

Discover the mysterious factor that makes the possible, possible!



THE

FACTOR

Discover the mysterious factor that makes the possible, possible!

by AiR



by AïR

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What is needed to make anything happen?

Man thinks there are three factors-

- 1. The doer
 - s 1771

3. The action

Man is ignorant of the fourth –

2. The equipment

The 4th Factor

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PREFACE

Nothing is impossible! Man thinks that he can make the impossible possible. His ego makes him feel that he is supreme. His arrogance makes him assume that he can accomplish anything, achieve everything he can ever think of. What is there in this world that he cannot do?

However, man forgets that he is just the doer. He is responsible only for his action. He may have the best instrument available and he may put in his best effort, but he cannot guarantee the result. When man wants something so desperately and to his dismay, it does not happen, he feels devastated. He keeps on thinking that he has to improve the three factors which according to him, are needed to control his success and achievement –

- 1. His ability and efforts
- 2. The quality of the instrument or equipment he uses
- 3. The way the action is performed

Sadly, man does not realize that despite his greatest efforts, the best tools and methods, he does not achieve the

desired results. If all actions done by different people using the same instrument produced the same results, then man would become a machine. But such is not the case. If a hundred different people take the same flute and try to play the same music, they will not produce the same sound. Why?

Man has to understand the prevalence of a Cosmic Controller that regulates everything. He has to realize that there is an unknown factor that controls the results of all his actions. For him, sometimes things happen just by chance and he calls this phenomenon luck and sometimes –serendipity. Also, at times, he is just not able to achieve simple things and becomes superstitious and performs many rituals to try to undo what has happened but to no avail.

Man has to acknowledge that there is a mysterious factor, a factor lesser known to man that controls the final outcome of all his efforts - the 4th Factor. Without discovering this 4th Factor, man will never reach the zenith. He will be helpless and capable of doing nothing. He will continue to struggle in misery. Not only will he be unable to make the possible, possible, but also what is possible, will become impossible without the 4th Factor. Come, let us discover the 4th Factor!

Man thinks he can
make the impossible possible.
But man blinks when the possible
becomes impossible.

What is this unknown factor that controls the results of all actions?

CHAPTER

Three Factors Needed for Anything to Happen

For anything to happen, it is said that three factors are necessary. The first factor is the person who is performing the action. The second factor is the instrument or the tools needed to get the thing done. The third factor is the action itself. If any one of these three factors is absent, then it is not possible to achieve the desired result. The final output is directly dependent on the quality of these three factors—the efficiency of the person, the quality of the instrument and the excellence in the action. If there is an incremental value in any of the three, then the result is obviously better. A painting depends upon the painter, the canvas, the paints he uses and his effort to paint. All three contribute to the painting. The carpenter, his saw and the wood, and his act of carpentry will decide the end result. In the making of jewellery, it depends on the goldsmith, the

machine, the gold he uses and his art. All of the three factors contribute to the final result.

Man has gotten used to believing that there are three factors that are responsible for results - his efforts, the equipment he uses and the method of his actions. All three factors together produce results. If a man wants to produce music, he needs a musical instrument, be it a piano, a guitar or a violin. Without the musical instrument, he cannot produce music. If the musical instrument is available, but there is no musician, there would be no music. By itself, neither can man produce music nor can the instrument. It is only when man acts, or performs on the musical instrument, the music is produced. Therefore, all three factors are responsible - man, the musical instrument and the act of playing music. By and large, man understands that any one factor on its own cannot produce the result. All three factors are necessary.

Can a plough produce grain without the farmer? Can a pen write a book without the author? While in today's world, robots have started replacing man but we still cannot produce any result without somebody doing the action.

Even if the person and the equipment, both are present but

there is no action, there will be no result. The action is needed for the result to happen. A potter and a pottery wheel without any spinning cannot make anything happen. A painter with his paintbrush without painting cannot create a piece of art. A teacher may have books on the table, but unless a teacher teaches, there will be no learning. Therefore, it is quite clear that all three factors are absolutely necessary for any result to appear.

Keeping in mind the need of these three factors that produce results, man expects that all teachers who have a particular qualification and use a particular method of education with prescribed textbooks should be able to teach students in a similar manner. But such is never the case. Even if students have the same level of intellect, they do not produce identical results because there seems to be another factor responsible for the results.

In fact, man has made himself miserable by expecting a particular result for a particular action he performs in a prescribed method. Despite his right action, with the right equipment and method, he gets completely frustrated when he doesn't achieve the desired result. He doesn't realize that there seems to be some mysterious reason for him not to achieve the result despite his best efforts.

Man tries hard to achieve the results he desires by implementing all the three factors but fails. For instance, ten musicians buy the same musical instrument and follow the same notes, yet they are unable to produce the same music. Why? It is simple - the ten musicians are not the same. The ten people, who use the same equipment and perform the same action, will never produce the same results because apart from their own action, each person seems to be graced with another factor which is beyond man's comprehension.

All over the world, different people achieve different levels of success. And however much man may try to define reasons for success or failure, he can't always pin down specific reasons. There seems to be some mysterious factor which is beyond his efforts and intelligence that is responsible for this unequal and seemingly unfair result.

For centuries, man has worked on improving these three factors which he believed were responsible for all the results. Man kept on improving himself. He armed himself with better skills and qualifications and became proud of how good he was. He didn't stop at that. He believed that the day you stop learning, you start dying. Therefore, he kept on improving himself as he believed

that the better he became, the better the results would be.

Man has also worked very hard to improve his equipment that helped him produce results. He has used modern technology and every possible resource to improve the tools that help him excel. He continues to use automation and several technological advancements to produce machines that can deliver extraordinary results. But man doesn't stop at that.

Not only is man improving himself and his equipment, but also trying to innovate, reinvent the method of his action. He has created many quality management programs including Six Sigma and Kaizen. He believes that a better quality method of work coupled with his skills and efficient equipment will produce the maximum results. However, man has not been able to guarantee results.

As a cook, he may use the best quality cheese and the best oven, but he may not be able to churn out the best pizzas. This confuses him. He has fallen short of his expectations and has cried in disappointment. Despite calculated risks, the best team management and financial planning, he has often found himself failing to produce the result he should have. He is not able to understand why.

In fact, if one observes closely, man focuses on two factors to achieve any result - the equipment and the effort. He somehow believes that the doer is common not realizing the fact that the doer itself can be very different and thus the results could vary.

Sportsmen are busy improving the quality of their bat, their shuttle or their golf stick. Don't they think that a better sports instrument in their hand will produce better results? On the other side of the world, people think that skill is very important and thus, there is a huge development of universities around the world. These educational institutions take pride in being in the top ten. Students from these universities are proud of their education and alma mater, but is it true that all students from top universities will produce the best of results? No doubt that the quality of the equipment and the education generally impacts the results, but we see that success doesn't always depend on these.

No doubt man's efforts are very important to achieve any result. Without sincere and dedicated work, it is not possible for man to deliver results. But unfortunately, man has paid too much attention to his efforts. Despite the best of efforts and the use of the best of instruments,

equipment, methods and processes, man still may not be able to achieve excellence in results.

While these three factors are essential for anything to happen, results are not always directly dependent only on these three factors. Let us see how.

Suppose there were many farmers farming their lands in a village. All the lands were in the same village. The seeds were purchased from the same source and the same method of farming was followed by all the farmers. However, all the farms did not produce the same yield. The farmer who worked harder and smarter would probably have got a better produce. Presuming that all the farmers were performing at the same level of efficiency, if a particular land was more fertile or less fertile, it would obviously produce an excess yield or lesser yield accordingly.

If any of the farmers followed a more efficient method of farming, there are chances that his yield would be more than the others. Here, three factors seem to be responsible for the produce - the farmer, the land and seeds, and the method of farming. However, it is strange to know that even though all the three factors remain the same, the yield is not always the same.

Let us consider another case - that of three carpenters. They buy wood and equipment to cut from the same source. They have all received training from the same carpenter, but the three still cannot produce the same results. Is there a factor other than the three factors known to man that is responsible for the result of the action performed? Why is it that the three carpenters who had put in the same effort with the same equipment, using the same method, produced results that are not the same?

In India, pottery is a very famous craft and tourists enjoy buying products of clay as souvenirs. Because of this, potters make a row of clay articles to display on pavements or in front of their stores to catch the eye of tourists. However, not all potters are able to attract the attention of tourists, and they are unable to comprehend why. They use the same spinning wheel and the same mud. They follow the same method followed by those other potters who seem popular with tourists, but are still unable to produce products like they do. What is the reason that some of the potters create a far better range of products than the others although they are all trained in the art of pottery by the same master, they all use the same tools, the potter's wheel and the same raw material? They even use the same finishing material and paints, but they

are still unable to produce the same results.

Suppose a man and a woman want to procreate, and they know that the sperm has to fertilize the ovum for conception to take place. Despite repeated copulation and attempts to cause a fusion of the two cells accurately during the fertile periods, they fail to succeed in their action. They are advised to take guidance from a fertility expert. In spite of their best efforts, they are unable to produce the desired result. The couple becomes miserable trying again and again. It frustrates them because their other friends have conceived and delivered children, while they continue to struggle. Although they are visiting the same fertility expert, they find many couples have succeeded but their efforts seem to go in vain. What is the cause for man's effort to be futile although he is following all the methods and guidelines required to achieve the desired result? If man was capable of making things happen with his effort and following a prescribed method by using the right equipment, then why is it that sometimes things don't happen as expected and man becomes unhappy that he is unable to produce the result he desires?

There are several doctors in hospitals who are qualified heart surgeons. They take pride in using the best technology and equipment. However, while there are hundreds of patients whom they treat, they are unable to guarantee that all the surgeries will be successful. Sometimes the surgeries are successful and at times they are not. What is the cause of this discrepancy? Suppose an expert heart surgeon is performing an identical operation on five patients who have the same diagnosis and are of the same age, why is it that the same doctor using the same method and same equipment is unable to produce the same result in all the five patients?

There seems to be another factor unknown to man that is responsible for the quality of the results he produces. No doubt his own performance, his equipment, and his actions are the key to make anything happen, but there seems to be another invisible factor, mysterious and unknown to him that influences the end result. What is this unknown factor that controls the results of man's actions?

Man may try, and try and try.

He may fly to reach the sky!

But despite his best efforts,

When things don't happen,

Man is confused and wonders, 'Why?'

Man breaks down and begins to Cry.

Summary

Three Factors Needed for Anything to Happen

- Three factors are necessary for anything to happen
 - 1. The Doer or Person
 - 2. The Instrument or Equipment
 - 3. The Action
- All three factors help produce results and contribute to the final outcome.
- However, the results are not always directly dependent only on these three factors.
- There seems to be another factor responsible for the quality of the results that man produces.
- What is this unknown factor that controls the results of man's actions?

CHAPTER 2

Actions and Results

What is the connection between actions and the results? Without action, there can be no result. But can an action determine exactly what the result will be? While an action on a machine will always produce an expected result, man's actions do produce results, but sometimes, they are not as per his expectations.

It is said that by itself an action is inert. What does this mean? Unless there is a live person performing that action, there cannot be a result. Even though the modern world uses technology and robotics to make things happen, at the end of the chain, there has to be somebody alive controlling the action so as to bring about the desired result. By itself the action is dead without the 'live factor'. Therefore, without the person in control of the task, ultimately there can be no result.

By now we realize that none of the three factors can produce a result independently. The equipment needs a person to do something to achieve anything. If the person has got no equipment then what can he do? And an action can only take place when there is a person involved along with an equipment. The result comes when these three factors are put together. Unfortunately, these three can definitely produce some result but cannot control the result.

Today, artificial intelligence is responsible for so many discoveries and developments. A new supermarket prides itself on auto check out. You don't need a cashier, you can go to the electronic scanner and scan your items. You can even swipe your credit card and finish your shopping. But what if the machine has a glitch? We get a beep, "Our associate will be with you shortly." The end result of any artificial intelligence is real intelligence.

Just like artificial intelligence, sometimes, cannot manage the operation independently and needs real intelligence, similarly, the real intelligence gets stuck in certain situations and needs the 4th Factor.

Can we control the results? While the three factors can influence results, yet man cannot control the results of his actions. There seems to be some intelligence beyond man's comprehension and control that is actually controlling the results. By improving our actions, making use of better quality equipment and implementing better methods, we

can definitely hope for better results, but despite doing our best, the result is often, not what we expect.

