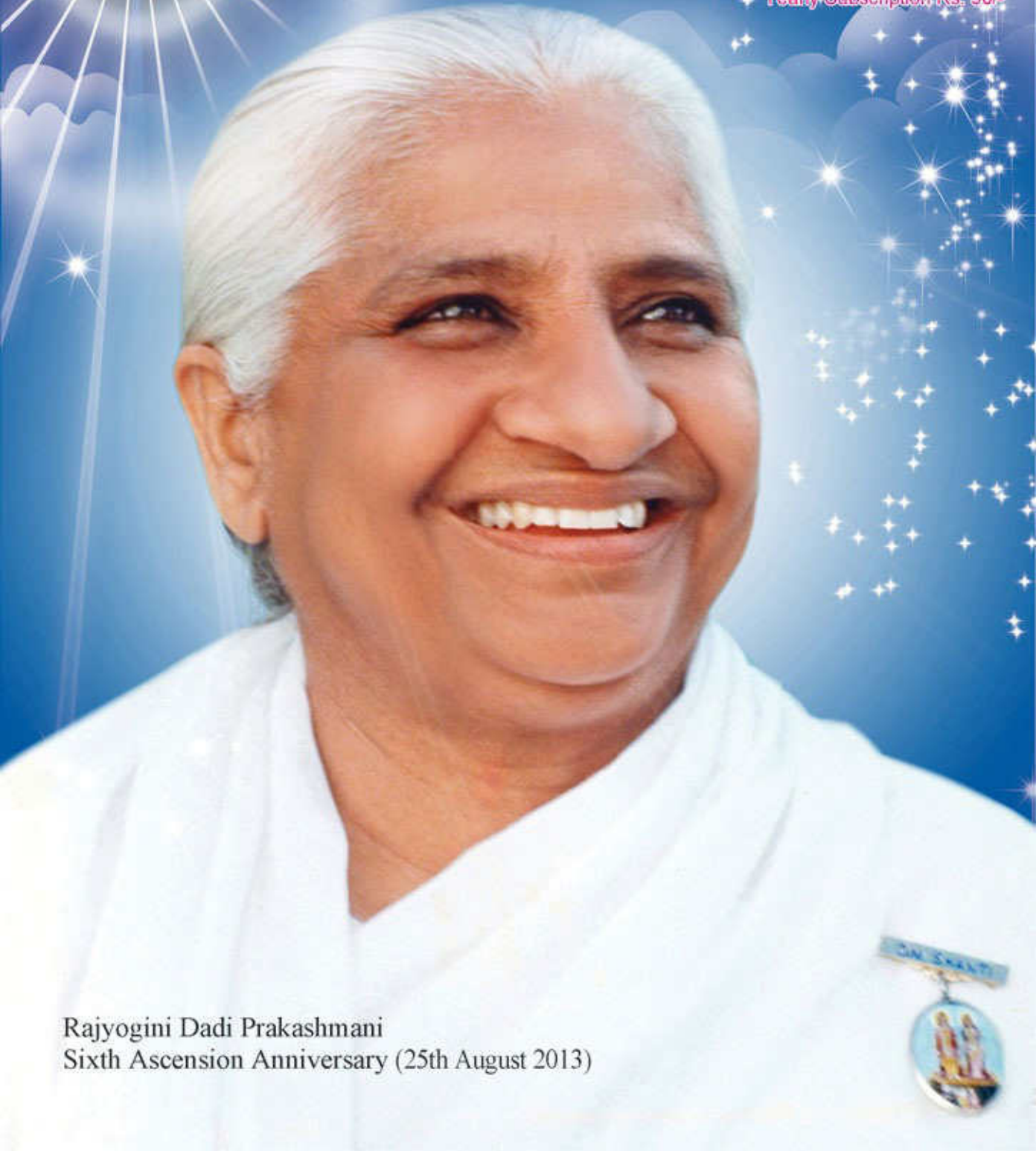


The World Renewal

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Rajyogini Dadi Prakashmani
Sixth Ascension Anniversary (25th August 2013)



ORC (Gurgaon): A newly built building 'Shanti Kunj' being inaugurated by Rajyogini Dadi Janki, Rajyogini Dadi Hriday Mohini, B.K. Brij Mohan, B.K. Sis. Asha and others.

Gyan Sarovar (Mount Abu): Mr. Abdul Aziz, Gyani Darbar Singh, B.K. Sis. Manorama, Mahamandaleshwar Darshan Singh, Rajyogini Dadi Ratan Mohini, B.K. Ramnath, Swami Shasvatanand, Swami Basavmurti Chitradurga and others inaugurating the programme: 'One God - One World family'.



Gyan Sarovar (Mt. Abu): Rajyogini Dadi Janki, Rajyogini Dadi Ratan Mohini, B.K. Brij Mohan, Mr. Rakesh Mehta, Election Commissioner of Delhi & Chandigarh and others inaugurating the Conference for Administrators.

Gyan Sarovar (Mount Abu): Mr. Mahendra Hardia, Hon'ble Minister of State for Health & Family Welfare, Madhya Pradesh, Rajyogini Dadi Ratan Mohini, Dr. Banarsilal Sah, Dr. Pratap Midha, Dr. Girish Patel, Dr. Ashok Mehta and others inaugurating the '28th Mind-Body Medicine conference'.



|| From the mighty pen of Sanjay ||

ILLUSORY SWARAJ

India celebrates its Independence Day on 15th August every year in various ways and with various feelings. Leaders, thinkers and writers have made their own variegated assessment and analysis of the achievements and failures of the country after it became independent. While some have words of admiration for attaining self-sufficiency in food and for becoming a considerable economic and scientific-technological power, others have often spoken of its miserable failure in its efforts to bring down the rate of population growth and to achieve the goal of mass-literacy and to bring economic benefits to the poor.

On this great day people often recall what happened on the historic night of 14th August 1947 when Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru delivered his famous speech 'Tryst with destiny' "when the whole world sleeps and India will awake to life and freedom", "to redeem our pledge, not wholly or in full measure, but very substantially". Leaders also speak of the pledge taken by all the members of the Constituent Assembly, present at that moment, "which comes but rarely in history", saying with one voice that they dedicate themselves in all humility to the service of India and her people to the end so that the country can attain her rightful place in the world and can make her full and willing contribution to the promotion of World Peace and the welfare of mankind. Others feel heavy with sorrow and speak of incalculable sacrifices made by innumerable persons for achieving independence which was accompanied by the great tragedy and horrors of partition and the barbarity and bloodshed of thousands of people on both sides of the border.

One thing that is admitted by all the leaders and common men is that the country has not been able to "wipe every tear from every eye" as Bapu Gandhi had deeply aspired; nor 'has it been able to achieve the 'Swaraj' (sovereignty) as he had envisioned. Everyone realizes the harsh reality that the country has failed to provide effective social and economic justice to the backward and the poor classes and that almost half of its population does not feel any worthwhile benefit of Independence.

(...Contd. on page no. 34)

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THE FESTIVE MONTH OF SHRAVAN – BRAHMA KUMARIS DEDICATION CEREMONY

We, the people of Bharat, remain in festive mood throughout the year, but the month of Shraavan (July-August) every year denotes special significance for the devout and farming community. This year, it seems to be more auspicious than ever before with monsoon rains pouring in abundance all over the country. This is specially very good for the harvest of rice, corn, sugarcane, and pulses; essential for the well-being of the entire nation, and humanity in all corners. Devout Hindus express their heartfelt thanks and veneration to the Lord of the Month: ***Bholanath Shiva*** by worshipping Him especially on Mondays of the month, the day designated to the Almighty Authority.

Eid-ul-Fitr or ‘Feast of Breaking the Fast’, the culmination of Ramadan, the

Islamic holy month of fasting observed by devout Muslims is coincidentally occurring along with Shraavan this year, on 9 August 2013. The community uses this opportunity to express thanks to Allah for the purifying effect the month has on their minds and heart, bringing such deep feelings of peace and joy to the old, young and the children, which is then rejoiced together as one family. Even the political leaders join the Muslim community in Iftar parties to enhance the spirit of beauty and joy of the holy month within the community.

For the majority of the Hindu community in Bharat, the festivals of *Raksha Bandhan* and *Janamashtami* are also celebrated with lot of devotion and fanfare during Shraavan. These two festivals

hold great value in spreading the message of purity and piety. It begins with Raksha Bandhan (the Bond of Protection) being tied around the wrists of brothers by their sisters, leading to the celebrations of the glorious advent of Lord Krishna on Shri Krishna Janamashtami.

The message of Rakhi spreads beyond the boundaries of religions, communities, and even countries. It has taken the form of a universal celebration thereby helping in creating emotional integration all over the globe. The Brahma Kumaris worldwide Institution has been spreading the message of purity and love for decades, and continues to share powerful messages of Raksha Bandhan through its network of about 10,000 meditation centres/sub-centres across 130+

countries.

