

MAHATHMA

GANDHIJI

THE WAY TO RULE

THE WORLD

By understanding the following you yourself can set the path....

1. It has always been a mystery to me how men can feel themselves honoured by the humiliation of their fellow beings.
2. I have been known as a crank, faddist, madman. Evidently the reputation is well deserved. For wherever I go, I draw to myself cranks, faddists and madmen.
3. Where there is only a choice between cowardice and violence, I advice violence.

Contd....

4. I am not pleading for India to practice non-violence because she is weak. I want her to practice non-violence being conscious of her strength and power. No training in arms is required for realization of her strength.

5. Love never claims, it ever gives. Love ever suffers, never resents, never revenges itself.

Contd...

6. Insist upon truth by loving argument, by the testimony of your own life. Once you are assured of the truth, refuse to recant even to death.

7. I believe non-violence is infinitely superior to violence - forgiveness more manly than punishment.

Contd....

8. **Chastity** is not a hot-house growth. It cannot be protected by the surrounding wall of the purdah. It must grow from within, and to be worth anything it must be capable of withstanding every unsought temptation.
9. **Perfection** is the attribute of the Almighty, and yet what a great democrat He is! What an amount of wrong and humbug He suffers on our part. He even suffers insignificant creatures of His to question His very existence, though He is in every atom about us, around us and within us.

Contd...

- 10. Without devotion, action and knowledge are cold and dry and may even become shackles.*
- 11. Violence is bred by inequality, non-violence by equality.*
- 12. We can only win over the opponent by love, never by hate. Hate is the subtlest form of violence. Hatred injures the hater, never the hated.*

Contd...

13. *They may torture my body, break my bones, even kill me; then they will have my dead body, not by obedience.*

14. *I believe that if in spite of the best of intentions one is led into committing mistakes, they do not really result in harm to the world or for that manner to any individual. God always saves the world from the consequences of unintended errors of men who live in fear of Him.*

Contd...

15. Bitter experience has taught me that all temples are not houses of God. They can be habitations of the devil. These places of worship have no value unless the keeper is a good man of God. Temples, mosques and churches are what man makes them to be.

Contd...

16. Untouchability may be considered to be an ancient tradition; the institution of child widowhood and child marriage may be considered to be an ancient tradition; and even so many an ancient horrible belief and superstitious practice. I would sweep them out of existence if I had the power.

Contd...

17. He cannot cease to be because hideous immoralities or inhuman brutalities are committed in His name. He is long-suffering. He is patient but He is also terrible. He is the most exacting personage in the world and the world to come.

18. The rich are discontented no less than the poor. The poor man would become a millionaire, and the millionaire; the multi-millionaire.

Contd....

19. *It is a tragedy that religion for us means today nothing more than restriction on food and drink, nothing more than adherence to a sense of superiority and inferiority. There cannot be any grosser ignorance than this.*
20. *Religion which takes no account of practical affairs and does not help to solve them is no religion.*
21. *I may be a despicable person, but when Truth speaks through me I am invincible.*

Contd....

22. *Untouchability poisons Hinduism as a drop of arsenic poisons milk.*
23. *We should be ashamed of resting, or having a square meal so long as there is one able bodied man or woman without work or food.*
24. *He metes out the same measure to us that we mete out to our neighbours-men and brutes. With Him ignorance is no excuse. And with all He is ever forgiving for He always gives us the chance to repent.*

Contd....

25. Man is a fallible being. He can never be sure of his steps. What he may regard as answer to prayer may be an echo of his pride. For infallible guidance man has to have a perfectly innocent heart incapable of evil.

26. He has reserved to Himself the right of becoming manifest to whomsoever He chooses. He is a Being without hands and feet and other organs, yet He can see Him to whom He chooses to reveal Himself.

Contd....

27. There are moments in your life when you must act, even though you cannot carry your best friends with you. The 'still small voice' within you must always be the final arbiter when there is a conflict of duty.

28. I have never believed that all contact with woman was to be shunned for the due observance of brahmacharya. That restraint which demands abstention from all contact, no matter how innocent, with the opposite sex is a forced growth, having little or no vital value.

Contd.....

29. God did not create men with the badge of superiority or inferiority; no scripture which labels a human being an inferior or untouchable because of his or her birth can command our allegiance. It is a denial of God and Truth which is God.