Why does man act? Man wants certain results. He wants to earn money or achieve name and fame. He may want to marry a woman he loves. There is a motivation that causes man to act, but can man actually achieve the result that he wants? He can be in control of his actions, he can create a burning desire and be passionate using every possible strategy but still, he cannot guarantee the result he desires. Does man's desire control the result? While desire is needed for man to act, desire doesn't control the result.

Man is caught in a vicious cycle. He desires something and the desire motivates him to act. He does his best and improves all the three factors to achieve the desired result. Sometimes, he does achieve it. He is happy and excited but he doesn't stop. He goes on to fulfil his next wish. Does man always achieve what he desires? Probably not! When he does not achieve the end result, he feels dejected, disappointed and becomes miserable.

Man does not realize that in pursuit of a specific result, he becomes a prisoner of his own desire, which ultimately leads to suffering. He could be happy without craving for that result. But this cycle ultimately makes man miserable.

Now consider a scenario where man acts without desire for a specific result. Then he is never miserable nor is he a prisoner of this cycle. It is desire for a specific result that makes man a prisoner of his own actions - a cycle of desire, action, result and desire again.

Can man escape from action? No man who is alive can escape from action but he can escape from the desired results of his action. While man can live without desires, he cannot live without action.

Do we control the results of our actions? Unfortunately, no. While we control our actions and the other factors, we have no control over the results. Then why do we desire a specific result when we know that we cannot achieve it all the time? The results are in the hands of a factor beyond man's control. Man is unable to decode the mystery of how the results are controlled and remains a prisoner of the cycle of action and result.

Man is ignorant of this factor that controls results. The 4th Factor is unknown to him. His ego makes him believe that he is in command of the results and this ignorance makes him suffer. When will man realize that he is in control of his actions but not in control of the results thereof? He has to humbly submit to a factor beyond the three that are under his control – the 4th Factor.

Without Action,
There can be No Result.
But even With Action, there can be
No guaranteed Result!
The Result is
influenced by the Action,
but not controlled by it!

Summary

Actions and Results

- Actions and results are inter-connected.
- While without action there can be no result, an action cannot exactly determine what the result will be.
- The three factors cannot produce a result independently.
- An action is inert by itself.
- Without the person in control of the task, ultimately there can be no result.
- Also, equipment requires a person to act upon it so that some action can take place.
- Action can only happen when there is a person and the equipment.
- The result comes when these three are put together.
- However, these three do produce and influence the result but do not control the result.
- The results are in the hands of a factor beyond man's control.
- Man is unable to decode the mystery of how the results are controlled and thus remains a prisoner of this cycle of action and result.
- His ego makes him believe that he is in command of the results and this ignorance makes him suffer.

CHAPTER 3

Is there a 4th Factor?

There is a 4th Factor unknown to man that is finally responsible for all the results of man's actions. Man normally depends on three factors to produce any result – himself, his equipment and the action performed. However, as already enumerated in several cases in the previous chapter, man is unable to control the results of his actions. There is a mysterious 4th Factor that finally causes the outcome of all his attempts.

There is no doubt that the first three factors are very important to produce results. One must not undermine the importance of man's efforts, the quality of his equipment and the efficiency of the methods and processes he uses. Needless to say, if there was no pilot, one could not take an aeroplane to its destination. The farmer is required to plough the fields, just as the golfer is required to hit the ball. If the pilot, the farmer and the golfer were present, but there was no aeroplane, no plough or no golf stick, there would be no result. There

would also be no result if there was no action of flying, farming or golfing.

All these three factors are primary factors that produce results. However, these three factors cannot guarantee a result. There is a 4th Factor that may completely change the expected result to man's astonishment. What is this mysterious 4th Factor? It is beyond a common man's understanding. Often, some farmers with the same land and irrigation equipment are able to produce double the yield than their neighbours, leaving fellow farmers wondering in envy as to how this has happened. What was that magical factor that created the extra produce? It was not that the farmer worked harder, nor that his land was more fertile. His methods of irrigation were very similar, but still when all the farmers were selling their produce in the market, what made this farmer collect the highest cash? The other farmers cannot understand that it was the 4th Factor that caused an unequal result despite an equal effort

Many a time, sportsmen have shocked the world. Those who are the underdogs and least expected to bag the gold, appear out of nowhere and surprise everyone. While the world applauds in bewilderment, it is still unable to define the mysterious factor that causes it.

There is a 4th Factor that is responsible for results of our

actions. It may be in business, politics or sports. There is an unknown factor that can turn the tables. This 4th Factor confuses man and in a way makes him doubt his own efforts. Despite doing his best, when man is unable to deliver the desired result of his action, he becomes discouraged and despondent. He shakes his head in despair when he loses the girl he loved to another who was not so smart, rich, educated or intelligent. Despite his best effort in gallantly courting the girl for many years, he becomes heartbroken when he is faced with the result that he least expected. How could he lose his sweetheart to a fool that he never considered to be competition?

Man is slowly coming to terms with this mysterious 4th Factor. He is realizing that there are not just three factors responsible for results and he acknowledges that there is a mysterious 4th Factor too. There were times when man would let his ego and arrogance fly sky high and in his overconfidence, he would declare what he is going to deliver. But today, man is cautious, because he is beginning to understand that there is a 4th Factor which is beyond his control. He cannot guarantee results. If he foolishly does, he could be put to shame.

Man always thought that everything depended on his efforts. He believed that there was nothing in this world he could not achieve. In fact, even today, there are many blind

optimists who let their positive thinking go beyond a point. They challenge the mysterious 4th Factor and make it look like they are beyond it.

Long ago, James Allen said, "As a man thinketh, so is he." Much later Norman Vincent Peale, the father of positive thinking said, "You can if you think you can." And Henry Ford is said to have quoted, "Whether you think you can or think you can't, either way you are right." They believed that man's thoughts were supreme. Thoughts created feelings and corresponding actions, which led to results. While they were right that thoughts were powerful, what they didn't realize is that thoughts that led to actions did not necessarily guarantee results.

Is the 4th Factor against positive thinking? Absolutely not! It is important to live with faith, hope and trust. All these positive emotions along with other positive emotions like courage, confidence and enthusiasm help foster better results. But they cannot produce a guaranteed result. There seems to be another factor that finally decides what happens post man's actions.

Students study for exams, but sometimes it is not the smartest or the one who works the hardest that comes first in the class. Was it just luck that whatever James had studied was exactly in the question paper? What was the

magical reason that he could answer best? It was not his intelligence or his teacher. Neither was he referring to special books. It baffled the other students to know that James came first although he was nowhere in the race.

There seems to be a 4th Factor that controls the results. There is no doubt that the three factors are responsible for any action to take place, but it is the 4th Factor that controls the final result.

Man pays a lot of attention to his efforts. He believes he is the doer, the controller of action and of results. He believes that it is his effort that chooses the best equipment or method or process. Therefore, man thinks that all the three factors responsible are in his control and so he controls results. He doesn't realize that there exists a 4th Factor which is beyond his direct control. Therefore, however much he may try to win a competition, achieve a reward, get a degree or conceive a child, he feels that he is not destined to. He becomes helpless and hopeless and starts to believe in the 4th Factor in such situations.

Business wizards and marketing geniuses pay so much attention to their product, its positioning and price that there should be no chance whatsoever which can result in its failure. Despite all principles of success, what makes them lose to their competition? What was that genius, that Is there a 4th Factor?

creativity and where did it come from? Sometimes a simple and tiny idea is enough to shake the foundation of an established business empire and people fail to decipher and explain why.

There was a time when man could predict results based on his efforts. Slowly but surely, he found that he could not predict all results. He submitted to a power that was beyond his own efforts, and then he realized that there was a mystical factor beyond the three factors he controlled.

No doubt man's success depends a lot on his efforts but it's not just man's efforts or his skills that make him a winner. Creative artists, who have dominated the world and received accolades for being geniuses, sometimes weren't those who were putting in the most effort and neither did they seem to be the most brilliant of men. They seemed to have a sixth sense that made them the creative geniuses that they became.

There were days when doctors would guarantee results to their patients. But gone are those days! Doctors now say that they will try their best and hope for the rest.

If instruments and raw material could guarantee results through efforts of an individual, then man too would become like a machine. If one takes a machine and compares it to several other machines of the same model, produced by the same manufacturer, they seem to bring about the same result. But such is not the case with man. Man's efforts vary and depend on a mysterious circumstance unknown to man. Wherever man's efforts are involved, it is not just the equipment, the raw material or the method he uses, but his attempts are directly linked with the 4th Factor.

Modern day man is quite aware that results need not depend on just three factors. If only the three factors could produce results, then every computer engineer could become Bill Gates and start Microsoft or could be Steve Jobs and create Apple. What makes magic happen in some cases baffles man. Sometimes, it is just a simple idea that creates a millionaire.

Man seems to carry with him a 4th invisible factor beyond his control. While man is able to control his own efforts, he is unable to control this 4th Factor. What is this 4th Factor?

Three are factors that man does know.
He needs his boat and he has to row.
But the waters that swirl and
the winds that blow,
Make him know that
there are factors four.

Summary

Is there a 4th Factor?

- There is a mysterious 4th Factor that finally causes the results of all the actions man performs.
- Man believes that he is the doer and the controller of both the action and of the result.
- He believes that it is his effort that chooses the best equipment, method or process. But the 4th Factor is the one that gives the final results.
- While man is able to control his own efforts, the 4th Factor is beyond man's control.
- What is this 4th Factor that is beyond a common man's comprehension?
- What is this 4th Factor that ultimately controls the results of all of man's actions?

Even a kid can say

1 + 2 + 3 = 10IS WRONG!

We must Add 4

1 + 2 + 3 + 4 = 10

The 4th Factor makes the equation complete.

CHAPTER _

What is this Unknown Factor?

There seems to be a power more powerful than man's efforts that controls all the results - a power that is efficient and organized, and that works on certain principles or laws. Although man doesn't understand this mysterious factor, he knows that it is a cosmic force that is very powerful. It surpasses the efforts of the doer, the efficiency of the instrument and excellence of the method of action. Certain natural conditions can turn the table on all efforts and produce the opposite result. This is the power of the unknown 4th Factor.

Man considers himself to be very intelligent, but he doesn't pay attention to this subtle factor unknown to most of humanity. If he contemplates the results, it becomes obvious that results don't depend on just three factors, rather on four. He may call this as a natural factor or term it as 'factors beyond our control,' but such a mysterious factor does exist. Some people out of ignorance

call it "Luck".

Despite completing education from the best university, Raju and Sunil were struggling in their new automobile business. Their father had started it twenty-five years ago. They learned new skills, applied them and used modern strategies that were endorsed by world class coaches. There was no way their new car could fail. But suddenly, a revolutionary concept in automobiles threw their project out of gear. It made their industry obsolete. They had to pack up and go home.

What caused this sudden disaster?

Companies producing films were billion dollar corporations. They could see new entrants coming in with digital photography. It was not impossible for them to adapt to the same. They even started but their efforts, their equipment, and their companies all became history, with new talents and new ideas being favoured by the 4th Factor. People just called it genius – another name for the 4th Factor.

The business world sometimes blames the timing for being wrong. Either we were too early or too late. They don't realize that there is a 4th Factor that controls the right time. Otherwise, why would the time be right for some and wrong for others? Only the 4th Factor knows.

In the music world, people made millions in audio and video cassettes. Then a time came when these became obsolete, with CDs and DVDs taking over. Today, CDs and DVDs are becoming obsolete because of the new technology of pen drives and hard disks or internet downloads that have taken the market by storm.

Most of these changes should not shock us. These are gradual changes that happened as the world evolved. But man who believes so much in his equipment and his effort, limited by his ego, fails due to his arrogance because he doesn't give importance to the natural factor. He may not realize it, but he is challenged by the 4th Factor, an unknown factor that is transforming life.

The 4^{th} Factor appears in different ways. It may appear as a modern new technology, a natural disaster, a change in people's lifestyle habits, or even a political transformation in a country. How the 4^{th} Factor comes and conquers, is a mystery. But there is no doubt that the 4^{th} Factor is constantly playing its part in everything that is happening in the world.

The 4th Factor seems to be a mysterious natural phenomenon unknown to man. Many people today acknowledge the existence of such a universal phenomenon. Therefore, although we perform certain

actions, we are willing to accept very different results as compared to our corresponding actions. Since we are guilty or aware of certain misdoings of the past, we humbly submit to natural causes that lead to misery. We don't know how this works, but we know it works. Some people call it luck, faith, serendipity, or Karma, but our intelligence goes beyond and realizes that it is a cosmic phenomenon. It unfolds as a mysterious 4th Factor that influences results post our actions.

