



Be Ye Peaceful - Volume VIII

Released on the occasion of 124th Holy Birth Anniversary of
Yug- Purusottam Param Premamaya

Sri Sri Thakur Anukulchandra

Celebrated as 8th US National Satsang Congregation

SATSANG USA, NEW YORK



SATYANUSARAN

(THE PURSUIT OF TRUTH)

The degeneration of humanity began at that moment when the unseen God was made infinite and, ignoring the Seers, the worship of Their Sayings began. Oh Mankind! If you desire to invoke your good, forget sectarian conflict. Be regardful to all the past Prophets. Be attached to your living master or God and take only those who love Him as your own. Because all the past Prophets are consummated in the divine Man of the present.

- Sri Sri Thakur



The laws and activities that uphold existence are Dharma.

-Sri Sri Thakur

“Be Ye Peaceful - Volume-VIII”

We are pleased to have our eighth edition of BE YE PEACEFUL published on the occasion of the 8th US National Satsang Congregation to celebrate the Holy 124th birth anniversary of Supreme Love Sri Sri Thakur Anukulchandra.

We are fortunate to have the divine words of blessings from none other than Param Pujiyapad Acharyadev Sri Sri Dada and directions from Sri Babai Da which have made this challenging task achievable.

We sincerely acknowledge the painstaking efforts and contributions from all the devotees of US, Canada, UK and India who have provided their own experiences and learning in the form of articles and/or other forms of contribution. We are especially delighted to have contributions from young members like Baishali Chaudhuri (age 8 ½) from Andover, MA and Siddheshwari Thakur (age 10) from Katy, TX in the form of articles and artwork.

The compilation of this document was not possible without the effort and guidance from Mitali Bhadra, who not only provided articles and photographs but also helped compile this document keeping consistency in contents according to the highest standard.

We would also like to thank the following people for their invaluable help, input and guidance: Ram Kinkar Thakur (Katy, TX), Jeffrey Renert (Farmington, CT), Gabriel Lichtgarn (Unionville, CT) as well as Debol Gupta (Lafayette, NJ) and Tusar Swain (Mooresville, NC).

We believe that this document will provide its readers valuable insight into Sri Sri Thakur’s life and teachings and inspires one and all to know increasingly more about the Divine Life and be anointed with His blessings and grace.

Vande Purushottamam!

On behalf of devotees of Satsang USA and Canada,

RS and Jaiguru,

Gisela Lichtgarn



To ignore the source is to be deprived of resources.

-Sri Sri Thakur

“Be Ye Peaceful - Volume-VIII”

দাদারা ও মায়েরা,

পরমপূজ্যপাদ প্রধান আচার্যদেবের অনুশাসনবাদে এবং পূজনীয় বাবাইদার শুভ প্রেরণায় আসুন, আমরা পরমদয়াল শ্রীশ্রীঠাকুরের এই ১২৪ তম জন্ম মহোৎসবে তথা সংসঙ্গ ইউএসএর ৮ম জাতীয় সংসঙ্গ উৎসবে আপামর জনসাধারণ সব মিলে আমরা যোগদান কোরে ধন্য হই।

তিনি এসেছিলেন আজ থেকে বহুদিন আগে অধুনা বাংলাদেশের পাবনা জেলার হিমায়েতপুর গ্রামে এক সম্ভ্রান্ত ব্রাহ্মণ পরিবারে। পিতা শ্রীযুক্ত শিবচন্দ্র ছিলেন ঈশ্বর বিশ্বাসী, সদালাপী আর স্বভাবদয়ালু। আর জগৎজননী মাতা মনোমোহিনী দেবী ছিলেন ধর্মপ্রাণা স্বামীভক্তিপ্রায়ণা - সংসারের প্রতিটি মানুষের প্রাণের লক্ষীমা।

বাল্যকাল থেকে শিশু অনুকূল ছিলেন প্রত্যেকের নির্ভরস্থল। তিনি যৌবনে চিকিৎসা শাস্ত্র অধ্যয়ন করেন। মানুষের শারীরিক চিকিৎসা কোরতে গিয়ে তিনি অনুভব কোরলেন যে তাদের হৃদয় থেকে বহুদিনের জমানো ব্যথা নিরসন করা দরকার। শ্রেমভিখারী, ব্যথাহারী কুলমালিক যখন মানুষের ক্রন্দনে এই ধরাধামে অবতীর্ণ হন, প্রতিটি মানুষের সত্তার গভীরে তিনি আনন্দের জোয়ার বইয়ে দেন।

তিনি ঘোষণা কোরলেন যে, মানুষের অস্তিত্ব এবং বৃদ্ধির জন্য দরকার সদগুরুর দীক্ষালাভ এবং তঁদনুশাসিত সপরিবেশ অনুশীলিত জীবন যা আমাদের জীবনে আনে উৎকর্ষ এবং সমৃদ্ধি। তিনি আরো বোল্লেন যে বাঁচতে গেলেই সদাচার চাই। আর তা তিন রকমের - আধ্যাত্মিক, মানসিক আর শারীরিক। একটি বাদ দিয়ে আর একটি নয়।

‘মানুষ আপন, টাকা পর - যত পারিস মানুষ ধর ।
‘যজ্ঞন যাজ্ঞন ইষ্টভূতি - কোরলে কাটে মহাভীতি ।
‘সদাচারে বাঁচে বাড়ে - লক্ষী বাঁধা তার ঘরে ।
‘দীক্ষা নিয়ে নিয়ম মত - চললে তবে হয় উন্নত ।
‘শিক্ষকের নাই ইস্টে টান, কে জাগাবে ছাত্রে প্রাণ ।
বাঁচা বাড়ার মর্ম যা, ঠিকই জানিস ধর্ম তা ।

সংসঙ্গ ইউএসএ এবং নিউ ইয়র্ক সংসঙ্গীবন্দের তরফ থেকে ---
বিনয়াবনত আশিস বসু, এস পি আর



The upholding urge of our existence is Dharma.

-Sri Sri Thakur

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What is good to your existence is godly to you.

-Sri Sri Thakur

The Message

Roll on—
like a flood
over the sorrows, sufferings
and calamities of the World,—
with love, sympathy and service
and with the message
of Beloved the Lord,—
with a knowledge and activity
that illuminates
the way of the dull,
and deteriorating depressed;
flow on—
extremely unresting and undisturbed;
if female wants
let her run after you,
proclaiming admiration and worship,
establishing the kingdom
of peace and happiness
with a wistful soothing gaze
after her beloved;—
but wish not
for that
at all !

- Sri Sri Thakur

“ASHIRWANI”

(from Param Pujiyapad Acharyadev Sri Sri Dada)

Sri Sri Thakur is our Ideal, – the very centre of existence of all of us. Only by remaining totally adhered to Him with every mighty urge and worshipful-endeavour, serving him piously with unquestioning allegiance, and doing every thing for his sake with whole-hearted sincerity and vigour, we become true to our selves and come to true piety for others. He is fulfiller the best. Only by serving and loving Him, we may attain perfection in all our actions, words and behaviour. By remaining in tune with his existential ordinance, we join true happiness and may make others happy too.

May your resolve to be His and His only, resonate your own heart and also that of every one else with ever undiminishing peace and happiness.

Love & R.S.

Dada

26.08.2010

Satsang, Deoghar

MESSAGES (Bangla)

(Compilation from various sources)

“জ্ঞানের কথা যতই বলিস্ সে জ্ঞান কিন্তু কাজের নয়, কর্মেতে যে জ্ঞানের উদ্ভব তাতেই জীবন সার্থক হয়।”	“ইষ্টনেশায় তুষ্টি প্রাণ সদাচারী হলে, মনের স্বাস্থ্য জীবনী শক্তি অটুটভাবে চলে।”	“উন্ময়ন আর সুপ্রজনন এইতো বিয়ের মূল, যেমন তেমন করে বিয়ে করিস্ নে কো ভুল।”
“উপদেশে তুই দিসনা যতই উদাহরণ হ’ আগে, সম্ভারণায় দীপ্ত করিস্ তৃপ্ত দীপন রাগে।”	“বুদ্ধ-ঈশায় বিভেদ করিস্ শ্রীচৈন্যে রসুল কৃষ্ণে জীবোদ্ধারে হ’ন আবির্ভাব একই ওরা তাও জানিস্ নে?”	“শিষ্য গুরুর ভেদ গণে না এক নজরে ভজে, ধর্ম তাহার দ্বিধা হয়ে দুর্বিপাকে মজে।”
“যে আচরণ বাক্য কর্ম বাঁচা বাড়ার উৎস হয় তাকেই জানিস্ ধর্ম বলে’ নইলে ধর্ম কিছুই নয়।”	“সৎ অসৎ তুই যাই না হোস খাকলে মূলে হস্তটান, সব কেটে তুই উঠবি ফুরে গড়বি মুকুট সুমহান।”	“পুরুষোত্তম আসেন যখন ইষ্ট আচার্য্য তিনিই গুরু, তিনি সবার জীবন দাঁড়া তিনি সবার জীবন মেঝে।”

সৎ যদি হয় সঙ্গ তোমার
ভাব যদি হয় মহান উচ্চ,
বিশ্বের দ্বারে সাধনা তোমার
হবে না ব্যর্থ, হবে না তুচ্ছ।

সুবিবাহ সুপ্রজনন
এইতো বিয়ের মূল
যেমন তেমন করে বিয়ে
করিস্নেকো ভুল।

ভাসতে ভালো এসেরে তুই
বাসলি ভালো কাকে,
বিনিময়ে তাই পাবি তুই
মজলি নিয়ে যাকে।

যুগগুরু আর পূর্বতনে
শ্রদ্ধানতি যার মলিন,
এমন জনায় প্রতিনিধি
নয়কো করা সমীচীন।

আদর্শতে নয়কো রত
সার্থকযুক্ত নয় জীবন,
শুভাশুভ বুদ্ধিহারা
ব্যর্থ তাহার নিব্বাচন।

পূর্বস্বামির নিন্দা করে
বর্তমানে নাইকো নতি,
দ্বন্দ্বভরা ধর্মকথায়
রাষ্ট্র ভাঙ্গে মন্দমতি।

- (শ্রীশ্রীঠাকুর অনকুলচন্দ্র)

What makes us live and grow with healthy maintenance- is Dharma in short.

-Sri Sri Thakur

বন্ধুত্ব

পারস্পরিক সানুকম্পী
পরিচর্যার অবদান—
বান্ধব-বন্ধনের প্রথম চিহ্ন। ৪৮।

আদায় ক'রে নেওয়ায়
বন্ধুত্ব নাই,
বরং সন্তুণ্ড পরিচর্যী অবদানে
বন্ধুত্ব আসে। ৪৯।

—শ্রীশ্রীঠাকুর অনুকূলচন্দ্র
(সদ-বিধায়না, ২য় খণ্ড)

ভুলভ্রান্তি মানুষের হয়
শুধরে যদি চলিস সোজা
দীপ্ত হবি তৃপ্তি পাবি
হালকা হবে বুকের বোঝা।

- শ্রীশ্রীঠাকুর অনুকূলচন্দ্র



Dharma is to achieve bliss in conduct and character.

-Sri Sri Thakur

MESSAGES (English)

(Compilation from Magna Dicta and other sources)

Immunity from
contagious ideas
against the conviction
for the fulfillment of principle,
is strength of character.

-Sri Sri Thakur (1 - Magna Dicta)

When the Ideal is awake
in man,
he is active, agile,
inquisitive, responsible,
alert and tactful :
in a word
all faculties
bloom and glow.

-Sri Sri Thakur (33 - Magna Dicta)

To comply with the wishes
of Beloved the Superior
with every uphill contentment
in the shortest reaction-time,
is the crucial measure
to test
that the complexes
are adjusted
with a meaningful
achievement.

-Sri Sri Thakur (45 - Magna Dicta)

Constancy
to fulfill the Ideal
invites the constitution
that fulfils.

-Sri Sri Thakur (62 - Magna Dicta)

Dharma induces one to evolve out of ardour to a particular oneness.

-Sri Sri Thakur

Progressive profitable adjustment
of household affairs
that makes
each and all inter-interested
with their environment
in an equitable distribution
of norm and nurture
is economy
as I think.

