



Jagbir Singh &lt;s.jagbir@gmail.com&gt;

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**ESCHATOLOGY: Part Two: The Samsara of the widows**

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**Jagbir Singh** <s.jagbir@gmail.com>  
To: Jagbir Singh <s.jagbir@gmail.com>

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**Part One; The Samsara of the Brides**

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It is in 4,000 B.C. that by 'divine decree' Samsara was ordained for all women:

**The Enduring Legacy of the Original Dangerous Woman**

When we think of Eve, the notorious 'first' female in the Book of Genesis in the Hebrew Bible, we conjure up images of snakes, of forbidden fruit, and of the Garden of Eden. The story of Eve is undoubtedly one of the most well-known and familiar didactic narratives in the world: Adam and Eve, the first man and woman on Earth according to the creation story, happily resided in the Garden of Eden. God's only request of them was that they were not to eat fruit from one of the trees, but Eve was tempted into doing so by a treacherous serpent, and shared the forbidden fruit with Adam. God punished them by expelling them from the Garden of Eden and condemning Eve to a lifetime of painful childbirth and subservience to her husband:

*I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing; | in pain you shall bring forth children | yet your desire shall be for your husband, | and he shall rule over you. (Holy Bible, Genesis, 3.16).*

Eve became known as the source of Original Sin, responsible for the fall of mankind, and she became a blueprint figure for all subsequent women; the reason for their menstrual suffering, their pains during labour, and a cautionary tale as to why they should submit to their husbands. The prevalence of Judeo-Christian discourse in western culture has meant that the story of Adam and Eve has been enduring, and over two thousand years of cultural contributions to the figure of Eve across a range of traditions and disciplines means that a comprehensive biography would be impossible.

My intention here, however, is not to recount the story of Eve, but to draw attention to her enduring reputation as a dangerous and overtly sexualised woman, even in the present day, and to raise the question of what Eve's legacy means for modern women. Ultimately, Eve is just as relevant a figure as ever in womankind's long historical struggle against patriarchal violence.

<http://dangerouswomenproject.org/2016/10/09/eve-dangerous-woman/>

That was 6,000 years ago for all women of the Abrahamic faith. Yes, the Father was pretty pissed by Eve tasting an apple on the advice of a serpent. (You have to question: what part of Adam's anatomy did God use for the serpent?)

The Father just did not like women. He detested them so much that he made sure that all women will wantonly desire their husbands so that endless propagation will bring forth the painful creation of the human species on Earth. What a wonderful way to start Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

Fast-forward to 2020 and it seems Hindu women, brides in particular, bear that curse. I wonder which God their husbands worship brings them such misery; Krishna, Shiva, Vishnu, Rama,

Ganesha? You have to question because the hospital birth of daughters — though not as painful as Father wanted to be 6,000 years ago due to epidurals and C-sections — still brings the crushing debt of dowry (and bridegrooms have been steadily getting greedier.)

The dowry statistics: "Female foeticide in India is the abortion of a female foetus outside of legal methods. The natural sex ratio is assumed to be between 103 and 107, and any number above it is considered as suggestive of female foeticide. According to the decennial Indian census, the sex ratio in 0 to 6 age group in India has risen from 102.4 males per 100 females in 1961, to 104.2 in 1980, to 107.5 in 2001, to 108.9 in 2011."

So what happens when brides get old, are divorced, or just driven out? I am talking about widows as women do live longer than men. I do not want to go into the depressing details of [widows abandoned in India](#).

Instead, I will be talking about three brides in Malaysia who for almost four decades have been widows of Samsara: Mukhtiar Kaur, Jeswant Kaur, and Shrimati Nerbhakuvarben Fulchandbhai Kothari.

The reason they were picked is that few of us have experienced Samsara the way they have. I want you to experience their Samsara, briefly.

The first will be my mother Mukhtiar Kaur. She was most fortunate to have a loving husband and a Lambretta. Yes, they loved each other dearly. Being a police sergeant in the 1960s brought the close-knit fraternity at the High Street Police Temple. (God and gossip go well with Sunday sermons, *dhall*, and chappatis.)

