

our thoughts the most important occurrence in the whole world, both physical and spiritual.

This life of the human race develops, as we learn from history, in a way not dissimilar to that of our individual minds. Its beginnings are similarly involved in darkness; no definite records exist in the memory of mankind regarding the origin of Society and its various stages of progress. Only after long ages of existence, passing through changes and events of which there is no record, has mankind in different ways and at different places gradually awakened to self-consciousness, to feelings of responsibility, and the seriousness of life.

As the moral character of the individual man grows imperceptibly to himself and others from small and tender beginnings, frequently through uncertainties, failures, and doubts, into fuller existence during adolescence, so also the moral and intellectual life of mankind shows many fluctuations, failures, tentative beginnings, and gleams of higher light which we term inspiration.

Is it likely that the fuller awakening to the meaning of life, the highest rule of conduct and the essence of Reality, should in the course of history be recorded in clearer terms than those of our individual lives? Is it not to be expected that this final awakening or revelation should be shrouded in similar mysteries, and contain events of a unique character which refuse comparison with ordinary events of daily life in the past or present, and are inexhaustible by the categories of purely logical thought and construction? The fact that Humanity has received what professes to be a highest and unalterable rule of life and a name for the highest