-Sri Sri Thakur (92 - Magna Dicta)

Any education,
quality, learning or fame
that does not fulfill Beloved
the Lord
with every meaningful progressive
adjustment
is a fascinating harlot
that deviates the people
to dogs
with an enchanting hoax.

-Sri Sri Thakur (101 - Magna Dicta)

Interested, Interdependent
acceleration to becoming
of every individual
by which being is nurtured
according to its position
and special aptitude,
with due resistance to evil,—
that's the Politics
and Law
to follow.

-Sri Sri Thakur (104 - Magna Dicta)

Extreme the attachment,
tremendous the move.

-Sri Sri Thakur (114 - Magna Dicta)

The psycho-physical moulding
of objects and affairs
to fulfill the interest
of the Principal,
unfurling the faculties
of perception, conception,
discretion and remembrance
with a shortening of the reaction time
is the fundament
of concentration
and meditation.

-Sri Sri Thakur (116 - Magna Dicta)

Unity of purpose
invites amity
and unison of principle
creates friendship
and brotherhood.

-Sri Sri Thakur (155 - Magna Dicta)

To rule oneself
is to adjust oneself
with one's environment
towards life and growth,-
and that is the autocracy
which nature dictates.

-Sri Sri Thakur (214 - Magna Dicta)

Do not excite
the need of luxury
in a man ;
excite his love
for the principle.

-Sri Sri Thakur (215 - Magna Dicta)

Religion makes people inter-interested.

-Sri Sri Thakur

THE WAY TO LIFE AND LIGHT

He who infuses
the thrill of animation,
extension and augmentation—
the hankerings of life—
with an easy flow
that attracts the heart
of deteriorating being,
and can see
the ways of fulfillment thereof
is the Ideal—
The Way of sufferers
to life and light !

-Sri Sri Thakur (The Message, Volume-I)

CONVERGE TOWARDS ONE !

Only then
life becomes exuberant
when dissipated attachment
converges towards One, the Ideal—
and bears Him
binding the self
with an untottering love
and attachment
to fulfill the wishes
and to carry His commands,
bearing the sufferings that occur
with a zeal of pleasure,—
and this is Religion
which moves us
to do so !

-Sri Sri Thakur (The Message, Volume-I)

Repel the devil by resistance and win by love.

-Sri Sri Thakur

DHARMA—NOT A LAZY DEVOTION

Dharma is not a lazy devotion,
it is active devoutness
that upholds our being
with a run towards becoming—
moulding the environment accordingly
with a meaningful adjustment
of one's intelligence
and knowledge,
that effulges through
one's personal characteristics actively.

-Sri Sri Thakur (The Message, Volume-II)

IMBIBE AND BE EQUIPPED

Be thou valorous inclined
with vigorous admiration
and repeat name
which thou hast got
from the anointed realized Person
and be thou swabbed
with love for the Love
and be glared with luminating heart
and discern everything
analytically and synthetically,
thus make thy character and conduct
aptly resonant
with every effulgent exposition,
which serves all the hearts
with every effulging
knowledge and love ;
thus imbibe and be equipped
and pick up thy life to offer thyself
in the service of
Love—the Great ;
be blessed.

-Sri Sri Thakur (The Message, Volume-II)

God resides in existential welling up.

-Sri Sri Thakur

CONCENTRIC LOVE SPROUTS INTO UNIVERSAL LOVE

When love of variety
concentrates into one ideal
with every active adjustment
and service,
it sprouts into universal love
in harmony
with every specific universe
of every individual being.

-Sri Sri Thakur (The Message, Volume-III)

EXPANSIVE PERSONALITY

To make oneself successful
in bloomy enthusiasm
through active go
with ever complacent eagerness
and service for
existential wealth
to serve others too—
is the expansiveness
of personality.

-Sri Sri Thakur (The Message, Volume-III)

WAY TO FREEDOM

Do thou surrender
to thy Love-Lord
in all respects,
that is the only way
to dwell in freedom ;
otherwise, thou shalt be
a mere plaything
of every wave
of thy passionate go
with an egoistic boastfulness
of false filthy independence.

-Sri Sri Thakur (The Message, Volume-IV)

Light and life come out from existential thrill.

-Sri Sri Thakur

ABIDE BY NATURE

Do abide by nature
with every nurture
that exalts your life and growth—
she too will nurture you
with affection and caress ;
know thou Providence
as master of nature
and seek Him
in her bosom.

-Sri Sri Thakur (The Message, Volume-V)

WEALTH OF EXISTENCE

Thy devout, serviceable
active habit, conduct
and character with characteristics
carrying thy modest clanship
which appeal to everyone
with revering urge
is the wealth of thy existence ;
and culture
that makes thee
more and more expanded
is the given wealth
of blossomed bliss.

-Sri Sri Thakur (The Message, Volume-VI)

THE PRESENT WITHOUT THE PAST

Modern that does not stay
meaningfully
on the altar of the past
is nothing but a lustrous
baffled spark.

-Sri Sri Thakur (The Message, Volume-VII)

DEGREE-NOT THE CRITERION OF EDUCATION

Degree is not the criterion
of education,
it depends on
objective experience
with subjective collaboration
that makes
the experience rich
with every thorough outgo
of farsighted intelligence,
which creates normal conviction
in the subject-matter
and evolves into character
with active skill.

-Sri Sri Thakur (The Message, Volume-VIII)

SPIRITUALISM

To maintain
and nurture that
which makes the existence breathe
is spiritualism.

-Sri Sri Thakur (The Message, Volume-IX)



He who is loyal to his own prophet, is loyal to all prophets.

-Sri Sri Thakur

Introduction

*(An Overview of Sri Sri Thakur's life)
Satsang USA with Contributions from Several Sources*

To describe the attributes of a prophetic personality like Sri Sri Thakur is an utterly difficult task, and to describe him briefly is to try to achieve the impossible. The multi-faceted magic of his lofty personality can be experienced but it can hardly be described in words.

Human language has an infinite capability to describe, to explain, to analyze and to define. But when it is a question of describing divinity, it seems to break down. This is why the great spiritualists in India used the Sanskrit expression *neti neti*. This Sanskrit expression means HE IS NOT THIS, HE IS NOT THIS.



Sri Sri Thakur was not a scholar. He often described himself as the most ignorant son of Father the Supreme. But he will be the source of inspiration for original and profound scholarship for ever. He had no sense of vain pride about himself as nearly everyone in this world has, but because of his lofty ideals and his sublime personality he will continue to be a source of pride and glory for the whole of humanity for all time to come.

He had in him the compassion of Jesus Christ, the philosophical profundity of the Buddha, the perceptivity of a super scientist, the spiritual awareness of Lord Krishna, the practicality of Prophet Mohammed, the wisdom of Confucius and the vision of Zarathustra, the originator of the Parsi religion.

Born on 14th September 1888 in Himayatpur, now in Bangladesh, he was remarkable from his very childhood. Initiated by his mother in his young age, he remained constantly absorbed in meditative contemplation and would often have visions of the universe melting in light. As he grew older he would enter into a state of 'Samadhi' while doing 'kirtan' whereby his heart stopped beating and all outward signs of life would disappear. However, in this state, profound utterances emanated from him not only in Bengali but in other languages, some unknown to the listeners.

Sri Sri Thakur, according to his mother's desire, studied medicine and started practicing as a physician. Soon, however, he turned his attention to treating the inner malady of mankind and the Satsang movement was born. 'Sat' means truth and existence and 'sang' means association; hence the Satsang is an association or brotherhood to uphold truth and existence. Sri Sri Thakur called this movement a 'Man Making' movement aimed at reforming the inner universe of man so that each individual becomes a 'relief centre' for society.

Prophet of the time is the enlivening emblem of the past.

-Sri Sri Thakur

His slogan was 'universal brotherhood' through being attached to the 'Universal Father', 'convergence' rather than 'conversion' between religions and 'materializing spiritualism and spiritualizing materialism'. Many great contemporary leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, Subhas Chandra Bose, Radhakrishnan, Chittaranjan Das and Lal Bahadur Shastri visited Sri Sri Thakur at his ashram (now in Deoghar, India) and came away impressed and inspired.

Besides, millions upon millions of people from all over the world approached him with their problems and queries for everything from science to spirituality, atom to infinity, and found in him a meaningful answer to their quest. Describing the multi-faceted, multidimensional, oceanic personality of Sri Sri Thakur is a challenge to language and words. He was at once a practical metaphysician, a benign dictator, a material spiritualist, a poetic scientist, a householder sanyasi and a pragmatic philosopher. Above all, he was a loving refuge for humanity. Saint or sinner, people were never turned away from him but always found in him a compassionate and kind friend whom they could trust with their lives. Millions felt his loving touch and accepted him as their spiritual guide or 'Guru' and as the 'Yug Purushottam' or prophet of the age.

He left his mortal frame on 27th January 1969, but is still forcefully alive in the hearts, minds and spirits of his followers and admirers. It was in recognition of his greatness that the Government of India issued a commemorative stamp on his 100th birth anniversary in 1987. The Satsang under the dynamic leadership of Acharyadev Pujyapada Sri Sri Dada (grandson of Sri Sri Thakur) carries on with the task of propagating his eternal message of life and growth, being and becoming, to the world. The greatest compliment we can pay to Sri Sri Thakur will be not to use empty words of praise for him but to try to find out who he was, what were the lofty and sublime ideals that he has left behind himself and how we can benefit from those lofty and sublime ideals. From our experience and on the basis of the personal experience of about a billion of his followers now, we can assure you that the more you know about him, the more and vining personality but someone the like of whom the history of humanity finds once after many centuries.

Bande Purushottamam, Bande Purushottamam, Bande Purushottamam



Past prophets are embodied in the Present.

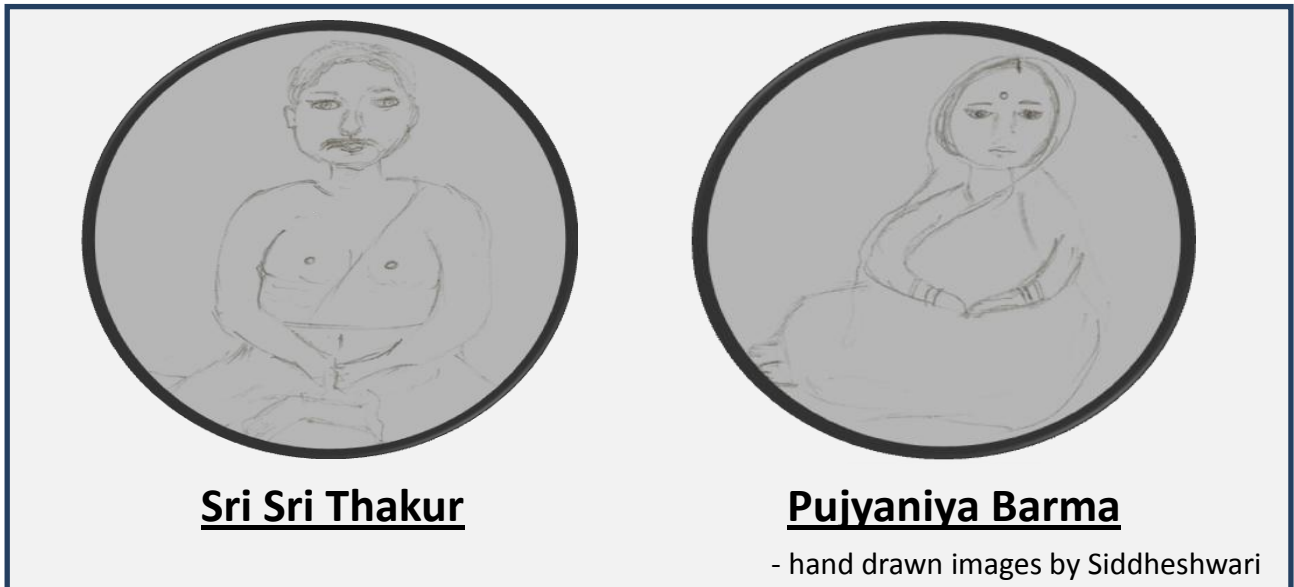
-Sri Sri Thakur

Sri Sri Thakur Anukulchandra

*Siddheshwari Thakur
Gr. 5, British School of Houston*

Sri Sri Thakur was born in Bangladesh, in Pabna 14th September 1888 at five past seven in the morning. He was remarkable from his childhood. There was something about him, a charm that told people that he was special; though his body looked same like ours.

