

Hinduism has always tried to believe in the harmony of science and religion, seeking out the rational of both sides. The law of karma finds itself enmeshed in both of these foundations, but Hindu Forum Canada (HFC) explores the scientific explanation for it. From years of experience, HFC would see the effect this belief on people and how it made them conscious of their actions.

For those who are not familiar with karma, it is a concept that has its roots in Buddhist, Hindu, Jain, and many other religious traditions—essentially, it is the idea that every action has a reaction—that good actions beget good reactions. Most people believe in this law, and that it bears a considerable influence to their future. That's a wonderful thing because any concept that makes us think about the consequences of our actions will help us become better people—which in turn will make the world a better place.

How does the philosophy of Karma fit into science and religion?



Thinking back to the definition laid out, the law of karma comes close to Newton's third law of motion. Newton's law states that for every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction. Sounds familiar? Newton proposed it in order to describe the laws of physics that govern the material universe but it also expresses the truth of our spiritual reality. In fact, karma and Newton's third law both express the same thing, and when combined

together, they express something even more profound—the essential harmony of science and religion. According to the basic Sanskrit definition, karma simply means “action”, and therefore, everything.

We do create a reciprocal energy that comes back to us in some form or another—or, as the saying goes, "what goes around comes around." We know that physical force, when applied, will cause a reaction, and that no force or energy vanishes into nothing.

These two laws may explain why all religions and philosophers have universally agreed on the concept of the Golden Rule, which has been expressed in different ways across many religions. What one puts in, whether physical or spiritual, that same energy will eventually come back. The Golden Rule makes us aware of our actions.

This is the sum of duty; do naught onto others what you would not have them do unto you. -

Whether we look at actions through Newton’s law, the law of karma, or the Golden Rule, the conclusion becomes very clear: all of these immutable laws tell me that we should be considerate, sensitive in our actions, and subsequently, mindful. There will always be consequences in so much that we can create our own happiness, our own misery, our own hell or our own heaven.