

stage of evolution is seen in man who has intelligence, health and brightness. And a higher state of existence is seen in the disembodied heavenly beings. Here evolution means: "a greater awareness of experience, a lesser amount of agitations and a sharper power of intelligence." The yard-stick used here to measure evolution is the quantity of joy or happiness, peace or bliss, experienced by the being.

No doubt, in this measurement, the stone-life is of zero evolution, inasmuch as it has no awareness at all of the world. The plant-life comes next, wherein Consciousness has dimly started expressing Itself. In the animal kingdom, this Awareness has become clearer and more vivid. Of the animals, man is, no doubt, the greatest being with the fullest Consciousness and the sharpest intellect. But, man also has his own limitations, and functions only within a limited field of time and space. The ample possibilities reached when once these limitations of man are broken down are indicated as the greatest state of existence enjoyed by beings of a still higher evolution, and they are called the "Denizens of Heaven."

Every double-storeyed house must also have its staircase. Invariably, after climbing a few steps, there is a landing from which we turn and climb up the rest of the stairs to reach the rooms on the first floor. Those who are standing on the lower flight of steps are considered of a lower evolution. Those who are standing on the landing are of the middle type and those who are standing on the top-