He loved everyone and wanted us to do the same.



Purpose of coming down to the earth:

He came down to guide people how to lead a good life in every aspect. He taught us how to behave and act - be a good man or woman. He taught people how to be healthy and hygienic and how to look after themselves. He asked us to practice the three main things called Jajan, Jaajan and Istavrity which is essential for our existence and growth. Satsang formed around him - Sat meaning truth and Sang meaning with the truth.

The three pillars of life and growth:

- JAJAN: To regulate yourself by attaching to the Supreme Father.
JAAJAN: To help and serve environment around you for your own protection
ISTAVRITY: To offer something to our Ideal on daily basis before taking food or water

Faith is inert without active compassionate service.

-Sri Sri Thakur

The Importance of Repeating Holy Name and Doing Meditation

*Gisela Lichtgarn
Unionville, CT*

Shortly after we arrived in the ashram in the spring of 1970 we, my late husband David and I, would sit with Sri Sri Borda in the straw thatched room. We would sit in the first row right in front of him, while he faced Thakur bari. As soon as we sat down he would look at me and put his finger on the location of his third eye, indicating to me to repeat the Holy Name.

In those days my concentration was not only partially poor but incredibly poor. My mind would constantly wander, jumping from one subject to another. Of course Sri Sri Borda knew that. Still the next day he hadn't given up on me, but instead would repeat the same thing: putting his finger on his third eye. And the next day after some time he would move his head in a certain way, looking at me and moving his head upward, indicating to me the same thing. Again the same thing would go on day after day.

In the meantime I tried to do what he had indicated. Then this thought came to me, that "if I don't begin to pull in the reins, if I don't start to discipline my mind, if I don't control my mind, I may never have an opportunity to do so again! What if this is my last chance?! What if in my next life I will not have such an amazingly blessed chance and instead will be tossed around like a small boat on the stormy sea without any help or any focus! What if I even drown due to lack of inner mastery!" Such thoughts were cruising through my mind. Then and there I decided to make a concerted effort every day to repeat that Name and leave time to meditate.

Sri Sri Thakur has said in the Satyanusaran:

"Oh you, who would devotees be with hope for name and riches. Don't make me your Lord and Master. Beware! If mastery within awakens not—Master, Center, none you have. And deceiving you shall be deceived."

Yes, I knew I had NO mastery within. This quote applied to me.

We had arrived in May. In the fall, about October, six or seven other Americans arrived with Ray Hauserman. We knew all of them.

One day Sri Sri Borda told a friend of ours, Pranab Roy, to tell me to repeat "No pains, no gains" ten times. After Pranab had told me this I sat there repeating "No pains, no gains" ten times. I had no idea why I was told to do this. The next day the mystery became unraveled. My husband, though in a very exhausted condition, had gone to the market with several other Americans. Afterwards he came down with a high fever and it turned out he had contracted typhoid! For two weeks or so he hovered in this condition of 103 or 104 temperatures, at times delirious. Sri Sri Borda would send doctors, Dr. Birendra being one of them. None of them took any money, just as Thakur had never taken money from his patients. One day I wanted to at least serve some tea to Dr. Birendra. And I will never forget his answer: "When the patient gets better I will take

He whose mind is filled with attachment for One or the Truth, is honest or chaste.

-Sri Sri Thakur

some tea.” Such was the high caliber of these devoted doctors! Borda also sent people, who would later become life-long friends, such as Arun Ganguly, who would distract David with wonderful, inspiring and humorous stories about Sri Sri Thakur. Arun Ganguly is now 82 years old. We are still in touch with him and his sense of humor is still the same!

The recovery was slow. It taught me a lot. It made me realize that we never know what lies ahead. Healthy one moment and deadly ill the next. This is what it showed me!

While initially totally panic stricken, I realized that the only way we can survive the inevitable ups and downs of life is through the repetition of the Holy Name and meditation.

I realized there would always be ups and downs, though initially I was convinced that nothing bad would ever happen to me now that I had Thakur. Later I understood that we cannot eliminate troubles entirely, though we can try and certainly as devotees of Thakur we have many guide lines and instructions on how to avoid the “pot holes” on the roads of life. Yet entirely eliminating them? No, this we are not able to do.

But we can do two things (aside from jaajan and Istabhrity) and they are repeating of the Holy Name at ALL TIMES, and making sure we meditate morning and evening regularly without fail.

This practice will act as a shock absorber! Yes, there will always be rocky and bumpy roads in life, but the Name will absorb those shocks to a large extent! This is a wonderful thing to experience and both my husband and I discovered the same thing. When there were conflicts or disagreements, the Holy Name helped us to either not say the wrong thing that would have made matters worse, or we would remain silent, so as not to pour oil into the flames! It felt like an invisible shield was protecting each of us and making sure that nothing harmful was spoken or done by either one of us!

In a wonderful book Discourses on the Ideal, Vol. I, Sri Sri Borda says,

“One should never give up practicing the Name. One must repeat Name. Practice it every day. Even for two, four or five minutes, it is to be done. It is to be done at a fixed time. Today at twelve, tomorrow at one, another day at three—it won’t work to do it this way. It has to be done, even if for only a short while, at the same time and in the same way. If we don’t eat at the time when we usually eat, our bodily organs become upset; in the realm of the mind it happens in the same way.”

“In an affectionate tone he continued, ‘I request everyone, let no one ever omit the practice of the Name. Do everything else keeping this primary. Don’t let it become secondary in any way. I request this of everyone. We want happiness, we want bliss. Thakur said, “Do, do sincerely.’ Dharma, wealth, pleasure, liberation, whatever you want, you will get—but do. Without doing, there is no getting. If you can do it properly for seven days, even if you do it for one day, then you will be able to understand.”

What are some of the things that MIGHT happen once we get in the habit of trying to make Name continuously and meditating? While every person is different and unique,

Faith is the pivot of truth and goad to becoming that fulfills.

-Sri Sri Thakur

we may, for example, discover that our reaction time to carrying out plans, projects and ideas GETS SPEEDED UP!

Thakur makes a big point of eliminating GO-BETWEEN, meaning once we make up our mind to carry out an idea, we do not let anything GO BETWEEN that idea. In other words, we do our utmost to materialize what we said we would do. So if we decide to visit our friend on Thursday afternoon at 3:00 we try to be there on Thursday afternoon, at 3:00, not 3:30 or 4:00 etc. The point is to keep our word, or, if for some reason we cannot keep our word, at least keep our promise vague enough so the other person will not take offense if we we don't show up on time, but warn them to prepare them of any delay. This will show others that we are RELIABLE, that we can be counted on, that people can TRUST us and that we care about others, not just about ourselves. It also demonstrates to ourselves that we are indeed able to DO exactly as we say, giving us confidence in ourselves!

From my own experience, it has been very gratifying to see that Thakur does indeed allow us to speed up the MATERIALIZING of our dreams, plans etc. He, the Lord, empowers us in that way. We feel no longer helpless and hopeless, but invigorated, energized, strengthened, stimulated and refreshed. It also makes us feel fulfilled to EXPERIENCE, "Yes, I can carry out each good resolves without the least delay", as we say to ourselves each morning in the Swastayani vow! Perhaps this is indeed one of the most valuable results of taking this beautiful vow.

Another example is being able to carry out parts in the Satyanusaran (The Pursuit of Truth) that one was NEVER able to carry out before! A few days ago I was sharing an upsetting experience with a friend of mine who for many years has only heard about Thakur from me. She told me she often got upset about similar situations in which others made her feel uncomfortable and treated her unkindly. Then I mentioned as a solution a quote from Thakur which in the past would have totally intimidated me:

"Do dwell in Truth. Try to forbear injustice and resist not what you have to forbear. You shall soon achieve good in the highest." (Satyanusaran 12th ed. Page 40)

Her response was, "But that's too hard!" When she said this I did not press the point further, as I didn't want her to feel discouraged. She had already heard a lot about Thakur and had listened patiently. From this experience I saw that it was extremely difficult for people to assimilate some parts of Thakur's teachings when they didn't have the help of the Holy Name!

Of course there will always be some advanced souls who CAN assimilate some challenging teachings since all religions make the same or similar points. But then one day they too will find themselves blocked and unable to proceed, depending on the individuals, of course. What may be difficult for one, may be a breeze for another.

So no matter how advanced or unadvanced we may be, through the practice of the Holy Name and regular meditation we will advance further and will increasingly experience peace, fulfillment and happiness in our lives.

Heaven Sent Down

*The Late David Lichtgarn
Unionville, CT*

Heaven sent down
to ease every frown
He the emblem of Peace
All complexities here to cease

Though it take time
Still He will be mine
and each memory thrilled
shall be filled with His lovely Word

Archangels and Heavenly Guard
all sublime creation of love
He their Heavenly Host
for He has come from above.

Mixed in passions
born out of desire
all urges and actions bespoke our birth

Catching glare of Him
we see where we've
been self-deceived
and reach up to His humanly charm

To adhere the mind thoroughly to the Ideal is called Holiness.

-Sri Sri Thakur

Lord and Master
Savior and our God
Light Thee then our Way

Turn the Night away
from darkness
and open the Heaven sent day.

All here is being transformed
by your Blissful wish alone
Kingdom of God descended
and light of love has been reborn.

My work but to bow and kneel and worship
My worship but to do all for Thee
and keep simple, me and
balanced in equanimity.

~December 2004



Doing that which preserves our existence is Virtue.

-Sri Sri Thakur

Glimpses

*Kerry Brace
Pittsburgh, PA, USA*

Sri Nani Chakravorty, who was serving as Secretary of Satsang at the time when I first started visiting the Ashram, had been a personal attendant for Sri Sri Thakur. His inspiration was apparent in the way he would speak about Sri Sri Thakur. I was fortunate enough that he told me some of his experiences, which I wrote down at the time. Here are a few of them:

Once Sri Sri Thakur had gone out in the country to spend time in nature. He became absorbed looking at a plant with a thin but very straight stem swaying in the breeze. Someone said something to him about it. Sri Sri Thakur answered, "Do you know what I am seeing?" He was seeing the whole evolution of the being that was now this plant.

Nanida reported that Sri Sri Thakur once said that if you see someone out in the middle of a field with a ladder trying to climb up on the ladder to reach the moon, you should not stop him from trying, call him a fool, warn him that he will hurt himself. To do so would damage his urge to accomplish, arouse fear in him which would stymie another attempt. Let him discover for himself that the moon cannot be reached that way.

Sri Sri Thakur used the word "No" very little, Nanida said. He told us not to try to teach by telling what not to do. Instead of telling a thief not to steal, give him something to do that is contrary to stealing.

Nanida reported that Sri Sri Thakur had said that the first step on the Dharma path is when a person stops blaming his environment for his own and others' misery, and realizes the responsibility is his own, and the solution lies with what he himself does.



Doing that which makes one fall from existence is Sin.

-Sri Sri Thakur

Overcoming Worry

*Richi Prosad Mistry
Brownsburg, Indiana, USA*

In recent months Tim Tebow became a sensation for the football fans. His public display of expressions of his faith in God made him news. Some hate him and others love him. Mr. Tebow in a recent interview mentioned that he does not worry about the things he cannot control. Like Mr. Tebow most notable personalities have the same attitude.

It is difficult not to worry about the things that we care about most or the things that we eagerly want. While we are busy doing our day's work, most of us have little trouble losing ourselves in the actions of our daily lives. But after hours are the dangerous ones. Just when the time should be the happiest of the day and we are free to enjoy our own leisure- that's when the blue devils of worry attack us. Whether it is the thought of the remark that your boss made today; whether you are getting the job that your boss posted for you or somebody better than you that your boss did not predict will take it; whether the health problem that you are having recently will turn out to be bad news.

