



We are at the crossroad opportunity for major economical development and risk of undermining cultural values. Present day India is faced with numerous challenges such as global competition and youngsters' desire to excel while fighting to keep roots of moral, social and ethical heritage intact. It is a great opportunity for economical development of the nation and to raise the standard of living for people but the challenge is to preserve our rich cultural roots and spiritual heritage. It is still in a very young and fragile state. Though we have rich cultural and spiritual heritage, we should be watchful of the risk and hazards of misplaced priorities in terms of putting material gains before spiritual development, physical comforts before mental peace and enrichment of a few instead of mass upliftment. It is incumbent of political leaders to see that the wealth that is created is used for the benefit of all, particularly the needy and downtrodden and promote peace and harmony amongst different communities while spiritual leaders make certain that moral fibers of the society remains intact and spiritual values are preserved. It is important for each individual to see that he or she pursues opportunities for better future without compromising with moral values, integrity and duties and put everything in right perspective.

The present day world is anxiety ridden and tension torn. People generally ask as to why dishonest and corrupt prosper while the upright suffers. Many are disheartened at the visible inequity in life. As a result, some people tend to lose faith in religion and the value system. It is often seen that the aggressive and evil prey on the noble and peaceful. However, there are number of good people in the society who are an epitome of righteousness and embodiment of goodness. Even though it appears that they do suffer humiliation at the hands of evil, do not despair, truth and righteousness always prevail and win in the end. Have unflinching faith in this law of nature. The true spirit of goodness and righteousness is always resurrected.

May this Deepavali brings light, power, wisdom and enlightenment and remove the darkness of ignorance and malice from the lives of one and all.

May we all shine and prosper in the kingdom of BLISS ABSOLUTE!
Happy Deepavali.
Om Shanti.

Swami Adhyatmananda. (November 9, 2007)