30. He is the greatest democrat the world knows, for He leaves us unfettered to make our own choice between evil and good.

Contd.....

31. The divine music is incessantly going on within ourselves, but the loud senses drown the delicate music, which is unlike and infinitely superior to anything we can perceive or hear with our senses.

32. I do not want to foresee the future. I am concerned with taking care of the present. God has given me no control over the moment following.

Contd.....

33. It is not necessary for toleration that I must approve of what I tolerate. I heartily dislike drinking, meat-eating and smoking, but I tolerate these in Hindus, Mohammedans and Christians, even as I expect them to tolerate my abstinence from all these, although they may dislike it.

Contd.....

34. Somehow or other man has dominated woman from ages past, and so woman has developed an inferiority complex. She has believed in the truth of man's interested teaching that woman is inferior to man. But the seers among men have recognized her equal status.

Contd.....

35. Truth resides in every human heart, and one has to search for it there, and to be guided by truth as one sees it. But no one has a right to coerce others to act according to his own view of truth.

36. I suggest we are thieves in a way. If I take anything that I do not need for my own immediate use and keep it, I thief it from somebody else.

Contd.....

37. *I do not believe in free love-secret or open. Free open love I have looked upon as dog's love. Secret love is besides cowardly.*
38. *I do not share the belief that there can or will be on earth one religion. I am striving, therefore, to find a common factor and to induce mutual tolerance.*
39. *If I had no sense of humour, I should long ago have committed suicide.*

Contd.....

40. What is true of individuals is true of nations. One cannot forgive too much. The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong.

41. I make no hobgoblin of consistency. If I am true to myself from moment to moment, I do not mind all inconsistencies that may flung in my face.

Contd.....

42. Rationalists are admirable beings, rationalism is a hideous monster when it claims for itself omnipotence. Attribution of omnipotence to reason is as bad a piece of idolatry as is worship of stock and stone believing it to be God.

43. There is as much bravery in keeping one's home in good order and condition as there is in defending it against attack from without.

Contd.....

44. The poor are often not satisfied when they get just enough to fill their stomachs; but they are clearly entitled to it and society should make it a point to see that they get it.

45. I love all mankind as I love my own countrymen, because God dwells in the heart of every human being, and I aspire to realize the highest in life through the service of humanity.

Contd.....

46. God's word is;

'He who strives never perishes'. I have implicit faith in that promise. Though, therefore, from my weakness I fail a thousand times, I will not lose faith but hope that I shall see the Light when the flesh has been brought under perfect subjection, as some day it²⁴ must.

Contd.....

47. *I look upon myself as a dull person. I take more time than others in understanding some things, but I do not care. There is a limit to man's progress in intelligence; but the development of the qualities of the heart knows no bounds.*

48. *God helps when one feels oneself humbler than very dust under one's feet. Only to the weak and helpless is divine succour vouchsafed.*

Contd.....

49. *Human life is a series of compromises and it is not always easy to achieve in practice what one has found to be true in theory.*

50. *I hate the ruthless exploitation of India even as I hate from the bottom of my heart the hideous system of untouchability for which millions of Hindus have made themselves responsible. But I do not hate the domineering Englishmen as I refuse to hate the domineering Hindus. I seek to reform them in all the loving ways that are open to me.*

Contd.....

51. The true source of rights is duty. If we all discharge our duties, right will not be far to seek. If leaving duties unperformed we run after rights, they will escape us like a will-o'-the-wisp. The more we pursue them, the farther will they fly.

Contd.....

52. I venture to suggest that it is the fundamental law of Nature, without exception, that Nature produces enough for our wants from day to day, and if only everybody took enough for himself and nothing more, there would be no pauperism in this world, there would be no man dying of starvation in this world.

Contd.....

53. To see the universal and all-pervading Spirit of Truth face to face one must be able to love the meanest of creation as oneself. And a man who aspires after that cannot afford to keep out of any field of life.

54. He and His Law are one. The Law is God. Anything attributed to Him is not mere attribute. He is the attribute. He is Truth, Love and Law and a million other things that human ingenuity can name.

Contd.....

55. Satisfaction lies in the effort, not in the attainment. Full effort is full victory.
56. It is faith that steers us through stormy seas, faith that moves mountains and faith that jumps across the ocean.
57. I know the path. It is straight and narrow. It is like the edge of a sword. I rejoice to walk on it. I weep when I sleep.
58. It is better in prayer to have a heart without words than words without a heart.