Worry, feeling uneasy or troubled becomes part of our lives. It seems to plague multitudes of people in our society. It's natural to be concerned about the bad situations in our personal lives, surroundings as well as in our world. However, the devil seems to plague us beyond what's reasonable. We worry about things not only at our leisure, we seem to be preoccupied by worry even when we are working. That has tremendous effect on our effectiveness in our daily duties, our dealings with co-workers, customers, friends and family members. When we worry, we torment ourselves. This steals our peace, affects personality, and affects short and long term health. Worry can physically wear us out—make us sick. This could make us insane - nothing good comes out of worrying about things we cannot control. So why do we struggle with it? And what good does it do?

Worrying is feeling uneasy or being overly concerned about a situation or problem. Worrying involves negative thoughts. Worry is our greatest energy drain. It distorts our thinking and stops all forward thinking actions. Worry goes around in circles—it agitates our mind—prevents us from taking actions.

Worry seems to come from lack of faith—whether it is faith in our own abilities, faith in our systems, faith in other people or faith in God. This could be a perfect example of 'we are not what we think we are; but we are what we think'. Our thinking directs our emotional reaction, which in turn directs our behavior. The way we react to an event is not just a representation of the event itself, rather a representation of what the event means to us. Lack of faith—whether it is in ourselves or in God—prevents us from understanding or accepting reality, and dealing with the facts through conscious choice of actions or surrendering to God for what we cannot change. Faith dictates the way we think, formulate a plan, and take action or surrender to God. Bad things that happen to us are not always related (or at least we cannot relate) to the choices that we make. But we have the choice about how we think about it and deal with it. We create our

That which expands and has expansion is Real.

-Sri Sri Thakur

experience day by day through the choices we make. Choosing thoughts contributes to our experience because when we choose our thoughts, we choose the consequences associated with those thoughts.

Speaking positive things interrupts negative thought patterns. If we speak it out in faith that goes one step further to halt the negative thought patterns. When faith is stronger than doubt, negativism and unbelief—whether that faith is in us or in our systems or in other people or in God—worrying could permanently be replaced by concern, and concern means we can choose the actions or surrender to God. Faith is such an attribute that can instill a positive attitude. If that faith is in God that could make us humble and surrender to a situation we cannot control.

‘Cast your cares on the One who cares for you’ (Psalm 55:22) is the ultimate mantra to stop worrying. Negative thought creeps into the faithful mind too. Strong faith in ourselves, in our surroundings and in other people may alleviate some worries. But it is not enough to prevent negative thought coming in and overpowering us for the situation we have little control over.

Having strong faith in God followed by actions of uplifting service for Him, seems the only solution.

“Have faith in ‘Sat’ (Satguru). You shall be saved. Be immersed in enlivening thoughts; enlivening deeds will be your helpers, and your surroundings, being enlivened, shall surely always save you.”

—Sri Sri Thakur (The Pursuit of Truth: Satyanusaran)



That to conceive which the mind retains its being is Finite.

-Sri Sri Thakur

Faith in the Ideal

*Paresh Samanta
Fremont, CA, USA*

It's important to have faith in an ideal in your life. When we are young parents or teachers or elder brothers or sister seem like ideals to us from whom you get inspired in life. You look up to them and draw inspiration to move forward. And faith is a very critical factor.

Without having faith in your ideal how can you say that you are really attached to the ideal? If faith is weak, then the belief will gradually disappear. But if faith is immense and strong, and then no matter whatever obstacles come and things might look impossible at some point, but faith alone will make you overcome all the odds in life.

As we get older we realize that parents and teachers, brothers and sisters, no matter how loving and wise they may be, have their limits.

When we come to Sri Sri Thakur we see that there are no limits in love and wisdom and He becomes our true Ideal!

In the philosophy of Sri Sri Thakur:

**“The Ideal is the object of worship. He is the reservoir of knowledge and wisdom.
Man's efficiency increases to the extent of intensity of his love for the Ideal.”**

Let me bring out one of His thoughts on achieving greater potentiality.

Sri Sri Thakur does not believe in fatalism. He has rejected the idea that all human activities are pre-determined by God. The peace and prosperity in life are neither determined by a Transcendent God nor does that depend on mere chance of luck. A man fails in life in achieving something not because God does not grant it but because the man lacks in efficiency and adjusted behavior to the environment.

A man can easily regulate his fate if he likes, by enriching his inner attributes and life potency.

According to Sri Sri Thakur:

“If there is no faith, how can there be vision? Work follows faith.

As the faith, so the work. Deep faith can do anything.

Believe! But beware that pride, impatience or irritations do not come in.

You shall achieve what you want.”

“Faith is above reason. If you have faith, all reasoning shall support you.”

“As is the Ideal in whom you place faith, so will your nature be formed and your wisdom too will be like that.”

“As deep and lofty your faith is, so high the mind, so profound the life.”

(From Satyanusaran: The Pursuit of Truth)

That to conceive which the mind loses itself is Infinite.

-Sri Sri Thakur

I would like to share one of my experiences where I felt that deep faith can help to overcome adverse situations in life.

I had passed my first job interview in one of the top multinational companies in India and was super excited to start my career on a high note at the mere age of 22. Way back at home in a small town called Rourkela this good news spread to parents, every relative, friends, near & dear ones.

After the training period was over, then came a real surprise. I needed to pass a written test in order to finally get into the company. Candidates would be given three chances. If I passed then am IN, else am OUT.

I kept worrying over the fact that if I do not pass after 3 attempts, then how I would convey this news to my parents. They would be shocked. I tried my level best, worked hard day and night to pass the test. Two attempts were gone and I could not pass. I was now left with only one chance. I was down on confidence with fear and nervousness written all over my face. Negative thoughts crept into my mind like, 'What if am going to fail this time, how will my parents take this news?' etc.

I was alone, far away from home and with no one to support or encourage me.

The final test was on Friday (the day which I firmly believe as Sri Sri Thakur's day and would like to start all major things on Friday).

On Friday morning, a strange thing happened. I had slept late the previous night after reviewing all training materials.

But when I woke up on Friday morning, there was not even one percent of tiredness in my mind. An urge came within me that I am going to pass the test today. That source of inspiration came from out of the blue. All negative thoughts which were within me till the previous night had gone at once as I kept saying one thing to myself, that "Today is Friday and it is Sri Sri Thakur's day!

"Nothing can go wrong with me on this day. I am going to pass the test and make it today".

The test was online and the computer would generate the results as soon as you have answered the last question. After answering the last question and even before hitting the submit button on the computer screen, for the first time I felt that I was going to pass it. I repeated Sri Sri Thakur's Name and hit 'submit'. The computer took a few minutes and flashed on screen 'Congratulations, you have passed the test successfully!!'

I smiled and quietly left the room with immense pleasure and satisfaction inside.

Bande Purushottam!!

Do never die, nor cause death, but resist death to death.

-Sri Sri Thakur

My India Trip

*Tushar Swain
Mooreville, North Carolina, USA*

Recently I went to India in the month of May, 2012. May is considered the hottest month in my place, Cuttack, as well as all over India. Usually the temperature remains 105 F to 110 F but this year it recorded the highest of 125 F. After reaching there we got busy with scheduled plans but we were not feeling very good. We always felt like having to stay in an air conditioned room. Going from a place like Charlotte, NC of 85 F to 125 F and getting adjusted within a short span of time is tough.

Towards the 2nd half of my vacation I decided to go to Deoghar. But I came to know Shree Shree Dada would be leaving Deoghar after few days for Guwahati. I started my journey from Bhubaneswar and while on the flight I found out Shree Shree Dada had left for Shillong. After reaching Guwahati I did not have much trouble going to Shillong in a taxi. It is around 80 miles and takes 4 hours because of hilly roads across mountains and sometimes more traffic. The taxi started climbing roads and I felt more and more cool along with the scenic view from the mountains. Shillong is a small city above 6000 ft in the Himalaya region and the temperature was 65-70 F. After reaching there I felt good and so good that I could not thank Shree Shree Dada enough from the bottom of my heart. It was like getting a drop of water in the desert. Immediately it struck my mind, if we think of Him (Shree Shree Thakur), He takes care of everything though sometimes we may have to go through difficulties. But the end result is always for existence.

I had a very good darshan of Shree Shree Dada, Bora Boudi, Babaida and Sipaida. In the evening I had intense talks with Babaida and asked a few questions. Some of the questions and answers are narrated below.

It is so difficult to have any initiations in the West. So what should we do?

Babaida answered in a sweet way and said: "There was a person who talked about his guru to the people living in his area, but no one showed much interest. Without getting discouraged he continued to tell about his Guru/Ideal. It took 50 years to convince one person to take initiation."

Another story he told: "There was a person who was going to meet his family crossing a mountain and by road it took him 26 miles. He decided to dig a tunnel from one side to the other side of the mountain so that he could go straight and it would be the shortest distance. It took more than 35 years to complete the tunnel. By that time he was 60 years old. Though he was 60 but after that he could go to the other side and it took a lot less time for him to reach there."

So we all should keep on trying. We all have His blessings. And I am sure we all will succeed one day.

Adherence with active service for the Lord induces love.

-Sri Sri Thakur

One Night in Boston, Sep-2001 (Pages from a Devotee's Diary)

*Manoj Patra, SPR
Hyderabad, India*

The day was September 1, 2001. I had landed at the Boston Logan Airport at around 1:30 AM, three hours later than the scheduled time. I did not expect my friend Deepankar Kocheta to be there at the airport. So I called him on his cell. The cell was not answered but since I had the address, I took a cab and started for his home. His home was around 40 miles from the airport and it took around 50 minutes to reach the place. I asked the cab driver to drop me at the complex but he flatly refused. He told me, unless I pointed exactly to which house I was going to he would not drop me off. So I pointed to one house next to a water hydrant, the landmark given to me, and he dropped me there and sped off.

I went to the building but did not find Deepankar's name. Rather I found the name "Patankar". I then looked at other houses and did not see any Indian name. So I started looking for Deepankar's house from building to building. I found a few Indian names but not Deepankar's. I tried calling him on cell several times but it was not answered. I tried calling a common friend who confirmed that Deepankar was not picking up his cell. Slowly I started becoming desperate and sweating despite the cool morning breeze at 3:00 AM. It started drizzling but I was more wet due to sweat than the rain. But my worry was if somebody saw a man loitering in the area at the dead of night and called the police I might have to face some undue difficulty.

However the bigger worry was that I had to drive around 6-7 hours to attend the Satsang that same day at the residence of the Late David Lichtgarn Da at Unionville, CT. How I wished that I should have cancelled the ticket to Boston and booked another to a closer airport. But that was now a matter of the past.

I visited a few buildings for a second time but in vain. The intensity of my "Naam Jap" (chanting the Holy Name) increased and I prayed from the core of my heart that I should find the house in the next 10 minutes, grab sleep for some time and start as early as possible so as to make it to the Satsang in time. Those were the days without GPS and I was still relatively a new driver in the US and losing my way was the norm rather than the exception.

Just then I saw a big rodent. It was the size of an overgrown rabbit and had a pointed snout - not the kind of rat I had ever seen. The encounter was sudden and face to face. I saw its eyes which had a twinkle. The rodent took an about turn and started walking with a trot on the road. I waited for a split second and then suddenly an intuitive thought came that I should follow the rodent and I did just that. The rodent walked on the road, took a left turn and then a right and I tailed him at a distance. It stopped near a building on its right, turned right and raised its snout towards that direction.

At that time I had sort of decided to just follow the rodent as the guide to the address. As I decided to go in I saw the rodent run away quickly and get lost in the darkness. I went

in to that building and again saw the name “Patankar”. Come what may, I thought, I can request an Indian about being lost, evoke the Indian ideology of a guest being equated to a god (athithi devo bavaha) and request rest for a few hours. I rang the bell and after a while out came Deepankar rubbing his eyes. What a surprise! I hugged him and pleasantries exchanged, he was apologetic that his cell phone had been in silent mode and that he had returned from a tiring sailing exercise that day. He was more apologetic for not letting me know that his name was misspelled on the name plate.

