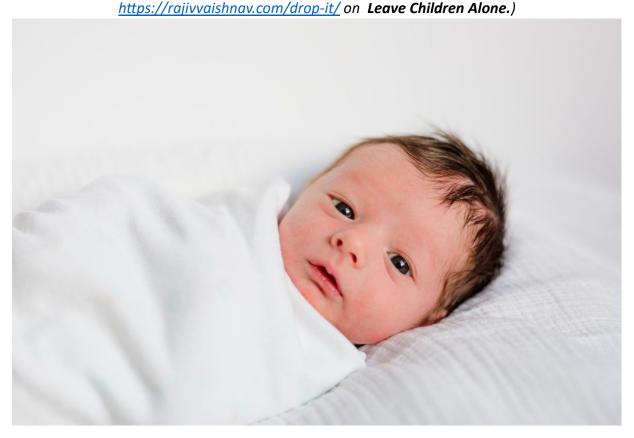
A STORY by A TRUE MASTER—The BUDDHA

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(Reference: A story from **Rajiv Vaishnav**'s Blog at



A religion is to be sought. A religion has to be chosen consciously. Nobody should be made a Hindu or a Jain or a Christian or a Mohammedan by birth.

Birth has nothing to do with religion. Because of this association with birth, <u>the whole world seems to be religious</u>, and nobody is religious. Everybody is religious: somebody is a Hindu, somebody is a Christian. Nobody is a Hindu and nobody is a Christian — people have been befooled. Leave children alone. Never impose any religion on them. Don't condition their minds. Leave their enquiry free.

- Help so that they can enquire, but don't give them answers.
- Help so that their questions become very penetrating.
- Help so that they can ask intensely.
- Help so that someday they can ask so intensely that their very intensity becomes a transformation, but never give them answers.

Readymade answers are very deceptive.

Religion has to be lived; religion has to be chosen. It is a commitment — how can you commit for your child? Who are you to commit for your child?

- Help the child to grow, love him deeply, and don't give him answers which you don't know yourself.
- If he asks, 'Is there a God?' tell him the truth, that you don't know! Tell him the truth, that you are seeking; tell him the truth, that he has to seek himself; and tell him that if someday he finds, he has to tell it to you also.
- Be humble. Before the child, the temptation is great in the parents to be knowledgeable — that is foolishness. You don't know anything about God, and you go on teaching the child, you go on conditioning his mind.

Don't condition anybody's mind. Leave them — intact, untouched, virgin. One day....

Because religion is such a deep urge, it need not be taught. Through the teachings the urge is corrupted. It need not be taught.

- Leave him to himself, love him. Through your love he will create the opportunity to understand prayer someday.
- Love him, and through your love he will become aware that existence must be a mother to him, a father to him.
- But don't talk about the Father who is in heaven, just be a father to him. Your being a father will have given him the first glimpse that the existence is not alien, that somebody takes care, that somebody loves.
- Love him, mother him so that he comes to feel that existence is a mother.
 Through your care through your love, through your mothering let him become aware of certain qualities in existence. Don't talk theology it is rubbish.

Don't go on telling him, 'Pray.'... Wait, let the right moment come, but help the situation so that he becomes capable of prayer.

Don't teach him the words of the prayer. Just create a situation in the family: the atmosphere of prayerfulness.

The father prays, the mother prays, and when the child sees father praying, he can feel the delight that comes on his face.

• He can see that he (i.e. his father, after prayer) is transported to some other world.

- He can see that after prayer, for hours he (i.e. his father, after prayer) is a totally different person more loving, softer and more delicate.
- He can see that after prayer there is an after-glow that follows the father the whole day.

There is no need to teach anything. One day you will suddenly find when you open your eyes after your prayer, that your child is sitting by your side — deep, somewhere else, his eyes closed. He does not know the words, but now he (i.e. the child) understands the feeling, and that is REAL baptism.

Don't force him to go to anywhere because it will corrupt him, and he (i.e. the child) will start thinking that religion is nothing but a business. He will understand by and by, that religion is nothing but politics.

- All mystics, without exception, know that all religions are true;
- all philosophers, without exception, know that all religions are false; and
- all politicians, without exception, know that all religions are useful.

Don't teach the child the politics of religion. Leave him intact, alone, but give him an opportunity, a milieu, an atmosphere, a climate where he can feel in touch with what religion is. Then he will be religious.

