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>Date: 28 January 1999 Thursday 01:35

>Subject: Scientists service at GRC

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>A weekend meeting of scientists held at the Global Retreat Centre in  
>Oxford January 15-17 discussed a new consciousness-based paradigm that  
>has emerged from the discoveries of the field of science known as  
>quantum physics.

>The meeting was co-chaired by Sister Jayanti and Dr Amit Goswami,  
>professor of physics at the Institute of Theoretical Physics, University  
>of Oregon, USA, with Dadi Janki playing a central guiding role  
>throughout. The theme was "Consciousness and the Original Spirit of  
>Science". The meeting was held in preparation for a bigger gathering,  
>on the same theme, to take place in Ancient Olympia, Greece, April  
>27-May 2 1999.

>Current science considers matter to be the primary reality in the  
>universe, and mind as a secondary phenomenon emerging from the  
>complexity of brains. In contrast, Amit Goswami has argued in "The  
>Self-Aware Universe" (Simon & Schuster, 1993) and other books that  
>consciousness is the true ground of being, or fundamental reality. The  
>close relationship between consciousness and matter comes about because  
>consciousness plays a fundamental part in bringing material reality into  
>existence, in accordance with the laws of quantum physics. In terms of  
>gyan, it is as though the "script" of the drama - the sum total of all  
>the parts of living beings, including God - is the unity that selects,  
>from the vast range of possibilities described by quantum physics, those  
>events that are actually observed. Purpose replaces blind chance.  
>Goswami argues that this paradigm resolves the apparent paradoxes  
>presented by quantum physics, and brings us "closer to the unity that I  
>know I feel".

>In a fascinating dialogue chaired by psychology professor David Fontana,  
>Dadi and Prof. Goswami explored each other's perspectives on this issue,  
>reaching a high level of concordance on the way forward. It became very  
>clear from this and other contributions that there is an urgent need for  
>something new to happen in the field of science: to acknowledge the  
>emergence of a new scientific paradigm, shifting from the purely  
>materialistic one to a spiritual one which includes consciousness as its  
>basis.

>This would make possible a return to what Goswami called "happy science"  
>- a science that takes us towards knowing ourselves as conscient  
>entities, instead of the "normal" science that takes us away from that  
>awareness (and contributes to unhappiness in the process). A similar  
>theme was taken up by Dr Peter Fenwick, a London neuropsychiatrist who  
>spoke with excitement of the "healing of science" that he felt this new  
>approach offered. Menas Kafatos, a cosmologist and professor of  
>interdisciplinary science from Fairfax, Virginia, USA (author of "The  
>Conscious Universe", Springer-Verlag, 1990) suggested that the original  
>spirit of science was indeed "Know Thyself". He said the founding  
>fathers of modern physics, such as Bohr and Einstein, used ancient

- >methods - such as introspection and silence - to free themselves of ego
- >and open certain doors of understanding.
- >Dadi put a clear message to the participants: "Scientists should clear
- >their intellects to such an extent as to be able to catch the right
- >inspirations from God," she said. "They will catch clear information on
- >what to do, and what will be their part in this moment of human
- >history." Science began with the thought of a search for truth, and
- >"the feeling is that we are now coming back to that. Spirituality can
- >bring truth in front of us, so we can see what the missing factors
- >are. With science from the West, spirituality from the East, and God in-
- >between, good things happen."
- >Details of the Olympia conference will be circulated on the rosary
- >shortly.
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