I was relieved to find the house and just wanted to rest a while. A few hours later I started with a rented car to David Da’s house and the trip was not uneventful but I could share those experiences in some other article. I kept thinking on the way, I had lost my way a few times and had got it back with the help of some person or other in uncanny ways. But the bright twinkling eyes of that rodent, and I can bet, with a perceptible smile on its face, would remain etched in my memory for a lifetime. The faith in Sri Sri Thakur that He always guides a person lost and praying earnestly for guidance became even more concrete.

Needless to say, the Satsang at David da’s house was a lovely one, attended by his family and Sujit da from New York and I shared this episode at the Lichtgarn’s residence that day - moments that I treasure with glee.



Photo: The Holy 124th Birth Anniversary celebration at Houston, TX

Love is good, hence love is God.

-Sri Sri Thakur

Twamewa Mata Cha Pita Twamewa: You are my Mother, You are my Father

*Preeti Marasini
San Antonio, Texas, USA*

Twameva Mata, Cha pita Twameva.
Twameva Bandhu, Cha Sakha Twameva.
Twameva Vidya, Dravinum Twameva.
Twameva Sarvam Mama Deva Deva.

Oh Lord,

You are my mother and father.
You are my kin and friend to me.
You are my knowledge and my only wealth.
You are my all, Lord of Lords.

This Sanskrit verse is dedicated to my Love Lord Sree Sree Thakur.

Param Premamaye Sree Sree Thakur has been the guiding light for me and many many others like me.

He has taught us how to walk on the path called 'life', and whenever we stumble He holds us and guides us just like a mother would to her child. And then when we feel disheartened He has encouraged us just like a father. Yet there have been times that He has listened to our joys and sorrows just like a relative or a friend would.

Sree Sree Thakur's immense pool of knowledge is constantly leading us on the right path. There are many messages, books and experiences that end much of our search. Sree Sree Thakur is the only wealth that is with us forever, in this journey and the journey beyond...

One day a mother came and spoke about her husband's misbehavior to Sree Sree Thakur. At this Sree Sree Thakur smiled and said to the mother, "Even if your husband gets angry, he is a good man. He loves you and when you go somewhere for three days he does not like it. When he is angry don't say a word. Try to understand his qualities, problems and temperament. With sympathy try to forbear and you will see that your love will slowly slowly improve him. Keeping your children's future in mind, you have to be very alert. If the children see you both fighting it will not be in their favor. But if they see that you are happy even after listening to your husband's harsh words, then your devotion to your husband will stimulate devotion for their father. Devotion is the only way that is free of fault finding and if someone does have faults then with devotion and love you can get rid of it quickly. (Ref: Alochana Prasange, Part II). This mentioned example is just one of many many ways Sree Sree Thakur has guided us like a mother would. He teaches in simple practical ways how immense patience and devotion can change people.

Love creates inter-interested love and fellow-feeling.

-Sri Sri Thakur

And then again like a father, Sree Sree Thakur encourages many of us. Once Sree Sree Thakur asked a man if he did not enjoy doing songs and playing music anymore? At this the man said that sometimes due to problems he feels down. Listening to this Sree Sree Thakur said, that “However many problems may come, we don’t have to worry about it! Drive it away bravely from your heart and proceed with happiness.”

Sree Sree Thakur told him, “You are a ritwik. How will you wake up others if you yourself are asleep? Remember, always rely on jajan and do jajaan properly. Then your heart will always be happy.” At this the man expressed his worries about the future. Sree Sree Thakur said, “Why are you so worried? Do your job and on the holidays do Parampita’s work. The person who serves Narayan, will Lakshmi be ever unhappy with him? Eat, drink and enjoy. Go door to door and do jaajan. Parampita is holding you, surrounding you and with many many hands is grabbing you tightly. So instead of getting worried do the needful, remembering what needs to be done... Parampita is always busy to bless you...You have to give Parampita the opportunity to bless you by doing your ‘karm’ (task).” (Ref: Alochana Prasang, Part II)

Once Sree Sree Thakur gave reference to a Bengali song, ‘Jakan Jekani Jai, Sange Thake Gorai’, meaning, ‘Wherever I go, Rai (Radha) is always with me.’ He said that this is a strange thing that wherever there is positive, negative will be right behind it. Positive is the center of negative. This running around creates many stars, nakshatras, planets, plants-trees, animals-birds, people, you and me. No doubt all of them (i.e. the stars etc.) have many tasks to do on many levels. When we accept a ‘Sadguru’, we follow and practice the spiritual principles, see everything and hear everything. The main thing is that it is difficult to go ahead without the Ideal. One should follow with all one’s passions and complexes. Then one can become a powerful person if actively interested in the ideal. But if even one of the passions is NOT interested in the Sadguru then there is every possibility of falling far away.

“There is nothing called individuality. Individuality means to be completely integrated with the Ideal and be attracted to only the Ideal. Only accepting Him as the Ideal is not enough. We have to use all our complexes and passion for Him, correct all our mistakes. This is called unrepelling adherence. ‘Blessed is he who is not repelled by anything in me.’”

Referring to a shloka (couplet), Sree Sree Thakur said that Lord Krishna has mentioned in the Gita:

“api chetsuduraachaaro bhajate maamananyabhaakh I

saadhureva sa mantavyah samyagvyavasito hi sah II”

Sree Sree Thakur explained the meaning and said 'When one does not give his all to the Lord, he is not a saint. But who does give his all to the Lord, he may be the biggest enemy but he is considered righteous.'

Sree Sree Thakur is omnipresent. He showered His love and blessings on everyone when He was alive. He lead a very public life with no stones unturned about how to

follow the path to the Lord. His presence can still be felt and will always be felt. His many many messages have been spreading light and knowledge to this mankind.

I feel He is present through his books and he is alive next to me guiding me through all the sayings as well as the guidance we get through the Acharya Sri Sri Dada and Babaida.

This is a humble attempt to translate a few of Sree Sree Thakurji's conversation from Hindi to English. I have tried to do it the best of my ability. Please forgive me for mistakes, if any.

***Knowledge that does not know to apply,
is a dazzling ignorance.***

-Sri Sri Thakur



Photo: From The Holy Snan-Utsav at Deoghar

Love is the sonorous plasm that rouseth knowledge.

-Sri Sri Thakur

Give Me Some Hint!!!

*Reet Dipti Dhakal
Salt Lake City, UT, USA*

Give me some hint,
that You still remember me.
For I have almost forgotten
how close I was with You.

The distance is ever growing
With the distance we have!!!
Oh Lord, give me any message,
that you still remember me.

I will come to see You,
please wait for me.
I know, it is the opposite way, but
from the bottom of my heart, please wait for me.

There always is something,
that takes me away from You.
there always is someone,
that is more important than You.

Please forgive me for everything,
And clear my way.
Oh Lord, give me some hint,
that You still remember me!!!

***To think all is determined is
the outrage to terminate God the Infinite.***

- Sri Sri Thakur

My Thakur—My Kalpa Taru (Wish-Fulfilling Tree)

*Sashwati Ghosh
London, United Kingdom*

A couple of years back I went for a walking trip to “Varsee”, a small Rhododendron reserve forest. Rather, I must call it “a reserve valley of Rhododendrons at the foothill of the Bengal side of the great Himalayan range. The path goes just from one side of many hills, touching across each hill at one side and one such hill side is called “Varsee”. At this hill top is a guest house, with no electricity, running water or proper food supply, but with a deep brown eyed godly Alsatian look alike forest dog and much superior caretaker of the guest house.

To give you an idea how remote it is, there is no paved road from and to anywhere. Neither are fueled vehicles even allowed within the range of a few kilometers. Previous foot prints make an impression of a path, like a curled snake. We started walking from the last allowed point to cars and soon realized it's too late to start the day! Like all hilly places here too the day starts with the first ray of the sun and by the time sun is visible at the eastern horizon, the clouds start coming down like a smooth layer of shivering feathers or a sky full of flying cotton and you can hardly see even ten steps ahead, what it is and where it is leading to.

But anyway, we decided to carry on. After 100m or so from the start, the curly path began and the flora fauna around us was so unique, explicit, exotic that no word is enough to describe them. Suddenly, I screamed, “Snake, snake!” “Oh, its not one but a bunch of many with heads open like a “Nageshwar”(Indian Cobra) standing on their tails!” My husband laughed at me and said, “Go close and see them properly! At this temperature we usually don't find any snakes”. Yape! Believe it or not it's a typical “varsee” plant which resembles a snake with raised head, just like “Nagdev”! I looked with surprise at my husband.

The whole trekking was full of such surprises and at the very last round we reached a flat land where there is a small lake with the edges blending into moss, very very thick, moss just like a Kashmir Carpet—thick brown, golden and green patches here and there, but covered with mystic dense fog all around. We still have had our fortune with mysteries. We saw couple of deers, cannot say the exact names, a few types of birds, rabbits and many more friends (NON Human off course)! O I must say, somehow we met our brown-eyed Dog here for the first time. It did not bark, neither did it even bother to look at us. But later we realized, we had just followed *IT* and we had reached the guest house! We could have easily missed our path. By the time we arrived, it was dark and tired legs wanted sleep. We had spent the night over there and the very next morning, after viewing the sunrise with astonishment at the Creator, we started to walk again. This time to another direction!

The way to get down from here is a small curvy path, which takes you to a one-track way towards “gurdwangmar’ the India-China border at a glacier. It's the last post for civilians to stop with permits only for Indians and special permits for non-Indians. It may

Love is the leaven of life and bliss.

-Sri Sri Thakur

be appropriate to mention here that this location is at such a high altitude that a less than 100% fit person without proper red cell count will get breathing problems, severe headache, sickness and it can even be fatal, with brain hemorrhage. I had been sick the whole night and my head was cracking like a nut every moment and I was so so unwell-low, that my husband decided that our last candle must be kept lit the whole night at the toilet. And I don't know, I fell asleep and when I woke up in the morning, went to the toilet again and found there is no flush! What happened to the flush? Simple! It had melted under the candle fire and..... the wooden floor, the wooden house, everything wooden, the synthetic fiber beddings and us, dead asleep on it! No, not a scratch even! Only the flush was gone and we had to pay the land lady (mind it's NOT a hotel, there is no Hotel here! but we were allowed to sleep over at a local's house!) Tell you, here fueled vehicles are allowed and our car had arrived here as per schedule and by the time we reached here, it was dinner time. After an eventful night and morning, with an early morning tea we wanted to proceed towards the glacier by road. But, our four wheel drive wouldn't start!

The driver, his helper and a few army jawans (this area is controlled by army exclusively) tried. Even the army automobile engineer came and tried his hand. And gave up! "Sorry, can't do anything!"

I told my husband, "Leave it! I don't want to go there, where my God does not want me to go!" He got double angry! He was upset, that he could not go and now, I have said I agree with HIS wish! We started to come down towards the plain and eventually continued our next trip as per schedule. But much much later in life I realized if I had gone further up at the glaciers I would have had almost every chance of collapse with fatal consequences based on my then unknown physical condition.

Why did I share this experience with you? I find these stories of events are very close to my heart. If I close my eyes I can still re-live those moments. Now I think, "Oh! What a miss! Why didn't I enjoy it a little more!" Now I do relish those fantasy moments which came as a surprise and now seem "so sweet"! It's now unfolded! Time has passed! As if life has gone by in search of destiny!

But imagine then? The venture is like the path of life, *unknown*. The path goes from one hill to another and the way to return is not the same, *just like life*. We walk only once on it. There is no re-do or delete button. Our previous walker's foot prints are our only *guidance*, a reminder that this path leads to somewhere! That's our hint, that's who our *IDEAL* is. Now we need to choose and follow HIS given path, certainly with the guidance of our living Ideal, we will reach our destiny without much difficulty, if we keep on our activities rolling towards that goal. When the suffering of life surrounds you from all sides, you see no way out, give up! Surrender yourself, with all your traits! As if you are *NOT* you- YOU are all HIS! (*AMI-HAARA*)!!! Let *HIS* wish be your destiny and I bet He will never let you down. We may find that's a defeat, but that's a perception. God never leaves HIS Devotee's hand ever! From the era of Mahabharata, Lord *Krishna* has never let *HIS* disciples alone. *HE* is always with them, even if at Hell or Heaven, even if Not as Human but as Dog. But *HE* is with US!

