

Hari Om from Alpharetta!

i hope this email finds everyone well...

Are you ready? Seriously, are you ready? We are. **This past month hundreds of seekers around the world engaged in the sadhana of studying *The Dark Knight Rises*. This past week dozens of these seekers from around the world engaged in the sadhana of sharing their insights into *The Dark Knight Rises*.** These thoughts have been collected, sifted and refined for a special E-Vichara...

Special E-Vichara (August 20, 2012) --- Our Commentary on *The Dark Knight Rises*

- The world is the way the world is supposed to be and to strive to destroy this (intention of the League of Shadows) is being out of tune with reality - every age needs a sage-warrior to believe the world can and should be saved
- When one ceases from identifying with an event, a project, a movement one invokes weakness (Bruce Wayne lets go of Gotham City and so himself physically, mentally, intellectually) - by loving an ideal we rise to the ideal and create hope for others to be the same (i.e. a Guru with a shishya)
- The righteous (Batman) and unrighteous (Selina Kyle) both want to make a social impact yet who actually does - where there is dharma there is development (standard of Life) and where there is adharma there is the appearance of development (standard of living)
- A leader believes people are innately good and so respects (as Batman does) rather than suspects (as Catwoman does) - fear creates followers, compassion creates captains
- Suffering builds character (Taliala al Ghul) yet this should not be forced on others, only oneself (tapas) - if success is prasad (a blessing), failure is mahaprasad (the choicest blessing)
- By taking living casually (Batman's initial battle with Bane and his initial attempts at climbing out of the pit) what should we expect but to fall - having fallen, only through learning can one rise
- Without hope there can be no despair (Bane) - when we hope we will be happy tomorrow, we will always be unhappy for the only day to be happy is the present
- Sadhana-s (spiritual disciplines) are the rope which protect us from falling - depending on sadhana though limits us from reaching the sadhya (Enlightenment) and so the final leap demands the complete conviction that only Bhagavan can protect us from falling
- When engaged in action for an altar (Gotham City) one invokes the strength of body and mind to rise - the Dark Knight rising is the Dark Knight fulfilled
- Patriotism (for a community, a city, a country, etc.) founded only on thoughts and words (Deputy Police Commissioner) is only a state of paralysis - patriotism founded on thoughts, words and deeds is a state of potency
- We believe we are beyond death of the body and name (as Bruce Wayne believes) yet if this belief is not pure we subconsciously create the most dangerous degree of ego (sattvic) for this ego is ever justified in our minds and we become ever dependent on this ego - only when we know the only purpose of living (Freedom) will we release ourselves from any and all prisons, forever
- When people (of Gotham City) are without faith (in Batman) they have consistently suffered and when people are with faith they have consistently been saved - Bhagavan is always for us, the question is are we for Bhagavan

One seeker even shared, "Watching the movie was like going on a pilgrimage." Based on the above, i would have to agree...