That's why we see that in this world, sometimes bad things happen to good people. It surprises us when our neighbour who is a very fine human being suddenly dies in a car crash. Can we make luck accountable for the accident? This cosmos doesn't work on luck, but on well-established principles. It must be a past action returning. It can't be anything else.

It is not rare to find horrible people being blessed with good fortunes. Can you try to justify why this might have happened? It might just be possible that good deeds done in the past were recorded by the 4th Factor and the blessings were now being poured on the person. These blessings corrupted the person only to destroy his personality and made him resort to evil. But finally, we cannot escape the 4th Factor. Even if we escape it today, we will have to pay for it tomorrow. Such seems to be the

What is this Unknown Factor?

principle of the 4th Factor. But it may not be limited to this as it is beyond man's comprehension.

The 4^{th} Factor is an active part of our life. It is part of our thought process and is dominant in our heart and soul. We are well aware of the mysterious unfolding of the 4^{th} Factor as it sweeps away predictable results replacing them with mysterious ones.

If something miraculous is happening in our present life despite any special effort, is it because of our previous actions unknown to us that are being showered as a blessing by the 4th Factor?

The 4th Factor seems to be a part of the Divine cosmic phenomenon that seems to be controlled by a cosmic power unknown to man. While we are able to presume that this cosmic phenomenon is dependent on our previous actions or things beyond our imagination and control, we are unable to comprehend and understand how it works, although we know it works.

Therefore, all our efforts go through this 4th Factor before they fructify into results. Results are beyond the efforts of a man, the equipment or raw material he uses or the method of his action. The most intelligent man or the most hardworking person may fail to compete with a simple

peasant who is blessed by the 4th Factor. We cannot underestimate the power of the 4th Factor. We become helpless spectators when certain natural happenings confront us and change the results beyond our wildest expectations.

What can a brilliant student do when he is sitting for his examination and in the most unfortunate occurrence, his pen breaks spilling ink all over his answer sheet, thus, spoiling all the answers that were so intelligently written and losing the top rank to an average classmate who was not quite intelligent? It was not that he was careless, nor did he intentionally break it, nor was it caused by another student. It just happened most unexpectedly! Was it just chance that caused this act to destroy his career or was there a factor beyond?

What is this 4th Factor? While it seems absolutely clear that there is a 4th Factor, it is not in man's domain to understand and decipher it. A farmer who has one lakh hens that lay eggs may do everything possible for the success of his farm, but despite his best efforts, a poultry virus may destroy all his dreams. A student may study very hard for his exams and prepare for all the questions except one and most unfortunately, it is that one that dominates the examination and he fails.

Several situations beyond man's control influence the result of his actions. Man may suddenly fall sick, he may slip and fall or he may face unexpected weather conditions. Despite his best efforts, he may be blocked by actions or reactions of other people that are beyond his control. Sometimes it may seem fair and at times, very unfair, but man seems to be helpless in front of the 4th Factor. This factor suddenly becomes the dominating factor that decides the results of his actions. Suddenly, man who seemed to be completely in charge of his destiny now seems to be a puppet in the hands of the 4th Factor. He dances to the tune of this mysterious power, despite his best efforts.

Many people were on a ship to Greenland and they asked the captain, "Where are you taking us tomorrow?" The captain had a clear plan to go to Fjord in East Greenland. He hoped that they would see icebergs and polar bears. However, the captain was well aware of the 4th Factor. He knocked his head with his knuckles and said, "Hopefully we will see some amazing sights tomorrow, but I cannot guarantee anything." He knew that he was at the mercy of the winds and the waves. He knew that if it started snowing, he would have no access to several areas that he wanted to explore in a ship that was well equipped to do so. He was all set and he had a crew that was willing to go the extra mile. But what could he do in front of the 4th Factor? All his efforts could not guarantee results and he knew that it was the 4th Factor that would decide the fate of the day.

Man's destiny is in the hands of this unknown 4th Factor. He cannot control the results of his actions. He can do his best but it is the 4th Factor that will do the rest. If man depends on his ego, and his arrogance proudly makes him believe that he is in command of all his results, he is mistaken. He becomes helpless in front of this unknown 4th Factor. In fact, because he is overconfident of himself, and he believes that he can make the impossible possible, he ultimately suffers. Because he believes that the future is in his hands, and through his efforts and intellect, he can control the results of his actions, he is heartbroken and disappointed. The man who intelligently acknowledges the presence of the 4th Factor and surrenders to this invisible unknown power, lives a life of joy and peace.

There is a factor unknown to man,

That makes results fail,
though he thinks he can.

He tries his best with all his zest,
But in the end, he fails the test.

Summary

What is this Unknown Factor?

- The 4th Factor seems to be a power that exists everywhere on earth.
- While it seems absolutely clear that there is a 4th Factor, it is not in man's domain to understand and decipher it.
- Man's destiny is in the hands of this unknown 4th
 Factor.
- He cannot control the results of his actions. He can do his best, the 4th Factor will do the rest.
- Man's ego and arrogance might make him believe that he is in command of all his results. But he is mistaken.
- Despite his best efforts, man dances to the tune of this mysterious power.
- The ones who intelligently acknowledge the presence and surrender to the $4^{\rm th}$ Factor, the invisible unknown power, live in joy and peace.

CHAPTER 5

Our Ignorance Creates Misery

A beautiful woman was once asked what she was wearing on her finger. She proudly replied that it was her engagement ring. However, the wise man told her it is not a ring. She was shocked. "What do you mean?" She replied, "Of course it is a ring! I can feel it, I can touch it. Are you blind?" The man of wisdom replied, "No my dear. You think it is a ring. Consider this: if I take out all the gold from this ring, then can you give me the ring?" She thought for a moment and was puzzled. She realized that the moment you remove the metal, there would be no ring! She was confused and in fact, amused at her own ignorance.

Man lives in ignorance. He thinks that he knows everything and this arrogance makes him miserable. Man's biggest enemy is his ego. He believes, "I can do anything!" and this is "my world" and "I want to make

everything mine!" This 'I'ness creates pride and arrogance which eventually makes man disappointed and depressed.

If we look around, we find many people miserable because their hopes have been shattered. What is the cause of this misery? People start expecting a particular result to follow their actions. Somehow they believe that they are in command of a situation, not realizing that while they are in command of their actions, they are not in command of the results. Therefore, most people live in this ignorance and are oblivious to the presence of a 4th Factor. Even though they might have heard that there is a 4th Factor, their ignorance makes them reluctant to accept it. Therefore, it is very common to see people miserable. If one analyses the cause of people's misery, it is most often, an attribute of their expectations not being met, and their ignorance about the 4th Factor.

Man has achieved a lot of success. He has been able to put satellites in outer space, submarines in the oceans and has used technology to advance in business, lifestyle and in healthcare. He believes that nothing is impossible. What is there in the world that he cannot do? His ego leads him to believe that he is like a God and he thinks he is in control of everything.

When man faces a tragedy, he becomes helpless. Let a

doctor tell someone that he is going to die due to a terminal illness – he is heartbroken and in tears. But should man reach such a level of despondency to realize his ignorance? Being the only living creature who is blessed with a full-fledged intellect, should he not see a reason to realize the truth? Is it not clear that there is a 4th Factor that controls the results of his actions and the destiny of his life?

If man contemplates, he will realize that he does not control how he was born. Do we control the time we were born, the place we were born, to which parents we were born? No, we don't. Can we even think of deciding the ethnicity, religion, and cultural background of our parents at the time of our birth? No. Similarly, man cannot control his death. He doesn't know when he will die or where and how. Man knows that the physical body will die, but he doesn't know what happens after death. Clearly, there is a power beyond man that controls his life and death, just as it controls the results that are decided after man's actions. We have already analyzed the three known factors that are required to produce any result, but these factors do not, ultimately, determine the result. There is a 4th Factor unknown to man that finally controls results. Man's denial of this 4th Factor continues to make him sink in the ignorance and misery that he lives and dies with.

If only man realizes the truth and uses his intellect to see

reason, acknowledging the presence of an invisible power, he can live in peace and be happy. On the contrary, driven by his ego and arrogance, man determines an anticipated result due to his efforts. When the efforts do not produce the desired results, man is upset, irritated and flairs up with anger. He is overconfident of his efforts, and refuses to accept the existence of a 4th Factor which influences everything that happens. Thus, his expectations are not fulfilled and he becomes miserable.

Man is constantly performing actions. But what makes him miserable? While his actions and efforts continue, he has already determined what results he wants. He becomes so passionate about his desired result that he becomes attached to it. Every time the result is not as per his expectations, he becomes disappointed and defeated. It is his ignorance about the existence of the 4th Factor controlling all results that causes him to first be attached to the desired result and second, be unwilling to accept what he did not expect.

Mohan owned a store and he bought a lot of merchandise for the festival season. He marketed his products and he was all set to achieve success. However, as the day of the festival came closer, a new store suddenly announced its opening and not surprisingly, it took away all his customers. Mohan was heartbroken. He shouted and screamed at his team and at himself, but to no avail. He had no control over the new competition that emerged. He

was in deep trouble and became miserable.

James was in love with Mary. Their courtship had been active for a few years. However, James started taking her for granted. He even started flirting with other girls. But he believed that his relationship with Mary was eternal, that nothing could break it. Once, when traveling, he asked Mary to stay with his friends. James was shocked some days later when he received a message that Mary was going to marry Robert – his best friend, who had been entrusted with Mary's responsibility. James could not understand how and why this happened. But it was too late. He was doomed.

We see man becoming miserable because he expects certain results based on his efforts. He is so confident about his actions that he believes that whatever he thinks is possible will happen without fail. Least does he imagine that a 4^{th} invisible factor can come and reverse the possible and stop it from happening.

Why does man live in ignorance and become miserable? When man can clearly see that the three factors that he controls do not always produce the desired results, why does he continue to expect results and then become miserable when the results do not turn out as anticipated? It is his ignorance that causes him to be miserable. A few intellectuals who realize the power of the 4th Factor, eradicate the ignorance and with it, the misery. They know

that despite their best efforts, there is no guarantee of their expected results. Even if they are optimistic and live with hope, they are ready to accept a result that is not as per their expectations. They make space for the 4th Factor to perform in the equation of man's efforts and results. While there are a few people who realize the presence of the 4th Factor and escape from being miserable, most of humanity fails to do so. Man is defeated by his two priceless assets his own mind and his ego. His mind produces thoughts that inflate his ego and together they blow up his ignorance and arrogance which ultimately bursts in misery. Man has to control his mind and transcend his ego. He has to realize that he is not the all-powerful one to determine results. Despite his best efforts, he may not achieve what he wants to achieve because there is a 4th Factor involved in the game of life. He needs to use his intellect - that discriminative part of his arsenal to slay the ego and the thoughts of his mind. As long as man is alive, the mind and ego will continue to rage a battle within against his own intellect, trying to overpower it with ignorance. If he gives in to the ego and mind, he will become miserable. But if he wants to live with joy and peace, then he must transcend the mind and ego and go beyond to the truth that lies ahead. There is a factor, far more powerful than man that controls every result. This powerful factor also controls man's essential goal of life, happiness. There is a Divine force that is responsible for

peace, joy, and bliss. But if we let our ignorance deny the existence of a Divine factor, the 4th Factor, then we are left with no choice but to live and die in misery.

It is most unfortunate that an intelligent being like man lives in ignorance and misery. He doesn't discriminate to realize the truth of the existence of a power beyond him and his efforts. This denial and continuing to live in ignorance, causes him recurring unhappiness. He acts and expects a specific result out of his efforts. When the result is not as per his expectation, he becomes sad, but he doesn't realize that the result is controlled by the 4th Factor. He goes on and on, repeating the cycle, which only adds to his sorrow. Alas! Man lives in this ignorance and causes misery and agony to himself.

Those who realize the truth, not only accept the existence of the 4th Factor, but also surrender to it.

In ignorance
does man live and die.
His ego creates misery and
makes him cry.
He refuses to accept,
keeps asking why.
And never learns of
the Power in the sky.

