

Preface to Volume III

Conduct-based principles are far more preferable than the principle-based conduct.

Essays in this volume explore enduring issues of human condition that result from incomplete knowledge of the worlds around. In dealings with incomplete information there is room for doubt. The challenge is to find a reality-based guide for actions and behaviors.

Therefore it is necessary to apply wide ranging tests to establish the tangibility of the content, context, and relations that may represent and define the concern and offer relevant solutions.

These essays apply and develop concepts for dealing with uncertainty and doubt in exploration and interactions for rational knowledge and conduct. Many of the ideas build on methods and examples from the sciences, game theory, philosophy, and literature are discussed in addition to the Nay concepts.

Mahendra Kumar Jain

October 20, 2002.

Against Gods and Humbug

Preface

1. Paradox of Choices
2. Representation for Potential
3. Feedback from Interactions
4. What Is Rationality?
5. Meaning to a Speck of Dust
6. The Unknown and the Doubtful
7. Actions Have Consequences
8. Beginning of a Decision
9. Tools for Thought Search
10. Living with Doubt
11. Who to Trust?
12. Living with Incomplete Knowledge
13. Do People Tell Lies?
14. Social Influences of Non-violence
15. Greed and Grab
16. Conduct with Consistency
17. An Activist Perspective
18. Causality: End or Means to Reality
19. Negate the Wishful
20. Man is Capable of Being Rational
21. Making Decisions
22. Keeping Viable Options Open
23. Inference and Successful Behavior
24. Genesis of Syad: The Logical Doubt
25. Science-based Conduct?
26. Philosophy and Logic for Action
27. Actions That Matter
28. Tragic versus Tragedy
29. Representation of Order with Room for Doubt
30. War Promises Meaning to the Otherwise Meaningless Lives
31. A Peace to End All Peace
32. Knowledge: Been There
33. Equation for Potential
34. Why I Am Not Moral
35. Unleashing Thought: Taming Brawn, Grunt, and Smarts