nuclear weapons are piling up every day. Right now, only five countries are nuclear powers.



only five countries are nuclear powers. Within twenty years, twenty-five more countries will have joined the nuclear club. Thirty countries will have nuclear weapons. Already we have so much nuclear power that the whole earth can be destroyed seven times. And this will show you the insanity of man. Now what is the point of piling up more and more nuclear weapons?

Everybody is not a Jesus Christ, and everybody is not going to be resurrected again and again -- seven times. The truth is, even Jesus himself was never resurrected, because in the first place he never died. The President of the Soviet Union, Gorbachev, said, "It is not possible to calculate how much destructive energy is already available." Just one submarine -- and there are thousands of submarines moving underwater carrying nuclear weapons -- just one submarine is equal to hundreds of Second World Wars. So the first problem is nuclear weapons.

Second: Population Growth

The second problem is the immense rate of population growth. By the end of this century, we will have seven billion people on the earth. And the earth is so heavily exploited that it cannot support that much population. Fifty per cent of the population has to die simply of hunger. And just think, if fifty per cent of the people die, what will be the situation of the living ones? There will be nobody even to carry their corpses to the graveyard; they will be rotting in your streets, in your



the situation of the living ones? There will be nobody even to carry their corpses to the graveyard; they will be rotting in your streets, in your neighbourhood, even in your own house. The whole world will have become a vast graveyard, stinking of death.

No effort is being made by the politicians to prevent the population growth. On the contrary, a few rich countries of the West, for example, Germany -- where people are intelligent and can see that more population means more death, more population means more poverty, more population means more disease -- have stopped producing children. And the politicians of those countries are giving incentives to produce more children because their population is decreasing.

They are not worried about the whole world. Their whole worry is... for example, Germany is losing three thousand people every day and thirty thousand immigrants are entering into Germany. The politician is not worried about the world, he is worried about his power, his country. If this continues for twenty years -- that their

world, he is worried about his power, his country. If this continues for twenty years -- that their population keeps decreasing and immigrants go on coming more and more -- the immigrants will be in the majority, they will be the rulers. So before it becomes a problem, the Germans have to start producing as many children as poor countries are doing. And the same is true of a few other Western countries.

Third: Disease Aids

The third problem is the disease AIDS, which is spreading like wildfire. And there seems to be no possibility, at least in the coming



twenty years, of finding a cure for it. Scientists are more or less certain that there is no cure.

But no country is making celibacy a crime, and celibacy is the cause of the disease AIDS. It is the monks, the soldiers, the students, who live separately from women, who become homosexuals -- and homosexuality has created the disease. But homosexuality is only a symptom; the real problem is celibacy, brahmacharya.

And it is not that the ecology is being disturbed from one direction alone. It is being destroyed by multi-dimensional methods. For example, because of the accumulation of carbon dioxide and man-made chemicals, the heat of the atmosphere has risen as it has never risen before,

-Osho

celibacy, brahmacharya.

Mahatma Gandhi has written a book, *Celibacy is Life*. Now somebody has to write a book, *Celibacy is Life*. And every country is trying to hide the facts: how many homosexuals they have, how many people suffer from AIDS -- because no one, no country, wants to be exposed to the world as homosexual. But you can see that every day people die from AIDS, all over the world. And AIDS takes time to ripen -- it can take years -- and then for death, at least two more years. If so many people are dying, millions around the world must be practising homosexuality.

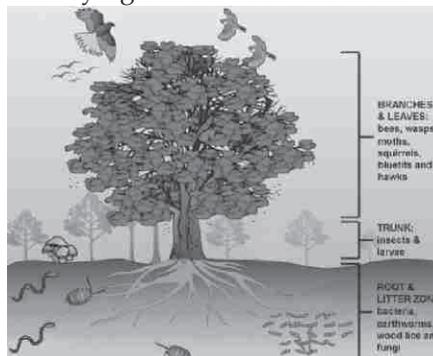
But it seems nobody has the guts to say that celibacy should be made a crime, and that those who are homosexuals should not be punished, but trained again to become heterosexuals. Every college, every school, every hospital, every institution that is concerned with human welfare should teach homosexuals, un-condition their mind from homosexuality and turn it to the natural way, the well-trodden way of heterosexuality.

