

## GOD's PROVIDENCE

1. This is God's providence. This research could not have come at a more appropriate moment as what prevails in the world. CORONA VIRUS (COVID-19) has unleashed its fury beyond the imagination of intellects. In a few months time, it has spread to 198 countries and there are no signs of it abating. Future is scary. The disaster if not contained soon could be more devastating than **Second World War**. Bill Gates in an address had commented that future fear is not a nuclear war but a biological warfare. Premonition didn't take long to fructify.

2. CORONA made a silent entry and intruded in every sphere of life bringing in upheaval; as we quarantine ourselves to escape the spread of virus and look helplessly, it is time to introspect as to why have we as humanity landed up in this mess.

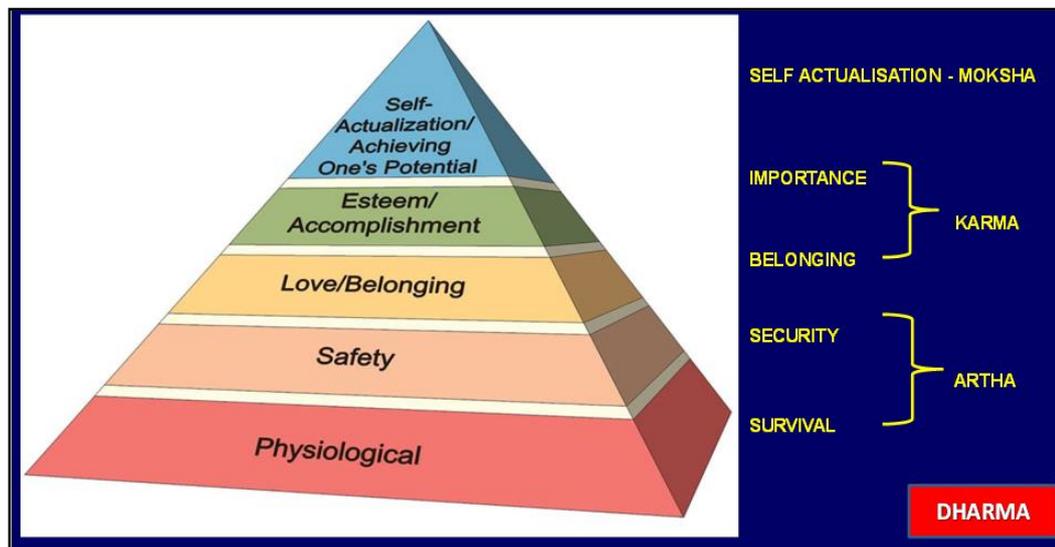
3. I am drawn to the Maslow's hierarchy theory which has been the founding principles for all management and behavioral science aspirants. As I progressed in my research, I realised that Maslow theory is a pick from the Vedas. Vedas talk of "**Main goal of a man**". Implying that mankind inception on earth must follow a path which would lead him to his desired goal, that is: -

- (a) Dharma - Ethics
- (b) Artha - Securities (Wealth, power, influence and fame).
- (c) Karma - Pleasures.
- (d) Moksha - Liberation.

3. Vedas say that **Dharma is the foundation** of building block of life. Every individual has an innate desire to be ethical. No matter how undesirable an individual be, but within him he yearns to be ethical. Vedas talk of Dharma as soil in which the plant of Artha and Karma needs to grow. Wealth, power, influence, fame and pleasure etc all have to be embodied in ethic. It is the hierarchical structure or the need of a man if entrenched in Dharma the man will move to his desirous **Goal of Mokhsa** which is nothing but **innate peace and happiness**. It is a realization that Artha and Karma is happiness, but, moving beyond is true happiness which is profound and everlasting.

4. But unfortunately, Maslow's theory which is a draw from Vedas does explain the hierarchy need of mankind (Artha and Karma) without foundation of Dharma /ethics. Because the Dharma / ethics is absent from his interpretation of Artha and Karma, the **realization of Moksha** or **self actualization is skewed** and restricted to attaining organisational goals. In other words the **theory propounds revolving between Artha & Karma** and fails to achieve the ever fulfilling desires of mankind to be eternally happy.

(ii)



### MASLOW'S THEORY OF HIERARCHY

5. The Maslow's theory is the mother of all management theories which is the foundation for other theories built upon. It is because of this flawed foundation that understanding of Western Concept were incomplete and restricted itself to **achieving hierarchal goals of securities and pleasures, compromising on Dharma**. Attainment of organizational goals channeling through securities and pleasure was considered the sole desire, whether they were based on Dharma or ethics was not important. If we see around cities, states, nations, world the **crying need of the hour is Dharma**. It is the sacrifice of Dharma which is leading to attainment of superficial goal and chasing us away from the desired supreme goal to the innate happiness. **Corona virus** is a pandemic which is the **reflection of greed to achieve National / organization goals only**. Even as we resolve to fight this menace, nations are looking deeply divided with economic and strategic benefits plaguing their sincerity to address this issue as collective whole. The present situation doesn't seem enough for world leader to unite for the humanity's cause. I attribute this to our teaching which has grossly **erred on dharma** and **focused on Artha and Karma for attainment of selfish goals**.

6. Time has come for India to present its wisdom. To show ourselves to the world and to our own people who have been smitten by Western Concept the true education to make this world a glorious civilization with eternal happiness. My reaction is focused on to address this very flaw. I endeavour to give the wisdom of our Vedic scriptures which talks on internal progress leading to external advancement which will be sustainable and aligned to the main goal of mankind.

#### Author

Maj Gen Rajesh Kundra, AVSM, SM is Masters in Management Studies and Higher Defence Management, Senior Defence Management, Master of Science in Strategic and Defence Studies, Pursuing D Lit in Leadership The Vedic Way. He is a Scholar in Vedic / Spiritual studies and teachings. He has vast instructional experience in multi-national

environment. Been instructor with US and Bhutan Armies. Presently working as Director Leadership & Skill Development as part of Gati Intellect E Learning in tie up with various universities.