

QUOTATIONS – General

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Abstract

This work is a list of my “general” sayings/aphorisms/quotations, which excludes “Quotations – Superultramodern Science and Philosophy”. In other words, the quotations in this list are not peculiar to “Superultramodern Science and Philosophy”. “Quotations – Superultramodern Science and Philosophy” can be found at http://works.bepress.com/kedar_joshi/17/.

BRITAIN

"I feel that Britain's contribution to the world is unmatched, and requiring it would be a Herculean task."

"Tell me, which country has the greatest scientific and technological achievements to date? Which country was at the centre of the industrial revolution? Which country has had the largest empire in history? Which language has become the lingua franca of the world? Which country originated modern versions or codes of major sports being played today? Which country has the world's largest banking group? Which country has the world's largest broadcaster? Which single university has produced the largest number of Nobel Laureates? Which is the largest university press in the world? And which city has been named as the capital of the world for the 21st century? It's all about Great Britain!"

"There lies in a jungle a sweet little boy. The boy is bitten, wounded, tortured, and tormented by vile, feral, and savage beasts. One day the boy truly realises the tragedies of his life and of the jungle, the anarchy and indignity they suffer. Through this realisation comes an intense passion and willpower which brings him into the cave of a lion. Alas, the boy finds the lion to be little old and indolent, though the boy is sure that this stately creature is the rightful master of the jungle. The boy kindles the flame of dignity, fury, and adventure, and reinvigorates the lion.... I imagine the boy is me and the lion is Great Britain."

CAMBRIDGE

"Every street, every building, every college, and every bridge, in Cambridge, is a piece of my heart."

"I nearly fell in love with Cambridge and England, in May-June 2001, when I got a copy of the University of Cambridge, Graduate Studies Prospectus 2001-02. Although it had no pictures, it made me feel that Cambridge was the place where I should be. A few months later, I received a copy of the prospectus for the next year, which had beautiful pictures of Cambridge colleges. The most stunning was the one with a view of the King's College Chapel from King's Parade, the place that eventually became, to me, the most beloved, beautiful, and inspiring."

CHILDREN

"A child is the devil in adorable form."

CRIME

“Giving birth to a human being is perhaps the greatest crime one commits when it is known that human life is generally more of pain than pleasure. And continuing one’s life is perhaps the most stupid thing one does to himself, when life, being more grievous than pleasant, is ultimately not a profitable business.”

“I was sexually abused at 13–14 years of age by one of my maternal aunties’ husbands. When he first abused me at his home, it was so difficult for me to comprehend that something like that can exist. When I refused it to that sex maniac, he almost kicked me. I vividly remember those gruesome incidences. And even to this date, I have not been able to manage to wash out the scars it left on my mind. It was a meeting with a pure beast; ‘evil incarnate!’”

DEVIL

“In hell, the Devil is God.”

“The angel within me thrives on the devil within me.”

“I’m not the devil’s advocate; I’m his murderer.”

Dictatorship

“If I am given power to rule this planet, its human population will be reduced to 1/3rd; and hopefully I’ll not be in the population reduced.”

EGO

“Ego is vital but not noble.”

EMOTION

“I consider three things as fundamental to my emotional makeup – England, Astrology, and Philosophy.”

EMPIRE

“Britain without an empire is like lion without a roar.”

ENGLAND

“England...the greatest and the most glorious and beautiful land on Earth.”

“I remember my time in Cambridge, England...That serene, heavenly river; those grand, gorgeous fields and trees; those golden, majestic institutions; those decent, cultured, and friendly people; that great, glorious nation; that magnificent land of God...What’s the world without England? What’s life without her sensation?”

“I wonder if the world can learn not just English but also the English gentleman.”

“I hope my love of England is pure enough to be unconditional.”

“England is my heart, my soul. If I die, I want my soul to be wandering around her streets, quietly gazing at her beauties, marvels, and majesties.”

“England is the land of God. It is England where I feel strongly that He exists.”

“On a lower spiritual plane, England is to me what Allah is to Muslims.”

“In my two years of stay in England, from Mar 2004 to Mar 2006, I had to do different sorts of menial jobs for financial reasons. I worked as a kitchen porter, industrial porter, school cleaner, sales assistant, postman, etc. Sometimes due to lack of money and sometimes due to lack of knowledge, I had to do real heavy work for long hours with empty stomach or had to eat leftovers. And sometimes, out of ambition, I also worked as a prospective entrepreneur. Ironically, I attended conferences and had business meetings at places where I had once washed pots as a kitchen porter. I imagine that I was rather divinely forced to try to experience life to the fullest for serious philosophical reflections.”