Summary

Our Ignorance Creates Misery

- Most of humanity lives in ignorance and is oblivious to the presence of a 4th Factor.
- Man's ignorance makes him believe that he is in command of situations, not realizing that he can only control his actions and not the results.
- Even though man knows that there is a 4th Factor, his ignorance makes him reluctant to accept it.
- Thus, it is common to see people becoming miserable. The cause being their expectations not being met.
- Man is driven by his ego and arrogance, and he expects anticipated result due to his efforts.
- The mind and ego continuously try to rage a battle within, against man's own intellect, trying to overpower it with ignorance.
- If one wants to live with joy and peace, then one must transcend the mind and ego and go beyond to realize the truth by using one's intellect and acknowledging the presence of an invisible power.
- Then one can understand that despite one's best efforts, there is no guarantee of expected results.
- Thus, it paves the way for another factor the 4th Factor to play a decisive role in the equation of man's efforts and results.

CHAPTER 6

Living in Surrender and Acceptance

If man wants to live in peace, joy and bliss, then he must surrender to and accept the power of the 4th Factor. We are intelligent and we know that we cannot escape from action. Every human being has to act. However, if we are caught in a vicious cycle where we act and desire a result but get disappointed and become miserable, we would cease to live with peace and happiness.

What is this vicious cycle? Because we are alive, we do something. Our actions are based on the desires of the body and mind. Our body and mind are dominated by our ego, which is naturally arrogant and proud of itself. Man gives too much importance to 'I'ness and the 'my'ness created by the ego. This is a major cause of our misery. We have certain expectations, we crave and desire. We succeed and achieve, but still we don't stop. We want more and more. Our greed becomes our need and we aim for the sky. Naturally, we fail as man cannot succeed all the time.

Further, our overconfidence and pride eventually lead us to our fall.

While we may or may not accept that this vicious cycle rules our life, it does! We can see it happening in our life and all around us. As long as we are alive, we have no choice. The mind thinks, the body senses, feels and together, they desire and crave. And the ego is such that it believes, "I can do anything. I can make the impossible possible!"

Derrick was a hard-working professional. He earned, saved, and started a real estate company for the construction of homes. Whatever he touched seemed to turn into gold. But while his bank account reached the top, his humility sank to the bottom. He became proud and arrogant and eventually his overconfidence got the better of him. He finished a dozen successful projects and he thought he had become a magician. Real estate had become an art for him and he believed that he could never fail. Caught in the vicious cycle of craving and the insatiable need for success, he undertook his biggest project. Not only did he put in all his money in it, but also took a loan five times bigger than his assets. He failed and lost everything. He became zero.

Derrick was not the first to get caught in this vicious cycle. Man does not stop. The cycle continues. He desires, then puts in his best efforts and demands results that he seeks. Then he becomes unhappy when he doesn't achieve the

result he wants. But he continues acting out of his desires and cravings.

Can we escape from this vicious cycle? Of course we can! If we acknowledge the existence of the 4th Factor and we submit to this Cosmic Power, we will be far more peaceful and our life, far more harmonious. How is that possible?

Man must develop an attitude of gratitude and must learn to live in surrender to the 4^{th} Factor, accepting the Power of this cosmic controller that finally decides the results of all our efforts. We can have goals and do our best but we must realize that the rest is controlled by the 4^{th} Factor. We cannot always decide the exact result that will follow our actions and efforts. It may or may not happen as we expect.

What makes us miserable? Either we worry about the past or accept it. If we worry about the past, how will that help us? The past is gone, it's over and nobody can do anything to change it. If we develop a philosophy of life that accepts whatever has happened in the past as the Divine Will of the 4th Factor, we would not be miserable. This becomes easier when we first acknowledge the 4th Factor and understand the role it plays in our life. We know it is a mysterious power that can turn anticipated and probable results into unusual freak accidents as they seem to be. Very often, we are baffled by certain natural events that we least expect. We have a certain standard expectation, but

this expectation is not always fulfilled. When we accept the 4th Factor, then our philosophy also surrenders to it rather than hoping for future results.

Suppose, I keep on hoping for something to happen, even though I very well know that the result is not in my hands. What is going to happen? Am I not going to live with stress, worry and anxiety? Despite my best efforts, I know that there are factors beyond my control that can influence what is going to happen. Then, why should I hope and become miserable? Shouldn't I rather surrender and accept the Divine Will of the 4th Factor?

We must learn to surrender to the 4th Factor and accept the unfolding of its Divine Will. We are helpless spectators and often we cannot do anything. Our plans can be torpedoed by the sudden death of a person who was an intricate part of the plan. This can completely change our life. It may not be death, it may be sudden terminal illness of a key person in our life. What can we do? We have no choice but to surrender and accept the Divine Will of the 4th Factor.

If only we learn to adopt a philosophy of surrender and acceptance, we will be able to escape from all the stress, worry, anxiety, fear and sorrow. We are intelligent enough to know that we can't change the past. Still most of us

spend so much time in our yesterdays - last week, last month and last year. We don't even forget what happened ten years back. The hurt seems fresh and we nurse it, curse it and rehearse it. Of what use is this other than giving us misery? If we acknowledge that incidents of the past were controlled by a $4^{\rm th}$ Factor and which we could do nothing about, then we could let go. We would reverse the hurt by the acceptance of the Divine Will of the $4^{\rm th}$ Factor.

Shyam was blessed with a beautiful wife and two children. They were financially sound and generally a happy family. However, every day, when he used to pray to God, seeing his late father's picture which hung on the wall, he would become gloomy. His mind would start re-playing a registered flow of thoughts, "Dad, why did you give me the smallest share amongst all the sons? Why were you always unfair to me? What wrong did I do to you? If you had supported me, I would have been financially stable." Such thoughts would continue to occupy Shyam's mind and he used to become miserable. This would happen every day and it seemed like Shyam had become a prisoner of his mind. The moment he saw his father's picture, he would go into the past and keep on thinking of the injustice he had faced. The past was over. His father was dead. Nothing could be done now. But Shyam did not delete those incidents from his memory. They were etched on his mind and they would reappear every day when he prayed. If Shyam had learnt about and believed in the 4th Factor and accepted those incidents as Divine Will, he would have deleted them from his mind regardless of whether they were his own

actions returning to him or whether they were due to reasons beyond his comprehension. If he would have surrendered to the 4th Factor, accepted the injustice, he would have moved on. His life would not have continued to be miserable because of his attachment to the irreversible events of the past. Not only was Shyam's past a tragedy, but he was also destroying his present because of his refusal to accept something that had taken place in the past.

Similarly, we need not be anxious about the future. What is in our hands is to put in our best efforts. We know the three factors responsible which are under our control. It includes us, our instrument or actions, and the act itself. We can improve our own skill and will, thereby producing inspiration and motivation that would bring out our best performance. We can go all-out to make our instrument and equipment the best possible, and we can make all efforts to make the action outstanding and excellent. In today's world, these three factors may use technology, expertise, teamwork, and other management tools that will lead to quality and excellence. But what can we do beyond that? Can we control the results of our actions? We can only do one thing - Surrender! We can live with passion, persistence and positive thinking, but without patience, we will never achieve any progress.

Ajay was starting a venture capital fund and he had worked hard to find investors and collect a sizeable fund. Now he was anxious about identifying the right investments. He was so worried about how he would invest money in new ventures that he spoiled his health. Eventually, he had to return money to all the investors because he did not learn to surrender and trust his own best effort. Most importantly, he did not trust the 4th Factor. His anxiety caused him so much pain and suffering, which would have not happened had he had faith in the 4th Factor.

Do we want to live in peace and joy? Then we must acknowledge the existence of the 4th Factor that controls every result and in fact, much more. More so, because we know that the 4th Factor is beyond our control. We see it happening in our everyday life. We do our best, but we become helpless when results don't appear to match our best efforts. There is an unpredictable force, we must surrender to it and accept its Power.

This power is no ordinary power. The 4^{th} Factor is a power beyond human imagination and comprehension. By controlling all the results of our actions, it dominates our destiny. It can make the possible, possible. And if it so desires, the possible can become impossible. The 4^{th} Factor can make us happy or unhappy. If we resist the 4^{th} Factor and its control over our life, we are sure to be miserable. But if we learn to accept the 4^{th} Factor, and live gracefully with its omnipresent existence all around us, we can truly be happy.

If you want joy and
bliss and peace,
then you must learn
to pay your fees.
Surrender is the coin and
acceptance is the note
that makes a man in bliss to float.

Summary

Living in Surrender and Acceptance

- Every human being has to act.
- No one can escape from action. As long as we are alive, we have no choice but to act.
- The mind thinks, the body senses and feels, and together they desire and crave. The ego makes man believe, "I can do anything." But when man doesn't achieve the anticipated result, he becomes miserable.
- Thus we get into a vicious cycle that makes us miserable and this vicious cycle rules our life whether we accept it or not.
- Can we escape from this vicious cycle?
- Of course, we can! If we acknowledge the existence of the 4th Factor and we submit to this Cosmic Power, we will be far more peaceful and our life, far more harmonious.
- But, it is possible only when man develops an attitude of gratitude and learns to live in surrender to the 4th Factor, accepting the Power of this cosmic controller that finally decides the results of all his efforts.
- We need not worry about the past. The past is gone, it's over. Similarly, we need not be anxious about the future. We need to put in our best efforts and then surrender.
- The 4th Factor can make the possible, possible and if it so desires, the possible can become impossible.
- If we learn to accept the 4th Factor and live gracefully with its omnipresent existence all around us, we can truly be happy.

CHAPTER 7

Living with the 4th Factor can make us Truly Happy

If you look around, you will find many people happy, but their happiness is intermittent. People live a life where there is joy and sorrow. Sometimes they are glad and sometimes they are sad. As they go through pleasure and pain, they scream in both joy and anguish. And so is life, a bouquet of roses and thorns, there is day and night, pleasure and pain, loss and gain. Who is there who doesn't experience both happiness and unhappiness?

But there is a way to be happy all the time. It has got to do with the 4th Factor. If we acknowledge the existence of a power beyond us, and we realize that there is a 4th Factor that acts beyond the three factors that are in our control, then we can be peaceful. How can we move towards this life of eternal bliss?

Many things are needed for man to become happy all the time. It is not very easy but it is possible. We have already spoken about acceptance and surrender. This takes away a lot of our stress, anxiety, and misery. But while it may do away with the negative, how can we fill our life with positive energy and joy?

Man must learn to be humble. He has to learn to transcend his ego. As long as he thinks that he is a supreme being capable of doing anything and he can make the impossible, possible, he is bound to become miserable. All this is related to his arrogance. The moment his arrogance is in command, he forgets the existence of the 4th Factor. He doesn't realize how powerful the 4th Factor is. Instead of humbly submitting to the 4th Factor, he lets his arrogance dominate and instantly loses the joy that he can live with. Therefore, humility is one of the principle keys to man's happiness.

What causes man to lose his humility? It is his ego. The ego believes, "I am everything, and I can do the impossible." This 'I can' attitude is good in the material world, but it can devastate a person's happiness eventually. Have we not learned how overconfidence has led the emperors of the world to their doom? What should one do? We must learn to transcend our ego. This will keep our confidence in check and make us content.

Is the richest man in the world the happiest? Of course not!

The richest man is not the happiest, but the happiest man is the richest. Man will learn this secret when he lives with contentment and fulfilment. Unless we are satisfied with what we have, we are bound to have our happiness bubble burst. The fulfilment that is born out of contentment starts with being satisfied. We can live with love and laughter, meaning and purpose, faith, hope and inspiration, freedom and liberation and finally, with peace when we accept the 4th Factor.

One cannot be happy with fulfilment as long as one is burning with the flame of desire. The moment we have desires and cravings, we automatically set expectations on results. This twin quality of desire and expectation kills man's happiness. Actually, it is not wrong to desire, but when our desire becomes a craving and our expectation passionately specific, we end up becoming miserable when the results are not what we want them to be. Suppose, I want my son to come home every night by 10 p.m. I advise him, I explain to him the importance of being in time, try to discipline him and even warn him of dire consequences. Still, there is not a single day he comes home before 11 pm. What should I do? Should I stop controlling my son? Of course not! I can keep on telling him and find new methods to make him change. But why should I lose my happiness, when he does not meet my expectation? Why should I create a desire that is going to

rob me of my happiness? He is an adult and he knows what is good for him. But I should not let my expectations from him make me unhappy.

Realizing that I cannot control my son's behaviour and the result of my actions, I remain peaceful. But I have neighbours who have sleepless nights. My neighbour's wife has even developed a heart condition due to her daughter coming home late. Sometimes, we don't realize, but the truth is that we cannot control everything that happens in this world despite our best efforts.

