

# 27 Delusions of Mankind

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## AUTHOR'S INTRODUCTION

*The path which the world traverses,  
that path I keep at a distance.  
Everyone is lost in the world of delusion.  
~ Saint Namdev, 13th Century*

*One mistakes this miserable world for the glitter of gold.  
How else to describe this glamorous delusion?  
~Saint Ravidas, 15th/16th Century*

*The whole world is overpowered by delusion.  
The delusion is overpowered by none.  
~Saint Dariya of Bihar, 17th/18th Century*

*People are themselves deluded and they  
cause delusion to others.  
~Saint Dariya*

Delusions are false beliefs held to be true. By subscribing to them we become more ignorant and blind to Reality than we already are. How can we be enlightened living in a cave devoid of light? We can't. That's why it is imperative for us to dissolve the delusions that entrap us, enslave us—from cradle to grave—in a prison of ignorance, keeping us from being free and whole.

This may seem a harsh truth but Truth it is, as difficult as it may be to accept. Saints, from their supernally elevated position, understand this, which is why they take the time through their writings to

share this reality with the world to help it become "undeluded," allowing those individuals who desire enlightenment to seek it, acquire it, radiate it.

Saint Namdev queried:

*What shall I do? The world sees and yet is blind.*

Kabir, a Saint of the 15th/16th Centuries, noted:

*The world is blind, engulfed in utter darkness, but to whom can I explain this?*

Swami Ji Maharaj, a Saint of the 19th Century, said:

*This world is engulfed in the darkness of ignorance.*

Saint Jagat Singh of the 20th Century remarked:

*There is nothing but utter darkness and misery in this world. It is, indeed, a place where the blind are leading the blind.*

Delusions are a major ingredient of this darkness. The sooner we dissolve the delusions which entrap us, the sooner we will live in the Light. This work comments on only 27 Delusions which plague mankind. There are more but for now, twenty seven is a good start.

One final note. For those who deceive and delude others, they would be wise to heed the following warning from Saint Ravidas:

*God is not pleased with one who practices deceits.*

So . . . here's to the dissolution of delusions and a major step upward from darkness into Divine Light. God Speed!

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