

# A REFLECTION OF THE PAST IN THE HOPE OF THE FUTURE

*Everyone plays a role in life, no matter what social, social or economic environment they belong to. Every human being has a tendency, a force that drives him forward.*

*Some would like to learn a foreign language, others would become teachers or doctors, dancers or journalists. Some are perfectly content in the crowd of mediocrity, others feel good about taking a step forward. However, there are also such people in the world who, with a series of tested lies and fables, almost legalized false norms, stifle everything that is spontaneous, prevent the freedom of a different way of thinking, life and own desires.*

Every life is full of surprises, upsets, thousands of highs and many lows. You may never think of climbing, but you will take the first step towards it the day you look



around you and say to yourself: "This is not enough, I want more!". They are

people who are born with a soul without flight, goal and path, and they are not able to take care even of themselves.

These are textbook examples of those whose thought form challenges failure. Still others, although born in poverty, accumulate wealth from the very beginning, direct all their will to

a certain goal and are successful if money

outweighs happiness and success. The one who managed

to go from a humble employee to a business owner was mentally ahead of his position.

Having overcome one step, he already saw himself on another.

Only man can change the world around him. He moves objects and constantly changes them. If in prehistoric times he made ropes for hunting and set traps, over time he learned to spin thinner and thinner fibers, and throughout history he added many artificial fibers to the traditional list of natural fibers from which he made clothes.

Many people in this world wonder many times in their lives what it would be like to live one more time. Many obstacles arise in this question. Many people would answer no when asked if they could live again, because they automatically have all the troubles and problems that plagued them in the past before their eyes. When they realize all this, however, doubt comes over them; if we knew that everything would end happily, then we would live again. Others, on the other hand, deny this claim,

saying that the situation, when you already know in advance how an undetermined life situation will end, is intolerable. If we have decided to put our thoughts in the past and live in our thoughts differently than we do now, we must count on the fact that the circumstances in which certain life situations took place will not change. In such rhetorical questions, we notice that a person is always a realist. He will think a hundred times before deciding to change the course of past events, even if such a course of events would bring him more happiness in his life than he has so far. This thought is very easy to confirm, because in the past, a person tried to get the maximum benefit for himself from a certain life situation and appreciates his efforts in these situations. In making such decisions, one must weigh the cost of one's efforts and efforts in the past against the cost of the efforts one would be faced with if one could change the course of events in the past.

We get a different situation if we ask a person about the future. If a person was a pessimist in the question of changing the past, he is an optimist in the question of changing the future. This optimism is always reinforced by the hope that the future holds within itself. The future and the hope found in it is an important factor in the life of the entire nation. A nation that has no faith in the hope for a better future is a nation that will not last long.

Reliving a person's past journey is clearly expressed in the writing of memoirs. Memories bring us back to our already traveled path. When we return, we are overcome by the feeling that there is a touch of homesickness in a person's memories that weaves through all past memories. A person realizes that his time has already passed and the hidden desires that he has kept inside him for so long come to light, the desires for the time spent. Because of this, memories are often tinged with a personal touch. In them there is much that has arisen in the minds of men, but that has not actually happened. When a person looks back on his life in his memories, he sees it as it should have been, but not what really happened. The famous Yugoslav singer of ballads and chansons, Balašević, sang in one of his songs "...memories, which magnifies the boring things...".

When we return to the past in our memories, something very interesting appears. A kind of time inversion; when we go back in time, these memory stations seem like stations of the future, not stations of the past. When we go back into the past in this way, we come to the year of birth, which we relive as the year of death. Death merges into birth, the so-called inversion of birth into death occurs. In youth, when the memory is still full of holes, it often happens that we reform difficult moments into better ones. We turn unfortunate situations into happy ones. However, when we reach old age and our memory is already fading, it often happens



that

we relive the past in a more subjective light than it really was. It is this age subjectivism in memories that gives us the strength to live in the old days. Many times, the length of life depends on how many of these subjective elements a certain person is able to transfer to his memory.

