

WHY  
**BAD**  
THINGS  
**CAN'T**  
**HAPPEN**  
**TO**  
**GOOD**  
PEOPLE!

By  
**AiR**  
Atman in Ravi

Because **APPLES** can't  
grow on **MANGO** trees





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# Preface

In this world, there is a constant unfolding of events, some good and some bad. Life is like a merry-go-round and we pass both pleasure and pain in this journey called life. When good things happen, we are happy, but when tragedies strike, we become unhappy. Our sorrow reaches a peak when misfortune strikes good people. Recently, somebody asked me a question, "Why do bad things happen to good people?" I answered without a doubt, "Bad things can't happen to good people, just like apples can't grow on mango trees. Such is the law of the universe."

While I sent out my answer to the

question, I realized that many people in this world live in ignorance with this belief and it is really sad that they think that bad things happen to good people.

As I grew up, I read several books that addressed similar topics. Authors and philosophers even questioned the power of the Divine and it is unfortunate that though we have an intellect, we are unable to discriminate and understand the truth. This world has been created by the Divine and it operates through Divine Universal Laws. These laws need no intervention by the Creator. The Creator is not issuing orders or giving judgements on the actions of each of the 8 billion people who live on earth.

Then, how can people even imagine

that the Divine is responsible for our miseries? Why do we blame the Divine for whatever is happening in our lives? The answer is simple. We human beings live in ignorance. We have not understood the Truth about the Creator and how Divine Laws manage the show on earth. We have not pondered over who we are and what is our true relationship with the Divine. We have not discovered the cause of our circumstances and what controls our destiny. Instead of realizing the Truth, we often look up at the sky and question, "Why? Why did this happen to me? Why is there so much injustice? Why do bad things happen to good people?"

This booklet will create a paradigm shift

and change people's perspective about problems and tragedies. It will help people realize that the Creator is Just and Powerful and his laws sustain this amazing universe moment by moment, as life unfolds on earth. It will show us a way to accept whatever happens joyously just as it will help us live an ethical life, doing good deeds which will become the seeds of our prosperous future, our destiny!

***"Why do Bad Things happen to  
Good People?" we ask,  
"Why does God do such a cruel task?"  
Just as there are no Apples  
on a Mango tree...  
We must realize that Bad Things  
don't happen Randomly.***

## WHY DO BAD THINGS HAPPEN?

Many people believe that bad things happen because we don't have a good relationship with God. Some people believe it to be the work of the devil, Satan or an evil force. What is the cause of bad things happening? Is it just some random bad luck or is it at the direction of the Creator whom we call God. Believers in God wonder, "Why can't God stop bad things from happening? Is God not all-powerful?" Bad things keep happening in this world, just as good things also happen. But what is the cause of the calamities that strike us? Can we stop bad things from happening? These questions constantly haunt us. Bad things can't just happen randomly. We need to realize the Truth and eradicate the ignorance we live in.

## **IS GOD RESPONSIBLE FOR OUR MISERY?**

God controls the universe and we believe that God causes tragic events. We think that if God wished, he could stop tragedies from happening; if God were kind, he would not let humanity suffer. Is this true? We must understand that God is not micromanaging everything that happens on earth. While God is the producer- director of this drama called 'Life', God is not responsible for all our actions. The Creator seems to have created universal laws through which the world is governed. We human beings are responsible for whatever happens on earth. What is happening is just a response to our own actions processed by a universal program instituted by the Creator. If

this was not so, we would see apples growing on mango trees and jackfruits falling from coconut trees. As long as we are ignorant about the Law of Action and Reaction, we will never realize the truth and accept its verdict. Let us understand the law.

*Many people think that  
it is God's command,  
We suffer bad things  
because it's his demand.  
But God is not responsible for  
our suffering and bad luck,  
It all depends on what we sow,  
that is what we will pluck!*

## THE UNIVERSAL LAW OF ACTION AND REACTION

Everything unfolds in this world based on the Law of Action and Reaction, also known as the Law of Karma. The Law of Karma States, “As you sow, so shall you reap.” If you plant apples, you will get apples, not mangoes. It is the law that prevails everywhere in the universe. Nobody can escape from this law. We must clearly understand that death is not the end - only the body dies, but the one who was alive, the ME – the Mind and Ego, is reborn and carries the unsettled Karma, not just of the previous life, but sometimes of several lives known as the corpus or an opening balance. Our actions, good or bad, get recorded as the current

balance and merge with the opening balance. At the end of our life, whatever be the balance, what we have carried forward, as well as all the actions of this life, will be accounted, totalled and the balance will be added to the corpus to decide our next birth.