On 1st August 2013, 384 Brahma Kumari sisters received their confirmation medals as fully dedicated Divine Service Instruments by **declaring their vow of purity, celibacy and dedication to serve the world with thought, speech and action.** This grand ceremony was held in presence of the Administrative Head of the Brahma Kumaris, respected Dadis and other seniors with participation of parents and guardians of the dedicating sisters, and their relatives and friends who were invited especially for the

‘Dedication Ceremony’. All the participants felt highly enriched and refreshed in the spiritual environment of ‘Diamond Hall’, Shantivan campus. They were highly honoured to witness their daughters being accepted for the greatest humanitarian spiritual service by Supreme Father, Almighty God Shiva, during the auspicious month of Shravan.

We extend our hearty congratulations in million-fold to the divine sisters for their courage and conviction in accepting to lead the ‘divine way of life as a dedicated Brahma Kumari’. They make

us proud with their commitment towards transforming this Iron-Aged (*Kaliyug*) world into Golden-Aged (Satyug). Their divinity and dedication will definitely serve in bringing about world transformation for the better. Hats off to these ‘Angels of Purity, Peace, Love and Happiness’! Their Dedication Ceremony is the most beautiful celebration of Shravan, carried out in the companionship of Almighty Shiv Baba. How fortunate we are to have been part of this unique, divine ceremony!

– **B.K. Nirwair**

IN LOVING MEMORY OF UNCLE STEVE NARAIN OF GUYANA

We join our beloved Dadis and senior brothers and sisters in extending deep, heart-felt condolences to beloved Aunty Betty, and all members of Uncle Steve Naraine’s family and friends, on his final flight to join Avyakt BapDada in the

subtle region on Tuesday, 30 July 2013 at 8.00am. He closed his eyes finally like a trance medium, while Aunty, Jayantiben, Gayatriben, Saviben and other members of the *lokik-alokik* family were meditating near him.

Uncle Steve Naraine was

a visionary in his *lokik* life, who dreamed about the well-being of Guyana and in return was elected by the people to the Parliament as Government Minister and thereafter, Vice-President. Following which he continued to serve his country as High

Commissioner to Bharat, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. While pursuing his political life, Uncle Steve balanced his professional aspirations with his religious beliefs, and search for spirituality.

From the year 1976, Uncle became an active member of the Brahma Kumaris movement along with Aunty and all his

beloved children. He, thus, was distinctive in leading a spiritually value-based political and diplomatic life. Uncle and Aunty were very responsible instruments for spiritual service in Guyana, the Caribbean and Western Hemisphere, with guidance from BK Mohiniben of New York. On his invitation, revered Dadi Prakashmaniji, Dadi Jankiji, Dadi Gulzarji, and other senior sisters and brothers from Bharat and other countries visited Guyana, the other Caribbean islands, and the Americas from time to time.

During the 80s and 90s, Uncle Steve's active participation as Guest of



Uncle Steve Narain with B.K. Nirwair in happy mood on one of his visits to Pandav Bhavan, Mount Abu, India

Honour at the Mt Abu and Delhi Conferences, for Universal Peace and Global Cooperation for a Better World, added splendour to the international standards of the occasions.

His able guidance through BK Mohiniben and BK Gayatriben in the Brahma Kumaris' permanent representation at the United Nations highlighted the Institution's role in world peace and cooperation. This led to due recognition with the UN presenting the BKs with several international peace medals.

Uncle Steve was the perfect example of a politically and

spiritually balanced life, as he upheld the double-crowned responsibility even in his 84th life, within the eternal World Drama. He will, therefore, always shine as a sparkling diamond of God's spiritual family.

Uncle's latest contribution was his experience-based literary work that helped create

one of the best books of the Brahma Kumaris' philosophy in the form of '*The Story of Immortality*'. This will go a long way in serving humanity with God's spiritual wisdom.

We offer our respectful salutations to the double-crowned 'Prince of Peace', and heart-felt sympathies in million-fold to Aunty, Gayatriben, Saviben and other members of the very special Naraine family.

On behalf of Dadi Jankiji, Dadi Gulzarji, Dadi Ratan Mohiniji, Rameshbhaiji, Brij Mohanji and all in Madhuban,

In Baba's loving remembrance,

– B.K. Nirwair

DADIJI – ALWAYS TRUTHFUL AND FEARLESS

One of the most beautiful praises of God, often sung across the world, is that He is Satyam, Shivam, and Sundaram which means He is the Truth, the Benefactor, and the Most Beautiful.

These three qualities and their experiences have left an indelible mark on my heart when I think of Dadi Prakashmani. She once said in quite a large gathering: “I can say that I have never spoken a single lie in life”. The audience was spell-bound but the way it was spoken out everyone in the audience acknowledged this truth with grace.

In many situations in life, there is always a possibility of

– B.K. Mohini, New York
adulterating truth with some excuses and reasons. Here this woman fearlessly lived the life of Truth, pure, undiluted and unadulterated; Truth in thoughts, words, actions and all relationships. It definitely left a lasting impression on the lives of whoever came in contact with her.

Her pure unconditional love made her stand out in the image of a Goddess who always brought benefits in people’s lives. She was a benevolent leader, full of generosity and compassion. It was very simple for her to forgive. She always had a very pure vision towards everyone, which generated friendliness. She was a good

friend even to the five elements of Nature.

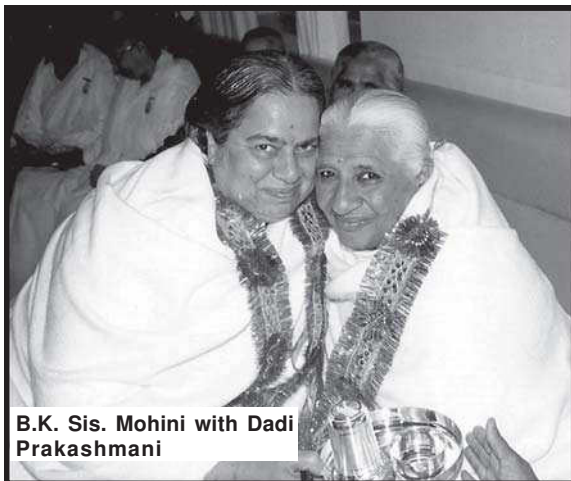
Beauty was an inherent part of her personality and radiated in every aspect of her behaviour. Her

eyes sparkled with love and beauty. She would make everyone feel beautiful. Her natural quality of giving respect to everyone generated from her own self-respect.

Her naturalness

These three qualities helped her serve every moment of her life. For her, life and service were very much integrated and intermingled. This also made her an image of simplicity and solutions. Whenever we walked up to her room with any questions or problems, she would simplify everything and would make us find practical solutions. She was very creative, full of pure energy and ever-ready for unlimited action plans. This helped her to manage and carry out even the most daunting tasks, with great confidence and ease. She was a leader who always reminded us that for creating peace, you need to be peaceful. Leaders from all walks of life were highly impressed by her and they bowed before her with respect. She was loving but detached. She was firm but also very flexible.

It is no exaggeration that thinking of that great soul creates a flow of divine energy in me. My sincere and respectful salutations to Dadiji whose life inspired us all!

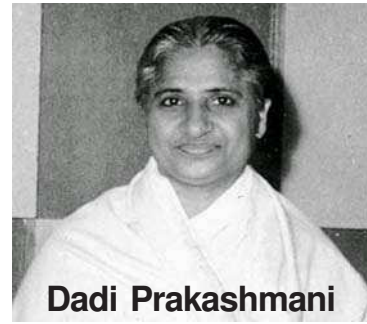


B.K. Sis. Mohini with Dadi Prakashmani

DADI PRAKASHMANI – BALANCE OF LOVE AND LAW



– Dr. B.K. Nirmala,
Gyan Sarovar, Mt. Abu



Dadi Prakashmani

I came in contact with Dadi Prakashmani in 1964 when she was appointed the co-ordinator of Mumbai Centre of Brahma Kumaris. She was a Kumari but had many motherly qualities; she was very loving and caring. She was also very humble and had great interest in all activities of the yagya. She used to visit different centres, countries and of course, Madhuban, the headquarters, looking after and co-ordinating all the activities.

She was a leader who not only took the responsibility of spiritual aspects but was also involved in the administration and management of the housekeeping activities such as buying grains, fruits and vegetables and general stock, the maintenance of buildings and gardens, and many more things. Dadiji always knew what was in stock and what needed to be purchased or renovation in the infrastructure etc.

She kept tabs on the price of land and knew the cost of making different types of *tolis* (*Prasad* or *Sweets*). Following

in Brahma Baba's footsteps, she used to visit both the kitchen and the construction sites almost daily.

Brahma Baba was a unique teacher and trainer. All the Dadis had in-house training for 14 years on the subjects of knowledge, yoga and *dharma*. It was Brahma Baba who established the administration model and Dadiji efficiently and sincerely followed that model.

Here are some of her prominent administrative specialities:

- a) She was readily available to listen to suggestions and complaints.
- b) She would discuss and plan out with the two administrative heads and senior brothers. She would then present those ideas to the staff before implementing them.
- c) She regularly visited each department and held meetings with them.
- d) She was action-oriented and the plans were implemented immediately.
- e) Like a mother, she would

take the brothers and sisters out for picnics, allowing them to play games and would also take them on tours to the places nearby.

- f) It was her loving and considerate nature that inspired everyone to follow her commands immediately, even if they had to forgo their rest, food or comfort.