Come and surrender yourself to *HIS* lotus feet and see what miracle awaits and what *HE* will do with your life! I am not saying it from books but rather from experience of life. When I look back what I deserve and what I have got in life the answer comes very clear. My previous foot print, my dear father (Bula-da) has proved that, this path leads to the best of directions and destiny. I must not look further and just dive in to the ocean of “all achievements”. Bapi used to say: “Thakur is Kalpa taru” (Thakur is like a “wish-fulfilling tree”). If we embrace HIM in life, we achieve all!

I would like to conclude with a small liner dad used to say, almost every now and then- there are four types of people who seek *GOD!* or at least Search for *HIM*.

- a) Aartha - the needy, who need something,
- b) Aarthathi - money minded - who come to gain materially,
- c) Jigyashu - Seekers, who want to know more,
- d) Gaayani - Wise,

But eventually everyone becomes *WISE!*



Photo: New Year Utsav at Guwahati (showering flowers at the temple)

New Year Utsav - 2012 (Guwahati, India)



Sri Sri Thakur's Vighrah



Sri Sri Borma



Sri Sri Borda



Sri Sri Dada at Guwahati

Love imparts will, will imparts activity.
-Sri Sri Thakur



Pujyapad Sri Sri Dada offering Pranami to Sri Sri Thakur



Sri Sri Babai Da addressing Ritwik Conference

Concentric love sprouts into universal love.

-Sri Sri Thakur

পুরুষোত্তমের কথা ও বানী

Matilal Das
Newyork, NY, USA

প্রেম ভিখারী, ব্যাথাহারী কুলমালিক পরম দয়াল শ্রী শ্রী ঠাকুর অনুকূল চন্দ্র বললেন, “কাজ যে করে তার সঙ্গে সঙ্গে আমার আশীর্বাদ য়োরে। আমি তো কেবল বাহন খুঁজি, ভাবিকে আমার একটু কাঁধে বয়ে নিয়ে বেড়াবে। কিন্তু যেখানে আশ্রয় করতে পারি, তেমনতর করি বড় পাইনা। মানুষ বৌ ছাওয়ালের বোঝা, খেয়ালের বোঝা অক্লেসে বইতে পারে। কিন্তু আমার বোঝায় অল্পেতে কাতর হয়ে পড়ে।”

হসনা যোগী হসনা ধ্যানী
গোসাই গোবিন্দ যাইনা হস
যজন যাজন ইষ্টভূতি
না করলে তুই কিছুই নস।”
শ্রী শ্রী ঠাকুর

আমাদের জীবনের সাফল্যের জন্য, জীব জগতের জীবন, বৃদ্ধির বিধায়নী হোতা। গন সত্তার পরম দাতা শ্রী শ্রী ঠাকুর তাহার স্বহস্তে লিখিব সত্যানুসারন গ্রন্থে যে দ্বাদস সংকেত দিয়েছেন তাহা উল্লেখ করা হলো -

- (১) জীবনকে যে যেভাবে বলি দেবে নিশ্চয় তেমনতর জীবন লাভ করবে। একটা চাইতে গিয়ে দশটা চেয়ে বসো না। একেরই যাতে চরম হয়, তাই কর। সবগুলিই রক্ষা পাবে।
- (২) উদ্দেশ্যে অনুপ্রানিত আয় প্রশান্ত চিন্তে সমস্ত সহ্য কর তবে তোমার উদ্দেশ্য সফল হবে।
- (৩) হৃদয় দাও কখনো হটে যেতে হবে না।
- (৪) নির্ভর কর কখনো ভয় পাবে না।
- (৫) বিশ্বাস কর অমৃতের অধিকারী হবে।
- (৬) সাহস দাও কিন্তু শঙ্কা জানিয়ে না দিতে চেষ্টা কর।
- (৭) ধৈর্য ধর বিপদ কেটে যাবে।
- (৮) কেহ তোমাকে দোষী করবার পূর্বেই কাতর ভাবে নিজ দোষ স্বীকার কর - মুক্ত কলঙ্ক হবে জগতের স্নেহের পাত্র হবে।
- (৯) সংযত হও, কিন্তু নির্ভীক হও।
- (১০) সরল হও বেকুব হয়ো না।
- (১১) বিনীত হও, তাই বলে দুর্বল হৃদয় হয়ো না।
- (১২) সাধু সেজো না, সাধু হতে চেষ্টা কর।

ইষ্টগুরুর স্বার্থ রক্ষা
প্রান গেলে ও তুই ছাড়িসনা,
সব পাপেতে তরে যাবি
ঋষির বানী ভুলিস না।
শ্রী শ্রী ঠাকুর

He who is for his Love is for his self and environment too.

-Sri Sri Thakur

যিনি ধারণ পালন সম্মেগ সিদ্ধ আচরনের ভিতর দিয়ে উদ্ভাসিত, পরম ইষ্ট লোকনেতা শ্রী শ্রী ঠাকুর অনুকূলচন্দ্র জীবকে ডেকে অভয় বানী দিয়েছেন

“আমায় আমি উঠে পড়েছি জীব, তোর চিন্তা কি ? তোর শোক দুঃখ কি ? ছুটে আয়, বিশ্বাস কর বাপ দে কীর্তনে ব্রহ্ম সাগরে ডুবে যাবি। তোদের মহাপাপ থাক, ব্রহ্ম হত্যা, গো হত্যা, স্ত্রী হত্যা ইত্যাদি করে থাকিস, ভয় নাই। আমায় বিশ্বাস কর ছুটে চলে আয়, নাচতে নাচতে ছুটে আয়। ভগবান বলে ছুটে আয় কে কোথায় আছিস শিখ, বৌদ্ধ, খৃষ্টান, জৈন, ব্রাহ্মন, বৈষ্ণব আয় চন্ডাল, একবার পরমপিতার ভাবে ভাবিতহ তোদের সব জ্বালা যন্ত্রনা আমার হাত দিয়ে সব মুছে দেব। অন্তরে অন্তরে নাম কর নামে ডুবে পড়। আমি অনামী, তাদের অন্তরে অন্তরে জেগে উঠব। সকলকে বল ভয় নাই, চিন্তা নাই অতীর তীর তী ঃ ! একেবারে সকলের শান্তি দিতে পরম আত্মা জেগে উঠেছে, ছুটে আয়, আমি তোদের শান্তি দিব। তোরা আমারই বন্ধুত্ব আমাতেই হয় লয় হয়ে যাবি। আর বাতাসের আঘাত সহ্য করতে হবে না। ছুটে আয় বিশ্বাস কর। মনে কর চিন্তা কর আমি আত্মা, আমি পরমাত্মা, আমি পরব্রহ্ম, আমি জেগে উঠব, আমি তোদের ভিতরে প্রকট হব।

ভুল ভ্রান্তি মানুষের হয়,
শুধরে যদি চলিস সোজা,
দীপ্ত হবি, তৃপ্তি পাবি,
হালকা হবে বুকের বোঝা

শ্রী শ্রী ঠাকুর অনুকূলচন্দ্র

সৎসঙ্গের ভবিষ্যৎ সমন্ধে শ্রী শ্রী ঠাকুর বললেন আমি যাহা করিতেছি আমার আর আমি যাহাদের দিয়া, তাহাদের দিকে তাকাইয়াই হয়তো সৎসঙ্গ অন্যান্য সম্প্রদায়ের মত হইয়াছে যা হইয়া উঠিতে পারে সৎসঙ্গের follower or admirer রা যদি যা যখনই তাহাদের নিজেদের প্রতিষ্ঠা করিতে গিয়ে আমি যাহা বলিয়াছি বা বলিতেছি তাহা উলঙ্গন করিয়া পূর্ব পূর্ব গুরুদের মহাপুরুষদের Hero দেব ও তাহাদের admirer ও follower দেব admiration ও Service হারাইয়া ফেলে বা ফেলিবে। তখনই ইহা সংকীর্ণ থেকে গভী ছাড়া আর কিছুই হইবে না ইহা নিশ্চয়।

পুরুষোত্তম আসেন যখন
কজন তাঁকে ধরে,
কয় মহাপুরুষ কয় ভগবান
চলে যাওয়ার পরে ॥

শ্রী শ্রী ঠাকুর।

পরম দয়ালের শুভ আর্বিভাবে ধন্য তালনবমী তিথি। ধন্য জীব জগত সকলেই। আর তাই সেই পুণ্য তালনবমী তিথিকে লগ্ন করে হচ্ছে জীবনেশ্বর পুরুষোত্তম শ্রী শ্রী ঠাকুরের শ্রী চরন বন্দনার শুভ আর্বিভাব মহোৎসব। আর এই মহোৎসব চিরন্তন স্বার্থক হয়ে উঠুক এই কামনা করি।

জয়গুরু
বন্দেপুরুষোত্তম।

Be aware—
all Fulfillers the Best
are the same
though in different embodiments ;
Their messages
are of the same tune
though in accordance
with the age ;
never refute any
though you follow One ;
remember
that the present One fulfils
His Fore-runners,
so love Him
with every ardent surrender,
bear His command,
suffer to serve Him
with every sincere performance
and success ;
adjust thyself
through active service
to Him ;
thus make thy life meaningful
to thyself and to all
with every blessed success.

Peace, Peace, Peace - Be Ye Peaceful

Be ye whatever—
regret not what has happened
by the impulse of
your bind misfortune,
let not be afeared by the
taunting insult of your actions
that have occurred by the enticement
of the ignorant, dull,
depressing environment ;
shout, cheer up—
be unquivered and attached
by your tendril of passion
to the Ideal, the Beloved—
whose love enters unquestionably
top to bottom
whatever ye may be—
saint, rogue, sufferer, criminal or
sinner—pervading all !
Install Him with all your purpose,
with all your service,
with all your love and emotion,
with all the resources you have ;
neglect to fulfill the narrow
sordid interests
from the universe in which you dwell ;
only think of Him,
think how to fulfill His interests,—
move on doing and dealing accordingly—
elating everyone with the message
of love, hope, charity and service
that exalts !
Put thine ear to the throbbing
Impulse of
Environment and hear attentively the
lingering music
of the inner microcosm
with a rolling peaceful concert,
a singing thrill—
Peace, Peace, Peace—be ye Peaceful!

Serve but do not destroy one's self-healing ability.

-Sri Sri Thakur

কিছু কথা, কিছু স্মৃতি

আশিস বসু, আটলান্টা, জর্জিয়া

একবার কোনও একটা বিশেষ কাজে আমি ধানবাদে Indian School Of Mines এ গিয়েছিলাম। সেখানে কাজ সেরে রাতের বাসে সোজা দেওঘর। দেওঘরে বাসের গুমটি থেকে একটা রিকশা করে আগ্রমে এসেছি সকাল সকাল। পরমপূজ্যপাদ শ্রীশ্রীবড়দা আগ্রমে বড়নাটমন্ডপে বসে আছেন। ঠাকুর প্রণাম, বড়মা প্রণাম সেরে বড়নাটমন্ডপে যেতেই শ্রীশ্রীবড়দার সেই মোহন রূপ দেখে আমার সমস্ত পথশ্রান্তি ঘুচে গেলো। তিনি সেখানে ভক্তপরিবেষ্টিত হয়ে বসে আছেন। মানুষকে আনন্দ, শান্তি, স্বস্তি, এবং সমৃদ্ধির পথ দেখাচ্ছেন। প্রত্যেকের চোখেমুখে এক স্বর্গীয় আনন্দের অভিব্যক্তি।

