

Vol.no. XCIV(no.4)

Oct–Dec 2019

The Vedic Path

Quarterly Journal of Vedic Indological & Scientific Research

Peer-reviewed Research Journal

ISSN 0970-1443

Registration no. 29063/76

indexed at

www.worldcat.org

Guide to Indian Periodical Literature

**Originally published as *The Vedic Magazine*
form 1906 to 1935
and thereafter as *The Vedic Path***

Editor: Prof. Shrawan K Sharma

www.thevedicpath.in

thevedicpath@gkv.ac.in

+91-9412074666

Quarterly Journal of English
Gurukula Kangri Vishwavidyalaya
Haridwar, Uttarakhand, India

The Vedic Path : Vol.no. XCIV(no.4) Oct–Dec 2019

BOOK REVIEW

Robert Greene, *The Laws of Human Nature*. Penguin Random House, 2019, Paperback. ISBN 9780143111375

Shailendra Kumar Singh

Associate Professor

Shri Ram Murti Smarak College of Engg. & Tech.

Ram Murti Puram Bareilly, U.P.

The Laws of Human Nature is authored by Robert Greene, the author of *The Art of Seduction*, *The 33 Strategies of War*, *The 50th Law and Mastery*. It is a nonfictional book on 48 facets of humanity through the eyes of history, psychology, philosophy and intelligence to explain how people act. He took 6 years to pen this comprehensive and wide book. His book deals with the following life-changing 18 rules described and advocated with examples as regards human behaviour: Law 1: Master Your Emotional Self, Law 2: Transform Self-love into Empathy, Law 3: See Through People's Masks, Law 4: Determine the Strength of People's Character, Law 5: Become an Elusive Object of Desire, Law 6: Elevate Your Perspective, Law 7: Soften People's Resistance, Law 8: Change Your Circumstances by Changing Your Attitude, Law 9: Confront Your Dark Side, Law 10: Beware the Fragile Ego, Law 11: Know Your Limits, Law 12: Reconnect to the Masculine or Feminine Within You, Law 13: Advance with a Sense of Purpose, Law 14: Resist the Downward Pull of the Group, Law 15: Make Them Want to Follow You, Law 16: See the Hostility Behind the Friendly Façade, Law 17: Seize the Historical Moment, Law 18: Meditate on Our Common Morality.

At the beginning of each chapter, we are given a key story that spins around the leading theme of the chapter. Afterwards, the background theory is presented, and as a final point Greene's recommendations. The readers learn through the examples of others. They simultaneously get information as well. The theories which he describes are proved by the examples from history. The way he deals with the writing is quite attention-grabbing. . In the commencement of each chapter, we find a crucial story that revolves around the leading theme of the chapter, and then we are given the background theory, and as a final point Greene's prescriptions. The book has plentiful excellent quotes. Greene should be admired for using these quotes for every opinion and theory. Quoting the ideas and examples of Pericles, Queen Elizabeth I, Martin Luther King Jr, and many others, Greene clarifies us how to disengage ourselves from our own sentiments. Moreover, he discloses how to have self-control, how to grow the empathy, how to identify the people and how to counterattack conformism to develop your singular sense of purpose., The Laws of Human Nature reveals the mantra for success, self-improvement, and self-defence whether at job, in relations or in dealing the world around you. Though Greene quotes plentiful psychologists to prove his urgings in all chapters, it is advisable to ignore that some theories are conflicting with his quotations and cites.

There is a chapter as regards body language, i.e. Kinesics. It sensitises the readers as regards

the study of body movement. It gives the interpretation of body languages such as facial expressions and gestures. It tells how the body expresses itself. The chapter explains that action speaks faster than words. If readers want to motivate the people, they will have to observe their repeated

behaviour. He further reveals that their non-verbal signals are also very significant to be observed. Both the repeated behaviour and non-verbal signals can reveal their major issues.

The book aims at revealing the mantra of people's behaviour. It tries to give us the most significant tool which sensitises what to do in various circumstances. It reveals guidelines on cracking the conduct of the people around us. The books explain to us how the people bear masks like the jackal wearing a lion's skin. The people have become so crafty that they try to hide their face, i.e. they manipulate the things—either openly or secretly. There is a need to perceive it. The author emphasises that he does not want the people to behave like a saint. But he does want the people to perceive this game. He wants them to learn the art of identifying the people wearing masks. He wants them to tackle with the jackal like people efficiently to survive in the world.

The author professionally alerts the necessity of going-easy to solve the problems. There is always a necessity to be more easy-going but sometimes it is more required. The author efficiently reveals the secret of motivating people. He says that listening to people will not help make them motivated. We can motivate them by addressing their pivotal issue artfully. His theories reveal the ways to deal with a group. He tells how to read the core issues of a group. Moreover, he points out the inherent ethnic thinking and all its disadvantages. He tells how to address them. The book explains the various theories for various situations and is engaging and has appeal caused by the use of anecdotes, analogies, allusions, metaphors, descriptive language; figurative language and imagery, humour and satire, repetition and rephrasing and rhetorical devices.