Dadiji shared the responsibility of looking after various departments with individuals and entrusted them with the responsibility. She personally trained those individuals, trusted them and gave them the authority to co-ordinate departments.

Dadiji was very positive in every aspect. She was always open to new ideas. She would suggest experimenting with new ideas on a small scale to see how they worked before implementing them in full. In this way, all BKs had a feeling of closeness and they felt inspired. Her propensity of inclusiveness gave everyone a sense of belonging.

She was not only a good administrator, but also a talented teacher and an effective speaker. Her inspirational tours to various cities and overseas helped local teachers promote the teachings of the Brahma Kumaris and VIPs came closer to the BKs. Dadiji loved to meet people. She would sit in the courtyard every day and would answer even the smallest questions. Many aspirants sought her guidance on various aspects of life.

After Brahma Baba became Avyakt in January 1969, Didi Manmohini and Dadiji started the training of kumaris to empower and inspire them. At that time, many kumaris surrendered their lives which helped in the expansion of Godly services. One of Dadiji's specialities was her balance of love and law. Dadiji would sometimes chastise someone but afterwards would not ponder over it; she always maintained pure feelings and pure vision towards every soul.

When I first went to New Zealand, I had to stay in the homes of various contact souls. Living in such an environment and performing Godly service was challenging. When I wrote my experience to Dadiji, she replied saying, "You are like a lioness which moves around alone whereas elephants move in herds." This letter of praise and encouragement helped me to stay overseas and establish new centres despite the challenges of unfamiliar environment and culture. Dadi might have left her mortal coil but her teachings, as exemplified by her life, still resonates in our hearts and in our minds.

BABA INSPIRES!

(A prize winning poem from Creative Online Poetry Contest-2012)

– B. K. Manoj Mirchandani, PUNE

Down in the dumps, in sadness I lay
In my own life—not having a say
By chance, happy faces I see at the exhibition

Come with us, they say... learn Raj Yoga meditation!

As a dying man catches at a straw
With many a frown on my brow
Their basic course I reluctantly take
Not knowing...my old life I will forever forsake!

Baba's knowledge and love turns my life around
Peace, Joy, health...all suddenly abound
His Murlis' shake me to the very core...
Connection established... my Original self He
brings to the fore!

Divine Father gently prods
Move forward child... despite all odds
Accepting the pure lifestyle needs many a push...
Away from sound, into inner silence...I gently hush.

Waking up early, which seemed such a chore
Old habits now truly begin to bore
Didn't know turning a new leaf is such fun...
Baba says... Remember me and inherit the
Kingdom of the sun!

Now the guest has become the host
Baba reminds...do not boast
All is His Drama... as ever will be...
My third eye He opens.. and I really begin to see!

DADI JI - HER LIFE WAS HER MESSAGE...

– B K Padma, Bangur, Kolkata

Dadi Prakashmani had a rare combination in her divine personality. She was a true leader and a loving mother for all the souls of the world. She dedicated a major part of her life for spiritual service of mankind.

Whenever I think about Dadi Prakashmani, there appears a flash of happiness and I smile instantly. True leaders always live in everyone's heart and so does Dadi. She was the one who nurtured us. She was a great leader who created thousands of leaders, equal to her.

I consider myself fortunate to have a very special divine family from my very childhood. I can remember Dadi, when I was 3-4 years old. She was innocent, pure and naturally happy like a child. As an administrator, her unique quality was that her thoughts and words matched her actions. She practised what she preached. That is why all spiritual aspirants would respond immediately to her call for spiritual service. It was because of her true love for God and good wishes for one and all.

As the head of the Brahma

Kumaris organisation, she extended a warm welcome to all people irrespective of their age, backgrounds and religion. If anyone ever met Dadiji even once in their life time, they felt such a deep connection, love and admiration that their hearts would say - *Dadi ji loves me the most...*

She was very logical and also emotional in her thinking and working. While meeting with my parents, she would ask my father about the business, profit, loss, savings and the charity. It was like making a balance sheet on her finger tips in seconds. And she would ask my mother about the health, studies and well-being of the family, as a world mother.

She was as sharp as soft and as genius as humble. Once we had a national conference organised by the Business and Industry wing at Gyan Sarovar. Another B.K. sister and I were responsible for all the arrangements. We explained to Dadi all the details of the programme. She took only 3-4 minutes to know everything about the topics, speakers,

accommodation, food, *sevadharis* and participants. She then humbly said - *Dadi will be available for full time, whenever you need Dadi, you may call me and I will also watch all the sessions.*

She used to ask for the recordings of the lectures by us and other young sisters. She would listen to all the recorded lectures and classes while travelling; not to monitor or correct, but to learn! She considered herself a lifetime learner, a student. Yet, we all know that she was an excellent teacher.

Her life style was amazing. She would go for a walk to maintain her health, read Murli at least three times a day to carry on her spiritual studies, wake up at 3.30 a.m. to meditate, plan for the day early in the morning, meet thousands of people, hold meetings and so on. Dadi was a great spiritual leader. That's why her *drishti* of Godly love and her radiant smile transformed the atmosphere and uplifted everyone.

Dadi had great self-esteem; she respected all and received respect and love, in return. Her transparency and elegance created self-respect in others, which is the quality of good leader. She empowered thousands of souls with self-esteem.

Dadi was very quick in observing, decision making and in practical implementation. There are three ways the leaders take decision; 1- decision by opinion 2 - decision by authority and 3 - decision by intuition. She would use all the three methods when required. Sometimes she would create plans with the other two administrative heads and senior brothers and then present those ideas in front of the full gathering to take everyone's consent and good wishes before implementing them. She used her authority when required and of course most of the times she received divine intuitions. She was also action-oriented and plans were implemented immediately.

She had a deep faith in practical use of meditation and she used to teach the classes for dedicated sisters—*As leaders, we need to find ways to help people work with inner peace, even in the midst of turmoil. I've observed the power of starting any task with two minutes of silent contemplation.* It's amazing how differently it works if we've had those moments of God's remembrance.

She was open and always available to listen to suggestions and complaints. She would regularly visit each department. She had one-to-one connection in the organization of hundreds of thousands of people. The leaders who love, also listen humbly and sincerely to those who are the part of the organization.

Once we visited Nasik for the inauguration of a spiritual conference. There were about ten senior sisters and brothers travelling with Dadi. I was the youngest one. One day I helped in serving and I sat for my lunch in the last. Everyone was busy, and in a hurry to leave for the inauguration programme, but Dadi silently waited for me to finish my lunch. I said - *Dadi, I will come in the next car...* She looked into my eyes and said, with her genuine simplicity, "*No, you have come with Dadi, so Dadi will wait and take you along*". This was a very special learning for me. Today I bow my head to our dear Dadi. She had no pride of position or importance to make her feel superior, rather she always had the feeling 'I am an instrument, I am at Godly service'. That is why the Supreme Father trusted her so much because of her humility.

Likewise, we must also be motivated by love for others. If we lead others out of a desire for fame, fortune, or other self-interests, then we are not successful leaders. She had promoted spirituality, meditation, love, peace, brotherhood, service and

other humanitarian values into people in India and abroad by her own exemplary life. The art of administration is the balance of love and law in dealing with different people. She led the organization with the power of love.

ANGELS

– B.K. Kristina, U.S. A.

Angels have Intellects that are deep and well-rounded, and although Beautiful, their Contemplations fill the Atmosphere with their divine presence. They can easily go beyond to the Fullness of Silence, Stillness and Peace.

They are born to bring World Benefit, which comes to fruition when they are in tune with Who they Are, What they need to Do and how they need to be. Being an Angel is predestined but is no accident.

It is a choice to take Flight, using the Energy of Positive Returns. This comes naturally from their Integrity, Commitment to Serve and have a Loving Relationship with Nature, the Self, God and Others.

They listen to whispers of Truth and check that they are on task. If they are not, they simply realign and keep flying. No time to waste. You can enjoy the company of an Angel, but you cannot capture one, they know the value of Freedom and Delight and sincere dedication when others take Flight!

A Tribute

A SHAKTI FOR DELIVERANCE OF MANKIND!

– B.K. Ranjit Fuliya, New Delhi

When man becomes deeply engrossed in the taste of lust for material possessions, physical comforts and pleasures, he also tends to be subservient to external pomp and show. Self-development is replaced by hypocrisy and false praise. Inebriated by his pelf, position and possessions, man has many a fall. Good thoughts, human values and God's remembrance appear far-fetched. Under such inner state of being, one finds it impossible to undertake any noble and righteous deed that can elevate the self.

Around the year 1936, Incorporeal God Shiva, our most benevolent Father, started this spiritual organization

which was originally known as Om Mandali. He chose Dada Lekhraj, whom He re-named Prajapita Brahma, to be His human medium for deliverance

of humanity and highlighted the need of practising the spiritual principles in life, rather than just preaching them. He prepared an army of spiritual leaders, wherein mothers and sisters were in majority, to bring about a qualitative change in people's lives, by leading a vice-less life.