শ্রীশ্রীবড়দার সেই রক্তকমলশোভিত শ্রীপাদপদ্মে আভূমি প্রণাম জানালাম। ঐখানে বসতেই আমার শরীর, মন, আত্মা সব কিছু যেন পরিতৃপ্ত হয়ে উঠলো। একটু পরে শ্রীশ্রীবড়দার নির্দেশে শ্রদ্ধেয় ননীগোপাল চক্রবর্তীদা কীর্তন শোনাতে উঠলেন। "হরি বলো ঘুচে যাবে দায়, হরিনাম পারেরই উপায় - ঐ দ্যাখ দয়াল কাওরী হরি, পারের তরী বেয়ে যায়।" শ্রীশ্রীবড়দার চোখে নেমে এলো ভক্তিরসআপ্লুত অনন্ত অশ্রুধারা। সে পরিবেশ ব্যথ্যা করার মত যোগ্যতা আমার মত নগণ্য মানুষের পক্ষে সম্ভব নয়। তিনি প্রত্যেকটি মানুষকে দয়া করে টেনে নিয়ে চলেন এক অনির্বচনীয় ভাবরাজ্যে। উপস্থিত সব মানুষ ধন্য হোলেন শ্রীশ্রীবড়দার প্রেমের পরশে। ধন্য হলাম আমি তাঁকে এভাবে পেয়ে। এই প্রথমবার আমি তাঁকে এতক্ষণ দর্শন করতে পাই। বোধ করি আমার জীবনে সেই দিনটি ছিল অন্যতম সৌভাগ্যসূচক। কিভাবে, কখন যেন ঠাকুর তাঁর আদরের বড়থোকার মাধ্যমে সেই অদ্ভুত আনন্দের জগতে আমায় স্থান দিলেন।

পরবর্তীকালে পরমপূজ্যপাদ শ্রীশ্রীদাদা, পরমপূজনীয়া বড়বৌদি আমায় স্নেহে দয়া করে আশ্রয় দান করেন। তাঁদের কাছে খালি আশ্রয়ই পাইনি, পেয়েছি প্রশ্রয়ও। দিনের পর দিন, মাসের পর মাস আগ্রমে থাকা, খাওয়া, আহার-নিদ্রা-বাসস্থান এ সব কিছুই তিনি ব্যবস্থা করে দিয়েছেন। অবশ্য বস্তুত এ ব্যবস্থা তিনি প্রদান করেছেন আমার সমগ্র জীবন ধরেই। USA তে যারা professional consulting করে, তাদের মাঝে মাঝে কাজ চলে যায়। আমারও যেতো। সেই সব দিনগুলো আমার বা আমাদের জীবনে কখনো ভয়ঙ্কর হয়ে ওঠেনি পরমপূজ্যপাদ শ্রীশ্রীদাদার প্রত্যক্ষ দয়ায়। যখনই depression আসতো, depression তাড়াবার মহৌষধ তিনি আমায় দয়া করে দিয়ে দিয়েছেন। তাই ব্যবহার করতাম। তিনি আমার কাছে অনেক কিছু expect করেছিলেন। তার হয়তো কিছুই আমি হতে পারিনি। কিন্তু আমাকে তিনি যেমন ভাবে সদাসর্বদা বাঁচিয়ে রেখেছেন, দুনিয়ার বুকে তার কোনও তুলনা নাই। পরমপূজ্যপাদ শ্রীশ্রীদাদার অজস্র প্রবহমান দয়া ব্যতীত আমার ব্যষ্টিগত, সমষ্টিগত, আধ্যাত্মিক, পারিবারিক, ব্যবহারিক, প্রভৃতি জীবন কিছুতেই সমৃদ্ধ হতে পারতনা।

Decency is the essence of conscientious adjustment of habits.

-Sri Sri Thakur

কোল্লগরের ঋষিকদেবতা শ্রীযুত গোপীবল্লভ সাহাদার পিতৃপ্রতিম স্নেহে আমি লালিত হওয়ার সুযোগ পেয়েছিলাম। তাঁর সাথে গেছি গ্রামে-গঞ্জে-মহকুমায়-শহরতলীতে কতশত সৎসঙ্গে। তিনি সমগ্র হুগলী জেলাটি চষে বেড়াতেন। আমার জীবন পেল এক নতুন স্বাদ। আমি তাঁর নিত্য সঙ্গী ছিলাম বেশ কয়েকটি বছর। ঠাকুর পরিবারের প্রত্যেকটি মানুষের ওপর তাঁর একটা অদ্বুত সহজ আনুগত্য ছিলো। তিনি আমাকে দিনে তিনবার নাম করতে শিখিয়েছিলেন। ভোরবেলা সূর্যোদয়ের পূর্বে ইষ্টভূতি করতে শিখিয়েছিলেন। নিয়মিত ঠাকুরবাড়ী গিয়ে ঠাকুরদর্শন করা, প্রয়োজনে আচার্যসঙ্গ করা, তাঁর ঈঙ্গিত পরিবারবর্গের প্রতি আনুগত্যের অপরিহার্যতা, প্রকৃত মানুষ হওয়ার চেষ্টা করা, প্রভৃতি তিনিসগুলি তিনি আমাদের মকশ করাতেন।

আমাদের পরিবারে তিনি এলে আমার বাবা-মা, দিদিদের, আশেপাশের সৎসংগীদের হুডোহুড়ি পড়ে যেতো। তিনি চলে গেলে আমরা সবাই বলাবলি করতাম যে ঠাকুরকে আমরা ভালোবাসতে পারলে, আমাদেরও জীবন এমন সুন্দর হতে পারে। আমার কিশোর এবং যৌবনের প্রারম্ভে যেটুকু প্রাথমিক বোধের সঞ্চার হয়েছিলো, তার অন্যতম অনুঘটক ছিলেন ঐ গোপীদা। সৎসঙ্গে গেলেই প্রায়ই তিনি কিছু বলতে আদেশ করতেন। ঠাকুর সম্বন্ধে কিছুই জানিনা, তবুও তাঁর কথা অমান্য করতে পারতামনা। তিনি আমাকে কীর্তন শিখতে প্রেরণা দিতেন।

পরবর্তীকালে আমার জীবনের পরম দেবতা অনুবর্ধক শ্রীশ্রীদাদা আমাকে সত্যি সত্যি কীর্তন করতে শেখালেন। তিনি আমাকে দিয়ে ঠাকুরের পাদসীর্থে, বিভিন্ন মন্দিরে, সহস্র সহস্র মানুষের সামনে কীর্তন করিয়েছেন। আজ ভাবি, কীর্তন ছাড়া আমার জীবন খানিকটা অনধকারেই থেকে যেতো। তিনি আমাকে কী সুন্দরভাবে, সহজভাবে ঐ অসীম আলোকরাজ্যের সন্ধান দিলেন!

একটা অদ্বুত ব্যাপার এই যে আশ্রমে যখনই যাওয়া-আসা শুরু করেছি, শ্রীশ্রীদাদা তখনই আমার জীবনে নতুন প্রানের সঞ্চার করে দিতেন। তাঁর কাছে যেতাম ব্যথাভারা হৃদয় নিয়ে, ফিরতাম ঐশ্বরশালী হায়ে। তাঁকে দেখেই ঠাকুরবাড়ী যাওয়ার, ঠাকুরের লীলাভূমি দর্শন করার, বিধিমাফিক নির্দেশিত পথে চলার এক আভ্যন্তরীণ প্রেরণা পেতাম।

আমার স্বর্গীয় পিতৃদেব ছিলেন সরকারী কর্মচারী। প্রাত্যহিক সাংসারিক নানা কাজের মধ্যে থেকেও তিনি যথাসাধ্য ইষ্টস্বার্থ এবং ইষ্টপ্রতিষ্ঠার কাজে নিজেকে ব্যাপৃত রাখতেন। তাঁর অল্পান চেষ্টায়, হার্দিক প্রস্তুতিতে, এবং বিনায়িত স্বাভাবিক সৌজন্যে সৎসঙ্গের খ্যাতনামা কর্মীগণ যথা শ্রীযুত নরেশচন্দ্র দাশ, শ্রীযুত গোপালচন্দ্র বিশ্বাস, শ্রীযুত ননীগোপাল চক্রবর্তী, শ্রীযুত অজিত গাঙ্গুলী, শ্রীযুত দুলাল মজুমদার, শ্রীযুত রেবতীমোহন বিশ্বাস, শ্রীযুত বসওয়ান সিং প্রভৃতি দাদারা বহুবার আমাদের বাড়িতে থেকে ইষ্টকাজ করেছেন। আমার মা বলতেন এটা আসলে আমাদের জন্মজন্মান্তরের সৌভাগ্য। বাড়ীতে তখন আমাদের ইষ্টপ্রেমের হাট বসে যেতো। রান্না-বার্না, খাওয়া-দাওয়া, হৈ-চৈ, গান-বাজনা, সদালাপ-সদালোচনার জোয়ার নেমে আসতো।

Suspicion is an unbalanced diversion from positive go.

-Sri Sri Thakur

একবার শীতকালে ঠাকুরবাড়ীতে আছি। মনে হয় December মাস। কিছুদিন ধরে আমার শরীর ভাল না থাকায় পরমবৈদ্যনাথ শ্রীশ্রীদাদার শরণাপন্ন হই। তিনি সহজ সমাধান দিলেন - "শোন, রোজ দুপুরে ঠাকুরের আনন্দবাজারে প্রসাদ নিবি। ঐরকম কয়েকদিন করলেই দেখবি শক্তি ফিরে পাবি।" সেইমত প্রথম দিনই আনন্দবাজারে প্রসাদ গ্রহণ করার সৌভাগ্য হয়। পাহাড়বাড়ী দিয়ে ফিরছি। এমন সময় হঠাত্ শুনতে পাই - "বাপীদা (আমার ডাকনাম), আপনাকে দাদা ডাকছেন, দৌড় লাগান।" আমিও নির্দেশমত গ্যারেজের দিক দিয়ে শিবপূজনদার গেটের কাছে এসে পড়ি দৌড়াতে দৌড়াতে। পৌঁছে দেখি ওখানে গাড়ীতে অপেক্ষা করছেন স্বয়ং আচার্যদেব।

শ্রীশ্রীদাদা আর বড়বৌদি পিছনের সিটে। চালক পূজনীয় সিপাইদা। "বাপীদা, চটপট ওঠেন গাড়ীতে" - তিনি নির্দেশ করলেন। সিপাইদার নির্দেশে গাড়ীতে বসলাম সামনের সিটে। পূজনীয়া মা জিজ্ঞাসা করলেন, "এই বাপী, এই রোদ্দুরে কোথায় কোথায় ঘুরছো? খাওয়া-দাওয়া হল?" বললাম, "আজ্ঞে, আনন্দবাজার থেকে ফিরছিলাম।" শ্রীশ্রীদাদা শুনে খুশি হলেন - "ঐরকম কয়েকদিন করলেই তোর শরীর সম্পূর্ণ সুস্থ হোয়ে যাবে"। ততক্ষণ আমি সম্বিত ফিরে ভাবছি যে এখন আমরা কোথায় যাচ্ছি। হঠাত্ সঙ্গীদার কথা মনে হলো - "যখন তাঁর কাছে থাকবে, কোনও প্রশ্ন করবেনা"। সেইমত চুপ করে থাকাই সঙ্গত মনে কোরলাম। গাড়ী কাঁচা রাস্তাতে নেমে এঁকে বেঁকে সুন্দর terrain এর ভেতর দিয়ে ডিগরিয়া পাহাড়ের দিকে এগোতে থাকলো। একটা সাংঘাতিক সুন্দর গাছের তলায় সমান্তরাল ভূমিতে এসে দাদার গাড়ী থামল।

গাছের নীচে আমরা শতরঞ্জী পেতে দিলাম। তাতে দাদা-বড়বৌদি আলো-ছায়ার ভেতরে আসন গ্রহণ করলেন। বৃষ্ণতে পারলাম যে এখানে তিনি প্রায়ই আসেন শীতের দুপুর কাটাতে। আমাদের নির্দেশ দিলেন ওই valley তে জন্মে থাকা বুনো কুল তুলতে। অনেকটা wild berry র মত। পূজনীয় সিপাইদা আর আমি কোঁচড় ভর্তি করে তুলতে থাকলাম। প্রসঙ্গত উল্লেখ্য যে এই বুনো কুল খুবই স্বাদপূর্ণ। কিছু কাঁটা প্রচুর। অসাবধানতাবশত আমার ডান হাতের wrist এ একটু কেটে টেটে গেলো। তখন কুল তোলার আনন্দে অবশ্য তা বৃষ্ণতে পারিনি। এক বিশিষ্ট গুরুজনের কাছে পরে শুনেছিলাম যে পিতৃপুরুষের অজ্ঞান আশীর্বাদে ওই মঙ্গলকারী রক্তপাত হয়েছে। যাই হোক, ঠাকুরের দয়ায় Preventina দিল জলদি উপশম। স্মরণীয় হোয়ে থাকলো এই ঘটনা আমার জীবনে।

এদেশে এসে University of North Carolina at Charlotte এ Computer Science Programme এ ভর্তি হই। এখানকার আদবকায়দা, ভাষা, accent, verbal expressions সবই ভিন্ন। ওদিকে ঝড়ের গতিতে কোর্স এর execution চলছে। না পারি তাদের আমার কথা বোঝাতে, না আমি বৃষ্ণতে পারি তাঁদের কথা। সে এক বিষম অবস্থা। তারি মাঝে সকল প্রতিকূলতার মূর্ত সমাধান হলেন শ্রীশ্রীদাদা। আকূল হয়ে ডাকলাম তাঁকে কিছুক্ষন।

Do to others as you would be done by – but expect not in return.