Another way of being happy is for man to be detached from the result of his efforts. We are too attached and our expectations make us anxious and miserable. When we do something and we want a particular result, we do not wish to accept 'no' for an answer. We want what we want the way we desire and if we don't get it, we become unhappy. How is it possible for us to be happy with this attitude of being attached to a desired result? We must learn to let go. We must be detached from expected results. While we can be very passionate about our efforts, our plans, dreams and goals, we must become dispassionate about the result. Of course, man cannot become detached from the result until he first becomes aware of the 4th Factor and accepts it. Once he understands and believes in this, his detachment is sure to give him bountiful joy.

Therefore, while we are alive and we cannot escape from action, we have to learn to act dispassionately, without desire, craving and expectation whatsoever. This is a way to be happy. Many people question, "How can such action be efficient?" According to them, "Such action may lose its gleam as it will not have any motivation or inspiration." This is not true. We can continue to act with the highest inspiration, but in surrender. Once we know that there is a 4th Factor in command, we know that we are not in command of the results. We are only in command of our actions and we can choose the best instrument and method, but we cannot decide the result. The 4th Factor is beyond our comprehension and how it controls the results of our actions, is beyond our imagination.

Does that mean, we must be unhappy and miserable because the 4th Factor can control our happiness? Of course not! The 4th Factor cannot make us miserable. It cannot control our reaction to what happens. As long as we are willing to accept the 4th Factor and react positively with happiness, we never need to lose our joy. Therefore, if we want to be happy, we must learn to live without expectations. We may have certain wishes, but we must leave these wishes to the 4th Factor and we must be willing to accept its judgement. We can desire something and based on that desire, we can put in our best efforts. But we must not become attached either to the desire or to the fruit

of its results. What is the way to happiness then?

Spiritual saints have given good advice when they say that we must make our efforts an offering. If we surrender our efforts and do not let them be controlled either by our expectations or desires, we can truly be happy. After all, if man's ultimate goal is happiness, then why not follow this advice to have eternal joy and peace?

External bliss need not be a dream. It can become a way of life if we adopt the 4th Factor into our belief system and then adapt to its will. This is a formula for happiness.

Chellaram worked very hard. But somehow, he never made too much money. Despite this, he was called by his community as a millionaire, a "smile millionaire." He was always cheerful with a smile on his face. What made him happy? A simple philosophy of 'making others happy.' He did not let the problems and challenges of his life interfere with his happiness. He resigned to the Divine Will and accepted it knowing that eventually, what mattered was not how much money he had in the bank, but how many smiles he created. He was truly a "smile millionaire!"

Think about it. You might have met many millionaires and billionaires. But if they do not have any peace and joy, they are worse than beggars on the street. They are frustrated and wear a frown on their face. The rainbow of joy is missing in their life.

Doshi was one such business tycoon. He was once on a flight with me and we were talking about happiness and how one should be happy. Unfortunately, he had to sit with me in the economy section as there were no seats in business class. As the 4th Factor would wish it, his competitor suddenly appeared from the business class section of the plane, walked over to him and asked, "How come, Doshi, you are in economy class?" That was enough to put fire in Doshi's life. He was upset beyond description. He cursed and swore for the rest of the flight and although he was a billionaire, it seemed that he was bankrupt when it came to happiness.

Why do we let what happens around us influence our peace and joy? One who wants to be eternally happy must realize that we can't control what happens around us. Things may happen to us, and things may happen around us. But happiness is caused by what happens inside us, and that is under our control, despite what happens outside.

Anybody can be happy and most people are. But can we be happy all the time? Yes, look at Pushpa! She lives with an attitude of gratitude. Whatever she gets, she is grateful for it. How can she be unhappy? Happiness doesn't depend on how much you have, as somebody rightly said, rather on how little you need. And if we are grateful for whatever little we get, we create a recipe for eternal happiness.

Look around you. The sun glows, the water flows and the wind blows. They seem to do it blissfully, unconditionally and happily. We too have to act and we cannot escape from action. But we can escape from misery and sorrow, if we resolve to be happy all the time. If we constantly live with happiness triggers, things that make us happy and eliminate those joy stealers, the thieves that rob our bliss, we can be at peace. For realizing this, we must accept the Divine Will of the 4th Factor.

Those who live with the 4th Factor, climb the third peak of happiness, a destination of ultimate joy and eternal peace. Some people call this Nirvana and others Liberation. Whatever you call it, it is that state where one is free from ignorance. One who has achieved liberation, lives with the realization of the truth that a 4th Factor rules the world. Such a realized being dances with joy and enjoys absolute peace, despite the many storms that may seem to control his life. We too can live on this third peak of happiness, transcending the first peak of achievement and passing the second peak of fulfilment. We will reach the third peak of enlightenment, the state of eternal happiness that knows no pain, misery and sorrow.

What does it require one to do? It needs us to accept the existence of the 4th Factor, to acknowledge its power, to surrender to its Divine will and to accept results that it

Living with the 4th Factor can make us Truly Happy

declares. After all, do we have a choice? If we don't have a choice, then why lose our happiness on something which is beyond our control? Why not use our intellect and be happy all the time?

What is it that makes man sad? Expectations and desires, two things are bad.

If man wants to be happy all day and night,
In humility, he must surrender to the Divine Light.

Summary

Living with the 4th Factor can make us Truly Happy

- People live a life where there is joy and sorrow, sometimes they are glad and sometimes they are sad.
- Is there a way to be happy all the time?
- Yes, if we surrender our efforts and not let them be controlled either by our expectations or desires, we can truly be happy.
- We have to learn to act dispassionately, without desire, craving and expectation.
- We can continue to act with the highest inspiration, but in surrender.
- Once we know that there is a 4th Factor in command, we understand that we are not in command of results, we are only in command of our actions and we can choose the best instrument and method.
- Those who live with the 4th Factor, climb the third peak of happiness Nirvana or Liberation, a destination of ultimate joy and eternal peace.
- We too can live on this third peak of happiness, transcending the first peak of achievement and passing the second peak of fulfilment.
- It needs us to accept the existence of the 4th Factor, acknowledge its power, surrender to its Divine Will and accept results that it declares.

CHAPTER 8

Discover the Power of the 4th Factor

By now, we don't doubt the existence of the 4th Factor. We know that results are not dependent on the three factors under man's control. There is a 4th Factor that is very powerful and that controls the results of all our actions. It's time to discover the power of the 4th Factor.

What is this 4th Factor? While we cannot define what the 4th Factor is, or how it functions, we cannot deny its existence. We can see it in action every day of our life. It is that factor which completes the cycle along with the other three known factors and finally produces the results of all our actions.

Ram's sister, an amazing girl in every possible way, was getting married. She was the kindest and friendliest soul and the entire community was looking forward to the wedding which was scheduled the next day. A day before the marriage, she decided to go and pick some accessories from the market. Tragically, a truck

hit her car from the back and she died instantly. What caused the untimely and brutal death of such a lovely girl? Nobody could understand how and why it happened, but it happened and it was beyond anybody's control. It was not that she was driving rashly, nor did she do anything wrong. But this is what the 4th Factor is all about – it is beyond our understanding.

Many strange incidents accept and prove the power of the 4th Factor. Its supremacy was known to the family of Priya. She was only 35 years old and she was excited about her life and career. She had young children and she was growing from peak to peak. But one night after a celebration with friends, she slept only not to wake up the next morning. People wondered, "What went wrong? She was perfectly fine." Could anybody explain?

Suresh was a man in his 40's serving the poor in order to reduce their pain and suffering. He must have helped thousands of people, picking them from the street and putting them back on their feet. But suddenly one day, Suresh felt uneasy in his chest. And by the time he reached the hospital, he was dead. His family could not accept how such a noble person could die at such a young age leaving behind young children and a wife with nobody to support them. But can anybody explain how the 4th Factor works? It is beyond our comprehension. The 4th Factor has its own unique way of working.

A Punjabi family was having a celebration. Most unfortunately, a young child playing on the balcony fell from the third floor. The

entire family rushed to be with the child who was soaked in blood and immediately took him to the hospital. Incredibly, within minutes, the doctors were able to revive him. He had a few fractures, but no fatal injuries. He was discharged. The same evening, the aunt of the child slipped and fell in the kitchen and died on the spot. How could somebody falling from the third floor, on the same day, in the same house escape and somebody slipping in the kitchen fall and die? But well, we cannot control the results of our actions. Results are controlled by the 4th Factor and these are beyond our comprehension.

Sometimes, we question the 4th Factor, even curse it. But it is our ignorance that stops us from realizing the power of the 4th Factor. Nothing happens by accident. It is all as per a divine plan. The only problem is that while we know what is happening, we don't know why it is happening.

When we see things happening, we must contemplate and try to understand why such things are happening. The power of the 4th Factor seems to be based on cosmic laws, not just random acts. Whatever happens is not because of the whims and fancy of someone. We must discover the power by deep contemplation.

Think about it. The entire cosmos works with such uniform precision. The Earth rotates precisely once in 24 hours and it revolves around the Sun with such perfection. Is this happening by chance or is this controlled by a

power? This seems to be the same power that controls the 4th Factor, a Universal Cosmic Power. If this power was ordinary and imperfect, then there would be natural accidents happening all the time. You would wake up one morning to find that the sun has forgotten to appear. One year, the cycle of seasons could go awry and there would be no winter. But do such things ever happen? What does this go on to tell us? This shows the presence of an amazing power. We must discover this power of the 4th Factor. It is not easy to comprehend this power but it is not difficult to discover it.

Discovering the power of the 4th Factor is acknowledging and accepting it, but it does not mean we need to define or understand every aspect of it. If I ask you to smell my foot with your toe, can you do it? Of course you can't! Your toe can't smell, it has not been given the sense perception to smell. Yes, it can kick, but it can't smell. So we can discover the power by inferring its existence in all that happens, but we don't have the sense perception to define it. For instance, the Law of Gravity cannot be proved, but is accepted by inference. Because everything is pulled to the centre of the earth, we infer that the power of gravity exists. Similarly, when we see that man's efforts do not control his results and there is some power beyond man that is responsible, we infer the existence of the 4th Factor. To discover the 4th Factor means to be aware of it and to

accept the role it plays in our life.

John had worked very hard for over fifty years, but he hardly made any money. He was disappointed as he always wanted to be rich enough to travel the world. His friend Rajesh never really worked hard, but was good natured and God fearing. Suddenly one day to John's surprise, he invited John to go on a world tour with him. John was flabbergasted. Rajesh always used to borrow money from him! What happened all of a sudden? Rajesh shared some good news. He was the only grandson of his maternal grandfather, who had just passed away leaving him with several millions in his estate.

What caused this to happen and why was it beyond any common man's understanding? To discover the power of the 4th Factor, we must understand what it does. Normally, it produces general anticipated results. But every now and then, it takes us by surprise. What is this 4th Factor trying to tell us? It is telling us that there is a power that controls all the results and everything that is happening on earth. Obviously, it is an intelligent power and whether we accept it or not, it has total command on everything that is happening. We may or may not believe that this 4th Factor keeps track of all our actions, and what happens to us is nothing but our own actions coming back to us, be it good or bad. These actions may be of the distant past or even of lives that we have lived earlier, which may not be part of our belief system. The only way to understand the 4th

Factor is through inference. Just discovering its existence doesn't help us. We must go a step further to understand how it works. This is not easy and requires a lot of commitment, dedication, and discipline. But if we truly want to discover the power of the 4th Factor, we can.

The 4th Factor not only controls the results of man's actions, but it also seems to be a power that exists everywhere on earth. This is the power that makes the earth rotate as it revolves around the sun. What makes summer turn to autumn and finally, everything freezes in winter before we see spring? It appears to be a Universal Power that controls the cosmos

Who controls the Law of Cycles that makes everything in the world happen by a systematic rotation? There are many such universal or cosmic laws that seem to govern the universe. These laws can't be proved, but through inference we know that such laws exist. These laws create space for the 4th Factor to come in and surprise man. Therefore, despite a weather forecast, man often feels helpless when there is a sudden flood or drought. Man's intelligence is still challenged by the 4th Factor despite his technological progress.

Does the Law of Gravity exist? Of course, it does! While we cannot prove it, we infer that there is a force that pulls everything down to the centre of the earth. That is the

reason why when you throw your mobile phone up in the air, it doesn't fly or float in the sky but comes back to you. This is said to be the Law of Gravity.