At the present time of deception and delusion, decadence and deterioration, discrimination and deprivation, Incorporeal God Shiva beckons the souls on the journey of soul's renewed connection with the Almighty. He is highlighting

At the present time of deception and delusion, decadence and deterioration, discrimination and deprivation, Incorporeal God Shiva beckons the souls on the journey of soul's renewed connection with the Almighty. He is highlighting the necessity of spiritual elevation of mankind. 'Know thyself': commands He and advises all souls of the world to imbibe soul-consciousness as a way of life, with a view to create a better world of lasting peace, happiness, health and

the necessity of spiritual elevation of mankind. 'Know thyself': commands He and advises all souls of the world to imbibe soul-consciousness as

a way of life, with a view to create a better world of lasting peace, happiness, health and harmony.

The spiritual knowledge propagated through Brahma Baba is centered on the concept of soul-consciousness and complete purity of thought, speech and action. Brahma Baba preached the doctrine of fatherhood of one God, and brotherhood of all mankind. As all of us are the divine children of one God, all are spiritual brethren and there exists no room for animosity, ill-will, hatred, jealousy or any negative feeling within the divine family.

The spiritual army we discussed above had a very valiant and vivacious veteran, named Dadi Prakashmani. She proved herself a worthy and illustrious daughter of Prajapita Brahma and contributed a lot to moral

and spiritual rejuvenation of mankind, through her sincere endeavours and untiring efforts.

Born in 1922 in Hyderabad Sind (now in Pakistan), her childhood name was Rama. Her Father

was a renowned astrologer of Sindh. He could foresee his daughter leading a pure and spiritual life. In 1937, when a small trust named Om Mandali

was established in Sindh, Kumari Rama at the age of 14 joined it and dedicated her life for the spiritual welfare of the world. She was chosen as one of its original eight trustees and was given the divine name Prakashmani, meaning the jewel of light.

Dadi Prakashmani took keen interest in smooth functioning of the organization, particularly while discharging various administrative responsibilities. She discussed the matters at the appropriate level with the relevant persons, ensuring their involvement. As a result of personal involvement of the staff, they would feel inspired to perform better, always ready to cooperate. No organization can progress if there is lack of communication and coordination between the higher management and the staff working at the operating level. Many organisations fail because of lack of harmony and communication between the management and the operating staff. Students of management and experts in the field can learn a lot from her inspirational style of management which stressed on managing with attention but no tension.

Brahma Baba practised the power of silence for world transformation and Dadiji actualized what he had

visualized. She was an embodiment of love, divinity, cooperation, humility and unity. She had a perfect balance of love and law. Even an arrogant and haughty person would be transformed by her fellow feeling and selfless love. This was the secret of her success. She showered unconditional love on all, which in turn could ensure lasting peace. Dadi's personality of purity endeared her to one and all.

I had personal interaction with her on several occasions and always found her to be practical, cooperative, humble and responsible. Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya had successfully completed an international peace project. The book 'Visions of a Better World' was published on the successful completion of the project. Rajyogini Dadi Prakashmani was keen to get this multi-colour book translated in Hindi. She asked Rajyogi B.K. brother Jagdish Chander Hassija, Chief Editor of The World Renewal and Chief Spokesperson of the BKs, as to who could translate the book in Hindi. Bro. Jagdish recommended my name for this purpose.

When I visited Mount Abu shortly thereafter, Dadi ji called me, discussed the matter with me and enquired how much

time its translation would take and how to go about it, etc. I told her that that would take about two months, being a voluminous book. She somehow postponed the project for the time being, considering several other factors, as quality and cost of multi-colour printing etc. in India. One really appreciated her full involvement in the task at hand and her wholehearted dedication to the divine services.

Dadi Prakashmani was instrumental in fast development of the B.K. organization at national and international level. She contributed a lot for popularizing India's ancient wisdom, spiritual values, ethos, cultural heritage, meditation and lifestyle among people of all nations. Due to her sterling qualities, she successfully guided and ran the organization for a long period of 38 years.

Dadi ji remained unwell for some time and left her mortal coil on 25th August, 2007 at Shantivan. She will always be fondly remembered for her special role in women empowerment, spiritual and moral upliftment of mankind, values in education and for imbibing transparency and openness in all walks of life. We pay our hearty tributes to this noble soul!

TRUE SIGNIFICANCE OF RAKSHA BANDHAN – ETERNAL BOND



– B.K. Urvashi, Mt. ABU

Do we ever stop to marvel at the magic of love? They say, love is as delicate as a flower, that a single touch can bruise it, and yet so strong as to withstand all storms... Purity makes love bloom and strengthens it for all times. Love born out of purity, begets faith and security; this is undoubtedly the strongest energy force we can possess today. Real love knows no limitations nor nurtures any prejudice. Love is the epitome of freedom and power but only when grounded in 'purity' and spiritual principles. The Festival of Raksha Bandhan (Bond of Protection) speaks of this sacred, loving relationship that nurtures, protects and uplifts.

Although the present era has modernized the festival greatly, its simple and significant meaning exists incognito. A number of legends are connected with tying of the 'Rakhi', symbolising the bond of love and protection, but the most intriguing one is where the *Devtas* (Deities) are said to have

lost their heavenly kingdom to the *Asuras* (Devils). Before setting out for war to regain the lost sovereignty, Lord Indra's (King of the *Devtas*) wife applies the tilak of victory on his forehead and ties a Rakhi on his wrist. In due course of time, the deities gain victory and return to heaven.

How is this fable applicable to us? Is Raksha Bandhan a festival that needs to be celebrated only once a year? Are only sisters or females in need of protection? Does fear



arise from only external sources? How does taking of sacred vows help to serve and protect a person from all evil and sorrow? What kind of protection do we really require? Is protection possible if a

brother is younger in age, disabled, or living far away?

How does purity play a role in this? The legends of Raksha Bandhan take us deep into the spiritual meaning, thereby allowing us to appreciate its immense value.

Wouldn't God, our Beloved Supreme Parent, True Teacher and Sat Guru, be a more effective and loyal Protector than a human being? The Rakhi is undoubtedly the only bondage that frees us from all other bondages i.e. all insecurities, fear, sorrow...

And it is God alone who can protect us from all dangers and thus justify the true significance of Rakhi i.e. taking a vow.

Having forgotten our true identity of being an infinitesimal point of divine energy – Soul, Atma, Rooh, Spirit – we got entangled in the bondage of 'body-consciousness' and the web of the vices (lust, anger, greed, attachment and ego).

These enemies overpowered us and influenced us to perform negative actions, which in turn caused sorrow. It is then left to God to come at the fag-end of the Iron Age (*Kaliyuga*), to awaken and enlighten the inner being, and teach us how to regain our lost sovereignty.

It is only after the tilak of 'soul-consciousness' is

(---Contd. on page no. 21)

On the occasion of Raksha Bandhan)

THE SPIRITUALITY OF THE SACRED THREAD

–Yogi B.K. Khem Jokhoo

The spiritual significance of Raksha Bandhan is when one takes a sacred divine vow of purity in thoughts, words, actions and relationships. This festival is the commemorative of purity. The life of purity and the freedom from bondage elevate the soul to its original, pure stage. Raksha Bandhan, therefore, is not an isolated festival, but it is only one activity in the most auspicious event in world history called Shivratri... This event begins when God incarnates on earth to destroy the vices and to purify all souls and nature every 5000 years.

The Relationship of Raksha Bandhan with the other Festivals

The festivals of Trimurti Shiva Ratri, Gita Jayanti, Saraswati Jayanti, Holi, Nav Ratri, Ram Navami, Hanuman Jayanti, Guru Purnima, Raksha Bandhan, Krishna Janamastami, Ganesh Utsav, Dassehra, Ram Lila, Diwali and Kartic Snaan are continuing activities of the most auspicious event, Shiv Ratri, in the world cycle. If there is no

Shiv Ratri, then the other festivals cannot occur. These are all confluence- age - activities when God incarnates on earth at the time when irreligiousness and unrighteousness prevail the earth. God's mission is the purification of all souls at the end of Kaliyug or the Iron Age. The festivals before Raksha Bandhan signify the activities for the purification of the world in preparation for the birth of Shri Krishna, celebrated as Krishna Janamastami. The other festivals after Krishna Janamastami celebrate the victory over evil and the crowning glorification of the Lakshmi and Narayan as the first Empress and Emperor of Satyuga. We are now at the end of this auspicious confluence age or as the Gita says "purushottam sangam yuga". We have already witnessed Shivratri, Saraswati Jayanti in the last seventy seven years and are currently experiencing Gita Jayanti, Holi, Nav Ratri and Raksha Bandhan. We are also

experiencing the early winds of the "Mahabharat War" or "Armageddon" at this very time. The new age is being created incognito, for these matters are very subtle to understand.



We are preparing for Krishna and Radha Janamastami, the birth of the first Prince and Princess of Satyug. Raksha Bandhan is larger in purpose than a ceremony. It is an activity in the world cycle bridging two ages. This event is the essence of the change from a decadent society to one of perfection, from vicious to virtuous, from devilish to divine, from darkness to light, impurity to purity and from an iron-aged to a golden-aged world. Therefore, the aim and qualifications of Rakhi is purity.

