

# Never lose belief in God

By Maulana Wahiduddin Khan

It is essential that man should have within his reach, a super formula for life's management. God provides just such a formula — a complete principle for life's management. Human beings are not like machines, controlled by a mechanical system; nor are they like animals, governed by their instincts. Human beings enjoy freedom. They take decisions about their actions of their own free will. Now the question arises as to how to keep man to the right course, how to make him consistently disciplined in his behaviour.

History shows the ineffectiveness of all worldly measures in this connection, whether social pressures, enforcement of the law of the land or the appeals of reformers. Experience shows that the pressure of society is limited, if not totally ineffective. There are so many loopholes in law that it is not difficult for wrongdoers to find a way out. The reformers' bid to reform people is nothing but appeals; and appeals alone cannot bring about a revolution in human life.

The truth is that for the attainment of disciplined behaviour, it is essential for one to be convinced of the existence of a power far superior to himself, a being who is aware of man's activities at every moment.

There can be only one being of this nature and that is God. Belief in God functions at two levels at the same time. On the one hand, man finds in God a guardian who is aware of all his activities and who has unlimited power to chastise him. It is not possible for man to escape God's chastisement. Belief in God compels man to steadfastly adopt a proper attitude in all situations, privately as well as publicly. Only then can he save himself from incurring God's displeasure.