

Fake Truths

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Fake takes

In terms of prophecy, we must admire the Buddha for defining our world today in the stranglehold of technology with such amazing certainty and clarity.

Let's take the word **fake** for a moment as the key word that epitomizes whatever that is going on with human interaction today, other than what we really know for ourself to be good and true (that is, through wholesome personal experience).

Fakery is everywhere

From the moment we wake up on a work-day or facing other people, we must begin the day by putting on the mask of fakery. First, we have to clean up our body, then our looks and our acts. We have to look good before the world.

Once in our workplace or social arena, we must present ourself as right and ready to take on the world for the profit of the company or the tribe that we serve or believe in.

In some ambience, we must look small and servile to those higher; in others, we need to look bigger and cleverer to sell our products, services, faith and love. Even with our colleagues and friends, often we become supersweet, to fake that we feel great and are doing great.

Fakery arises from craving

We work for the money and means to buy the services, products, pleasure, faith, love and rest we desire. Often, we need to share our wealth with those we love, believe in or are faked by.

We work hard to fake our way so that we spend less, waste less, give less, and keep more for bigger events called birthdays, weddings, funerals and so on – where we have to fake happiness or fake sadness fitting to the situation.

Above all, we must really be good in faking that we need enough wealth for some large purchases, or for a holiday, or retirement, or darker situations like divorce, or even darker, such as some ill health in the family or with us. Or, in special cases, hiding away with some ill-gained wealth from our evil genius.

Then, there are areas where we can fake the least, if at all, that is, in our aging process, our sickness, and there's no need to fake death (usually). We are either dying, dead or not. That's when the mask falls off.

Fakery can be ended

The best way to **end** fakery is to be truthful and real. First, we need to be true to ourself, to know our abilities and limits. Second, we need to be true to our loved ones, who matter to us, by spending significant time with them.

Thirdly, we need to be true to others, our friends and teachers, who are meaningful to our lives. Fourthly, we need to be true to life itself: what is our purpose in life—to be truly happy, of course. Once we understand this, we are on the way to end fakery in our life.

The way to end fakery

Firstly, we need to identify the fake people in our life and avoid them. Some people we can easily avoid (like fake friends, teachers and their minions). Others (like bosses and relatives) are more difficult to avoid, so we need to show more patience, lovingkindness or ingenuity.

Others, especially our children and charges, we need to wisely and gently teach how not to be fake, usually by our own example. These seeds of happiness that we now plant will grow in fruitful trees that shelter and nourish many to come.

The best way to be **real** to ourself is through being mindful of our actions, speech and thoughts. This may not be easy while we act. Hence, we need to constantly **review** our actions after them.

We have to be honest when we are being greedy or lustful, when we are angry or hateful, or when we are deluded or silly. We need a lot of courage and self-respect to stand up to our inclination for faking to others.

If we cannot be true to ourself, we can never be true to anyone. We are as false as the smile or clothing we wear, the words we utter, and the moves we make. Whether we are alone or before a crowd, we are still a fake.

Fakery breeds fakery. Truth attracts truth. From the true, we move on to the real, and on to the liberating.

Then, we awaken to true reality. It helps to aspire to be a real person: he is called a streamwinner.

R598 Inspiration 368
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