The Personality of Purity

1. We have to be completely vice-less, i.e., free from anger, greed, ego, lust, attachment and laziness.
2. We have to be all virtuous and be the embodiment and perfection of the virtues of introspection, maturity, cheerfulness, tolerance, humility, sweetness, mercy, lightness, honesty, contentment, patience, fearlessness, purity, wisdom, generosity, truthfulness,

benevolence, respectfulness, obedience, royalty, tirelessness, surrender, carefree, accuracy, self-confidence, discipline, cleanliness, determination, stability, simplicity, cooperation, detachment, serenity, flexibility, love, peace, and happiness.

3. We must be all-powerful and experience the powers to pack up, to tolerate, accommodate, judge, discriminate, face, cooperate and to withdraw.
4. We have to possess 16 celestial degrees of purity and practise the sixteen arts of life. The sixteen arts of life are the art of administration, communication, dealing with others, developing, keeping others contented and happy, keeping secrets, leadership, learning and teaching, organizing, reforming, refreshing, remaining happy and content, serving and helping, winning friends, and the art of work and leisure.
5. We have to be doubly non-violent. This means that we should not commit spiritual suicide of the soul or commit violence against the self or anyone.
6. We must practise economy in thoughts and time. They are our greatest resources and fortune.

The Method of Purification

1. The management of your thoughts. It is to have purity in every thought in every word spoken or every action performed or in every relationship. It is to nurture only positive thoughts and to burn all idle and negative thoughts. This is called meditation or the healing of the mind which helps one to not only conquer the mind but also to have complete control over the physical senses and the elements.
2. Use your body, mind and wealth in a worthwhile way for the benefit of yourself, society and the environment. This is known as surrendering the body, mind and wealth (tan, man, and dhan) towards the service of God. It does not mean to forsake the body, blank the mind or give away your wealth. It simply means to use them in a worthwhile way to bring benefit to all. This is based on incognito selfless service and selfless motivation.
3. Perform all your roles in soul consciousness. To do this, you have to consider yourself a soul, a child of God and remember the Supreme Father in all your thoughts and in your every action. This is written in the Gita as “Think of Me alone” and this

is the greatest mantra of “Manmannabhav”.

In conclusion, the festival of Raksha Bandhan is connected with the sacred vow of purity and a pledge to obtain and impart divine knowledge and attributes. Its origin is the confluence age and the purpose is the purification of all souls and transformation of the world. It is important to protect your elevated conscience or divine intellect by not coming under the influence of *maya*, or opinion of others and bad company.

DADI PRAKASHMANI– Embodiment of Love and Care

**– B.K Sapna,
ORC, Gurgaon**

O my sweet Dadi Maa
We remember your love and care
Even today,
You are spreading your fragrance
Every where
You reside in the heart of all
As in this world
You are a benevolent soul
You are a second God
For every one
Even today, you are giving us
Powerful vibrations like the sun
You are so cool
Like the moon
O my Dearest Dadi Maa
We are calling you again
Please come to meet us soon

CYCLIC HISTORY— YOUR OWN PROOFS!



– B.K. Joseph, Laggere
(Peenya) Bangalore

Godly Knowledge teaches that history repeats itself every 5000 years. A listener may object asking: Is history only 5000 years old? No, Godly Knowledge speaks about repetition of history, not about its age. When history repeats itself every 5000 years, its longevity is simply incalculable. Of course, one is always welcome to ask: How can I be sure that history repeats itself?

Turning to history books may not help, as history writing itself began in the second half of the *Kalpa* (cycle of 5000 years), when mankind fell from soul-consciousness into body-consciousness, and thus began to be ruled by “lust, anger and greed.” (Gita 16:21) This time-factor helps us to have a balanced approach to written history. Often, history is written to suit the purpose of its writer or the authority that appoints him for the job. When I studied history at school, Aryan invasion of India [which had exerted tremendous influence on India’s social set-up] was part of our

syllabus. Now it is learned that such a thing has never happened, it is a myth. This is true of other branches of science too. When some scientists presented *Pitldown man* as the greatest proof for evolution theory, other scientists proved it as hoax. This means whatever the scientists say need not be scientific, just as whatever a joker says need not be a joke! You can see a list of HOAXES in any Encyclopaedia.

Apostle Paul, a great Greek scholar-secular and religious—who wrote 14 New Testament books of the Bible, warned against putting blind faith in whatever a man hears or reads: “I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. So be on your guard!” (Acts 20:29-31) If this is the case with religious writing, then you can imagine how reliable the so called secular history writing

will be!

So, is the situation hopeless? No, the same Bible authorizes to do something in parallel: “Test them all; hold on to what is good [originally *kalos*, Greek, meaning inherently and intrinsically good], reject every kind of evil.” (1 Thessalonians 5:21, 22) Hence, we are under obligation to take only what our REASON concludes as something inherently and intrinsically is good. For example, we may read in Evolution & History books that *Homo sapiens* appeared on the earth lakhs of years ago. Here we need to use our reason: How many years are needed for a couple to have 4 children? 8 years. Let us give 150 years! Now make this simple calculation: First couple produced 4 children in 150 years, and they died. These 4 children [or 2 couples] produced 4 children each [total 8] in another 150 years. Thus, the population would take only 4800 [150 x 32] years to reach more than 8.5 billion, which is more than the current population of the whole earth.

Let us see what happens in front of our eyes, and use the power of our reason to arrive at a firm conclusion. We will do something like ocean-examination—by tasting some drops from here and there, we

conclude its water is salty. Similarly, let us take some samples of human behaviour:

- 1) Everyone knows that possession is an illusion; and this is the most-attested truth in the world. One has to die leaving behind everything one thinks as belonging to him—assets, relatives, fame etc. Yet, people go on repeating the same old habit of accumulating to their maximum capacity, and believe they own them.
- 2) People love blaming others when something goes wrong, yet hate taking responsibility for it. Experience has taught everyone that it is futile to try to change others whereas it is very much feasible to change oneself. Yet people repeat the folly of blaming others and try to transform others.
- 3) Even when ideal persons showed the right path to the world, people still want to continue with their old vicious habits. For example, Buddha, who was born to a

king, showed the worthlessness of pursuing power and pleasure. And we also have modern examples of billionaires who turn philanthropists later. Yet most people want to pursue their materialistic passion even if it comes at the cost of their values.

- 4) Whenever someone, with good-intentions, has tried to change the corrupt system, he has been shaved off from the face of the earth. Killing the messenger, if the message is not liked, is being repeated with no let-up.
- 5) Religions have correctly identified and preached egoism as the opposite of spirituality. Yet they themselves are reluctant to merge and become one world-religion for the whole humanity, making the worship simple and thus avoiding all confusion and colossal wastage. Thus all religions have been repeating this irony of asking their members to fight ego while they themselves keep fostering it!

6) Everyone knows happiness comes when we help others without expecting anything in return. The more unselfish one is, the happier he will be. Yet we find individuals and nations repeating exploitation of others. Golden Rule is replaced with another rule: ‘Those who have gold rule.’

7) Everyone knows prevention is better than cure. Yet people, in general, prefer cure. This explains why the number of diseases and hospitals are increasing! This is true even in the case of Governments who know how to prevent wars, yet create conditions that foster conflicts and wars! Both the rulers and the ruled have been repeating this wasteful act.

So, what would these attitudes and behavioural pattern of human-beings lead us to once again? They will inevitably provoke another world war and catastrophe that will bring us back to the beginning of the next cycle of time. Didn’t we say ‘History repeats itself’!

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EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP: BY INTROSPECTION (The Need of the Hour)

– Dr. H.K. Chopra,
Sr. Consultant Cardiologist,
Moolchand Medcity, Delhi

Every individual has a hidden leader in him, search it, perceive it, invoke it and experience it. This is possible by enhancing the Spiritual Potential. I firmly believe that these are the only methods available today, to invoke the hidden leader in you by introspection, which is the core of all hidden potentials in you – each component of the word.

Leadership is expressed as follows:

L–represents love, liberty and listening and leading capability, **E**–represents effect and efficiency with action, enthusiasm, **A**–represents agility, assertiveness, alertness, activity and awareness, **D**–represents divinity and dynamism as a doer, dependability, devotion and dedication, decision-making capability, **E**-represents excellence and eternity, with emotional stability and energy **R**-represents respect, reverence and responsibility and role-

model, **S**-represents subtleness, selflessness, **H**-represents humility and humanity with higher values, **I**-represents inspiration, intimate relationship with impact creation and interpretation with positivity, **P**-represents purity, persistence and perseverance.

WHO IS A LEADER?

A Leader is defined as “*one who has the capability to lead himself and others, with a motive of welfare of all*”.

A leader is “*one who knows that he knows, he knows what he must know and he makes others to know that he knows*”.

A leader is “*one who guides and directs other people and influences their behaviour*”.

A leader is the *symbolic heart and soul of a group*, who recognises the vision for prosperity and happiness with creativity and action and fulfils the desires of everyone. He understands the *dynamics, creativity and loyalty of the*

group with the intent of excellence.

Leadership as the qualitative behaviour of positive attitude towards the group and motivating it in that direction.

Leadership can be an important modifier of people’s behaviour working in the organization.

Effective leadership is to inspire people to work to accomplish the goal.

Leadership can also be defined as the core-cohesive force, which holds the integrity of the group and does not allow it to disintegrate.