Contd.....

59. The supreme consideration is man. The machine should not tend to make atrophied the limbs of man.

60. The hardest heart and the grossest ignorance must disappear before the rising sun of suffering without anger and without malice.

Contd.....

61. I can truthfully say that I am slow to see the blemishes of fellow beings, being myself full of them, and therefore being in need of their charity. I have learnt not to judge any one harshly and to make allowances for defects that I may detect.

Contd.....

- 62. If I have to be reborn, I should be born an untouchable, so that I may share their sorrows, sufferings and affronts leveled at them, in order that I may endeavour to free myself and them from that miserable condition.*
- 63. But all my life through, the very insistence on truth has taught me to appreciate the beauty of compromise. I saw in later life that this spirit was an essential part of satyagraha.*

Contd.....

64. I believe in the proper education of women. But I do believe that woman will not make her contribution to the world by mimicking or running a race with men. She can run the race, but she will not rise to the great heights she is capable of by mimicking men. She has to be the complement of man.

Contd.....

65. I am not at all concerned with appearing to be consistent. In my pursuit after Truth, I have discarded many ideas and learnt many new things. Old as I am in age, I have no feeling that I have ceased to grow inwardly or that my growth will stop with the dissolution of the flesh. What I am concerned with is my readiness to obey the call of Truth, my God, from moment to moment.

Contd.....

- 66. I am no socialist and I do not want to dispossess those who have got possessions.*
- 67. I am endeavouring to see God through service of humanity, for I know that God is neither in heaven, nor down below, but in everyone.*
- 68. I do not subscribe to the superstition that everything is good because it is ancient. I do not believe either that anything is good because it is Indian.*

Contd.....

69. No matter how insignificant the thing you have to do, do it as well as you can, give it as much of your care and attention as you would give to the thing you regard as most important. For it will be by those small things that you shall be judged.

70. When you are in the right you can afford to keep your temper, and when you are in the wrong, you cannot afford to lose it.

Contd.....

71. I hold that the more helpless a creature, the more entitled it is to protection by man from the cruelty of man.

72. Death is our friend, he is the truest of friends. He delivers us from agony. He helps us against ourselves. He ever gives us new chances, new hopes. He is like sleep, a sweet restorer.

Contd.....

73. There are limits to the capacity of an individual, and the moment he flatters himself that he can undertake all tasks, God is there to humble his pride. For myself, I am gifted with enough humility to look even to babes and sucklings for help.

74. A reformer cannot afford to have close intimacy with him whom he seeks to reform.

Contd.....

75. I do not seek redemption from the consequences of my sin. I seek to be redeemed from sin itself, or rather from the very thought of sin.

76. If we have faith in us, if we have a prayerful heart, we may not tempt God, may not make terms with Him. We must reduce ourselves to a cipher.

Contd.....

77. *The golden rule of conduct is mutual toleration, seeing that we will never all think alike and we shall always see Truth in fragments and from different angles of vision.*

78. *The rich have a superfluous store of things which they do need and which are, therefore, neglected and wasted; while millions starve and are frozen to death for want of them. If each retained possession only of what he needed, none would be in want and all would live in contentment.*

Contd.....

79. We want healers of souls rather than of bodies. The multiplicity of hospitals and medical men is no sign of true civilization. The less we and others pamper our bodies the better for us and the world.

80. To err, even grievously, is human. But it is human only if there is determination to mend the error and not to repeat it. The error will be forgotten if the promise is fully redeemed.

Contd.....

81. It has become the custom among us to pay homage to the memory of the great dead not by observing the day of the death anniversary but by observing their birthday. The simple reason, perhaps, is that they never die with the dissolution of their bodies.

82. I am firmly of opinion that India's salvation depends on the sacrifice and enlightenment of her women.

83. To call woman the weaker sex is a libel; it is man's injustice to woman.

Contd.....

84. Temple entry is not the only way to remove untouchability; it is one of the many ways all of which have to be taken.

85. The freedom of India will demonstrate to all exploited races of the earth that their freedom is very near and that in no case will they be exploited.

86. Why is it easier to go down or slip down than to rise up step by ⁴⁴step.

Contd.....