Jagbir and Jessy were the black sheep. Jasbir was off-white while Balwinder was purer white. Life was great as Dr. Balwinder had resurrected respect for my mum and dad. After years of struggles, their youngest son had made it, and they could finally mingle with other police parents.

I was there for his 1994 wedding and saw joy (mingled for their dislike of Shri Mataji. My dad hated Her and one day thumped his hand hard on the dining table and declared: Who is she compared to my Waheguru!!!?? Being a temporary guest from Canada, I just kept quiet. I believe he made my mum promise that no matter what, she will not believe in anything I was telling them.)

Yama descended and suddenly took her husband in 1995 on the eve of Diwali. The death shocked the entire Sikh community since he was very fit. He just passed away during an afternoon siesta. My mum's dreams of far greater things to come vanished into thin air. She had just begun a better life of peace and prosperity. It was indeed a great tragedy and the pain and anguish indescribable. My dad was very fit.

Samsara followed to extract its pound of flesh. The bright colors of life and union gave way to drab-white dresses and dreaded separation. Decades of loneliness followed. A mental prison in the physical world. A long, lonely existence.

Dr. Balwinder's existence did help her greatly over the years. Mine only aggravated. I was meditating on a Hindu Devi, even giving my daughter a Hindu name. I was a pariah in Malaysia who disgraced both Sikhism and family honor.

The second is Jeswant Kaur, my mother-in-law, a proud but stubborn matriarch who ruled the roost with her pecking order. Harcharan and Mindy were pecked the most. Debah and Suku were her

favorite daughters and still are. Sunshine walked silently, never affected by open discrimination.

The family was well off. Sapuloh dua gave her prosperity, power, and prestige, a class division prevalent those days. It also gave her a driving license, a green Morris Minor, and pride. Vain pride to be exact; the complete opposite of my cool father-in-law who shared his love and respect of six daughters equally.

(I am honored to have his framed photograph in my home. I tell Sunshine sometimes: "I am proud of Your father. You will meet him again, I promise.")

Then came *Waqt*. I got a frantic call from Suku in SS3. Bhaiji, please come immediately as father has fallen in the bathroom and mum has gone to the market.

I ran the few hundred yards right away. Sunshine's father was on the floor, with no sign of breath. It was a struggle putting the massive man in the car. Without a driving license or skills, I managed to drive him to the University Hospital a few kilometers away.

But nothing could be done. The shrieks of the Six Sisters and anguish of the widow were deafening. A massive heart-attack had ended the *Sangam* of Jeswant Kaur and Samsara began on January 3, 1984. I do not want to go through nearly four decades of her Samsara because they are very painful results of karma.

The third is Shrimati Nerbhakuvarben Fulchandbhai Kothari. She too lost her husband decades ago, just like Mukhtiar and Jeswant Kaur. However, her Samsara is frightening. She has been bed-ridden for years and is now lapsing into dementia. I also do not want to go into bed-sore details.

So what does the Samsara of the Brides that is now the Samsara of the Widows tell the living? Nothing much. Life goes on in Kali Yuga; patriarchal dowry, patriarchal foeticide, patriarchal caste, patriarchal rituals, and patriarchal last rites for feminine ashes floating on the Mother Ganges.

Then what does the Samsara of the Brides and the Widows tell the awakened? It is that the Samsara of HALF THE SKY will only end when their 5,000-year-old subjugation by the wrathful father God end:

*I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing; | in pain you shall bring forth children | yet your desire shall be for your husband, | and he shall rule over you. (Holy Bible, Genesis, 3.16).*

Their Samsara will end because Jesus drew a line in the sand 2,000 years ago against that father God in the Age that Was when he challenged their patriarchal priests and:

## **A Line Drawn in the Sand**



In the Age that has Come that line still stands in the sand for HALF THE SKY against the priests, pastors, reverends, bishops, popes, rabbis, clerics, *imams, mullahs, shaikhs, ulema, ayatollahs, gurus, swamis, pandits, brahmins, acaryas, bhagwans, granthis, gianis, lamas, monks, and dalai lamas.*

For those who have ears that hear: He drew a line that no one will dare cross today!

Next week or so: **Part Three: The Samsara of Unconditional Love**