Effective Leadership: An Outcome of Spiritual Potential

Basically all human beings have some basic needs such as food, clothing, shelter, protection, security, need to love and to be loved. Rising above these are what we call as higher human needs. If our lower needs are fulfilled and satisfied, then desire for the higher needs follow. It is very simple to understand that a hungry man cannot think of higher needs such as self-esteem, self-respect, self-knowledge, self-analysis, self-introspection, self-discipline, self-worth, self-expression, self-recognition, self-rewards, self-love, selfless service for others, divine life or spiritual awareness

etc. Today human beings are the most dangerous species on earth. They are ready to stab their own beings at any point of time, due to some reason or the other, compared to animals who neither do it and nor they know how to do it. What we speak, what we do, what we think has direct effect on the whole universe as we are all part of the universe and universe is part of us. All human beings are interdependent; if all insects are destroyed today, then the humanity will disappear in the next few years and, however, if human beings disappear from this planet, then insects or animals will flourish. Nature takes care of everybody's needs but not anyone's greed. There is no dearth of water, air, food, grain and shelter etc., for all of us. It needs to be properly organised. The needs of a leader and followers should be fulfilled at the basic level as well as higher levels. A leader should be an embodiment of positive emotions such as love, compassion, humility, altruism, magnanimity, empathy, sympathy, peace, harmony, sense of hopefulness, helpfulness, faith, confidence, forgiveness, truthfulness, honesty, security, politeness, respect, reverence, caring and sharing attitude, detachment,

selflessness and positive mental attitude which give rise to perfect leadership. I firmly believe that Perfect leadership is an expression of outstanding intelligence, vital force, enlightenment, happiness and ecstasy. "Love heals, Love inspires, Love renews, Love rejuvenates, Love empowers, Love makes us feel safe, Love brings us close to God, Love secures, Love motivates, Love unites (hate and anger divide)." "Love is a tranquilizer, love is an energizer, love is an equalizer, love is stabilizer."

"Love is self-control, Love is self-knowledge, Love is self-awareness, Love is self-respect, Love is self-strength, Love is self will-power, Love is self (solipsism), which is all pervasive". Love is leadership and leadership is love. The Lord expressed in the Gita, that Love is life and life is love & love is pure potentiality. He said that there is an invisible, immortal (dweller) leader in you and me, the nature of which is *sat-chit* and *anand*. *Sat* is eternal truth, *chit* is consciousness without fear, which upholds the whole universe and *anand* is the ultimate bliss. This is what leadership is. We can experience this by practice of meditation, regular exercise, yoga, pranayam, healthy diet,

regular massage etc. Lord Krishna also said that in order to be a perfect leader, "Be in action and not inactive". He also said, "Have renunciation in action and not renunciation of action." If you want to invoke the hidden leader in you, be *rajsic* with enhanced *Satwik* qualities without *inertia/tamas*.

Is nurturing the quality of leadership necessary?

Yes, nurturing the quality of leadership is necessary right from the childhood to live effectively with dignity and productivity which is possible by an optimal integration of body, mind, spirit, soul and environment to have perfect leadership.

"As is the perception, so is the thought, As is the thought, so is the interpretation, As is the interpretation, so is the experience, as is the experience, so is the choice, As is the choice, so is the mind, As is the mind and body apparatus, so is the intelligence. As is the intelligence, so is the leadership, as is the leadership so is the world around you." "Perfect mindset leads to perfect leadership" and imperfect mindset is responsible for imperfect leadership. Intelligence is an invisible,

infinite potential of choice making in every cell of our body. A true leader is one who is selfless, has no greed, is service-oriented, devoted, dedicated and the one who inspires, motivates the people to fulfil the goal and he is a heart and soul of the group, who takes care of the group in every way possible. He believes that God alone is working through him for the welfare of everyone.

Functions of a leader

A leader has to:

- ◆ Plan actions to achieve the goals and act accordingly.
- ◆ Organise the activities of a group without conflict.
- ◆ Achieve coordination within the group and outside the group.
- ◆ Fulfil the physical, psychological, emotional, mental, environmental and spiritual needs of the followers including security, safety, support and recognition etc.
- ◆ Provide guidance.
- ◆ Inspire and motivate the followers.
- ◆ Firmly believe in ethical values.
- ◆ Firmly believe in newness and change, because change is the essence of life.
- ◆ Be process-oriented and not only result-oriented.
- ◆ Change his strategies depending upon the requirements of the situation.
- ◆ Respond differently to different stimuli.
- ◆ Reveal confidence, faith and selflessness; no greed, no lust, no anger, no attachment, no ego, no arrogance, no vengeance, no violence, no vindictiveness, no prejudice, no racism, no ethno-racism, no bigotry, hopefulness, helpfulness, kindness, flexibility, peace, harmony, equipoise and self-discipline.

A perfect leader is the product of physical, mental, emotional, psychological and environmental response to any challenging situation. If managed well then any ordinary man can be an extraordinary person gradually and admirably and grow up to full potentials. If not managed well, it may be disastrous and fatal not only for himself but also for a family, community, society, nation and the world. This is possible when the leadership is expressed from the levels of the soul by practising meditation. Contd. in the next issue

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applied, and I 'tie' the sacred thread, i.e. take the pledge to stay in my original nature of peace, love, purity, wisdom and power, that my every thought, word and action become elevated and divine.

I see every other being as a child of God and part of my spiritual family.

This unlimited vision breaks all barriers of caste, creed, age, gender, religion, socio-economic status and *sanskars* (personality traits). I then can live by my **true self-respect** and help others to do the same.

The more I purify my consciousness, the stronger is my connection with God. God is then bound to look after me, and my positive actions ensure that I receive His blessings and good wishes from all souls, my global family. These, then, work as my protection and stay with me forever.

'Pavitrata, Sukh aur Shanti ki Jananee hai (Purity is the Mother of Peace and Happiness),' so let us bind ourselves in this Spiritual *Bandhan*. One small promise of love and purity on our side will bind God, Almighty Authority, for eternity... Isn't it time to see God work the magic of True Love?

All Centres and Branches of the Brahma Kumaris institution conduct a number of events worldwide to celebrate this sacred festival and tie Rakhi to lakhs of souls. Will you be one of those to receive special blessings from the Divine this year?

THE BIRTH OF LORD SHRI KRISHNA



—B.K. Aparajita, BJB Nagar,
Bhubaneswar, Odisha

In this world of strife, poverty, violence, wars, uncertainty, disease and cruelty, it is almost impossible to visualize Paradise or Heaven, where every human on earth is peaceful, happy, contented, and disease-free (mentally and physically). It is said that in Heaven, even animals are non-violent. As humans have everything they need, they interact with others with genuine brotherly love. Thus Heaven is nothing but that time on earth when human beings have divine qualities and live in peace and harmony. They possess Health, Wealth and Happiness.

If such a place ever existed on earth (it is mentioned in every religion), where did it go? Why are we in this plight today? The answer is simple. It all comes down to one word... 'Purity'. Those who lived in Heaven were called gods and goddesses, although they were like us. The difference was "THEY WERE PURE". Purity implies freedom from vices—sex-lust, anger, greed, attachment and ego—

which lead to selfishness, jealousy, callousness, violence and hatred. These vices have divided the world to such an extent that today, even a family cannot live together in harmony.

I, too, had been led to believe that these vices are natural to us, humans or that progress and spiritualism are opposed to each other. Well both assumptions were proven wrong, when I undertook the spiritual awareness course at the local Brahma Kumaris centre. I learnt that we souls, as children of GOD, are made in His image. What come natural to us are Purity, Peace, Love and Happiness. That is why all of us are searching for these values in our own way, though our method and approach are different. Secondly, when we are under the influence of vices, our energy is focused on the outer superficial world, thus decreasing our creative capacity and making us weak. However, when we are pure and full of qualities of peace,

love and happiness, we accumulate more spiritual power. The gods and goddesses of Heaven had so much pure energy and vibrations that even the nature got transformed. Even the science was at its peak and everything was new and beautiful.

This brings us to the conclusion that sorrows and sufferings are caused by the vices and Purity is the answer. But the question arises: what is the next step? Fortunately we are immortal souls who have the capacity to return to our original state of Purity. This is possible when we recognize our Father, God Shiva and remember Him with love. He is the father of all souls. We reside with Him in the Incorporeal World (*Paramdham* or *Muktidham*) and come down to earth to take human bodies and play our parts in this Eternal World Drama. This drama passes through different stages as the soul moves from enlightenment towards ignorance or darkness. The world at present is at its darkest hour (period). Every day brings new crime, violence and challenge. Every day there is a war being fought somewhere in the world.

At this hour, we need to look inside and take a peep at what changes need to be made in the

self. The World Almighty Authority teaches us Rajyoga through which we can once again cleanse ourselves. Just as we souls come onto earth and enter a mother's womb to take a human body, He has come, but His is a divine birth. Incorporeal God Shiva descends into the body of an ordinary man, whom He names Brahma and through his mouth, He imparts the knowledge to us.

