

this task to date. They have tried combinations and permutations, by placing emphasis on one or the other ideal. England emphasised nationalism and democracy and developed her politico-social institutions along those lines, whereas France could not adopt the same. There, democracy resulted in political instability. The British Labour Party wanted to reconcile socialism with democracy, but people have raised doubts whether democracy will survive if socialism gains strength. Hence, the Labour Party no longer supports socialism as strongly as the Marxist doctrines advocated. If socialism has been diluted considerably, Hitler and Mussolini adopted nationalism-cum-socialism and buried democracy. In the end, socialism also became a tool for their nationalism, which posed a great threat to world peace and unity.

We may indeed seek some guidance from the Western world, but the fact is that it has no concrete suggestions to offer. It is itself at the crossroads, and unable to decide what is good. Under such circumstances, we cannot expect guidance from the West. On the contrary, we must consider whether in this present state of the world, we can contribute something to resolve its dilemma. Having taken note of the progress of the world, can we add to the common store of knowledge? As a member of the world community, we must discharge our responsibilities. If we possess something that may prove helpful to world progress, we should not hesitate in imparting it to the world. In this era of adulteration, instead of adulterating ideas, we must, on the contrary, scrutinise and improve upon them wherever possible before accepting them. Rather than being a burden to the world, we must attempt to resolve, if possible, the problems facing the world. We must also consider what contributions our tradition and civilisation can make to world culture. We shall consider this tomorrow evening.

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