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How Not To Become A Fossil

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Tradition is accumulated past which people get attached to because they are not living the present and they have no hope for the future. They do not know how to access that which is yet-to-be, so they sit on a pile of things done in the past and call it "tradition".

A flaky life is trying to find substance by attaching itself to thousands of years of tradition and thus becomes a fossil. Fossils are not a possibility; they are just proof of the past.

A tradition need not be made in hundreds or thousands of years. If you go to any new place, within 10 minutes you form a little tradition of your own and hang on to that. The need for creating and identifying with a tradition of our own comes from a deep sense of insecurity and lack of fulfilment.

THE SPEAKING TREE

If you have a tradition, you will repeat the same things again and again. Repetitive means in some way compulsive. Compulsive means not conducive for consciousness. If your life becomes cyclical, that means you are going around in circles, not getting anywhere.

Once you get into a repetitive cycle, you cannot explore new possibilities; you will be stuck in the same process. Too many people choose to do nothing because there is a great tradition behind them – they have a bag full of fossils and they are a fossil themselves. People like to sit on their laurels: "What all i have done!" What is done is a dead thing; what is yet to be is the live process. But never once has any award been given for a possibility, it is always given for what has already been done!

Past is never a possibility. Possibility is always of the future, but future looks bleak because it has no tradition. As long as you understand that a tradition is just a crutch you use until you become a possibility, it is alright. If you go by tradition, too many mistakes will be made with life because to live by the knowledge of the past means we have forsaken the possibility of being aware.

If there is a dead log here which has produced a million flowers in the past, we are not interested in taking care of it. We are interested in a tree only because it can produce more flowers. This is true everywhere.

What we call a human being is not a fully blossomed life, unlike other creatures. He is like a seed, but if you remain a seed forever, it is a meaningless existence. Only if the seed sprouts, grows, becomes a tree, flowers, fruits, it is meaningful. If you become a tree, you will dissolve one day and become nothing or maybe become someone's furniture. If you remain a seed, you will be preserved forever but only preserved, not lived. Unlived – a possibility never fulfilled.

So when you sit with a guru, the important thing is not to pick this or that, but to allow the energies to soak you, nourish you, and dissolve your traditions. This is what a guru means – a cascade of energy.

You have to soak the seed, otherwise it will not sprout. It will only remain a seed. A seed is fantastic only because of the possibility that it carries. It is nothing if it loses the possibility of sprouting. *Follow Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudev at* ***speakingtree.in***