

Life, Matter, and their Interactions

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As recently listed by illustrious science journals (*New Scientist, Science*) and discussed among the top scientists in the world*, here are some of the most prominent unanswered questions:

What is life? How did life begin? Are we still evolving?

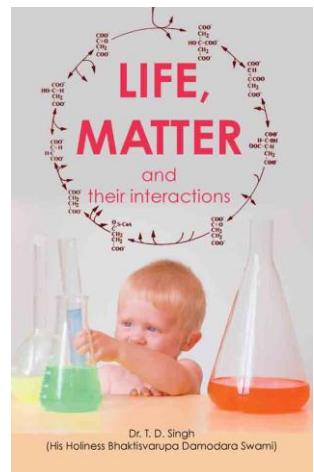
* For example during the Symposium "Exploring the Great Unknowns", hosted by the University of California, Berkeley, and administered by the Metanexus Institute, 6-8 October 2005, with more than 900 people attending, and presentations by some 50 top physicists and researchers – including 20 Nobel Prize Laureates.

- Is life an outcome of the evolution of matter, or is it a fundamentally different entity altogether?
 - How do we explain consciousness, free will, love, purpose, beauty, etc., which seem to be beyond the mere interaction of biomolecules?
 - On the other hand, if life is beyond matter, in what ways does it interact with matter, and what laws does it follow?
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- ✓ This book will provide you with a **practical overview** of the most important research work and discoveries of the last decades, in **biology and biochemistry**, exploring life and its origin. **A concise and intelligible synthesis!**
 - ✓ Will enable you to see the **weaknesses in some of the present scientific demonstrations**, so as to positively try other directions. A good training for relying on your own intelligence and insight.
 - ✓ Will pleasantly surprise you with the simple yet most **valuable alternative approach and conclusions** extracted from the **Vedanta**.
 - ✓ Will encouragingly **convince all sincere seekers** of the truth, including the most **materialistically minded** people. Help your friends and relatives realize that physical matter is not the only reality! Offer them this book!

Contents:

1. Introduction
2. Chemistry and life: is the DNA molecule life?
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Readership:
Science & Technology Students, Graduates engaged in research, Teachers, Faculty members, Teach yourself Science readers, Teach yourself Vedanta readers, Spiritual seekers

"An enormous gulf lies between the few simple chemical facts known as DNA and the actual functioning of a cell." Let's closely examine this...

"It is quite possible ... that other laws are involved in the operation of cells that are unknown to modern chemistry." Feel enthused to start researching on this promising subject!

What is, in brief, the theory behind PCR (polymerase chain reaction)?

"Many people think that by cloning we can have a kind of biological Xeroxing. But..." Read more!

"There is sophisticated editing of genetic sequences, a wide range of hormonal effects, and numerous other phenomena that radically contradict simple, linear models of gene expression." Go deeper and farther than the knowledge presented in biology textbooks!

What can be "the factors in the emergence of so many new, highly virulent disease pathogens in recent years, many of which are simultaneously resistant to several different antibiotics"?

"What is the molecular operation that makes us feel joy upon seeing a close friend or relative after a long time, or sad when losing a near and dear one? ... We encounter marvels of life at so many levels, and the theorists of evolution cannot even think of touching these points." Let's have a delightful glimpse into the marvels of life...

"The interaction of life with matter ultimately depends upon..." Upon what? Discover it in this book!

"This interaction cannot be completely described in quantitative terms, but it can be understood and investigated." How? With which instruments?

What are the **alternative scientific viewpoints**, from the **Vedanta**, that can enable researchers to fill the gaps left by the modern scientific approach?