There is also a universal Law of Opposites where everything in the world seems to have an opposite – day has night, just as joy has sorrow and male has female.

Another universal law is called the Law of Karma or the Law of Action and Reaction. It is a law which states that what you give is what you get. It is also known as the law of the boomerang. As per this law, what goes around comes around. Every effect has a cause and we can see, that because of the cause, there is an effect. The results of our actions seem to be based not only on our current efforts, but also on our actions of the past. If we have planted apples, we cannot reap pineapples. If there are mangoes on the tree, it only infers that we must have planted mango seeds. 'As we sow, so shall we reap' – states the law.

As long as we are able to relate to the fact that our own past actions cause our present situation, we live in the consolation of the natural Karmic Law, the Law of Action and Reaction. Strangely, sometimes we are unable to see why the Divine law is working against our efforts although there is no past action that deserves our efforts to be punished. Is it because our past actions are of the distant

past and beyond the recollection of our memory?

Nothing in this world happens by chance. Everything seems to be controlled by natural principles although it may seem to be random acts of nature. A hurricane, an earthquake, a tornado or a tsunami at a particular place and a particular time affecting specific people must be part of a cosmic plan unknown to man. It may seem like serendipity or fate where things are happening in a natural flow. But there is definitely a reason as to why it is happening. Unfortunately, these reasons are unknown and thus these phenomena cannot be defined. We infer such a phenomenon exists as we see the effects of this law unfolding.

The first step to discover the power of the 4^{th} Factor is to tame the mind. The mind is like a monkey jumping from thought to thought. With this constant jumping, we cannot contemplate the 4^{th} Factor and discover it. We need to still the mind and transform it from a monkey to a monk. Only then we can contemplate.

We know that there is a 4^{th} Factor and it is very powerful. It has a command on the results of man's efforts. What is this 4^{th} Factor? It is a Power, a Cosmic and Universal Power that is beyond man's comprehension. Definitely, such a Power exists. This Power can make the possible, possible and if it

so desires, it can make the possible, impossible. There are times when it makes the impossible, possible. This needs further contemplation and if our mind starts jumping like a monkey, we can't go further. We need to overcome and transcend the mind.

Is the 4th Factor a Power that acts by its random wish? The working of the universe shows that it is an intelligent systematic power that works on certain cosmic principles. What is the cosmic principle on which the 4th Factor is powered? Surely, my actions cannot influence your results just as your actions cannot influence mine. Therefore, whatever happens in our lives, seems to be based on our own actions.

If one deeply contemplates, one will realize that the power of the 4^{th} Factor is a deep truth unknown to man. Little by little, man must progress in discovering the power of the 4^{th} Factor to reach the ultimate goal of self-realization. The 4^{th} Factor is just a kindergarten to the overall curriculum. But to discover this Power is a great gift to oneself. Its presence can be globally seen and felt.

The whole of Florida was on its toes as a hurricane was going to devastate life in the entire state. All precautions were taken and the preparations made. As the hurricane had already devastated the islands in the Caribbean en route to Florida, the weathermen

had put all their calculations together and warned people to leave home and go to safer havens. But when the 4^{th} Factor decided to change the course of the hurricane by a marginal degree, the entire state escaped the wrath of the natural disaster. Who controls this? What made the hurricane change its path? What stops a certain disaster from striking? Those who discover the truth of the 4^{th} Factor clearly understand its universal presence.

The 4th Factor is not just a Power that controls the results of all actions, but a Power that controls the whole universe. It is a Universal Power, a Cosmic Energy that gives us life and death. We may or may not accept it, but if we want to discover the Power of the 4th Factor, we must be openminded to accept the truth. How did we come alive? There is a Power inside us that caused our birth. If we were born without this Power, the doctor would have announced that we were still-born or born dead. A careful contemplation will make us realize that the Power is all along inside us. When this Power leaves, it causes death and there is no breath. Our body lies on the floor, and it is said that we have moved on. For those who contemplate and realize the truth, we are the very Power we seek to discover.

This has become serious business. It all started with a simple analogy of who and what controls results. That

simple analysis made us realize that the three factors under man's control - he himself, his equipment and his actions - do not always determine the results man expects or the destiny he seeks. This little realization brought about and revealed the presence of a 4th Factor. We, then got to realize how powerful the 4th Factor was. If we wanted to live in joy, we needed to surrender to the 4th Factor and accept its Divine Will. Then we moved on to transcend our ego and to discover the Power of the 4th Factor. And suddenly, here we are facing an entirely new picture of our life. We are challenged with so many thoughts and possibilities that can completely transform our life. Yes, discovering the Power of the 4th Factor, takes us beyond action and results. It takes us to the very essence of life and provokes us to think of death. If we don't want to go further, we can be content just realizing that there is a 4th Factor that controls the results of our actions and then it is up to us how much we want to submit, accept and surrender to it. That itself will give us happiness and eliminate our stress. But if we want to go beyond and realize the truth about our life and our existence, then we must continue to discover the Power of the 4th Factor till we realize the entire truth.

What is this 4th Factor on earth?

It is a Power that controls death and birth.

It is what makes the Earth go round,

and controls everything

that happens on the ground.

Summary

Discover the Power of the 4th Factor

- While we cannot define what the 4th Factor is, or how it functions, we cannot deny its existence.
- When we see things happening, we must contemplate and try to understand why such things are happening. We must discover the Power by deep contemplation.
- To discover the 4th Factor means to be aware of it and to accept the role it plays in our life.
- The power is efficient and organized, and it works on certain principles or laws. It is more powerful than man's efforts, and controls the result of all of his action.
- Nothing in this world happens by chance.
- The first step to discover the Power of the 4th Factor is to capture the mind, we need to still the mind and transform it from a monkey to a monk, only then we can contemplate.
- If one deeply contemplates, one will realize that the Power of the 4th Factor is a deep truth unknown to man.
- Man must progress in discovering the Power of the 4th Factor to reach the ultimate goal of life.
- Acceptance and surrendering to the 4th Factor itself will give us happiness and eliminate all our stress.
- If we want to realize the truth about life and existence, we must discover the Power of the 4th Factor.

CHAPTER 9

The Power beyond the 4th Factor

What happens when you go to a theatre? A plot unfolds on the stage. Actors come on the stage, sing, dance and perform as per the directions of the director who has created the drama before they depart from the stage. Our job is to enjoy the show, not to be worried about why the story is unfolding the way it is. That is the job of the director. There will be a tragedy, just as there will be comedy on the stage. Both are needed to make the drama interesting. It all fits into the storyboard which is not known to the audience. The Creator of the play is in command.

Life on earth is exactly like a theatre, except that the stage is humungous in size. It is called, the Earth. We are all actors. We come and we go. Our job is to perform as per the script given to us. We have the freedom of acting the way we like, but we must go as per the script because otherwise, the show will be a flop. Scene by scene, the cosmic drama

unfolds on earth and we continue acting as per our duty. However, we have another role to play. We are also the audience who are watching the drama as it unfolds on earth. We cannot question what is happening. We have to accept and surrender as observers and actors to the Cosmic Power that is directing the show, called Life.

The 4th Factor is part of the Cosmic Power that directs the show, called Life. If we look carefully, the power that manages the 'Earth Show' and the Power that manages the results of our actions, is the same. Therefore, the 4th Factor is far more powerful than we think.

Sometimes it is beyond human comprehension to understand how eight billion actors can be choreographed and synchronized in one mega drama on one huge stage. No doubt there are many continents and over two hundred countries, each having its own set and its own sub-acts, but finally it is one global show. Transactions from New York affect people in Tokyo, just as relationships in India impact families in London and Europe. But the show must go on! Nobody can escape from action. Every actor must play his part and just as you and me, every human being has an aspiration to be happy. We seek pleasure and we shun pain as the cosmic drama unfolds.

The 4th Factor doesn't micromanage every act of each actor,

but has a macro plan. It seems like the 4th Factor is completely automated and our actions create corresponding reactions as the show unfolds. It is beyond our capacity to imagine how the 4th Factor manages every act of each of the eight billion actors and issues verdicts as to what result should happen for each action. Could this be possible? Some actions are public and some are hidden. But the Power seems to have a 360 degree coverage with 100% control on each and every action of each actor on the stage. Therefore, it is very simple how the 4th Factor is in control of all our actions.

It is just like a computer that is controlling thousands of machines. There is no human intervention. Man may be in awe of how a computer efficiently manages huge production sets, but it is happening, uninterrupted. Similarly, the 4th Factor seems to be a far more sophisticated and efficient intelligence. It is a Power that controls everything in the cosmos, not just the actions of the 8 billion actors, but everything else that happens on the planet Earth, in the Milky Way and beyond everywhere else in the cosmos. It is more powerful than the most advanced computer we can imagine. And it is not artificial intelligence. It is real intelligence.

Think about it. You are just an individual, an insignificant part of your city. Your city is just a small part of your

country and your country, a dot on the globe. The Earth is just a little ball in the Milky Way and the Milky Way, one of the innumerable galaxies in the cosmos. All this is controlled by the Power of the $4^{\rm th}$ Factor.

In the beginning, we thought that the 4th Factor was just a little element that controls the result of our action. We thought that the 4th Factor was watching the farmer plant his seeds and gives a verdict on his crop. We thought that the 4th Factor controls the results of an examination, just as it controls the romantic tales of a teenager. Yes, the 4th Factor is in command of all the results based on certain cosmic laws and our own actions, but it does not restrict its powers to these tiny acts. The 4th Factor is a Power beyond man's imagination. It is a Cosmic Energy that is omnipresent - present everywhere, omnipotent - all powerful, and omniscient - knowing everything. It is beyond man's definition, but is very much there. It not only controls the fruit of each and every action, but also controls life and death. It controls the world and the universe as well as the entire cosmos. It is the 4th Factor that controls the entire cosmic drama that unfolds every day on the planet Earth.

As long as we don't realize the existence of the 4th Factor and how powerful this Cosmic Power is, we will continue to play our part and whine as we cry through every misery

and disappointment we face. We will continue to live with our ego and in ignorance, with desires and expectations and we will continue to be disappointed and defeated. We shall live in pain and sorrow because of our own ignorance and lack of probing the truth. When something happens, we will question, 'why?' We further cry because we refuse to accept what happens. We live in yesterday and tomorrow and we forget to enjoy today. We are so enamoured by ourselves, our instruments and equipment, and the efficiency of our own actions that we don't even have the time or inclination to look out for ourselves and discover the 4th Factor

But we have a choice. We can open our eyes and see the prevalent 4th Factor actively present in the world. Some of us call it luck, some fate and some serendipity. Others call it Karma or the Law of Action. But we see a 4th Factor that sometimes adds up two plus two and makes it five. It's our choice to accept the existence of the 4th Factor, to submit to it in surrender and accept its Divine Will. We have a choice to be happy or unhappy. We can choose to live in the now, realizing that yesterday was just one scene in the cosmic drama that is gone, never to return. We can refuse to accept the existence of tomorrow, knowing that tomorrow doesn't exist. It will come when it becomes today and it will unfold as per the Will of the Cosmic Creator, giving us an opportunity to act, observe and enjoy the show. Of

course, we have an option to plan today! That is an opportunity to live in the 'now.' But those who live in yesterday and tomorrow only live with sorrow and misery. We have been given an option to be attached to the results and become disappointed or to surrender to the $4^{\rm th}$ Factor and joyously accept what it unfolds. The choice is ours.

Suppose you celebrate your birthday and have a great party. Then after the guests leave, you start opening dozens of birthday gifts. You start with a gift from your father - it is a beautiful portrait of your family taken twenty years ago, but you cry and scream because you were expecting a Mercedes Benz. The next gift is from your father-in-law. You are sure that it is going to be a gift voucher for you and your wife for an exciting cruise to Antarctica because that is what he has been talking about these past few months. But when you open the envelope, you are disappointed to see that it is a simple, inexpensive cruise to the Greek isles. You are heartbroken. You continue opening all the gifts and instead of celebrating each gift, you criticize and complain as your expectations are not met. What happens at the end of your birthday? Although you get dozens of gifts, you are unhappy. There are many beautiful gifts that you have received, but since you have set your mind on certain expectations and were attached to that, all your birthday gifts couldn't make you smile in joy. Sad, isn't it?

