

supreme, that is a theocratic State. All the rights are enjoyed by the followers of this particular sect. Others either cannot live in that country or at best, enjoy a slave-like, secondary-citizen's status. The Holy Roman Empire had this basis. The same concept was existing behind "*khilafat*". Muslim kings the world over used to rule in the name of *Khalifa*. After the First World War, this came to an end. Now efforts are afoot to revive it. Pakistan is the most recent theocratic State. They call themselves an Islamic State. There, apart from Muslims, all the rest are second-class citizens. Apart from this difference, there is no other sign of Islam in Pakistan's administration. The *Quran*, *Masjid*, *Roza*, *Id*, *Namaz*, etc., are the same both in Bharat, as well as in Pakistan. There is no need to tie up State and religion. By such a tie-up, there is no increase in an individual's capacity to worship God. The only result is that the State deviates from its duty. This does not happen in *Dharma Rajya*. Rather, there is freedom to worship according to one's own religion. In a theocratic State, one religion has all the rights and advantages, and there are direct or indirect restrictions on all other religions. *Dharma Rajya* accepts the importance of religion for peace, happiness and progress of an individual. Therefore, the State has the responsibility to maintain an atmosphere in which every individual can follow the religion of his choice and live in peace. The freedom to follow one's own religion necessarily requires tolerance for other religions. We know that every kind of freedom has its inherent limits. I have the freedom to swing my hand, but as soon as there is a conflict between my hand and someone else's nose, my freedom has to be restricted. I have no freedom to swing my hand so as to hit another person's nose. Where another person's freedom is likely to be encroached upon, my freedom ends. The freedom of both parties has to be ensured. Similarly, every religion has the freedom to exist. But this freedom extends only as far as it does not encroach upon the religion of others. If such encroachment is carried on, it will have to be condemned as misuse of freedom, and will have to be ended. Such limitations will be required in all aspects of life. *Dharma Rajya* ensures religious freedom, and is not a theocratic State.

Secular State A Fallacy

Nowadays the word 'Secular State' is being used as opposed to a theocratic State. The adoption of this word is a mere imitation of the Western thought-pattern. We had no need to import it. We called it a 'Secular State' to contrast it with Pakistan. There is some misunderstanding arising out of this. Religion was equated with *Dharma*, and then 'Secular State' was