It makes him/her the hater or lover of something, the killer or saver of somebody. Weakness in moral philosophy may lead one to be a destructive force in society. On the other hand, sound moral philosophy makes one the agent of welfare.

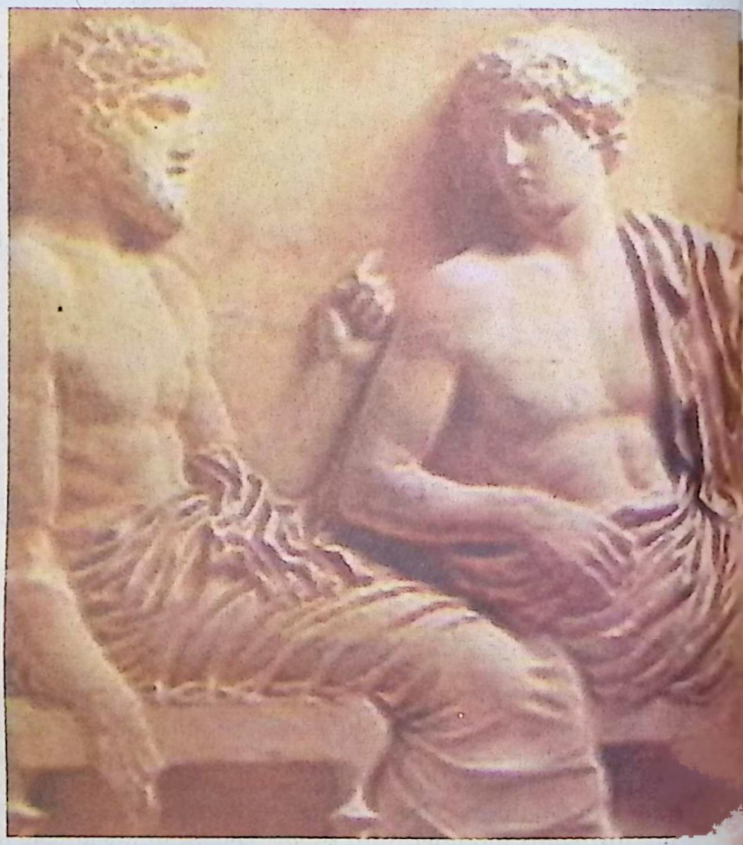
Every subject as taught in institutions and exercised in social life has a philosophy. There is philosophy of science, arts and commerce. There is philosophy of politics, history and education. There is philosophy of ethics and aesthetics. Nothing in life and society runs without philosophy. Philosophy is the theoretical vigour with which a subject works. It builds and bolsters the very foundation of a subject. It is in this sense that a successful researcher in any subject is given a PhD (Doctor of Philosophy) or MPhil (Master of Philosophy) degree. The more deeply a subject is studied, the better philosophy is met. In the process philosophy has contributed mightily to the advances of knowledge on all fronts towards greater understanding of the world, visible or invisible, tangible or intangible.

The first attempt of the primitive men to explain

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life resulted in spiritualism. As they felt they could bring about change with their efforts in the environment they lived in, they tried to figure out the root cause of all changes in the world. They imagined the role of some hidden power who might work behind the screen. It was realised as spirit. They discovered such spirit behind every natural phenomenon. They found spirits behind rain, storm, sea, river, mountain, tree, sun and moon. They tried to appease them with offerings, even in sacrifice. After many years of recurrence, the practices took the form of culture. In developed cultures, people could think of one super spirit instead of multitude of them, for the first time feeling the existence of God-like entity. Some people even felt the existence of spirit inside themselves, which they called souls. Souls were either thought to be part of the superpower or somehow created by it. As these thoughts were institutionalised, they gave rise to religion. Therefore for their emergence and development, all the religions of the world are indebted entirely to philosophy -- pondering of the wondering minds.

The philosophy in the spiritualistic line developed from *totemism* through animism to *polytheism* and *monotheism*. The theistic philosophy has other brands like *pantheism* (the idea that God is identical with the material universe) and *panentheism* (belief that God exists within everything). An offshoot of spiritualistic philosophy is mysticism, which stresses the need of uniting the human soul with God. Throughout history spiritualism dominated enormously with the active support of religious and political institutions. Human frailty has also sought to take



shelter in the omnipotence of omnipresent spiritual entity. This trend always contradicted the scientific inclination. On the one side it has given comfort in human sorrow, but on the other it has pulled the progressing minds backwards.

Philosophy has inspired men to explain the world mechanically, engaging them in scientific investigation and technological innovation. So our science and technology has come as a consequence of human endeavour to take the world in their own hand. The wise men strode forward with courage and determination to create biology, physics, chemistry and other basic sciences, violating scriptures.