87. Ordinarily we can distinguish between good and evil, but on occasion we cannot.

88. Even as a tree has a single trunk but many branches and leaves, so there is one true and perfect religion but it becomes many, as it passes through the human medium.

Contd.....

89. Today millions are experiencing the pangs of hunger in passive helplessness. How can I speak to these millions, or identify myself with them, without undertaking this fast and knowing myself what pangs of hunger mean?

90. The central disease of India is its deep poverty and deeper ignorance.

91. Pure unmixed non-violence is impossible as Euclid's line.

Contd.....

92. *We shall have to expand the work so that it covers every village. This cannot be done by imposition from without. The workers will have to be allowed to carry on the work themselves, more or less free of regulation by a central authority.*

93. *Just as arms symbolize violence the Charkha symbolizes non-violence in the sense that we can most directly realize non-violence through it. But it cannot symbolize non-violence so long as we don't work in accordance with its spirit.*

Contd.....

94. Even the blind who do not see the rose perceive its fragrance.

95. If a crore of people were to do individual satyagrahas would baffle Government. Then Government would either be helpless or resort to use guns. You cannot sit silent after saying that individual satyagrahas can be offered. It is one's duty to do it.

96. Sacrifice without renunciation cannot endure. You should only give up things for which you no longer feel attachment.

Contd.....

97. My hesitancy in speech, which was once an annoyance, is now a pleasure. Its greatest benefit has been that it has taught me the economy of words.

98. If I had to serve the people in whose midst my life was cast and of whose difficulties I was a witness from day to day I must discard all wealth, all possession.

Contd.....

99. *There is no such thing as 'Gandhism', and I do not want to leave any sect after me.*

100. *Strength does not come from physical capacity. It comes from an indomitable will.*

101. *Your belief that there is no connection between the means and the end is a great mistake. 50 We reap exactly as we sow.*

Contd.....

103. Intolerance betrays want of faith in one's cause.

104. Men say that I am a saint losing himself in politics. The fact is that I am a politician trying my hardest to become a saint.

105. A government that is evil has no room for good men and women except in its prisons.

106. Fatalism has its limits. We leave things to fate after exhausting all the remedies.

Contd.....

107. Mass production takes no note of the real requirement of the consumer.

108. I believe that if untouchability is really rooted out, it will not only purge Hinduism of a terrible blot but its repercussions will be world wide. My fight against untouchability is a fight against the impure in humanity.

109. Humbug there undoubtedly is about all religions. Where there is light, there is also shadow.

Contd.....

110. The bond of a slave is snapped the moment he considers himself to be a free being.

111. In times to come the people will not judge us by the creed we profess or the label we wear or the slogans we shout but by our work, industry, sacrifice, honesty and purity of character.

112. The quest for truth cannot be prosecuted in a cave. Silence makes no sense where it is necessary to speak.

Contd.....

113. A helpless mouse is not non-violent because he is always eaten by pussy. He would gladly eat the murderess if he could.

114. If you want something really important to be done, you must not merely satisfy reason, you must move the heart also.

115. When you cease to think of yourselves as slaves, it will become impossible for anyone to enslave you.

Contd.....

116. The method of passive resistance is the clearest and safest, because, if the cause is not true, it is the resisters, and they alone, who suffer.
117. I know of no greater sin than to oppress the innocent in the name of God.
118. I do not disbelieve in idol worship. An idol does not excite any feeling of veneration in me. But I think that idol worship is part of human nature. We hanker after symbolism.

Condt.....

119. I reject any religious doctrine that does not appeal to reason and is conflict with morality. I tolerate unreasonable religious sentiment when it is not immoral.

120. Means and end are convertible terms in my philosophy of life.

121. Death, which is an eternal verity, is revolution, as birth and after is slow and steady evolution. Death is as necessary for a man's growth as life itself.

Contd....

122. All sins are committed in secrecy. The moment we realise that that God witnesses even our thoughts we shall be free.

123. My non-cooperation has its root not in hatred, but in love. My personal religion peremptorily forbids me to hate anybody.

Contd.....

124. A drop in the ocean partakes of the greatness of its parent although it is unconscious of it. But it is dried up as soon as it enters upon an existence independent of the ocean. We do not exaggerate when we say that life is a mere bubble.