“England gives me a sense of adventure, a sense of passion, a sense of duty, a sense of diligence, a sense of sacrifice, a sense of strength, a sense of belonging, a sense of commitment, a sense of hope, a sense of patience, a sense of courage, a sense of vibrancy, a sense of honesty, a sense of magnificence, a sense of pride, a sense of faith, a sense of love, a sense of service, and a sense of peace. It is

England and only England who gives me the true fear of death, the fear that the land I sense as my soul, might be taken permanently away."

ENGLISH

"I'm sickened by people who do not seem to understand that the origin of the English language is England, not the United States; people who hate English accents or regard American English as superior to English English. Can we say German German, for example, is inferior to any other German? And if, in case, I had to entertain the possibility of truthfulness of such people's opinion, I would say English English is far more sweet, polite, charming, conscientious, decent, and natural than any of its possible rivals."

ENTERTAINMENT

"I suppose I'm a thorough entertainer. I remain quiet for those who are best entertained by silence."

EVIL

"Evil can always justify itself. It is good that is often short of justification. Yet, good is good, and evil is evil."

FAME

"Between fame and philosophy, I should choose philosophy, but I would choose fame."

FOOD

"I wish I can enjoy no food but food for thought."

FREEDOM

"Man is a born slave; a slave of his necessities."

FUTURE

“Future – the mastermind – shapes the present through the hands of the past.”

GREATNESS

“The stem of greatness sprouts from the seed of sacrifice.”

HAPPINESS

“Only the insane can be happy; happiness is profoundly disrespectful of the sane.”

“Long years ago I used to believe that the more knowledge I acquired, the happier I would become. On the contrary, I became more and more depressed, solitary, and unhappy.”

HISTORY

“History is an orphan. It can speak, but cannot hear. It can give, but cannot take. Its wounds and tragedies can be read and known, but cannot be avoided or cured.”

“History is like a ghost. It is as dead as alive.”

HUMANITY

“I hate this word “humanity”. It denotes a height of human self-centredness. If man were a tumour, there would be “tumourity”.”

IDEA

“If I am convinced that I will procure the profoundest idea only by undergoing the profoundest pain, I shall beg for strength to endure that pain.”

IGNORANCE

“The blind cannot see the sun.”

INDIA

“In England, they have postcards for sell at loads of bookstalls, post-offices, etc. – postcards which are sarcastic, humorous, and terribly critical of England and the United Kingdom as well as the Queen. They also sell things like footwear, undergarments with the British flag printed all-over. I can’t imagine people in India selling things critical of India. Those possibly selling such things are pretty much likely to be persecuted as well as prosecuted. This tells us the massive difference between two cultures. English culture seems modest and self-critical or even self-deprecating. Indian culture sounds dogmatic and self-congratulatory.”

“My tender poetic and philosophical mind suffocates in the horrid Indian ambience.”

“The Indian education system is not Socrates’ kindling of a flame; it’s filling of a vessel.”

“The only good freedom brought for a common Indian is that it virtually freed him from the burden of the colour of his skin being seen in his country as his disqualification.”

INTELLECT

“If you do not understand me, you are mediocre. If you do understand me, you are intelligent. And if you disprove me, you are a genius.”

LANGUAGE

“The language of sword is less powerful than the language of word, but most of the people understand the language of sword with greater power than the language of word.”

LAUGHTER

“Laughter is the worst imprudence.”

LIFE

“The sound of life has divine silence.”

“Life is a poison drunk hoping for nectar.”

“A man lived a worthy life only if the job he did were theoretically impossible for a machine.”

“I revere the man who does not cease to love and respect life in the midst of sufferings and calamities.”

LOVE

“True love is like religion. It is full of devotion and free of doubt.”

LUXURY

“Luxury is not strongness; it is weakness.

MADNESS

“Madness is perhaps the worst communicable disease.”

MAN

“That is Man whose heart is spirited and eyes are wet each moment on account of the sorrow, compassion, virtue, beauty, and nobility that decorate this world.”

MEANING

“The worst insult I can inflict on life is that I do not reflect on its meaning.”

MISSION

“I have three missions in life, stated in the decreasing order of their (spiritual) importance – Discovering the profoundest truth, which, I suspect, is equivalent to finding God - the ultimate questioner; Revolutionising science; and Making England, the most glorious of nations, the most powerful. Yet, it is the last one that is the closest to the heart.”