***'As you sow, so shall you reap'  
is a Universal Law.  
If you do bad things,  
you will be caught by the claw.  
Whatever you do in the world,  
it is absolutely true,  
The Good or bad you do will surely  
come back to you.***

## **APPLES CAN'T GROW ON MANGO TREES**

Have you seen apples growing on a mango tree? Never! Why? Because apples are not meant to grow on any other tree except for the apple tree. While it doesn't seem so difficult to understand that apples can't grow on mango trees, we human beings struggle to understand why bad things happen to good people. Bad things can't happen to good people. It is just not possible! Those who understand the Universal Law of Karma, understand that it is a Law of Cause and Effect. If mangoes are growing on a mango tree, mangoes are just an effect. The mango seed is the cause. Because of mango seeds,

there are mangoes. There cannot be apples. Similarly, if bad things are happening to some people who seem to be good, somewhere in life or in some previous life, they must have done some bad deeds.

*Do fruits grow  
randomly on any tree  
Or they appear depending  
on the Lord's decree?  
Do we ever see apples  
growing on a mango tree?  
A Universal Law ensures  
that this can never be.*

## WHY DOES A NEWBORN SUFFER?

When we see an innocent newborn infant who has done nothing wrong to anybody, suffering from some serious ailment, we wonder, "What is the cause of this suffering?" If we ponder deeply into the suffering of young kids, we will realize a profound Truth. These young kids may look tiny in size, but there is a history that they carry with them which is very long. Those who are ignorant about the Universal Law, continue to wonder in frustration looking at a young child suffer. This is because they do not realize that this young child is not suffering without reason. They do not understand that the body of this young child carries within a Mind and

Ego, ME, that has a 'carry forward' account.

*How do you feel  
when a little baby cries?*

*It suffers from  
disease and soon it dies!*

*Don't you think,  
“What harm has this little one done?”  
We must realize why this  
misfortune has come!*

## THE MYSTERY OF DEATH AND AFTERLIFE

To understand why bad things happen and why it seems that some good people suffer, we must try to understand the reality of life and death. Good or bad, whatever comes to us, it comes to us during a period called life. Death is a mystery. We see a person alive and then suddenly, the person dies. But only the body dies, the ME – Mind and Ego, continues its cycle in a new body. So this is another universal law, the Law of Cycles. Our life is cyclic. It doesn't end at death. It continues. It is obvious by inference that an afterlife exists. The reward or punishment is only possible if the person is reborn in a new body. How else would this be possible? Some

people are born fortunate and some, unfortunate. It indicates the existence of a law that can only unfold if there was an afterlife.

*What happens at death,  
the person has passed on.  
The body lies here  
but the one alive has gone.  
Where has he gone,  
the one who was alive?  
Wherever he be,  
but he will soon arrive.*

## REALIZE THE TRUTH

While there is misery and suffering in this world, and it is sad to see people suffer, we must realize the truth behind life and suffering. If we don't, we will live in ignorance and our misery will only grow. It is one thing to experience pain, but it is another to suffer the misery, feeling that this world is unfair or that God is unjust or not powerful enough to help us. There is no doubt that this world is full of suffering. This does not mean that there is only suffering. We pass both pleasure and pain every now and then as we live. Some people even contemplate suicide so that their problems can end. But those who realize the Truth, know that death is not

the end, it is just a bend. The ones who realize that this universe operates on the Law of Cause and Effect, accept whatever is happening as an effect and realize that they are the cause, not God. They learn to live in acceptance and surrender.

*Realize the Truth,  
don't live in the dark.  
Nobody can escape suffering,  
this Truth you must mark.  
What the source of misery is  
once you do know,  
With peace, you will live  
and to bliss you will go.*

## LIVING BLISSFULLY NO MATTER WHAT

Those who realize the Truth live a life of bliss, peace and joy. They realize the Truth and accept this world as a Cosmic Drama. They know that we are just actors, we come and we go. The tragedies of life cannot rob their peace. They know whatever is happens, happens as per the Universal Laws. When something seemingly bad happens, they rejoice knowing that a bad deed committed in the past has been redeemed. The negative has been cancelled and they live with hope that now the positive will unfold. They overcome all the ignorance they live in, and go on to be liberated from the cycle of death and rebirth. They are finally, united with the Divine.

## **THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF LIFE, LIBERATION AND UNIFICATION WITH THE DIVINE**

The Ultimate Goal of life has 3 steps. The first step is Realization. If we want to achieve the Ultimate Goal of life, we must realize the Truth, the Truth about the Universal Laws and how they unfold on earth. This takes us to the second step of the Ultimate Goal – Liberation. Realization of the Truth liberates us from all misery and sorrow. The body may suffer, but we, the ones alive in the body, are liberated from suffering. Those who attain both Realization and Liberation, experience the third and final step of the Ultimate Goal. It is Unification with the Divine. Once we realize the Truth that we are the Divine Soul, we get liberated from the

body-mind complex. We realize that at death only the physical body will die and the Soul will be liberated to be united with the Divine – this is the ultimate goal! This also brings an end to all suffering and misery!

