

THE SPIRITUAL SCIENTIST

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When Monkeys Start Typing

Typists all over the world, beware. Your jobs are in danger. You have competition...from monkeys. That's what the scientists would have us believe. At least those scientists who advocate the chance theory.

Chance is a popular word today in the world of science. And why not? It is the one- word answer to all the questions that scientists always found very disconcerting. How did the incredibly vast universe with all its mind-boggling order come about? How did the atom with its intricate design come? Even the tiniest cell is far more complex than the biggest factory on earth. How in the wide world did it come from simple starting elements? Pat comes the reply to all these questions, with a triumphant smile, "Chance."

THE BIG DOGMA

That there is absolutely no empiric evidence for anything ever having come by chance doesn't really matter. In the religion of science, there is one unspoken dogma which practically everyone agrees upon: any theory, no matter how coherent and systematic, is unacceptable and "unscientific" if it brings an ultimate creator into the picture. And conversely, any theory, no matter how improbable and untenable, is joyfully embraced if it helps in pushing God out. This scientific (?) mentality is typified by the following statement of William Bonner (pg 119, *Mystery of Expanding Universe*), "It is the business of science to offer rational explanations for all events in the real world, and any scientist who calls on God to explain something is failing in his job. This is one piece of dogmatism that a scientist can allow himself."

No wonder then that the chance theory has found many adherents in spite of the absence of even scanty evidence. For a mind programmed since birth to think in a mechanistic (read 'atheistic') way, chance is a far more comforting word to hear than God as the ultimate causative principle.

THE MONKEY BUSINESS

Now let us consider whether the chance theory is possible leave even in principle. In the words of the eighteenth century atheistic philosophers Denis Diderot & David Hume: Given infinite time, nature would by chance alone eventually hit on the order that we see around us. A modern version of this theory takes the form of an analogy (first introduced by the famous Eddington): A monkey, if given infinite time, can by itself type the works of Shakespeare. To gullible minds trained to worship scientists as "the champions of truth", this analogy appears plausible. And since the time scale involved makes it impossible to verify empirically, the chance theory has assumed the status of an infallible truth.

Let's do some simple common sense analysis of the monkey's typing adventures. Suppose that you are told to supervise the monkey and suppose you and the monkey are told to work in 8-hour shifts. Day 1. Both you and the monkey arrive on time and the monkey sits dutifully in front of the typewriter and starts typing (Thank goodness!) After 1 hour, what will you see? Some gibberish. Maybe 1 small word here or there. And at end of the day? Several pages of meaningless typed pages. You may find a few meaningful words - but only with great difficulty. (It is after all too much to expect the monkey to press a spacebar exactly after a meaningful word is completed!) Day 2. Again the monkey sits down diligently and you sit behind him and he starts playing. Eight hours later, you are again looking at several printed pages struggling to find even a few meaningful words somewhere. Day 10. "History repeats itself" You begin to realize that whoever said that knew what he was speaking about. The search for meaningful words in streams and streams of meaningless texts is getting on your nerves. Day 100. It is obvious to you by now that what you are looking for is never to be found. Whether it is day 10^0 or 10^2 or $10^{1,000}$ or $10^{100000}.....00000...$, it really doesn't matter. The result of the monkey' typing is always going to be the same - nonsense. He is not going to learn by experience!

Now let's assume that the monkey starts working in 24 hour shifts (We won't ask you to supervise, don't worry!) Still that is not going to make any difference. A 24 hour shift is just like three 8-hour shifts with no break in between. So just as three 8-hour shifts don't give any fruitful results, one 24-hour shift will similarly bear no fruit. And just as 8-hour shifts repeated $10^{1000}.....$ times don't lead to any coherent text, neither will 24 hour shifts repeated $10^{1000}.....$ times.

The point is that the probability of a monkey typing out all the works of Shakespeare, if given millions of years, is not an infinitesimally small number; it is zero. No matter how many millions, billion, quadrillions or whatever number of years are given to the monkey (assuming he lives that long!), still the probability always remains zero.

Thus even in principle randomness does not produce order on any appreciable scale, irrespective of the time given.

Simple common sense, isn't it? But "common sense is not so common", especially in Kali Yuga and especially in the scientific community.

So typists, sorry for the false alarm. But don't blame us; we didn't set it on; rather we are setting it off.

THE SMALL BANG CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

An entrepreneur got really excited when he first heard about the big bang theory. The very next day he inaugurated his own construction company, 'The Small Bang Construction Company.' His only infrastructure - rods of dynamite. His mission statement: "Just as a big bang constructed the whole universe, I will, by small bangs, construct small houses." His business soon went bankrupt. Don't you think that the big bang theorists should pay for it? Poor fellow. After all, his only fault is that he believed the big bangers. Little did he know that his bank account would also experience a big bang because of his faith in the big bang! If chance, why copyrights? When Srila Prabhupada was told that the French scientist Dr J Monod won the Nobel Prize in 1965 for his theory that everything came by chance, he at once challenged, "If everything came by chance, then even his theory came by chance! Then what is his credit?" If everything has come by chance, why do scientists copyright their theories. Everything has come by chance, except, of course, their theories! A remarkably self-serving theory, to say the very least!

GOODBYE, MR. CHANCE

Nothing comes by chance; even the chance theory doesn't come by chance. Everything, especially everything well-organized, has an intelligent designer behind it. So the huge universe and all things in it necessitate a super-intelligent designer.

So Mr Chance, Goodbye. There is no chance for chance among the intelligent. But don't worry. There is no shortage of fools in Kali Yuga. You can start with the nearest "science" university!

Join us again for another session of thought-provoking discussion.

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Dedicated to

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