

RESURGENCE

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RESURGENCE

Resurgence is concerned with
small nations, small communities,
decentralisation, ethnic cultures,
community technology, self-
sufficiency and back to the land.
It is a philosophical, ecological
and spiritual forum.

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This Issue

Some people believe that the roots of all violence and tyranny are within each individual. The kind of individuals that are in the society determine the nature of the society. Social institutions are made up of individuals therefore any change for the better must start with individuals. They must transform their inner consciousness and their behaviour. Hence the spiritual search and spiritual practice.

Others say that the individual is only a slave of circumstance and social structures. It is the institutionalised violence or tyranny which forces the individual to be violent and tyrannical. People of this opinion advocate changing economic, political, educational and social structures by reform or revolution. Hence socialism, communism, anarchism etc.

The first group blame the individual and the second group blame the system. But the truth seems to be in a combination of the two. The distinction between the society and the individual is artificial. Society and the individual are interrelated. A frustrated, ambitious, greedy individual will bring these qualities to the society of which he or she is a part. In the same way materialistic, capitalistic, consumption orientated, social political and economic systems will influence the individuals and condition their minds, attitudes and habits. Therefore we must work on both ourselves and on society simultaneously. Social action and spiritual contemplation must reinforce each other.

In this issue of Resurgence we examine the roots of violence in the individual and in the society.

Satish Kumar