The practice of Rajyoga taught by God through the Brahma Kumaris organisation does not imply or require one to give-up life but to give up the negativity in life. Every soul, intrinsically, knows that there is a Supreme Father who can save him and therefore, calls upon him in times of distress or fear. Today our Father is here and He is asking us to remember Him with love. This is a very practical and easy way out of sorrow, stress and illness. This method of remembrance cleanses and purifies us until we become our original pure selves. Through this process, we can once again be like our ancestors—the gods and goddesses of heaven. Thus this remembrance (Yoga) turns human beings into deities. Through this divine knowledge, souls become pure and the first deity is born--Shri Krishna, who is 100% pure; complete to the 16 celestial degrees and perfect with all divine virtues.

In the world cycle, a great change is unfolding. It is now or never. We can take our fortune from our Spiritual Father who is here to purify us and re-establish Heaven on earth. God is calling each of His children, to come and inherit his birth right of Heaven from Him. The Golden Age (Heaven) is being re-established on this very earth.

“BURDEN OF KARMA”

– Abha Mittal, NOIDA

There is no such thing as free lunch” they say
For what you use now, you need to repay
When in your heart some heaviness you feel
Listen closely & find what does it reveal.

It might remind you of some unpaid debt
Which you took with an unsaid pact
You needed to nurture it with utmost care
Your mindlessness abused as you weren't fair.

Comforts came your way by Nature and countless
beings

You abused and wasted many just without seeing
Now it bruises and scrapes your heart
And you feel helpless how to mend the chart.

Tongue you got to heal the hearts
But you only threw the poisoned darts
Eyes could admire beauty in the works of art
With them you tore innocence and chastity apart.

Ears could ever soothe the souls
You created with them fissures and holes
Countless ways you abused all gifts
Always ready to widen cracks and rifts.

Trees, water, air all of you tried to reign
Frittered them recklessly, they twinge in pain
They tried to give you all you need
You made them wither, wilt and bleed.

Now when your heart with heaviness is filled
Listen to Him to go back to its glory n' gild
Don't run in circles or here and there
Follow Him with thanks and care.

GOD'S NOURISHMENT AND INSIGHT TO HUMAN SOUL

– **B.K. David**, Paignton, England

I know some people for whom the life seems to open the floodgates of immense suffering. They are clinging on to all things good in life, and are hoping the quicksand of their suffering and its causes would not drag them under. They are, in essence, very good, with a golden heart, good intentions, have a great love for God and truth, yet they carry with them some of the dirt that this life serves. Moreover, who can remain so good in a world of such evil and complications as not to pick up some bruises? Naturally, it becomes an integral part of the deal called life.

I do not think this person I know is alone in their immense suffering today, and in many ways it is inevitable, as this cycle is now quickly coming to its end and all debts have to be repaid — in full. They may be small or large debts, they may manifest themselves in toothache, backache, financial ruin or relationship mayhem, even all of them. If that debt is owing and has been placed in your suitcase (soul) of karma, then that is what you have to pay back, and if that hurts and

causes you suffering, then you only have yourself to blame.

The people of the world are all suffering and sick, and God wants you to distribute the ointment to help cure them all. To sit in a cave or be sitting glued to the TV on the sofa or asleep or lazing in bed, are never going to make you a Godly helper in His task.

The Signpost Pointing At Yourself, Heaven and give the Vices

God likes us to have an open spiritual mind which allows us to travel and walk with comfortable shoes, light heart and clear aim. Without God's truth and purpose in our lives, our hearts become heavy, our aims become selfish and weak, we walk with a limp and start to become disabled and even crippled. God likes that we learn to leave footprints of love and peace and become clever in making attractive signposts that point away from the quicksand of the vices.

God Comes to Point Out Our Mistakes - and the Solution

God comes to simplify life; it's we who complicate it so

much. Do you want to roll around in the dirt or move forward in life and accomplish and master it to its fullest degree? Do you want to remain dirty or have a very clean, bright and clear future? God only wants the best for us, and for us to put down the worst. You cannot hold both the best and worst in your hands at the same time, and if you work for God, you automatically have to put down the worst, as you'll have the best in life in your hands. Whatever you carry around with you, that is what you shall build each day. Most carry round falsehood and rubbish of vices and waste thought, so you can imagine what they build and the state of their lives.

If you are in debt (unhappy), then it must have been yourself who created the debt in the first place. If at that time you were ignorant of your suitcase (soul) opening and an IOU (I owe you) being placed in it, as most are, on your behalf that is no excuse at all. If you accidentally kick someone, can you say you are not responsible? This IOU will have your name on it and it is this that now needs repaying.

There are always the flood-gates of happiness and which can also open up just as suddenly and easily as the gates of suffering can. But these gates of happiness are now rare to be seen open, are very rusty, often squeak and get stuck. These gates require much effort and luck to open, even slightly. We need great honesty and care in our lives if we are to open these gates. Yet with most people it is the attitude of carelessness expressed in words like ‘How does it matter?’ Such people are often devoid of happiness.

Honesty really is the heartbeat to successful living and a life of happiness but its shoes are exacting and precise and not everyone can fit into them and feel comfortable. Many ignorantly walk round in muddy Wellingtons that are always three sizes too small and very uncomfortable to walk (live) in and naturally take you to dirty places.

Honesty acts as an insurance policy and can protect you in times of difficulty. Dishonest people do not ever look happy and always feel uncomfortable with themselves and other people. Without honesty in your life, your heart will slowly grow weak and could stop beating at any moment. But meeting a truly honest person today may

be an exception and appear rather boring.

For the honest amongst us, life is just beginning and for the dishonest, it’s just ending. The two roads of honesty and dishonesty go in opposite directions and have very different rewards at both ends. At the end of one destination is a small crowd of happy smiling people and in stark contrast at the other end of the road are vast crowds of endless people crying in great distress on their knees.

A mouthful of the truth of water will do you far better and quench your thirst, than what having an endless tap of lies in your house will do for you. Most people often drink from the tap of lies, not being content with a mouthful of truth. Most find truth too distasteful to swallow. Yet a drop of truth from God is infinitely better for you than an ocean of man’s lies. For those who thirst for truth, there is only God’s water in their cup (mind). Man’s lies only create an unquenchable thirst that will never go away, regardless of what they drink or how much of it. Most are content with muddy boots (a life of continual deception) which their water of lies can never wash off.

People have become

accustomed to living on breadcrumbs. Their lives are worth breadcrumbs, and they struggle having to work for even these. These breadcrumbs at best, are average and become rather tasteless and dull, and at worst, turn poisonous. The bread (actions and reactions) of life becomes, without great care and attention, a mere habit that eventually makes you ill and diseased, mentally unstable and exhausted.

There are many habits in life that are so dangerous they will kill you. Everyone is guilty of the vices such as greed, attachment, body-consciousness or ego in their lives, as they can all write a book on their suffering. With *karma*, two and two, always make four. Although at the time it may look like two and two are making eight (people are escaping the result of their bad actions) or even 22, eventually the law of *karma* always adds up correctly, picks up with them and pays back.

God has come with a whole loaf (life full of virtues, peace, love and happiness) for each soul to eat every day and enjoy to its fullest potential. Everyone is now tired of the few stale crumbs which they have to labour so hard to acquire and

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A Tribute

DADI PRAKASHMANI



– BK (Prof.) Ved Guliani, Hisar

Dadi Prakashmani has really justified the significance of her name as she spread the light of spiritual knowledge and divinity far and wide across the world. The manner in which she took forward the mission of the Brahmakumaris, after Brahma Baba attained the incorporeal state, the motherly love that she gave to one and all and the effective and efficient administration of the organization speak volumes about her talent and qualities of head and heart and which no member of this divine family can ever forget. She was perhaps the most loving child of Baba, the true follower of purity and truth.

She took keen interest in the administration of the Yagya. After Brahma Baba left his mortal coil, she devoted herself to the spiritual services in the country and abroad and maintained a unity of ideas and ideals within the organisation. It was her great quality that she recognized the talent of each and every member and utilized it for

the benefit of the Yagya. It was because of her efforts that many milestones have been achieved and many memorials raised for the Brahmakumaris world-wide.

Dadi Ji was virtuous, humble and religious minded from her early childhood. She once said about herself, “When I joined Baba’s knowledge, I was about 14 years of age and I had already passed the Matriculation Examination. I don’t remember ever having told a lie or indulged in theft. I never abused anybody nor did anyone ever abuse me. I did not know what true learning was, but I was sure that having desires makes you ignorant and illiterate. I would often argue that the gopis did not have desires, Mira did not demand anything. Moreover, if mother wanted me to eat something she would do it of her own, why should I demand?”

Dadi Ji followed God’s advice in every field and that is why she became the ‘Redeemer and Motherly Figure to the World’. One thing

that one experienced in Dadi Ji was her confidence. Whatever happened, her confidence would neither reduce nor would it ever shake. Her faith was solidly based in her love for Baba and fellow brothers and sisters. She was always benevolent and would keep others ahead of her.

Dadi never commented on or delayed the implementation of any of Baba’s directives. Moreover she never had any ego to satisfy. Her only reaction to any appreciation or commendation was that it is Baba who gets everything done. Her model of obedience and affection left a lot to see, learn and experience.

