

☞ The Teacher's way-Surrender to Surrender ☞

Most English Buddhist scriptures interpret Dukka as suffering or unsatisfactoriness. But I do not use the word “Dukka” to mean suffering or dissatisfaction. It is useless to explain the meaning of dukka using one word of another language because we cannot find a word in any language that gives the same meaning of Dukka.

What is Dukka? Dukka is nothing but accepting the knowledge. Do you have Dukka in the absence of knowledge? Does anyone have Dukka while in deep sleep? Does a three-month-old baby have Dukka? We have developed knowledge since our childhood through gurus (parents, teachers etc). Child cannot build up knowledge without a guru. Unfortunately every spiritual teacher does not know that Dukka is arisen from knowledge. Hence they try to eradicate Dukka using their knowledge. The Knowledge that is used to understand Dukka itself is Dukka.

Spiritual teachers explain Dukka using their words and use some techniques to eliminate Dukka. Their techniques give you happiness temporally but you cannot overcome Dukka at all. Some spiritual teachers use a technique called ‘surrender’ to the circumstance to overcome Dukka. You surrender to a situation that something you feel like unsatisfactory or unpleasant because, still you are living in the “world”. The unsatisfactory or unpleasant things are worldly. They are in accepted knowledge. You always gather knowledge from external people. You accept this knowledge without any suspicion. But knowledge has no truth. That is why knowledge gives you ‘Dukka’. Unfortunately any spiritual teacher cannot see ‘Dukka as arising from the false knowledge’. That’s why spiritual teachers tell you to surrender to the knowledge. Once you are surrendered to the unsatisfactory or unpleasant things, you can eliminate the unsatisfactory or unpleasant temporary. But Dukka is whole accepted knowledge not the only unsatisfactory or unpleasant. Therefore if you surrender to the unsatisfactory or unpleasant circumstances (knowledge), you have to surrender to ‘surrender’ to eliminate the Dukka, because ‘surrender’ is part of our knowledge. Can you do it?

Only Buddha can ‘SEE’ the path to eliminate Dukka. Here ‘SEE’ means ‘SEEING’ beyond the six senses. Buddha’s path is seeing the whole world as illusion but not to surrender to the world (knowledge). The Enlighten One sees but does not accept or reject the unsatisfactory and unpleasant things. Why do you want to say “surrender” for worldly things like unsatisfactory or unpleasant, if you have seen the world is an illusion? If you do not accept (or do surrender) to the unpleasant things, you may accept the unpleasant things as real (cannot be eliminated). But unpleasant things are part of our knowledge. The Enlighten

One is beyond the knowledge (beyond the world) and he/she never says anybody to surrender to worldly things like unsatisfactory or unpleasant.

One day, you will see the Buddha's path without a follower. There is no any surrendering in this path. The spiritual teacher's path is to surrender to Dukka; Buddha's path is to 'SEE' the Dukka.

Dr Tissa Senanayake
(tissamahima@gmail.com)