There is so much beauty in the world outside and there is

so much that we can enjoy. But our ego makes us miserable. We don't use our intelligence to surrender to the 4^{th} Factor, a factor that is controlling everything that happens. We can't change what happened five minutes back and we are regretting what happened five years ago. Our life is full of regrets and thus devoid of joy and peace.

If we resolve to change our paradigm of thinking, and realize that there is a Cosmic Power which initially seems to appear as the 4^{th} Factor, then we realize that this Power dominates our entire life. The 4th Factor is nothing but the Power of the Creator of this cosmic drama on earth. If we realized how Powerful it is, we would be happy. All we must do is accept it. We must live with humility, transcending our ego and mind as these are the joy stealers. We can trigger happiness every day of our life if we accept the will of the 4th Factor as it unfolds, knowing that it is fair and that it controls all the results of our actions. We should constantly remind ourselves that if we want strawberries, we must plant strawberries and they will eventually bear fruit. If there are lemons in our backyard, we must not cry as to why there are no strawberries. We must realize that we must have planted lemons and we have forgotten about it. If something bad happens, don't question, "why?" It is our own action returning to us. Trust the 4th Factor. Trust in the laws of the universe and do your best. Believe that the 4th Factor will

do the rest. Surrender to it and then accept whatever happens as if you are watching a huge cosmic drama. Eventually, it's just a drama – isn't it? We come empty handed and we go without taking anything with us.

Nothing belongs to us, but we become so possessive about my house, my car and my family. An actor who is playing the part of Romeo on stage should know it is just a role. He is not Romeo, he is just enacting a scene in the drama. If we do our part as actors and observe the show, why would we be miserable? If we let the 4th Factor unfold as per the Cosmic Will, why would we be disappointed? But we don't live accepting the truth of the cosmic drama. We continue to live believing in our ego and the three factors, that make everything happen. We forget the 4th Factor. It's time to realize the truth of the 4th Factor and to surrender to it.

It's the 4th Factor that
controls the show.
Life is a drama,
we come and we go.
Nothing happens by chance,
this truth we must know.
It's all controlled by the Factor Four.

Summary

The Power beyond the 4th Factor

- Life on earth is exactly like a theatre, except that the stage is humungous in size. It is called Earth.
- We are all actors. We come and we go. Our job is to perform as per the script given to us.
- Scene by scene, the cosmic drama unfolds on earth and we continue acting as per our script.
- However, we have another role to play. We are also the audience who is watching the drama as it unfolds on earth.
- We cannot question what is happening. We have to accept and surrender as observers and actors to the Cosmic Power that is directing the show, called Life.
- The 4th Factor is part of the Cosmic Power that directs the earth show.
- As long as we don't realize the existence of the 4th Factor and how powerful this Cosmic Power is, we will continue to play our part and whine as we cry through every misery and disappointment we face.
- But if we do our part as actors and observe the show, why would we be miserable? We would enjoy the show.
- It's time to choose a new way to live by letting the 4th Factor unfold as per the Cosmic Will, accepting the 4th Factor and surrendering to it.

CHAPTER 10

Living with the 4th Factor

Suppose you are told that your life can be transformed and that you can live without fear, worry, anxiety, doubt, hate, jealousy and anger. Suppose you could fill your life with joy, peace, hope, faith and bliss, would you not be excited to transform your life? Well, here is an opportunity – you can choose a new way to live.

Why do we live with fear? What is fear? Fear is FEAR – False Expectations Appearing Real. Our life is filled with fear, fear of the unknown, fear of failure and fear of every possible danger. There is no real danger, but we cook up expected dangers and we live with fear. This is because we do not have faith in the 4th Factor. Had we believed that there was an intelligent 4th Factor that was controlling results and had complete command of the future, we would live without fear. If we trusted the Cosmic Power and realized that it was just a cosmic drama, there would be no reason to fear. However, instead of trusting the 4th Factor, we let our mind enslave us with negative thoughts that create fear. If we flip over and let the 4th Factor take

charge of our life, transcending negative thoughts of our mind, fear will be a thing of the past.

We worry so much. But why do we worry? We worry because either we anticipate negative consequences or we don't trust the Cosmic Power enough. In fact, worry has become a habit for many people. It's time to replace the habit of worry with a belief in the Power of the 4th Factor. We have seen its influence on results and if we have put in our best efforts, there is no need to worry. If by chance we have slipped somewhere, then the result may not be as per what we wished. However, we must have full trust in the 4th Factor. We must understand that nothing really matters. Nothing is real in this cosmic drama. The scenes keep changing and we must enjoy the show. If we believe in the 4th Factor, there is no need to worry.

Simon was always nervous. He always thought that the worst would happen. His life was filled with fear. He never learned the art of positive expectations. Then somebody told him the truth about the 4th Factor, so he stopped expecting the worst, and his fear was replaced with surrender. Earlier, Simon would be sweating awaiting the result he desired, and feared that it would never happen. But now, he is positive and relaxed. He knows the result is in the hands of the 4th Factor.

For instance, a few months ago, Simon was waiting for a confirmation of an order from his customer. His father noticed

that Simon stayed awake all night, anxiously looking at the laptop wondering if he got a reply. But now, things are different and his father is pleasantly surprised. Simon slept soundly at night and it is his father who woke him up in the morning to ask him what happened to the customer's order. Simon smiled, he said, "The 4th Factor is in charge."

So often we flare up in anger. Have you analyzed the cause of anger? Most often when an expectation is not met, we react with anger. But why should we? If we know that things are happening as per the will of the 4th Factor, then how does getting angry help? It is a foolish way to react, because it creates a fire not only outside us, but also inside us. If we believe in the Cosmic Power and the 4th Factor, we would not get angry. We would rather live peacefully, surrendering to the 4th Factor.

Radhika used to fume at everything. She would lose her temper at the drop of a hat. One day, at a pizza joint, she ordered a pizza and specifically requested that she wanted it with onions. She repeated it twice. Unfortunately, the shift changed and though her server passed on the message that her cheese pizza must have onions, it was overlooked. Normally, Radhika would fume, lose her temper, her appetite and her mood. But somehow, she had learned that she could not control the results, so she calmly told the waiter that she would not eat this pizza as she had ordered it with onions. In a few minutes, the pizza was replaced. She enjoyed the meal and left. Normally, Radhika would scream at

the waiter, call for the manager and go home without eating. But now she lives with the 4^{th} Factor.

We are so used to living with doubt. We hesitate and thus we are not even able to put our best foot forward. Doubt arises because we do not believe in the 4^{th} Factor. If we trust Divine Providence and know that if we put in our best efforts, nothing can stop the best results from happening, we would not act with doubt. Therefore doubt itself is born from a lack of belief in the 4^{th} Factor.

Monica was always full of doubts. So eventually, she stopped trying to do anything new - no new ventures, businesses, creative endeavours. Whenever she would do anything, she would doubt if it would work out. "What's the use of trying?" she would say. Her friends used to tell her, "Please try Monica. Don't worry about what happens. If you don't even try, how will it happen?" She would reply, "What's the use? Even if I do my best, it won't happen." Her friend talked to her about the 4th Factor and she started making an effort again without anticipating any results. She was so happy! She had stopped trying because her past experiences made her feel that all her endeavours were of no use. She was so full of doubts that it inevitably affected her confidence, her performance and obviously, the results. But now she does her best without any expectations. She has learned to surrender to the 4th Factor and accept its will. She is very happy! Many things that she wanted to happen, happened and her life is transformed.

Sometimes we live with negative emotions like jealousy and hatred. What is the cause of these negative emotions? We act with utter dislike towards somebody because of their possible action or reaction towards us. We don't realize that they may have been acting out of compulsion. Sometimes our desires reach such a low level that rather than wanting something for ourselves, we start becoming envious of others. We wish for their downfall and hope for their failure. Had we realized that there was a 4th Factor that would nullify our envy or jealousy, would we stoop to such a low level? If we knew that our hate would bounce back upon us, even if we could not love, we would not hate. Our ignorance about the reality of life, the presence of a Cosmic Power and the prevalence of the 4th Factor, makes us live and suffer from negative emotions like jealousy and hate.

If we believe in the 4^{th} Factor, we can choose to live a new life without negative emotions. All our anxieties can come to an end. We are constantly jumping from the past to the future because we do not believe in the 4^{th} Factor. Because of our ignorance of the presence of the Cosmic Power and lack of realization of the truth – that life is a drama that is happening moment by moment, we continue to be anxious and are not able to live a life of joy and peace. If we transform our life making the 4^{th} Factor real in our life, then there is no place for anxiety. We become so confident

about the 4th Factor that anxiety evaporates as mist in the morning sun.

If we want to transform our life and choose a new way to live, we must choose to live with the 4^{th} Factor. What does this call for? It calls for us to surrender and to trust the 4^{th} Factor. We must accept the Power of the 4^{th} Factor in our day to day life.

Can't we see that every aspect of our life depends on a Power that is beyond our control? There is a Power that gives us life and when this power leaves, we face death. This Power is no different from the 4th Factor. If we deny and ask for proof, we will continue to live in misery. If we contemplate through inference, we can clearly see that this Life Power is associated with the 4th Factor and it is part of our life from birth to death.

Every aspect of our life is connected with the Cosmic Power and 4^{th} Factor. But we take things for granted and do not value the magic that it creates in our life. Do we realize that our speech comes from a hair-thin vocal cord? If there was no 4^{th} Factor, and no Power pouring its grace upon us, we could snap our vocal cord in a fraction of a second and be unable to speak for life. While everything in our life is actually a blessing, we are somehow ungrateful and don't value the gift of our life.

Why do we blink when something is thrown towards our eye? It is a defence mechanism that protects the eye. The 4th Factor and the Cosmic Power together have taken care of every aspect of our life. We must realize this truth and this realization should lead us to believe in the 4th Factor and completely surrender and accept its will.

Every action of ours is controlled by a neuron in the brain. Did we know that we have a hundred billion neurons? Any tiny accident could leave us paralyzed for life. But the 4th Factor wishes us to be happy and healthy. Several protective mechanisms including the skull work towards protecting our brain and nervous system. But instead of living in divine acceptance of the 4th Factor, we doubt the existence of this Cosmic Power.

Our eyes are more powerful than any man-made camera that boasts of 10 megapixels or 20 megapixels. Each of our eyes has a capacity of 576 megapixels and is capable of distinguishing 10 million colours. Shouldn't we be amazed by this gift of the eyes? Isn't sight a gift of the 4th Factor?

To live blissfully, we must be grateful for every aspect of our life. We must be grateful for the gift of breathing which not only breathes in oxygen that the heart pumps throughout the body, but also supports the various systems that it activates. It triggers the digestive system that digests our food and creates energy for the body, and the excretory system that removes waste, which is essential for the body to survive. Who is controlling our body system? Eight billion human beings live moment by moment and we don't bother to think of the power that is responsible for the life within. It is the 4th Factor or the Cosmic Power that is responsible for all of this.

We don't have the time to think about the 4th Factor and this is the cause of our misery. If only we realized that our brain had a memory of one quadrillion and it could hold so much of information, we would be humbled. But we do not even think of who is causing this to happen. As the heart pumps, it creates energy every day which is said to be equal to a power that can drive a truck for 32 kilometres. There is so much Power within. That itself should make us realize that the Power of the 4th Factor is so humungous that it is greater than the power of eight billion human beings that it has created on earth.

All this should make us peaceful and blissful. It should give us confidence and courage in the 4th Factor. Not only should it eliminate our anxiety, it should create so much courage and confidence, that it fills our life with happiness. We must be conscious of the power of the 4th Factor and should be able to view its presence in every

aspect of our life. This will help us live with peace and joy.

Have you experienced a sudden burst of inspirational energy, an idea from your sixth sense that seems like a creative blessing? Have you had the experience of hunches or telepathy? What suddenly makes us feel like a genius? Can we prove all this? While we can't prove the power of the sixth sense, we experience it. This direct experience is far more powerful than any proof. After all, how will a proof help us live a happy life? Neither must we seek proof, nor must we seek to prove to anybody. Our challenge is to live with peace and joy.

We human beings have got used to living with misery and unless we transform our life, accepting the Power of the 4th Factor, we will continue to suffer without experiencing the bliss that comes from the realization of the truth. Is it so difficult to realize that the heart beats over one lakh times a day and we breathe more than 20,000 times? Shouldn't we be grateful for this? Instead of being attached to petty results that are born from our expectations, should we not learn to live with gratitude, accepting a Divine Will? Should we not see the presence of the Power of the 4th Factor?