-Sri Sri Thakur

একদিন library তে বসে আছি 9th floor এ। সামনেই Computer Algorithms এর ওপর পরীক্ষা। কিছুতেই concentrate করতে পারছিলাম। চারিদিকে মার্কাইপ ছাত্র-ছাত্রীর দল, তাদের cacophony, undesirable শারীরিক induction এই সব চলেছে। ভাবছি কেমন করে এখানে পড়াশুনো করবো, কিভাবে উত্তীর্ণ হবো। সেইদিন বাড়ীতে ফিরে পূজ্যপাদ দাদার চিঠি পেলাম mail এ। তাঁর প্রীহস্তে লিখিত অজস্র চিঠি পেয়েছি আমার জীবনে। প্রত্যেকটি চিঠি আমার জীবনে অমূল্য অমৃতবার্তাবাহী। এই চিঠিটিও এনে দিল তাঁর দৈববার্তা - তিনি ঘাবড়াতে বারণ করেছেন আর বোলেছেন ঠাকুরকে নিয়ে চললে কোনদিন কোনকালে কোনও মানুষের ক্ষতি হয়না। কেউ তার ক্ষতি করতে পারেনা। আনন্দে থাকতে বোলেছেন। সেই চিঠি পড়ে আমার হৃদয়ে প্রভূত আনন্দ এবং শক্তির সৃষ্টি হল।

পরের দিন হঠাত্ মনে হল Dr Schell (Head of the Department, Computer Science) এর কাছে যাই। তাঁর কাছে আমার সমস্যার কথা নিবেদন করতেই তিনি আমায় 9th floor এ একটা ঘর exclusively ব্যবহার করার authorization দিলেন। আমাকে তিনি সেই ঘরের চাবি দিলেন এবং 24-hour access যাতে করতে পারি, সেইরকম ব্যবস্থাও করে দিলেন তিন বছরের জন্যে। সেই ঘরে table টা ছিল 8 feet by 5 ফীট। শুরু হল আমার একান্তে পড়াশুনো। এই ব্যবস্থার integral এবং infrastructural রূপকার ছিলেন পরমপূজ্যপাদ দাদা। Table এর ওপর চলত শবাসন, কখনো ঘুমিয়েও পড়তাম। Table এর ওপর চলত নামধ্যান। Actually chair টা কখনো ব্যবহার করতামনা। এই ঘরটির de facto মালিকানা না পেলে আমার পক্ষে graduation করা সম্ভব হতনা। হৃদয়ে ভগবানের শান্ত অধিষ্ঠান অনুভব করার চেয়ে আনন্দ আর কিছুতেই নাই। পরমপূজ্যপাদ দাদার এই অহেতুক অনন্ত অতলান্ত অসীম দয়ার কোনও পরিসীমা নাই।

Socrates এর কথা মনে পড়ে:

The man who knows not that he knows not is a fool – avoid him;

The man who knows that he knows not is a friend – keep his company;

The man who knows not that he knows is a saint – follow him;

The man who knows that he knows is God – worship him.



Demand without pleasing service is the command that invites dissatisfaction.

-Sri Sri Thakur

Holy Snan-Utsav - 2012 (Deoghar, India)



Do and be wedded to time with a dowry of tactfulness and get an issue of success.

-Sri Sri Thakur

7th US National SATSANG Congregation (New York, USA)



It is better to be an active fool than an idle wise.

-Sri Sri Thakur

SATSANG Events - Deoghar 2012

Date	Day	Event Detail
30 th Jul 2012	Monday	119 th Janma-Divas of Sree Sree Barama
5 th Aug 2012	Sunday	19 th Tirodhan Divas of Sree Sree Borda
2 nd Sep 2012	Sunday	Sree Sree Thakur's Subhagaman Divas at Deoghar & starting of ANUKULABDA-67
15 th Sep 2012	Saturday	125 th Avirbhav-divas of Sree Sree Thakur
24 th Sep 2012	Monday	Holy 125 th Janma-tithi Mahotsav of Sree Sree Thakur
21 st Oct 2012	Sunday	80 th Janma-divas of Acharyadev Sree Sree Dada
26 th Oct 2012 27 th Oct 2012	Friday and Saturday	125 th Birth Anniversary celebration of Sree Sree Thakur & 289 th Satsang Ritwik Conference
16 th Nov 2012	Friday	80 th Janma-Tithi of Acharyadev Sree Sree Dada
21 st Nov 2012	Wednesday	102 nd Janma-divas of Sree Sree Borda
14 th Dec 2012	Friday	102 nd Holy Janma-Tithi Mahotsav of Sree Sree Borda
31 st Dec 2012 1 st Jan 2013	Monday and Tuesday	102 nd Janma-mahotsav celebrations of Sree Sree Borda & 290th Satsang Ritwik Conference.



Diary is the dairy of experience.

-Sri Sri Thakur

Dedications (from Devotees)

What is known by realization is wisdom

Wisdom destroys confusion and gives discerning eyes to man
Wisdom indicates the real nature of an object. When one sees
an object in a condition that reveals all that is to be known
about it, one knows its very essence

Remove doubts the moment they appear and merge yourself in
thoughts of the good. You shall become the possessor
of wisdom and bliss!!!

Satyanusuran; Sri Sri Thakur

Dedication by

Jeffrey Renert

Parama Premamoy Sree Sree Thakur Anukulchandra once Said,

•Do not die

Do not cause death

Cause death to death."

Let us commemorate Sree Sree Thakur's 124th Birth Anniversary
Utsav by dedicating
ourselves to practicing Jajan, Jaajan, Istavrity, Swastyanee, and
Sadachaar.

These five basic principles of being and becoming were indoctrinated
by Sree Sree Thakur
which when pursued can beget - the concept of death-
free living becomes a reality.

Dedication By, Asis Basu.

Repel the devil by resistance and win by love.

-Sri Sri Thakur

With Best Compliments from Gupta's, New Jersey

Your intelligence doesn't bloom at all
However much you learn;

You become just an ox bearing recollections,
A morsel of rice you cannot earn.

- Sri Sri Thakur Anukul Chandra

Education is far away from him
Who has no following go
To carry out the commands
And who has no
Cordial serviceable attitude.

- Sri Sri Thakur Anukul Chandra

Nobody is miserable by
nature.

If one wishes, he can drive it out. Pray
to the Supreme Father:

"Thy will is good.

I don't know what
will make me good.

let Thy will be
fulfilled in me."

And be ready to accept that. Joy will
remain

and sorrow will not touch you.

Quote from Satyanusaran by Sri Sri
Thakur

May we all have a
blessed Satsang and a
great year.


Gisela and Gabriel Lichtgarn

Wife is she
who never wipes out
her adherence to the husband;
husband is he
who through his love
to lord, the lead,
does not separate himself
from her existential interest
in every suffering and happiness.

- Sri Sri Thakur


May we all have a Blessed Satsang.

Dedication By
Samanta Family
USA & Rourkela, India




My son's participation in Satsang and a follower of Thakur has been a very rewarding experience for me. Best of enjoyment for your celebration!

Lillian Renert





I wish you a joyous celebration honoring Sri Sri Thakur

Leo Bonetti




Have a wonderful and enlivening Satsang!

A friend



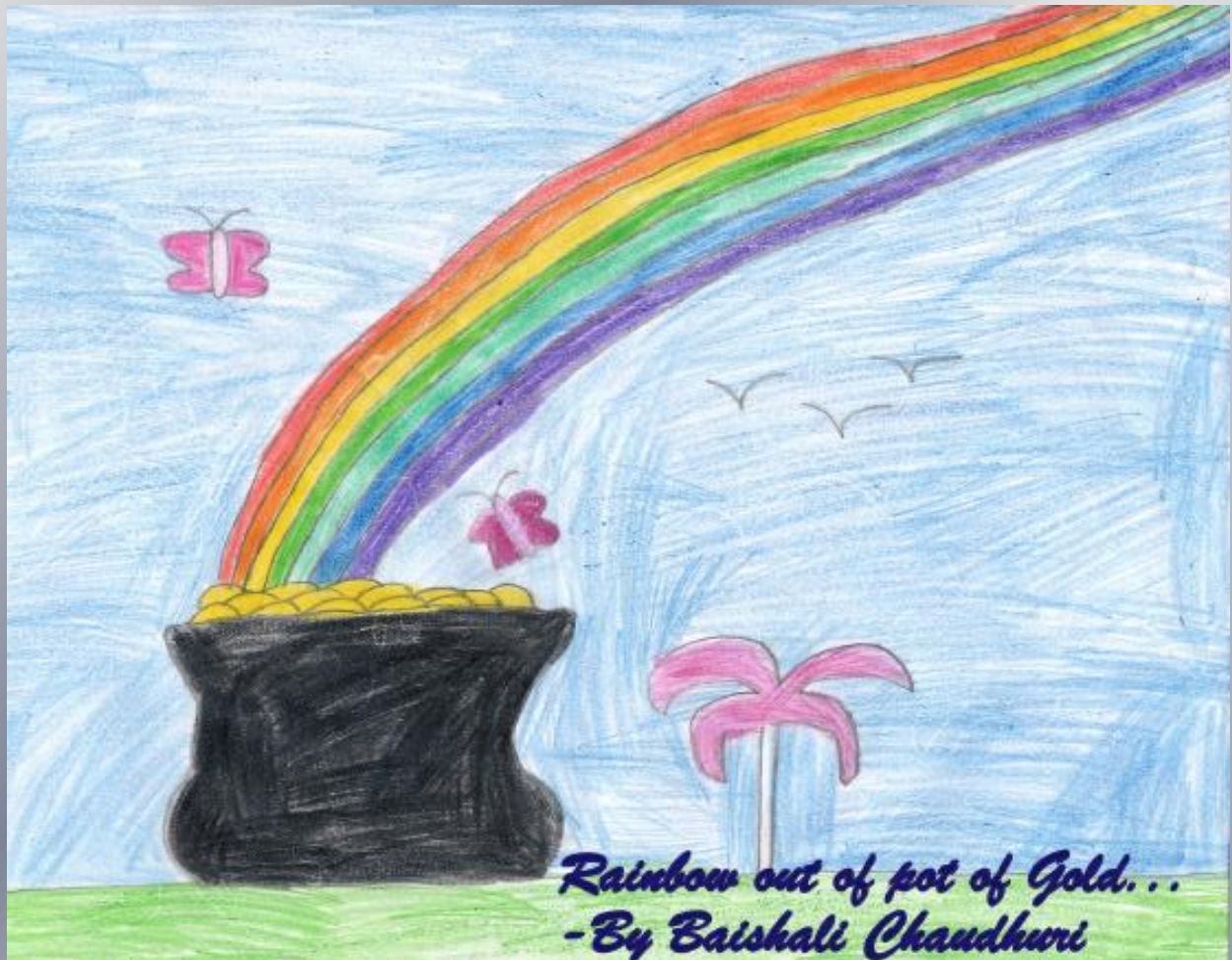
It is a pleasure to support your organization and its celebration based on my relationship with one of your devotees

David
Washington D.C.



Constancy to fulfill the Ideal invites the Constitution that fulfills.

-Sri Sri Thakur



*Rainbow out of pot of Gold...
-By Baishali Chaudhuri*

US Contact: satsang_usa@yahoogroups.com

India Website: www.satsang.org.in