



Bill Gates Could Be The World's First Trillionaire

Maulana Wahiduddin Khan

Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates could be the world's first trillionaire, according to recent research done by Oxfam International. When Gates left Microsoft in 2006, his net worth was \$50 billion. His wealth has been growing by 11% per year since 2009 and by 2016 has risen to \$75 billion. The Oxfam research established that if his wealth continued to increase at this rate, he would become a trillionaire by 2042, when he will be 86 years old.

Speaking about wanting more and more money, Gates once told students during a talk at the University of Washington in 2011: "Once you get beyond a million dollars, it's the same hamburger."

Gates becoming a trillionaire may appear very good to others, but perhaps Gates would again say: "Once you get beyond a trillion dollars, it's the same hamburger."

In an interview in 2013, Gates said:

"I'm certainly well taken care of in terms of food and clothes. Money has no utility for me beyond a certain point. Its utility is entirely in building an organisation and getting the resources out to the poorest in the world." Gates and his wife Melinda have so far given away \$28 billion via their charitable foundation, according to an interview published in *The Telegraph* on January 18, 2013, where Gates said: "I have no use for money. This is God's work."

If one turns to the deeper side of life, one will be reminded of a famous saying of Jesus Christ: "Man does not live by bread alone." Apparently, a human being is a physical entity, but at the same time he possesses a mind. 'Bread' and 'dollar' may have their limitations, but the mind is limitless. The human mind therefore requires a spiritual universe for itself: anything less will never

satisfy a thinking person.

Some people, due to their particular mindset, have put limitations to the domain of spirituality. They believe that spirituality is purely heart-based, but such kind of spirituality can only lead one to a state of ecstasy. However, ecstasy is a condition which a person cannot

clearly define himself, so how can it give him solace? In truth, spirituality is the name of a mind-based culture. Thus real spirituality is another name for a 'thinking spirituality'.

When one looks through a telescope, one can observe the macro-world. Similarly, when one uses a microscope, one can see the micro-world to a very great extent. But the spiritual eye goes even deeper than this:

through it, one reaches a limitless world. This is why a limitless mind can find comfort only in limitless spirituality.

There is, however, no contradiction



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between the dollar culture and the culture of spirituality if a person is spiritual-minded. Indeed, money can become a facilitating factor for his spiritual journey.

Thomas Jefferson, was the third president of the United States. In his final days he insisted that his grave mention his status as founder of the University of Virginia; he did not want his tomb to mention that he was an American president.

Bill Gates has been giving away his wealth to charity to date, but a far greater option for him would be to establish a spiritual university, or a universal institute for research on spiritual sciences. This would be on a par with the initiative taken by another very rich man, Alfred Nobel, in his setting up of an institute for the awarding of Nobel prizes for outstanding human endeavour in a wide range of fields.

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