



## Book Review

Stephen Jeyard, *A Book that Cannot Be Titled*,  
Ilanthalir Educational Trust, Tiruchirapalli, 201, pp. 192 +5 xvi  
Rs 125.

The book presents deep reflections upon God, science, society, spirituality, philosophy, theology, cosmos, biology and several things under the sun and above the sun. This book is a mixture of many things that have lessons for life. The author hopes that the readers find thoughts and insights of their own after having read this book. The author does not want to impose his ideas onto the readers, rather stimulates them to newer thoughts, attitudes and life-styles. Therefore, he has not given a particular title to the book. In fact, he has had a real struggle to find an apt title and failing to settle his mind on a particular title, he has expressed his struggle in black and white with the irony of the title: a book that cannot be titled. Anyway, that is the title of the book.

This book of a mixed bag has many themes which are relevant and meaning to human living. Some of themes that would increase curiosity in the minds of readers are: A Case against Angel Gabriel; Jesus without Cross and Cross without Jesus!; Human beings: Cosmically Insignificant but Cognitively Indispensable.

The coverage clearly conveys, as the author wishes, the theme and the spirit of the book. Yes, a piece of rock is being hammered and chiseled out to create a particular sculpture. Interestingly, the sculptor himself emerges out of his own efforts to chisel out. Similarly the ideas

and the insights that are presented in this book are given to the readers; and the readers have to situate them in their own life-situations, to find out what they mean to them. They have to cull out their own implications and lessons from the reflections given here, and lo and behold, there will emerge their own book! In today's ultra modern world, full of scientific achievements, people have no time to "think" or to "reflect"; so, they end up doing many things and saying several things just because others do and say, without ever stopping to ask themselves, why they do or say what they do or say.

We, therefore, need to take the usual and the familiar events or conversations or proverbs, which we usually take for granted, into serious consideration to see what it really means to us personally in our existential contexts. When we do this, it is highly probable that we may get newer insights and lessons that would help us improve our lives. The author has left the book without a title precisely, since the freedom and the responsibility of finding a title is meaningfully left to the readers themselves, and that justifies the title of the book

The book has definitely something for people of all walks of life—the young and the old, the elite and the simple, the rich and the poor, students and teachers, theologians and philosophers – all will find something interesting and inspiring in this book. **-J. Charles Davis**

Kuruvilla Pandikattu, *Insights from Reason and Religion in Arrangement with Financial Chronicle*, Christian World Imprints, New Delhi: 2005. pp. 230 +xvii Rs. 495; ISBN-13: 978-93-5148-070-9

Today more and more people are getting convinced that the future humanity depends on how science and religion can collaborate with each other. This book contains short articles on reason (science) and religion (spirituality) meant for a general audience, who may or may not be organisationally religious. They are meant to inspire a band of young and old women and men to think deeply about themselves, leading to deeper insights and wisdom. It is the author's conviction that genuine spirituality is open-ended and reaches to the other in love and compassion. Open-minded and visionary, these articles are meant to touch the daily life of busy people who are fully involved in the struggle and success of daily life. So, the articles are limited to 625 words. They attempt to enhance the precious and vulnerable life by reaching out to others. It assumes that only when we can maintain

the healthy tension between the spiritual and material aspects of life, we become more authentic. The Author has roughly categorized the articles into the following nine sections:

Human Uniqueness; Human Compassion; Mind and Body; Science and Religion; Truth and Reality; Towards Greater Authenticity; Evolving Spirituality; Openness to the Deeper; Lessons from Life.

These articles appeared in the “My Mind” Op-Ed Column of *Financial Chronicle* ([www.mydigitalfc.com](http://www.mydigitalfc.com)) and are characterised by: 1. Contextual sensitivity: Normally he takes up a current event – from politics, science or religion – and reflects on it giving it a spiritual basis and contemporary relevance. 2. Religious openness: Committed to his Catholic faith, the author’s critical and creative acceptance of other religious and nonreligious traditions is extraordinary. Without falling into eclecticism, he has a way of drawing the positive aspect of every event. 3. Forward movement: His writings pursue our quest as individuals and communities, to move ahead in our pilgrimage of life, conquering new peaks. He is convinced of the Spirit working within us to move us to another level, where human beings can live in peace and harmony, affirming and respecting the differences that exist among each other.

The book is dedicated to the students and staff – academic and domestic – who have contributed to the growth of Jnana-Deepa Vidyapeeth and Papal Seminary (founded at Kandy in 1983) during the last sixty (1955-2015) years in Pune.

By and large, these spiritual essays are non-denominational and are not limited to any religious group. At the same time, they open the inquisitive spirit in us and thus widen our experience. As such, these reflections are very inspiring and forward-looking.

**-Libin Joseph**

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## PAPAL SEMINARY JUBILEE

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In view its Diamond Jubilee in Pune, the Home of Love, Papal Seminary is planning to bring out:

1. A souvenir containing articles of alumni
2. A short brochure on Papal Seminary
3. A documentary on Papal Seminary
4. To edit/reprint the book "History of Papal Seminary"
5. To create an archive on Papal Seminary with photos and books; images and articles; reports and documents
6. To conduct blood donation camps
7. To plant 60 saplings around the Home of Love

There will also be some charitable support to the domestic staff of the seminary. In view of these plans, the language academies will be encouraged to conduct food fests to raise funds. However, these plans would require a considerable amount of money to implement them well.

An account in the name of PAPAL SEMINARY ALUMNII FUND will be maintained for permanent use in future.

The Papal Seminary - your alma mater - the HOME OF LOVE, NEEDS YOU and humbly requests you to send your contribution to execute these plans.

A/c Name: Papal Seminary  
Saving A/c No: 0261101010465  
Bank: Canara Bank, Ramwadi, Pune  
IFSC Code: CNRB0000261

After remitting your donation, please send an email mentioning the purpose, PS Alumni Fund, to: [davischarlesj@gmail.com](mailto:davischarlesj@gmail.com) or [alexgsj@gmail.com](mailto:alexgsj@gmail.com). For more info, please contact Fr.Charles Davis (Mob: 84464 58445).

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