*Life has a purpose,  
there is an Ultimate Goal,  
To realize we are not the body,  
nor mind but the Soul.  
The ones who realize the Truth  
are free from misery,  
At death they unite with the Divine  
and from Karma they are free.*

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR – AiR

AiR – *Atman* in Ravi, is an Embodied Soul whose only mission in life is to 'Help People Realize the Truth'. He was born in Bangalore on October 15, 1966 as Ravi V. Melwani. At a very young age, he mastered the craft of business and revolutionized retailing in India. After making millions, he realized that life is not just about making money. He shut down his business at the age of 40 and started making a difference doing H.I.S. work – Humanitarian, Inspirational and Spiritual work.

As a part of the Humanitarian initiative 3 charitable homes were set up to provide free medical treatment and care to over 700 suffering homeless people. AiR also

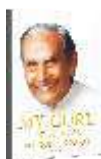
built Shivoaham Shiva Temple in the year 1995 in Bangalore though AiR now believes that people should go beyond religion to truly realize God. Inspired by his Guru, Dada J.P. Vaswani, AiR went on a spiritual quest to attain Enlightenment.

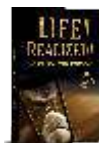
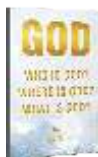
After a few years of intense search in retreat, he realized that we are not this body. We are the Soul, the *Atman*. He metamorphosed to AiR - *Atman* in Ravi, gave up his entire life as Ravi V. Melwani and started living as an instrument of God doing His Divine Will. He lives his life with just one mission - to help people Ask, Investigate and Realize the Truth.

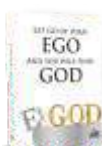
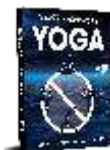
Based on his realizations, AiR has published over 40 books, composed and sung about 1190 bhajans, written several blogs, quotes, and poems. He is a TEDx speaker and is also invited to speak at several organizations like YPO (Young Presidents' Organization), Rotary Club, Lions Club, and at many corporates, schools, and colleges. He conducts AiR Spiritual Retreats and webinars every week on Zoom and Facebook Live to help people realize the ultimate purpose of their life. Being blessed with everything, he seeks nothing except to fulfil this mission of life.

AiR has authored several books on various topics related to Life, Happiness, God, Spirituality, Karma and many of these books are also available as concise booklets.

## BOOKS BY AiR









If you have any questions on happiness, suffering, success, life, rebirth, liberation or anything related to spirituality, you can visit Ask AiR, ask your questions and AiR will answer them.

Email: [air@air.ind.in](mailto:air@air.ind.in)

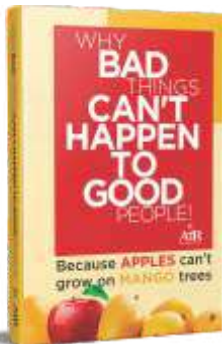
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Please visit the following link

[www.air.ind.in/ask\\_air/](http://www.air.ind.in/ask_air/)

## WHY **BAD** THINGS **CAN'T** HAPPEN TO **GOOD** PEOPLE!


This booklet helps us understand that this world has been created by the Divine and it operates through certain Universal Laws that need no intervention by the Creator. Bad things can never happen to good people, just as apples can't grow on mango trees!



# WHY **BAD** THINGS **CAN'T HAPPEN TO** **GOOD** PEOPLE!

When a tragedy befalls a man, he gets shocked, disturbed and wonders, "Why me?" He looks up at the sky and questions the Creator, "Why is there so much injustice on earth?" When things go beyond his control, he turns to God and folds his hands in prayer. He doesn't realize that bad things cannot happen to good people, just as apples cannot grow on mango trees because there is a Universal Law, the Law of Karma, the Law of Action and Reaction that controls everything that happens on earth. Nobody can escape from this law. Those who understand the law, live an ethical life. They do good deeds and create a destiny of Joy and Peace.

This booklet will help us realize the Truth of why things happen the way they happen, and teach us a way to live with Peace and Bliss without asking the question "Why do bad things happen to good people?"

For more information on AiR booklets  
and AiR, please visit [www.air.ind.in](http://www.air.ind.in)  
or  +91 98451 55555

**A.i.R.**  
AiR Institute of Realization  
Ask Investigate Realize