

University: to become one with the universe



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Man has been conditioned down the centuries for goals, purposes and meanings, a goal-oriented ideology. All ideologies are goal-oriented. Because of these ideologies one cannot allow oneself to relax in the moment. The goading for achieving something continuously runs in the back of the mind. The whole education system is a strategy of poisoning the individual's consciousness; a strategy of driving one crazy after goals and creating ambition. Ambition is neurosis. But this has been done for so long that it has become part and parcel of the human mind.

Every university can become a place, not only to teach geography, history and other subjects; but to teach something very essential: meditation, love, the art of living, the art of being human.

Each university can become a [temple](#) of wisdom which is not yet. It is called a university but it is not a university, because it is not universal. The meaning of the word “University” is to become one with the universe. But on the contrary universities are teaching strengthening of the ego; which is [against](#) the universe.

Osho points out that universities should be completely free of all politics, all religions, but they should teach you the basic arts of being human - which has not been done up to now. That's why there are so many atrocities, so many inhuman acts [against](#) human beings.

[Education](#) is the process of liberation, but it has not been actualized anywhere in the world. All that we learn in this world serves [as](#) a means of getting the better of one another. It is a plan for conflicts in life. The universities have become a reflection of our aggression; armed with its weapons we can compete and exploit others more efficiently, can harass others more systematically and commit crimes lawfully. This may result in winning [over](#) others, but we will never be wise. Universities should remain centers of learning and wisdom.

To keep education pure, without politics because politics is poison; is the real challenge. Our present universities are just imitations of the West. Nalanda and Takshashila were different, they were Eastern universities. In Nalanda only Buddhist philosophy was taught but the [training](#) was not simply verbal, not scriptural, not just knowing about what Buddhist philosophy is. The [training](#) was in Buddhist [yoga](#). The [student](#) would [follow](#) verbal instruction, and then, simultaneously, he would go deeper and deeper and deeper into meditation. Unless meditation and verbal [training](#) grow simultaneously, the whole growth process becomes futile.

Osho says, Universities should be teaching latest discoveries, the latest literature, poetry, the latest in everything. What they are doing is thirty years, forty years old. It takes time for people to become well known, but the universities should be sensitive enough: each year there are new novels, new music, new dances, that should become part of the curriculum. Universities have to remain always up to date, not lagging behind the world.

Our schools, our colleges, our universities, the whole culture, the whole pattern of civilization, teach our heads. We have lost contact with the inner guide. Everyone is born with that inner guide but it is not allowed to work, to function. It is almost paralyzed, but it can be revived.

Universities should make [one](#) innocent and virtuous, but on the contrary it is teaching cleverness and cunningness. The more clever [one](#) is, the better he will be in the struggle of life. [One](#) can gain much wealth, prestige, power, if he calculating but if innocent, he will be nowhere in this competitive world. This is the problem: in this competitive world he may not be anywhere, but in that non-competitive world of nirvana, if [one](#) is innocent, he will be somewhere. But here we forget that we are part of the universe and the misery is we have chosen this world to be our goal.

Old eastern universities differed completely, their orientation was totally different. Nalanda, Takshila did not teach calculation or cleverness. They taught innocence.

The universities should teach and prepare the students in a broader sense, give them certain qualities. Then will come the day when the country will have people who are well-educated, cultured, with the highest [level](#) of consciousness. If this is possible then we will have, for the first time, something that is really human - giving dignity to humanity, integrity to individuals.

Ma Prem Naina

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