NATURE

“Nature, by its very nature, is very brutal and unequal. However, Man has somehow managed to transform the nature of its brutality and inequality.”

OPTIMISM

“Thorough optimism is the foremost sign of a cultured mind.”

ORTHODOXY

“He is most orthodox who is the least of philosopher.”

“The fate of unorthodox is orthodox.”

PAIN

“Painful life is brutal and painless life is superficial.”

PATRIOTISM

“I am a patriot. I’m patriotic to England. I was neither born there nor do I live there, though I resided there for 2 yrs, which is rather a small portion of my life. But I don’t think patriotism should have anything to do really about whether you were born in that country or the amount of time you have spent there. England is my type, and India is not. And it’s not my crime that I was born in India, not England. There are so many Indians, Pakistanis, Bangladeshis, born in England, who are rather patriotic to their ethnic lands. England is my great love, and I am loyal & patriotic to my love, though I’m not a mindless patriot.”

PEREMPTORINESS

“Peremptoriness is philosophers’ devil.”

PHILOSOPHER

“The best gift God has given me is my life of a philosopher, and the worst curse is that He put that philosopher in the cage of flesh and blood.”

“The best God-given gift for me is the life of a philosopher, and the worst curse is the existence of that philosopher in the cage of flesh and blood.” (*Variant*)

“The best thing to have is life of a philosopher, and the worst thing is that philosopher being in the cage of flesh and blood.” (*Variant*)

“The philosopher lives in the cage of flesh and blood.” (*Variant*)

“I am gifted as being a philosopher and cursed as being a man.” (*Variant*)

“My life is a prolonged battle between an animal and a philosopher.”

PHILOSOPHERS

“The world is divided between animals and philosophers.”

PHILOSOPHY

“The best of humanity is philosophy.”

“Philosophy is my mother tongue.”

PLEASURE

“Pain is a poison; pleasure an intoxicant.”

PRISON

“I have often had fear of going to prison, and I have been to a similar place for 3 nights. I suspect I might have to go to prison for a long time in future, but the basic problem with the suspicion is that I can't be in on Thursdays.”

RACISM

“I'm not exactly racist; for I'm not stupid or mad enough to think that any non-white person is necessarily inferior to any white person. However, at the same time, I can't deny that the world without white people would rather have been a shitty place to be. And even to this day, the nations of white people are, generally & indisputably, so much developed & prosperous as compared to the nations of non-whites.”

“I imagine that if the white people hadn't robbed non-white people, there wouldn't have been a concentration of wealth & energy to fuel up things like the industrial revolution. If this is awful then, well, the world itself is inherently awful. If whites had not exploited blacks, then very probably there would have been no industrial revolution, no advancement in sciences, medicine, and, in all, shitty & barbaric sort of stuff all over.”

RELIGION

“Religions, themselves, are (intellectual) blasphemies.”

“Ask a scientist a very profound question on his science, and he will be silent. Ask a religious person a very simple question on his religion, and he will be frenzied.”

REVOLUTION

“The time has come for the greatest revolution of all times.”

SCIENCE

“The history of science is the saga of nature defying common sense.”

SEX

“There are only two adult virgins in the entire world – God and me. The former is a virgin because he has no need, and the latter is a virgin because he has no brain.”

SLEEP

“If sleep had done its job with some extra care and sincerity, man would never die of old age.”

SOCIETY

“Man is more social within than without.”

SOLIPSISM

“The worst mockery God can make of a moralist is that He compels him to be a solipsist.”

“I have far more reasons to rather disbelieve that a man besides me suffers when he cries, yet I have far more sentiments, than those great reasons, to instead weep for his, far less likely, sufferings.”

SUFFERING

“You don’t know what I have gone through in life. The philosopher within me, may be liked and praised, but the animal, that has sustained the philosopher, has been into the most sacred parts of Hell.”

“I have shed tears to pay the price of conceiving my thoughts.”

SUICIDE

“If suicide were as simple as uttering the word, this planet would have had all creatures but humans.”

VIRTUE

“Virtue is my asylum.”

“My most cunning behaviour is a virtuous one.”

“Everybody ponders upon the beauty of a horse, but how many care if he is happy.”

WEAKNESS

“There is no room for the weak in this world; the weak has to be kicked out ruthlessly; and if it is not kicked out duly, then there is no room for the strong.”

WEALTH

“The riches of mind are richer than the riches of matter.”