

two brothers are sons of one mother so also two calves have a single mother cow. Where then lies the difference? The animals forget these natural relationships. They cannot build up an edifice of civilisation on these relations. But men use this natural relation as a basis to construct a more harmonious order in life, to establish other relationships flowing from these basic relationships, so as to knit the whole society as a single unit of cooperation. Thus various values and traditions are built. Standards of good and bad are determined accordingly. In society, we find instances of both affection as well as enmity between brothers. But we consider affection good, and aim at enhancing affectionate brotherly relations. The opposite tendency is disapproved. If conflict and enmity are made the basis of human relationships, and if on this basis history is analysed, then it would be futile to dream of world peace resulting out of such a course of action.

Nature To Culture

A mother brings up her children. A mother's love is considered as the highest love. On such a basis alone, we can devise the rules regulating the life of mankind. Sometimes there are examples of selfishness and cruelty of a mother towards her child. Among some species of animals, the mother devours her progeny to satisfy her hunger. On the other hand, among monkeys, the mother carries her child long after its death. Both types of behaviour are found among living beings. Which of these two principles of nature can be made the basis of a civilised life? We cannot but conclude that - that alone which helps to sustain life can be chosen, the contrary cannot lead to a civilised life. Human nature has both tendencies, anger and greed on the one hand, and love and sacrifice on the other. All these are present in our nature. Anger, greed, etc. are natural to man and beasts alike. For this reason, if we make anger a basis of our life and arrange our efforts accordingly, then the result will be a lack of harmony in our life. Therefore the exhortation, "Do not yield to anger". Even when anger arises in one's mind, one can exercise control over it and one should do so. Thus control becomes a standard of our life and not anger.

Such laws are known as the principles of ethics. These principles are not framed by anyone. They are discovered. A suitable analogy is that of the law of gravitation. If we throw a stone, it falls on the ground. This law of gravitation was not framed by Newton. He discovered it. When he saw an apple falling on the ground from the branch, he realised there such a law must exist. Thus he discovered this law, he did not frame it. Similarly,