125. I do not forbid the use of images in prayer. I only prefer the worship of the formless. This preference is perhaps improper. One thing suits one man; another thing will suit another man, and no comparison can fairly be made between the two.

Contd.....

126. As a splendid palace deserted by its inmates looks like a ruin, so does a man without character, all his material belongings notwithstanding.

127. The most practical, the most dignified way of going on in the world is to take people at their word, when you have no positive reason to the contrary.

Contd.....

128. In the midst of humiliation and so-called defeat and a tempestuous life, I am able to retain my peace, because of an underlying faith in God, translated as Truth. We can describe God as millions of things, but I have for myself adopted the formula-Truth is God.

Contd.....

129. As regards God it is difficult to define Him; but the definition of truth is deposited in every human heart. Truth is that which you believe to be true at this moment, and that is your God. If a man worships this relative truth, he is sure to attain the Absolute Truth, that is, God, in course of time.

Contd.....

130. Ahimsa means infinite love, which again means infinite capacity for suffering. Who but woman, the mother of man, shows this capacity in the largest measure.

131. I do dimly perceive that whilst everything around me is ever-changing, ever-dying, there is underlying all that change a Living Power that is changeless, that holds all together, that creates, dissolves and re-creates. That informing Power or Spirit is God. And since nothing else I see merely through the senses can or will persist, He alone is.

Contd.....

132. We are not ashamed to sacrifice a multitude of other lives in decorating the perishable body and trying to prolong its existence for a few fleeting moments, with the result that we kill ourselves, both body and soul.

133. My experience has shown me that we win justice quickest by rendering justice to the other party.

Contd.....

134. I believe that all the great religions of the world are true more or less. I say 'more or less' because I believe that everything that the human hand touches, by reason of the very fact that human beings are imperfect, becomes imperfect.

135. One should eat not in order to please the palate, but just to keep the body going. When each organ of sense subserves the body and through the body the soul, its special relish disappears and then alone does it begin to function the way nature intended it to be.

Contd.....

136. I fancy I know the art of living and dying non-violently. But I have yet to demonstrate it by one perfect act.
137. When a woman is assaulted, she may not stop to think in terms of himsa or ahimsa. Her primary duty is self-protection. She is at liberty to employ every method or means that comes to her mind, in order to defend her honour.

Contd.....

138. It was far better to remain unlettered and break stones for the sake of liberty than to go for a literary education in the chains of slaves.

139. Fasting could be made as powerful a weapon of indulgence as of restraint. Many similar later experiences of mine as well as of others can be adduced as evidence of this startling fact.

Contd.....

140. The world knows so little of how much my so-called greatness depends upon the incessant toil and drudgery of silent, devoted, able and pure workers, men as well as women.
141. I would far rather that India perished than that she won freedom at the sacrifice of truth.
142. Religions are different roads converging upon the same point. What does it matter that we take different roads so long as we reach the same goal.

Contd.....

143. Where love is, there God is also.

144. One had better not speak truth, if one cannot do so in a gentle way; meaning thereby that there is no truth in a man who cannot control his tongue.

145. There is no one without faults, not even men of God. They are men of God, not because they are faultless but because they know their own faults, they strive against them, they do not hide them and are ever ready to correct themselves.

Contd.....

146. If somebody else possesses more than I do, let him. But so far as my own life has to be regulated, I dare not possess anything which I do not want.

147. Service which is rendered without joy, helps neither the servant nor the served. But all other pleasures and possessions pale into nothingness before service which is rendered in a spirit of joy.

Contd....

148. It is a bad habit to say that another man's thoughts are bad and ours only are good and that those holding different views from ours are the enemies of the country.
149. Our civilization, our culture, our Swaraj depend not upon multiplying our wants-self-indulgence, but upon restricting our wants-self-denial.
150. Even as Truth is eternal, so is bliss derived from it. Hence we know God as Sat-chit-ananda, one who combines in Himself Truth, Knowledge and Bliss.

Contd.....

151. Return good for evil became my guiding principle.

152. We have been taught to believe that what is beautiful need not be useful and what is useful cannot be beautiful. I want to show that what is useful can also be beautiful.

153. Democracy is not a state in which people act like sheep. Under democracy individual liberty of opinion and action is jealously guarded.

Contd.....