Haven't we seen somebody who was laughing with us suddenly die? We say that the person has moved on, passed away or departed. We see that the body that lies in front of us starts to decay and is of no use without the Power that was within. But instead of admiring the Power, we are so caught up with the body that we continue to be miserable in the ignorance that we live with. If only we use our intelligence to realize the truth, that this body is nothing, just flesh and bones, we could be awakened to a new reality. If only we go deeper to realize that the mind is something we cannot find, that it is a bundle of thoughts that distracts us from the reality and clouds our intellect, we would not be a slave to an illusion. If only we valued that aspect of discrimination that we are blessed with, we could realize the truth. We could become aware of the 4th Factor and the tremendous Power it possesses that comes from the Universal Cosmic Energy.

We have all heard of the very famous proverb: *Man proposes*, *God disposes*. We know that while we can propose, ultimately God will dispose as per His will. This is true. Man can propose through three factors – his efficiency, his equipment and the act. He can do the best he can, but he can only propose. He cannot dispose. He can only act, he cannot control the result of his action. But without proposing, there can be no disposing, which means if man does not propose, then God will not dispose. Man must act. It is in the hands of man to first act, but once having acted, man must sit back in peace to let the result unfold on

its own. Thus, man proposes, the 4^{th} Factor disposes. We must become conscious of the 4^{th} Factor and be aware of its power of disposing what we propose. Then only we can live in peace.

It's time to live a life of peace, joy, and bliss. It's time to surrender to the 4th Factor and to accept the Divine Will of the Cosmic Power that controls this cosmic drama. Instead of living with misery and pain, anxious of every moment as it unfolds, it's time to live with courage and confidence free of worry and doubt as we trust in the 4th Factor. It's time to unconditionally believe in the 4th Factor with absolute surrender and complete acceptance. We have a choice to live with our arrogant ego and believe in the three factors that are within our control or to accept and surrender to the 4th Factor and live a life of eternal joy and peace.

The choice is ours.

We must choose with the 4th Factor to live.

We must give and

we must forgive.

We must laugh with faith,

love and hope,

Then with life's battles

we can easily cope.

Summary

Living with the 4th Factor

- Most of humanity lives in fear, worry, anxiety, doubt, hate, jealousy, and anger.
- This is because we do not have faith in the 4th Factor.
- We will live without fear only if we believe that there is an intelligent 4th Factor that is controlling the results, having complete command of whatever happens.
- If we want to transform our life and choose a new way to live, we must choose to live with the 4th Factor.
- It calls for us to surrender and to trust the 4th Factor. We must accept the Power of the 4th Factor in our day to day life.
- Instead of living with misery and pain, anxious of every moment as it unfolds, we can live with courage and confidence, free from worry and doubt as we trust in the 4^{th} Factor.
- We have to make a choice to live with our arrogant ego and believe in the three factors that are within our control or to accept and surrender to the 4th Factor and live a life of eternal joy and peace.

Poem

There is a 4th Factor on earth It controls our life, it gives us birth It is beyond what man can know It has laws that manage the show

Man thinks there are factors three With a saw he thinks he can cut a tree To him, the doer, the equipment and the act Are enough to create any impact

But then sometimes, he blinks and thinks The sails were fine, yet the ship sinks They did their best, captain and crew But the results didn't happen, that is true

And still does man do his best He puts every effort of his to test But he is sad in the end to find That the result that happened was a different kind

Why is it, then man does think
What stopped his desire? What made him sink?
It should have happened, why did it not
Where he wonders, his work got caught

Then he sees there are factors four Not just three that he thought before There is a 4th Factor he knows That controls all results, it clearly shows

Despite man doing his very best, He can't understand what is the test Till finally the 4th Factor he knows He surrenders, he accepts, with it he goes

Why is it that we try but cry? It did not happen, we question the sky We do not understand how this Power acts What are the laws, what are the facts?

The 4th Factor is a Power, of course But how it works, nobody knows The only way to live with it Is to trust, to accept, to surrender to it

This Power is not ordinary, that we know It's the Cosmic Power that runs the show With it the world goes round and round And there is justice on the ground

We are helpless puppets in fact Without it, we are nothing in the act It is the Director that produced this show We just come and then we go We want to be happy, don't want to be sad There is a way for us to be glad If we want to live with joy and peace With the 4th Factor, it happens with ease

In the 4th Factor we must learn to trust This power is fair, this power is just We must not question, we must not ask We must at best do our task

Why do we worry, why do we fear? Why the misery, why the tear? If only the 4th Factor we know We will truly enjoy the show

It's sad that in ignorance we do live We live in greed, we do not give We are anxious, jealous, we worry, we hate And never reach the happiness gate

We must do our best and then let go To the 4th Factor that manages the show That is the secret of peace and bliss A new way to live, we must not miss

You may of course be the best actor But you can't beat the 4th Factor Every day on earth you will see Whatever will be, will be, will be

About the Author – AiR

AiR – Atman or the Soul in Ravi, is an embodied Soul whose only mission in life is to help people realize the Truth and God.

He was born on October 15, 1966 in Bangalore, as Ravi V. Melwani. At a very young age, he mastered the craft of business and became a very successful businessman who revolutionized retailing in India with the stores KidsKemp, Big KidsKemp, and Kemp Fort.

After making millions, he realized that life is not just about making money. He shut down his business at the age of 40, transformed his life to RVM, living by the RVM philosophy – Rejoice, Value Life, and Make a Difference. He started doing H.I.S. work – Humanitarian, Inspirational and Spiritual work. His mission was to 'Make a Difference' in this world before his journey was over.

As a part of the humanitarian initiative, a charitable hospital was set up in 1998 with an aim to provide free medical treatment and care to the poor, destitute, and

needy. Over 700 homeless and suffering people are served and cared for in destitute homes and provided with free shelter, food, clothing, and medical care.

A School of Inspiration was set up that inspired the lives of many people through motivating talks, inspirational books and videos, and thought-provoking quotes.

A Shiva Temple was built in the year 1995 in Bangalore, which is now known as the Shivoham Shiva Temple. AiR now believes that religion is just a kindergarten of Spirituality, and we all have to go beyond religion to truly realize God.

One day, his Guru provoked him to introspect: What is the purpose of life? Is life just meant to seek pleasures and to live and die without any purpose? What happens after death? Will we be reborn? Where is God? Several questions like these took him on a quest, a search for the Truth. He gave up his life of Achievement and Fulfillment in search of the final peak of life: Enlightenment.

After a few years of intense search in retreat, deep in the mountains, he realized that we are not this body. We are the Soul, the Atman. He changed his name to AiR – Atman

in Ravi. He metamorphosed to AiR and gave up his entire life as RVM and started living as an instrument of God doing His Divine Will. This led to several realizations that formed his new mission of life – to help people Realize the Truth.

Since then, AiR's life has been dedicated to reaching out and helping people to eradicate the ignorance that we live in. Truth is Truth but our mind does not realize that. With AiR's own realization, he has published several books, written bhajans, blogs, quotes, poems and taken up several other initiatives that can direct people towards the Truth. AiR's Vision is to make a difference in people's lives by triggering them to ask questions, and then to investigate, and eventually, realize God. He believes that unless people ask questions, they will never start a quest and even if they start the quest unless they really investigate, they will not realize the Truth. This Truth cannot be learned in a school, college or university, it must be realized. AiR has dedicated his life to helping people realize the Truth and God

Books by the Author - AiR

1. Talaash - A search for the true meaning of life. Discover your true self

'Talaash' means Search or Quest. This book by AiR is his personal journey to realize the truth where he shares his realization that we are not the body and the mind that we seem to be. We are a power. The divine life force is known as Soul, Spirit or Atman. This search and quest by AiR made him transform his life. It is a quest that made him realize the truth. It might be just that book that inspires you to liberation.



2.3 Peaks of Happiness

3 Peaks of Happiness by AiR is a simple book that talks about the quest of all humanity. Everybody wants to be happy. But is everybody happy? No. The reason is we are stuck on the first peak of happiness – Achievement. 20% of the people are lucky to climb the second peak of happiness –



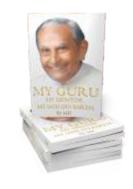
Fulfilment, which comes from contentment. But there is a third peak beyond. The third peak of happiness will liberate you from the prisons of misery and sorrow and give you eternal Joy and Bliss.

3. My Guru, My Mentor, My God on Earth

My Guru, My Mentor, My God on Earth is a book by AiR in which he shares his experiences with his Guru who was not just his Guru and Mentor, but also his God on Earth. We all need a coach, a teacher to help us understand, guide us to live life and this book "My Guru" will inspire you to find your Guru or to make your relationship with your Guru more fulfilling and meaningful.

4. I will Never Die. Death is not "The End"

In the journey of his life, AiR realized many truths. One of the truths was that he would never die. The body will die, but the one who lives in the body never dies. We are not the bodies that we wear; we are the ones





who wear the body. Death is not the end. It is a bend to transcend. This book reveals the truth about Death.

5. Death is Not "The End". Death is "Liberation"

Death is Not "The End". Death is "Liberation" – the second book in the series of books on death by AiR – touches upon the secret of the Kathopanishad, which talks about what happens at death. One of two things happen – if we think we are the body and mind as a doer, we are reborn. But if we think we are not the body and mind, but the energy, we are liberated to eternal joy and peace.



6. I am not I. Who am I?

I am not I. Who am I? – is a very interesting book by AiR, which talks of his quest and realization that we are not who we think we are. We have a house, but we are not the house. We have a car, but we are not the car. We have a body, but we are not the body. We may have a mind, but we are not the mind. Who are we? Realize the truth.



7. The Mind is a Rascal

Can you believe that the mind is a rascal? You always thought that the mind is king – it is everything. But just try this. Sit quietly for an hour, and try to find the mind. Where is it? You will find the mind doesn't exist. This amazing book by AiR will teach us that the mind is our enemy. It is the one that makes us suffer. It is time to find the rascal and to kill it. How do you do it?



8. A Cosmic Drama

This book authored by AiR challenges us to think that whatever is happening in life is not real. It is nothing but a drama. The earth is a big stage, and we are all actors who come and go. There is no need to worry and cry till we die. If we understand the truth, we can enjoy the show called life.



9. Who is God? Where is God? What is God?

Well, this might seem to be a simple set of questions, but

nobody really knows the answers. We all know that God exists. We pray to a God as per our religion but what is the truth about God? Has anybody seen God? Where is God? This simple book will change your perception and belief about God and bring you closer to this Power called God. It will help you realize God.



10. The A to Z of Karma

Most people are aware of the concept of Karma – the Law. What you give is what you get. But not everybody knows the A to Z of Karma, that we can actually transcend Karma, escape from it and achieve Moksha, Nirvana, Liberation or Enlightenment. This book reveals the secret – of eternal joy and peace – a life without any misery or suffering.



11. Who Are You & Why Are You Here?

'Who are you and why are you' here is a simple book which challenges us to discover the secret of our life. Most of us think we are the body-mind complex, but in reality we are not. The body will die and return to dust. Where is

About the Author

WHO ARE YOU & WHY ARE YOU HERE?

the mind, we cannot find. Who are we in reality? And beyond that what is the purpose of life on earth. This book will give you all the answers.

12. The 4th Factor - Discover the mysterious factor that makes the possible, possible!

COMING SOON

- 13. Be Happy in the NOW!
- 14. Questions You Must Answer Before You Die.

| Om Namah Shivaya | | Shivoham | |



Visit Coogle play or Scan the QR Code to download the AiR - Atman in Ravi App. www.air.ind.in | air@air.ind.in



THE 4"FACTOR

Discover the mysterious factor that makes the possible, possible!

What makes the Possible, Possible? What makes the Impossible Possible? What makes the Possible Impossible?

The 4th Factor!

Discover the unknown Factor that controls the results of all our actions.

Of course, man's actions are responsible for the results he achieves! Man selects the best equipment and instrument and uses the best method possible to achieve excellence.

BUT CAN HE CONTROL THE RESULTS OF HIS ACTIONS?

Man feels helpless when he finds that despite his best efforts he does not achieve the expected result. He wonders why, and he cries looking up at the sky!

There is a mysterious factor, a power that controls all the results of man's actions. Man is in command of three factors that makes things possible – himself, his equipment and his actions but there is a 4^{th} Factor, a factor without which even the possible becomes impossible.

Discover the 4th Factor and make the impossible possible. Surrender to this mysterious power and live a life of peace and joy.

by
AR
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