Since memory is a distinctly subjective property of each individual, it is reasonable not to write it down, because even when an individual has to translate thoughts into words, there is an incorrect description of reality. One can never accurately put thought into words, for human speech and writing are limited, but memory can have unlimited dimensions. Despite all this, we must be aware that memory is the driving wheel of every individual, and without it, a person cannot exist in his or her psyche; a person without memory is not normal.

Human memories are only a fraction of the traces that man has left in his thousands of years of existence. Compared to the finds and inventions of prehistoric people, the memories of modern man are a trifle. The sites of the remains of primitive people and their



civilizational achievements are the best testimonies of the past. These are testimonies that man did not live in symbiosis with animals, but lived parallel to them. Footprints testify to the primacy of primitive man, and at the same time it is proof of the existence of a living being from which modern man was reformed. Man no longer walks barefoot on the sand, but this primitiveness has sunk into his soul. Evidence of this can be found in acts of strong emotion, e.g. of love (lovers often dream about very simple things, for example, lying on the sand by the coast). So the question arises, is not today's man oriented more towards the caveman than the man of the future. In the pace of life, man constantly moves from place to place, which confirms the element of nomadism. In the last period, man began to search for his roots. All these testimonies testify to us that the human race came out of the primitive cave man and that in some element it is also returning to this state.

In addition to footprints, the caveman leaves us accounts of his life at that time. In addition to footprints and skulls, they almost always found primitive objects with which man subjugated nature. This is also an essential element that separates cavemen from animals. Even at his most primitive stage, man is distinguished from animals by the fact that he not only lived, but also thought and acted. What is relevant are not the anthropological characteristics of humans and animals in that era, but the traces of civilizational signs. An interesting phenomenon is reflected in modern man. Modern man is driven by some inner force to set higher and higher goals for his existence, even though he seems to be searching for his primordial elements, which he symbolically left behind among his signs in the past. The periods of art correspond to the periods of

art of prehistoric man, which are living proof of the testimony of painting and art in the caves of Spain and France. We have received proof that the history of mankind began before the Egyptians and Babylonians, it began in the period of prehuman.

Humans are separated from animals by reason. An animal will always act instinctively, as rational reflexes have not yet been discovered in animals. Meanwhile, man is a rational being who learns through life's obstacles. As primitive man invented tools and weapons, his intellectual potential began to increase. With each invention, he became more civilized, he created modern substances, complex materials and took care of civilizational progress. Man is in a great dilemma in his race with himself. He wants to create as much as possible so that later generations will remember him. In such responses, there is also an element of egoism, which modern man always carries with him. Man is a unique being who, soon after rising to the level of animals, began to leave not only traces of his footsteps, but traces of his thoughts and will. These traces can be somewhat



different. Already in ancient times, we can see that man distinguished between good and bad. And already in ancient times he was faced with the dilemma of what is good and what is bad. Good was that from which he benefited, and bad was that which caused him consequences. However, over time he realized that even bad things can, over a longer period of time, cause a consequence that is good for a person. So the dividing line between bad and good is not precisely defined. This may be one of the answers to the deviance of civilization, which manifests itself in the form of wars and destruction. War is a terrible act for humanity, but war itself also has certain purifying consequences. Humanity is strengthened in wars, not physically, but spiritually. This thought should not be taken either absolutely or superficially, because its seeds are deep inside both the individual and the entire society. In his search for meaning, man makes countless detours, but in the end they lead him to the right path. It seems as if man, throughout his entire civilization, is looking for his great-ancestor, the person in whom he has embedded all his ideas and thoughts in the course of history. At the same time, he forgets that such a person is impossible to find, precisely because of the uniqueness of each individual.

In his search for the meaning of life, man sees above all the past and the future. We can recall the parable of these thoughts if we look at the starry sky and see the stars. The stars as we see them in the sky are a thing of the past; we will never see what they are like in the present, because the present is relative in cosmic dimensions. So is the relative present of human actions. The present is a transcendent moment, but in its

essence it is infinitely short, so short that we are not aware of it. Thus we live only in the deeds of the past and the hopes of the future. The synthesis of these two concepts on a higher level equates to the present.

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