But parents are more interested

- that the child .. should follow the same foolishness that they have been following;
- that the child should be corrupted in the same way they have been corrupted;
- that the child should have an identity of belonging to some organization —
 the same that they belong to.

This is the politics of religion; it is not religion at all.

Otherwise, **every child is born Buddha**, comes with the potential to reach the ultimate consciousness, to discover the truth, to live a life of bliss. But the family destroys all these dimensions; it makes him utterly flat.

Each child comes with a tremendous intelligence, but the parents make him mediocre, because to live with an intelligent child is troublesome.

He (i.e. the child) doubts, he is skeptical, he inquires, he is disobedient, he is rebellious — and the family wants somebody who is obedient, ready to follow, imitate.

Hence the parents, from the very beginning, want to destroy the seed of intelligence. The parents, from the very beginning, want to almost completely burnt the seed of intelligence, so there is no possibility of any sprouts coming out of it.

It is a miracle that a few people like **Zarathustra**, **Buddha**, **Jesus** or **Lao Tzu**, escaped from the social structure, from the family conditioning. They seem to be **great peaks of consciousness**, but in fact,

- every child is born with the same quality, with the same potential;
- 99.9% of people can become Buddhas
- just this conditioning has to disappear.

Otherwise,

- there will be Hindus and Jainas and Buddhists, and, Christians and Mohammedans;
- but not Buddhas, not Mahaviras, not Mohammeds;

that will not be possible. Buddha rebelled against HIS background, Jesus rebelled against HIS background, Mohammed rebelled against HIS background. These are all rebels — and the society is absolutely against the rebellious spirit.

If you love your child, you will make him aware not to fall into any trap, not to be trapped because there are enemies all around:

- You will make him aware, 'Don't be trapped by anybody. Remain free, remain loving, search and seek and find your God.
- The God that you find is the only God.
- The God that is taught is not God; it is just a word.

And when you have found YOUR religion, it is not separate from life, it is one with it. It is life itself!'

So don't teach a child Christianity, Hinduism, Jainism. At the most, give him a milieu, if you love him, so that he can grow a sensitivity towards what religion is in its essence, in its purity. Don't teach him (i.e. a child) about so many flowers, just let him become sensitive to the fragrance of it — that will do. THAT is baptism.

Osho: Come Follow To You, Vol 4 Chapter #2 Chapter title: Between Adam and Jesus Q 5 (excerpts)
Osho: Philosophia Ultima Chapter title: I Teach the Commune Chapter #3 (excerpts)

मज़हबी बहस मैं ने की ही नहीं फ़ालतू अक़्ल मुझ में थी ही नहीं<u>अकबर इलाहाबादी</u> mazhabī bahs maiñ ne kī hī nahīñ

fāltū aql mujh meñ thī hī nahīñ<u>Akbar Allahabadi</u>

"I never engaged in religious debates,

For I never had any idle intellect within me."

आएँ हम. डश्क़ तो अपना डश्क टटा समझो क्रिया-कर्म नज़र जिस दिन डश्क से नाता हुआ.....ज़ूहर kaise ba.az aa.e.n ham, ishq to apnaa jis din ishq se naata TuuTaa samjho kirya-karm hu.aaZuhoor Nazar "How can we give up on love when love has become our very religion? The day our bond with love breaks, consider it our last day."

When **Osho** says — "Don't teach him about so many flowers, just let him become sensitive to the fragrance of it — that will do." Now, listen to this amazing song — "Mera to jo bhi kadam hai, wo teri raah me hai" — This soul stirring song from the film "Dosti" (1964) is one of my all-time favorite songs, written by **Majrooh Sultanpuri**, composed by **Laxmikant Pyarelal** and brilliantly sung by **Mohammad Rafi**.

Mera Toh Jo Bhi Kadam Hai Video Song | Dosti | Mohammad Rafi Hits | Laxmikant Pyarelal Songs at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tP0D6ZJII1M

Note: Please read "A STORY of A TRUE MASTER—The BUDDHA" dated March 24, 2024 (Reference: A story from Rajiv Vaishnav's Blog at https://rajivvaishnav.com/drop-it/) at https://diginews360.com/a-story-of-a-true-master-the-buddha/.