

Attitude

A new perspective for a new time



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The New Human Project

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Attitude: A new perspective for a new time

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Disclaimer

This work should be considered to be entirely philosophical until such time as it is proven by the reader to be fact.

In loving memory of my father

Preface

This research into attitude is intended as an opening document only, and offers insights and new ways of considering attitude. The subject of attitude is vast, deep and far reaching, and any study short of an encyclopaedia can only be like looking at attitude through a keyhole. In this work, therefore, we offer views and considerations that can begin to reveal the very important role that attitude has in our lives, and we consider key aspects of attitude that are particularly relevant to the human situation and to our lives today.

There are many indications that the present time is pivotal in the human story. The social order that has defined our world for millennia is dissolving. The symptoms of this can be seen in the breakdown of morality, family life, religion, economy, communication and the establishment systems of maintenance and administration. Taking evolution into account, it appears that things have moved on and we have entered a new time with different rules and requirements, and much of what worked in former times does not work in the new.

The New Human Project examines the thoughts and feelings moving through human life today, seeking out the values, views, attitudes and sentiments arising anew in these times that might indicate the evolutionary processes at play in our lives and how we might need to be in relation to it. It looks beyond the resultant outplays of life, to its deeper motivations and foundations: not only what we do but also the reasons why we do what we do.

The natural essence of human life contains within itself the germ of its new arising. This is the mystery of the phoenix rising out from the ashes of its former self. Sustainability, for example, a key concern today, is only to be found through the attitudes that come out from true and natural human sentiments such as wanting to protect and learn about the natural worlds, wanting to be responsible and accountable for what we do, and having kindness and compassion as a way of life.

Therefore this work is offered, not as a way of dealing with the old world, but rather of aligning with the new. It considers attitude as a fundamental tool for shaping and giving direction to our lives. Which means that the solutions to many of our problems and difficulties lie within us. It should be considered as a philosophical and practical research rather than a definitive study.

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Each one of us is a unique life, with unique finger prints, a unique face, a unique genetic print and a unique point of view

Introduction

Because human beings have freedom of choice in what we do and how and why we do it, we contain within ourselves the possibility of development, generation and progression, and at the same time the possibility of wastage, degeneration and self-destruction. It is attitude that determines which of these two scenarios becomes the preponderance in our lives. And it is attitude that plays a major role in making us human.

Every action that we make is an expression of an attitude, as are how we dress, how we walk, our posture, how we speak and how we deal, together with every other outplay from our lives. Attitude determines how we respond to the opportunities and difficulties in life, and because of this it ultimately determines what sort of person we become. Therefore it is important for the developing person to consider attitude very seriously.

The word itself comes from the Italian word *attitudine* meaning disposition or posture, and is derived from the Latin *aptitudinis* meaning fitness. Attitude is a manifestation of our inner processes, such as our thoughts, views and stances, which gives rise to the way and quality in which we do things. We tend to have a positive attitude towards things that we enjoy doing and not such a positive attitude towards things that we don't enjoy so much. However, should we only ever do what we like or what makes us feel good then we will never develop beyond a childish state. With maturity, most people realise that life is about being able to respond to any number of different needs or callings in a decent and appropriate way. Therefore, in this work we consider what attitude is and how to form up attitudes that enable us to give better direction to our lives.

We jump in at the point where most of us find ourselves today, which is that we are largely products of the society and the world in which we have grown up. This means that there are already attitudes within us, some of which we might be aware of and others not, some beneficial and others not. We then consider the roles of self-leadership and instinct, and how with research, and reasoning against a developing framework of knowledge and understanding, we can begin to decide for ourselves what attitudes to have. We then look to the bigger picture of the human arising on Earth, and what attitude formation might mean in the context of human evolution.