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*All things arise and cease due to
interdependent causes and conditions*

~Δ~

Karma, Mercy and Justice

By

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Karma, Mercy and Justice

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Karma is an integral part of the order of the universe, from microcosm to macrocosm. In this universal order, the laws of nature are established. From involution to evolution. Every manifestation is governed by law, from the one to the many. Every transformation is guided by law, from the many to the one. And the law of laws is karma. That is why karma is also known as the Law of Change, from ordinary changes to transcendental change, from the human to the cosmic.

To live is to act. Even in inaction, we have acted thus. And for every action there is an opposite and equal reaction. The quality of an act determines the quality of its result. That is why karma is also known as the Law of Action and Reaction.

At the human level, the Law of Karma is the twin Law of Rebirth or Reincarnation. What is sown in one life is reaped either in the same life or in another future life. Karma is so pervasive, it operated instantly or on a long term basis. Every one gets what each one deserves. No more, no less. For good or for ill, for weal or for woe. That is why karma is also known as the Law of Justice.

When the ill-effects of karma are spread throughout a longer period of repayment involving several lives, the grace period is the hopeful mercy that we prayed for. In this grace period of mercy, we have the opportunity to develop the wisdom and fortitude to face the forthcoming karma when it ripens or matures.

Our wrong decisions are forgiven, for sure. But the corresponding wrong results that follow are left on as the lessons to profit by and to develop the strength to right what went wrong. That is why karma is also known as the Law of Learning.

In the process of all the whys and wherefores of living, our learning is transformed into wisdom. We learn to live harmoniously with our humanity as well as with the rest of the universe. That is why karma is also known as the Law of Harmony.

It is much more common knowledge that karma is either good or bad. It is because the karma that we like is called good. And the karma we do not like is called bad. But whether karma is "good or bad," the lessons of life are learned and, thus, all karma ends up being good after all.

Karma may be classified into three kinds. If we were to add up all the karma incurred from all the lives we have lived before, this would

be our accumulated or (1) Total Karma. A part of this total karma is allocated to be worked out or resolved in one life, and this becomes our (2) Present Karma, also called ripe or ready for this life present life. And (3) Future Karma is what is made or incurred at present to be reaped in a future life.

In the Seven Laws of Karma, *see box*, our **environment** is determined by the quality of our acts. Formula-wise, kind action equals a kindly environment, at home or out in the world.

The overindulgence with **sensation** conditions our behavior. It hooks, hacks, harms and hurts.

Desire brings or draws our object of desire. What we desire, we get. Either in this life or in a subsequent life. Desire is the cause of every human suffering. We differentiate desire from aspiration. We desire those objects of sensation, but we aspire for the spiritual ideals.

Thought or what we think is what we become. Positive thoughts bring positive results. Negative thoughts beget negative consequences. We become what we praise or what we criticize. In goodwill, peace is won. From good, we get better, becoming the most of our very best.

The aspiration for virtue is our idealism or **altruism**. Because altruism is a state of selflessness, it is the beginning of karmalessness, leading to spiritual freedom.

The awakening of virtue is the activation of intelligence. Intellectuality is about ideas. For example, intelligence tests measure intellectuality about ideas, not intelligence which is a misnomer. Thus there are no valid moral or ethical intelligence tests. Why? Because intelligence is about the immeasurable spiritual ideals and virtues.

Ideas are intelligent only in so far as they are in accord with the ideals such as, compassion, peace, charity, love, understanding, and other altruistic endeavors. Ideas hurt; ideals heal. When a spiritual ideal is put into practice, **virtue** awakens.

The virtues are qualities of our spirituality. Everyone has them. But some have learned to use them more, while others have not yet, thus far, and from this, the human phenomena of individual difference arises. Intelligence is activated by the virtues that essentially constitute our spiritual nature.

The Seven Laws of Karma
asa Formula

- 7 Intention = Realization
- 6 Virtue = Intelligence
- 5 Altruism = Freedom
- 4 Thought = Becoming
- 3 Desire = Object
- 2 Sensation = Conditioning
- 1 Action = Environment

Our **intention** is the state of our realization. When there is malicious intention, the malice is at the level of thought. It is a deficiency in the use of intelligence or in the application of the virtues. As we intent, so is the extent of our realization. We intend what we think we are for every given moment.

What we intend is what we will. Or what we will becomes our intention. The will is never weak; it is the source of spiritual strength. When we violate our spiritual will, we are a house divided against itself. There is self-destruction. Power is neutralized and one seems powerless. It appears as a state of helplessness.

However, we have our individual will only insofar as we are part of the cosmic or universal will. It is from this connection that we draw forth the power of our own spiritual will. but this will-power is accessed through the virtues and by which we develop strength. Thus in the living of the spiritual virtues, the power of the will is activated and, engaged at will.

The highest intention is the will to grow towards spiritual realization. We grow up by learning what karma teaches us from our life experiences, until we perfect ourselves into wisdom. As we grow from self to selflessness we, thereby, progress from karma to karmalessness. In this wisdom won, we re in oneness with the harmonies of the universe.

The seven laws of karma also correspond to the seven states of matter, energy, and consciousness. We still need to adjust to a new model of understanding where every level of consciousness has its own corresponding state of matter and of energy, and out of which a body or vehicle is constituted, enabling consciousness to function or make itself manifest.

The higher the consciousness, the finer and more powerful the state of matter and energy that have to be dealt with. Thus the mastery of consciousness is likewise the mastery of the corresponding bodies that function on their respective level of matter and energy.

The mastery of consciousness is the conquest of karma, from individual to world karma. In this resolution, spiritual freedom is attained. The ego is vanquished. The real self is found to be one with every other self. One is in all. And All is At-One. In this supreme singularity, the bliss of the universe is fulfilled in an ineffable beatific experience.

We are spiritually renewed. There is true action instead of reaction. Karma is resolved. There is the right understanding. Every transformation that is the law of change moves, from good to better into best, onto the perfect. Thus karma is also known as the Law of Spiritual Perfection.