154. The divine guidance often comes when the horizon is the blackest.

155. The greatest men of the world have always stood alone. Take the great prophets Zoroaster, Buddha, Jesus, Muhammad-they all stood alone like many others whom I can name. But they had living faith in themselves and their God, and believing as they did that God was on their side, they never felt lonely.

Contd.....

156. I have nothing new to teach the world,
Truth and non-violence are as old as the hills.

157. God tries His votaries through and
through, but never beyond endurance. He
gives them strength enough to go through the
ordeal He prescribes for them.

158. I have not the shadow of a doubt that any
man or woman can achieve what I have, if he
or she would make the same hope and faith.

Contd.....

159. A regenerate outgrows the original taint, even as purified gold outgrows the original alloy.
160. Finite human beings shall never know in its fullness Truth and Love which is in itself infinite. But we do know enough for our guidance.
161. Nature has so made us that we do not see our backs; it is reserved for others to see them. Hence it is wise to profit by what they see.

Contd.....

162. There is a consistency that is wise and a consistency that is foolish. A man who in order to be consistent would go bare-bodied in the hot sun of India and sunless Norway in mid-winter would be considered a fool and would lose his life in the bargain.

163. The wife is not a husband's bond slave, but his companion and his help mate and an equal partner in all his joys and sorrows, as free as her husband to choose her own path.

Contd.....

164. Literary training by itself adds not an inch to one's moral height and character-building is independent of literary training.
165. To slight a single human being is to slight those divine powers and thus to harm not only that being but with him the whole world.
166. We do not need to proselytize either by our speech or by our writing. We can only do so really with our lives. Let our lives be open books for all to study.

Contd.....

167. Life is an aspiration. Its mission is to strive after perfection which is self-realization. The ideal must not be lowered because of our weaknesses or imperfections. I am painfully conscious of both in me. The silent cry daily goes out to Truth to help me to remove these weaknesses and imperfections of mine.

Contd.....

168. Assaults have been made on my life in the past, but God has spared me till now, and the assailants have repented for their action. But if someone were to shoot me in the belief that he was getting rid of a rascal, he would kill not the real Gandhi, but the one that appeared to him a rascal

Contd.....

169. There is nothing to prevent us from profiting by the light that may come from the West. Only we must take care that we are not overpowered by the glamour of the West. We must not mistake the glamour for true light.

170. To a true artist only that face is beautiful which, quite apart from its exterior, shines with the truth within the soul. There is no beauty apart from Truth.

Contd.....

171. Divine knowledge is not borrowed from books. It has to be realized in oneself. Books are at best an aid, often even a hindrance.
172. I believe in the absolute oneness of God and therefore, of humanity. What though we have many bodies, we have but one soul. The rays of the sun are many through retraction. But they have the same source. I cannot, therefore, detach myself from the wickedest soul nor may I be denied identity with the most virtuous.

Contd.....

173. There are eternal principles which admit of no compromise and one must be prepared to lay down one's life in the practice of them.

174. Error can claim no exemption even if it can be supported by the scriptures of the world.

175. Where there is no Truth, there can be no true knowledge. That is why the Chit or knowledge is associated with the name of God. And where there is true knowledge, there is always bliss (Ananda). Sorrow has no place there.

Contd.....

176. Cleanliness is next to godliness. We can no more gain God's blessing with an unclean body than with an unclean mind. A clean body cannot reside in an unclean city.

177. Scriptures cannot transcend reason and truth. They are intended to purify reason and illuminate truth.

Contd.....

178. Silence is a great help to a seeker after truth. In the attitude of silence the soul finds the path in a clearer light and what is elusive and deceptive resolves itself into crystal clearness. Our life is a long and arduous quest after Truth, and the soul requires inward restfulness to attain its full height.

Contd....

179. I have not conceived my mission to be that of a knight-errant wandering everywhere to deliver people from difficult situations. My humble occupation has been to show people how they can solve their own difficulties.

180. Experience has taught me that silence is a part of the spiritual discipline of a votary of truth. Proneness to exaggerate, to suppress or modify the truth wittingly or unwittingly, is a natural weakness of man, and silence is necessary in order to surmount it.

Contd.....

181. As error does not become truth by reason of multiplied propagation nor does truth become error because nobody sees it.
182. There is no religion higher than Truth and Righteousness.
183. Truth is like a vast tree, which yields more and more fruit, the more you nurture it. The deeper the search in the mine of Truth, the richer the discovery of the gem buried there, in the shape of openings for an even greater variety of service.

