

THE GITA AND SATYAGRAHA

-M.K. GANDHI

THE CONCEPT OF TRUTH

- The word 'Satya' is derived from 'Sat' which means being.
- God is the ultimate truth of this world. We can find God in truth. We can't see God but if we can perceive truth, we can perceive God. So it is said that Truth is God.
- God is known as 'Sat- chit- ananda'. Sat means Truth, Chit means knowledge, Ananda means bliss or happiness. When can know Truth, we can get knowledge from it, the knowledge is pure and from that knowledge we can feel peace or happiness in our mind. That is why we should follow the path of truth.
- Our life is like a pilgrimage and we are like pilgrims. So in our pilgrimage, if we can make Truth as our breath, if we can make Truth as the central priority of our life, we can follow any principle or rule in life.
- Gandhiji presents the law of Truth in a wider sense. According to him following the truth should not limit to only speaking the Truth. Truth must expressed through thinking (thought), speaking (speech) and by doing (action). It means Truth must be everywhere.
- If someone is able to realize the Truth it means he or she has got all the knowledge. Without true knowledge no one can feel inward peace. So truth can make people understand what to do, what to see and what to read.
- The path of Truth is not an easy one. Because Truth can be realized by single-minded devotion (abhyasa) and indifference to every other interest in life (vairagya)- according to Bhagavadgita.
- Sometimes it may happen that Truth appears differently from one person to another just like a tree has countless different leaves. But among the differences, the root is one for all. God also appears to different individuals in different aspects, still we know God is one and truth is the right designation of God. So one should follow the Truth which their perception or inner-self says as Truth, there is nothing wrong.
- If someone commits any mistake while perceiving Truth, it will be spontaneously set right. One may have to sacrifice self- interest and have to suffer a lot but it will lead them to God.