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All the religions are suffer from it, because they all teach celibacy. But no religion is ready to accept it, and whenever you don't accept an enemy you are give more power to the enemy. Recognise it, so that you can find ways to fight with the enemy.

Fourth: Ecology

The fourth great problem that man will face in the coming twenty years is a collapse of the ecology. We are unaware of how we are destroying our own sources of life



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We are unaware of how we are destroying our own sources of life in different ways. Life needs an ecological balance, and that balance is being disturbed.

For example, around the earth is a layer of air. And just on top of that layer is the ozone layer, which is a protective seal for the earth. But we have made holes in it by sending rockets to the moon and to Mars, which was absolutely unnecessary. You cannot manage the earth and you are attempting to manage the whole universe.

The rockets, going out and coming in, have made holes and those holes are now turning out to be one of the most dangerous things -- because the sun sends rays and all the rays are not life-giving. That layer, the ozone layer, returned those rays which would bring destruction and disease to the earth, and allowed only life-giving rays. But we have made holes, not only with rockets, but by other means also. Suffer all those destructive rays are entering the atmosphere. Our atomic explosions have destroyed that layer; and there are many gases

have destroyed that layer; and there are many gases which scientists are producing -- those gases have also created holes. Now the whole protective seal is no longer protective.

And it is not that the ecology is being disturbed from one direction alone. It is being destroyed by multi-dimensional methods. For example, because of the accumulation of carbon dioxide and man-made chemicals, the heat of the atmosphere has risen as it has never risen before. For the first time there is a possibility that the ice on both the poles, north and south, has started melting. It has never melted before. If all the ice from the north and south poles melts, then all the oceans will rise by four feet. Cities which are ports, like Mumbai, New York, or London, will be filled with water. But four feet... perhaps we can manage somehow.

The Himalayan ice has never melted, it has been eternally there. If the heat of the atmosphere rises a little more, then the Himalayan ice will start melting, and that is the greatest danger. And the heat is rising because nobody is listening, nobody is caring about anything. What happens to future humanity is nobody's concern -- they are concerned with their power, their politics.

Atomic experiments continue, nuclear experiments continue. And it is a really horrible picture if the whole Himalaya melts; all the seas of the world will rise by forty feet. Perhaps four feet... somehow we can protect ourselves by creating walls or something, but forty feet higher... The oceans will drown all your big cities, all your wealth, because they

can protect ourselves by creating walls or something, but forty feet higher... The oceans will drown all your big cities, all your wealth, because they are all near the ocean.

A forty-foot rising of the oceans has immense implications. All the rivers will start moving backwards, because the oceans will not absorb them. The land will be flooded with water, and a flood will happen exactly like the one we read about in the Old Testament, which happened in Noah's time, when all life and everything got drowned. It has been, up to now, only a story; but the coming twenty years will see it happen as a fact. And there is nobody, and no way... In that small story it was possible to create an ark, because sooner or later the floods would subside. But this is not a flood that is going to subside.

Fifth: **Man**

And the most dangerous thing is the fifth, which is man himself, with all his discriminations between black and white, between East and West, and a new discrimination has suddenly arisen between North and South. Humanity is divided by religions, by nations, by colour, by race. and they are at each other's throats. To avoid these five dangers,



South. Humanity is divided by religions, by nations, by colour, by race. and they are at each other's throats. To avoid these five dangers, which man has never faced before, seems to be almost impossible -- unless a miracle happens. But miracles happen only in stories, not in real life. And the most disturbing factor is that the intelligentsia of the world, the politicians of the world, the philosophers of the world are ignoring all these facts.

It happens in times of danger, that the only way to protect your peace of mind is to ignore the danger. This is called the "ostrich logic." The ostrich lives in the desert, a beautiful animal with a long neck, very colourful. Whenever the ostrich sees its enemies, other animals who can kill it, it has a strange logic -- but very human. It simply digs a hole in the sand of the desert and puts its head inside the hole, because then it cannot see the enemy. And its logic is: if you cannot see the enemy, the enemy does not exist.

People are concerned about trivia, very stupid things, when great dangers are ahead. I hope that some sanity comes to humanity and life can be saved, but we will have to encounter all these five factors very carefully.

-Osho
The Razor's Edge, Ch 2.