Contd.....

184. I see and find beauty in Truth or through Truth. All Truth, not merely true ideas, but truthful faces, truthful pictures or songs are highly beautiful. People generally fail to see beauty in truth, the ordinary man runs away from and becomes blind to the beauty in it. Whenever men begin to see beauty in Truth, then true art will arise.

Contd.....

185. God alone knows a man's heart. And hence, the safest thing is not to worship any person, living or dead, but to worship perfection which resides only in God, known as Truth.

Contd.....

186. God does not punish directly. His ways are inscrutable.

187. It is my settled conviction that no deserving institution ever dies for want of support. Institutions that have died have done so either because there was nothing in them to commend to the public or because those in control lost faith, or which is perhaps the same thing, lost stamina.

Contd.....

188. Never own defeat in a sacred cause and make up your minds henceforth that you will be pure and that you will find a response from God. But God never answers the prayers of the arrogant, nor the prayers of those who bargain with Him.

189. Let everyone try and find that as a result of daily prayer he adds something new to his life, something with which nothing can be compared.

Contd.....

190. The prayer of even the most impure will be answered. I am telling this out of my personal experience. I have gone through the purgatory. Seek first the Kingdom of Heaven and everything will be added unto you.

191. Prayerful well-meaning effort never goes in vain and man's success lies only in such an effort. The results is in His hands.

Contd.....

192. God is a very hard taskmaster. He is never satisfied with a fireworks display. He mills, although they grind surely and incessantly, grind excruciatingly slow and He is never satisfied with hasty forfeitures of life.

193. If any one doubts the infinite mercy of God, let him have a look at the sacred places. How much hypocrisy and irreligion does the prince of yogis suffer to be perpetrated in His holy name.

Contd.....

194. It cannot be a matter of pleasure to me or anyone else to see human nature dragged to the mire. If we are all sons of the same God and partake of the same divine essence, we must partake of the sin of every person whether he belongs to us or another race.

195. Mine is not a religion of a prison-house. It has room for the least among God's creations. But His proof against insolence, pride of race, religion or colour.

Contd.....

196. I am in the world feeling my way to light 'amid the encircling gloom'. I often err and miscalculate. My trust is solely in God. And I trust me only because I trust God.

If I had no God to rely upon, I should be, like Timon, a hater of my species.

197. Faith is a function of the heart. It must be enforced by reason. The two are not antagonistic as some think. The more intense one's faith is, the more its what's one's reason. When faith becomes blind it dies.

Contd.....

198. If anybody tried to take out my body in a procession after I died, I would certainly tell them-if my corpse could speak-to spare me and cremate me where I had died.

199. I do not want to die of a creeping paralysis of my faculties-a defeated man. An assassin's bullet may put an end to my life. I would welcome it. But I would love, above all, to fade out doing my duty with my last breath.

Contd.....

200. I believe in the message of truth delivered by all the religious teachers of the world. And it is my constant prayer that I may never have a feeling of anger against my traducers, that even if I fall victim to an assassin's bullet, I may deliver up my soul with the remembrance of God upon my lips.

Contd.....

201. I shall be content to be written down an imposter if my lips utter a word of anger or abuse against my assailant at the last moment.

Contd....

202. If I am to die by the bullet of a mad man, I must do so smiling. There must be no anger within me. God must be in my heart and on my lips. And you propose me one thing; Should such a thing happen, you are not to shed one tear.

Contd.....

And his last words.....

He' Ram
(O, God)

If you had understood the whole thing;

- ▶ You would have realized God and if so you are capable of ruling the world like Mother Theresa, Mahatma Gandhi, Nelson Mandela, Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Albert Einstein, Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther King and the like who live even after their death thus ruling the world.

If you had been too ambitious and wanting too be the world ruler

▶ I am really sorry and you need to understand that the whole world and the universe is ruled by none other than the LORD Himself.

Thanks to three of the finest human beings I have met in my life of 57 years

► The former Assistant Indian High Commissioners to Sri Lanka in Kandy

His Excellency Misra who presented a Mahatma Gandhiji's Book of Quotes to me which contained this invaluable treasure which I am immensely glad to share with others on the valuable advice and suggestion of the former Assistant Indian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka in Kandy Her Excellency Radha Venkatraman.

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