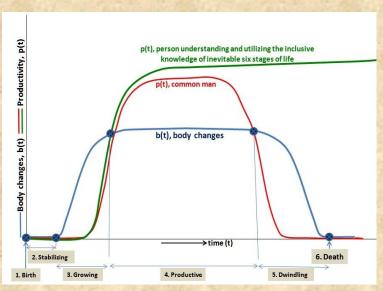
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Nectar of Governance

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Part 6: Inclusive knowledge of inevitable six stages



The very word "inclusive" indicates includes that it everything concerned. If one wants to really understand life or for that matter any system, he should have inclusive knowledge of inevitable six stages of the subject matter concerned. It clearly indicates the situation that cannot be avoided. It means that the knowledge pertaining to six stages of any human being or plant or animal is real inclusive knowledge. Another important point to be

noted is that these six stages are beyond anybody's control. What are those stages? If we take a human being for example, he first takes birth. This is the first stage. He then has to survive to overcome the child mortality risks, and this duration is called the stabilizing period. This is the second stage. He then, starts growing in the third stage. In the fourth stage, he produces some effects. It means that he becomes productive. Then, he starts dwindling, which denotes the fifth stage, and finally perishes that denotes the sixth and the last stage. These six stages are not only applicable to human beings, but also to any living entity, be it a plant or an animal. Nobody can avoid these stages and thus, they are declared as inevitable.

Very interestingly, a person who passes through these six stages feels the same spirit in all the stages. This indicates that the knower of these changes in the body is different from the changes. His body may be undergoing various changes or producing different effects, but he feels the same spirit throughout all the phases of the changes. The fact that these changes are taking place continuously indicates the presence of consciousness and living force in the body. As soon as the living force goes out of the body, which is the sixth stage of existence, it

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is called death. In what way this knowledge becomes inclusive knowledge? This is a pertinent question for everyone on this earth. In the absence of this vital knowledge, one will be unprepared for any eventuality. Also, one will not take complete advantage of the fourth stage of life. Let's carefully analyze this point. The first and second stages of any human being are just the beginning of his life, whereas the growing stage indicates his future performance. In anyone's life cycle, fourth stage produces some effects, thus it completely depends on the growth pattern or learning pattern. High learning results in high performance in the fourth stage. Another important point to be noted by one and all is that the performance stage, namely the fourth stage, can be extended by careful and consistent learning process.

Generally, people deliver performance based results on whatever they have learned in the third stage without adding any new skills or talent. This callous behavior leads to a faster way of reaching the fifth stage, namely the dwindling stage. This stage clearly shows the exhaustion of talents or thoughts of an individual, which automatically pulls down the curtain to the performance phase. Once a person reaches to the dwindling stage, his reach to the final stage becomes much quicker. However, those who are intelligent enough to acquire the inclusive knowledge of inevitable six stages quickly make adjustment from time to time to be equipped with new skills or thoughts to extend their performance period, even up to the time of death. They are indeed glorious. But, still more glorified are those who continue performing or inspiring through their accomplishments, even after their demise from this world. While living, though they appear old externally, they are indeed young at heart, and live permanently in the hearts of the people. This is the effect of inclusive knowledge of inevitable six stages.

There is a verse in Srimad Bhagavatam (4.21.10), which gives an example of such a wonder beyond death performance by a king named Maharaja Pruthu:

ko nv asya kīrti**m** na ś**ṛṇ**oty abhijño yad-vikramocchi**ṣṭ**am aśe**ṣ**a-bhūpā**ḥ** lokā**ḥ** sa-pālā upajīvanti kāmam adyāpi tan me vada karma śuddham

"Pruthu Maharaja was so great in his activities and magnanimous in his method of ruling that all the kings and demigods on the various planets still follow in his footsteps. Who is there who will not try to hear about his glorious activities? I wish to hear more and more about Pruthu Maharaja because his activities are so pious and auspicious." In this way,

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Pruthu Maharaja has set a personal example for guiding the rulers of various kingdoms, beyond his disappearance, for wonderful governance that ensures peace and prosperity of the people in general.

Needless to mention that governing system is also subjected, by law of nature, to the six inevitable changes. System is created first, then stabilized, applied and improved. Then it starts delivering the intended results. Any system if not constantly nourished slowly deteriorates leading to final destruction. One who is aware of inevitable six stages constantly monitors the system for its performance and tries to add new features to improve its life span. This is the result of inclusive knowledge of six changes. Governance by any system or a leader fails to deliver the results only when its performance span is not increased by conscious efforts. One who is not aware of the inevitable six stages allows the system to reach the dwindling stage very fast, thus making it to vanish into oblivion. Though the first two stages of any human being or system happens by default, the next two stages should be improved by design for the highest performance and long life. Continual improvements and adjustments in the governing system will certainly ensure expected results for significant number of years. As can be read from the graph given in the article, additional and focused efforts make the system to deliver the performance till the last second of its existence. There are many great people who still inspire through writings though there are physically not present now. Sripada Ramanujacharya, whose 1000 years appearance year is celebrated in 2017, stands tall as a wonderful example for such a performance delivery beyond his disappearance. Many scientists, philosophers, mathematicians, musicians, spiritual leaders, business leaders, politicians, sportsmen, actors, etc. have set their own examples for performance beyond death. This is the actual benefit of understanding and utilizing the inclusive knowledge of inevitable six stages of life or system.