Dadi Ji, in her class, would guide one and all about the norms, rules and regulations but would not point out anyone’s lapse directly. She never had any ill-will or bitter feeling about anyone in her mind. She had a golden principle: “If anything takes roots in your mind, your happiness has to yield place to that thought. So you may lose the corporeal life but not the spiritual bliss.”

Rajyogi BK Ramesh Shah once said about Dadi Ji, “Mateshwari Jagdamba attained the incorporeal state on June 24, 1965, when we also came to Madhuban. Sometime later, I wrote a letter to Brahma

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DADI PRAKASHMANI- DADI OF THE WORLD

– BK Yogesh, BK Colony, Shantivan

Fortunate are those who attained Godly knowledge at this auspicious confluence age and also got the divine sustenance of revered Dadi Prakashmani ji who looked after the administration of Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalya, as its Chief Administrator, for 38 years from 1969 to 2007.

Her ever shining aura of purity and divinity was a result of constant remembrance of God Shiva and application of Godly knowledge in her life. She imbibed values in her life and was a living example of deities. With her divinity and motherly love, she ran this vast organization for 38 years, spreading the Godly knowledge to every nook and corner of the world.

I can't forget the day of 17th Jan.1999 when our group accompanied by senior B.K. brother Ram Nath ji (from Vikas Puri centre, New Delhi) reached Shantivan for having a divine meeting with our most beloved BapDada, on the auspicious occasion of 30th Ascension Day of Prajapita Brahma Baba. The very next

morning we also met Dadi Prakashmani and received Godly gifts from her. She spoke to everyone with so much divine love that can't be expressed in words. We were receiving fathomless vibrations of purity from her. Her conversation, especially with those visiting for the first time, made us feel very special. The heart assertively said – 'how beautiful would be the Creator whose creation is so beautiful'. She was so divine, spiritually loving and caring.

Around 4 p.m. the same day, our group visited Pandav Bhawan. It was a pleasant surprise to see Dadi Prakashmani there. As soon as we saw Dadi, we went near her and she gave us very powerful and loving gaze. Dadi immediately asked us, "Neeche Mile the na?" (I think we met in Shantivan.) Her words had a magnetic pull which cannot be forgotten even now. The meeting which lasted for a few seconds was so powerful that I started feeling super sensuous joy. This was followed by a divine meeting with our most beloved

BapDada, which filled us with boons and blessings for the whole *kalpa* of 5000 years.

I visited Madhuban again in November 1999 to attend a programme on intense meditation. Dadi ji's classes were especially charging which filled us with unlimited zeal and enthusiasm. Once she took us to Om Shanti hill along with other senior sisters and brothers. She said, "All of you should walk slowly and carefully in Shiv Baba's remembrance." Then she jokingly said, "If anyone of you falls down, he will not receive toli(Prasad)." And we burst out laughing. Her Godly sustenance was amazing. All the kumars were gifted silver rings; I'm still wearing that special gift from BapDada and sweet dadi ji.

In 2006, my mother and I shifted to BK Colony, Shantivan and we have been rendering voluntarily services since then. Those days, Dadi wasn't keeping well but she kept on giving her motherly sustenance not only to BKs but also to all the souls of the world. Throughout her spiritual life, she utilised her thoughts, words and deeds successfully in Godly service. On 25th August 2007, she left her mortal coil to perform her advanced role in this eternal world drama. The memories with Dadi Prakashmani will always remain fresh in our minds and will continue to inspire us towards the goal of perfection.

BHARAT – THE GOLDEN SPARROW



– B.K. Vithal Kumar Pingali,
Vishakhapatnam

“**India** is my country and all Indians are my brothers and sisters. I love my country and I am proud of its rich and varied heritage. I shall always strive to be worthy of it. I shall respect my parents, teachers and all elders and treat everyone with courtesy. To my country and my people, I pledge my devotion. In their well-being and prosperity alone, lies my happiness.”

This is the Pledge of our Nation, which we recite with honour and reverence. This, in essence, is the soul of the country’s citizen. This is the Pledge, which now is recited at schools and in certain national ceremonies, as a routine formality! Lost amidst the hustle bustle of day to day life, drifting in search of a system that supports, the Pledge seems to be a casualty in the Indians’ journey for survival. Despite a rich cultural heritage, we see the country’s moral fabric eroding fast, now in the state of dilapidation.

A powerful and prosperous

land, referred to as “Sone ki Chidiya” or the Golden Sparrow, Bharat was considered as God’s chosen land or His favourite. This prosperity attracted invasions by many countries and foreign rule from the 16th to 19th century, followed by an extended freedom struggle, finally leading to independence in the 20th century.

Current Scenario

Post-Independence, there was remarkable development in all areas and the Country became a contending force in the global economy. Agriculture remains the backbone of its economy and a successful Green Revolution led to self-sufficiency in the agriculture sector. Indian Industry underwent a long journey from extreme reliance on khadi and village industries to Heavy industries in all the sectors. Today, Indian industries are getting global recognition followed by inflow of huge foreign funds into the country. The nation also

witnessed tremendous progress in the areas of Science & Technology and Infrastructure over the years.

The 21st century brought India to the threshold of globalization and liberalization of the economy, with a boom in the information technology and communication sectors. However, the country continues to face nagging problems like poverty, illiteracy, unemployment, increasing population, corruption, environmental pollution and depletion of natural resources. Maybe it is imminent for us, as citizens of this country, to have a relook at our priorities and redefine national development in today’s context.

Village based Economy

The growth of an economy depends upon three main factors: availability of capital, availability of appropriately skilled labour and productivity of the economy to convert labour and capital into final products. Being a country with majority of villages, India is sufficiently endowed with human as well as natural resources. Sadly, infusion of capital into villages and proper organization of village based industries is lacking. Villages are the foundation of the country’s heritage and need to be nurtured to keep the economy healthy.

However, with the advent of modernization, villagers started sending their children to cities for a better earning and improved lifestyle. This led to large scale migration of village population to cities leading to neglect of traditional agriculture, which was handed over as a family business from generation to generation.

In spite of these setbacks, India is in second position across the globe in terms of agricultural production. In the year 2009-2010, associated and farming industries like forestry, fishing and lumbering represented nearly 15.7% of Gross domestic product of India. Stable development is observed in the domains of irrigation, engineering and implementation of farming operations. To improve the agricultural contribution to the country's economy, Government needs to focus more on provision of Technical, Administrative and Systems support to farmers. Proactive measures like the following could provide better incentive:

- ▶ Development of Agricultural production infrastructure
- ▶ Standardization and Grading of agricultural products
- ▶ Construction of rural Godowns
- ▶ Information network and

Market research

Apart from the above, measures to bring about inclusive growth, stable prices, improved infrastructure, more and more skilled workforce, a more rationalised tax regime and better fiscal discipline and consolidation would certainly infuse life into the country's economy.

Role of Youth

The youth of this country have a major role to play in its advancement to the next level of development. It is found that the majority of Indian population is of the younger generation. However, organizing Indian youth poses twin challenges of meaningful education on one hand and retention of skilled youth in the country on the other hand.

Education should necessarily meet the objectives of teaching good values and also equip the young with skills necessary to pursue their livelihood. However, with the onset of materialistic thinking and decline in ethical values, modern education caters more to those bent on acquiring a qualification with the intention of obtaining a profitable employment. Even this investment in the youth is not bringing direct returns to the country, as the youngsters tend to go abroad for better

employment opportunities and greener pastures. Spirituality and moral values being the strength and sustenance of India, the Country's education system and family system need to provide for educating children in these aspects, so that they are guided to make wise decisions in the best interests of the nation.

From another perspective, General Elections for the Lok Sabha are around the corner and it is the time for educated and conscious youth to volunteer for service in nation building. It is common knowledge that the current political scenario is besotted with corrupt and selfish politicians. Well-meaning individuals with the better interests of the nation at heart need to come forward and bear the mantle of the country's development. It is now or never!

Dynamic process of change

India has come a long way and the lessons learnt need to be the stepping stone in the next step for the Country's progress. In the words of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of Independent India, "a tryst with destiny – a moment which comes but rarely in

history, when we pass from the old to the new, when an age ends and when the soul of a nation, long suppressed, finds utterance.” These words remain as much significant today, as we live amidst changing times.

In an ancient story, a sage asks his disciples, “when does the night end?” and they give several unsatisfactory answers. Then the sage says, “No, my sons. When two travelers from opposite end of our land meet and embrace each other as brothers; when they realize they sleep under the same sky, see the same stars and dream the same dreams – that is when the night ends and the dawn begins.”

We now live in a global

village, exposed to plenty of new avenues. However, new opportunities come with novel challenges and traditional thinking may not provide ideal solutions in these circumstances. Every day brings about unique situations, which have to be tackled in creative ways with ingenious methods. With effective governance, there are high chances of getting the economy back on its feet and galloping in the coming times. Leaders with foresight and high integrity are the need of the day, to direct the country into the new age of prosperity and happiness. Then, a day shall come, when we may truly say, “If on earth there be paradise of bliss, it is this, it is this, it is this ...”

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which can all too easily lead to indigestion and heartburn. God has brought us the correct food (knowledge and awareness) to eat and which will make us so healthy, so that we can walk in the right direction forever healthy and happy for thousands of years.

Only God can give the knowledge, enlightenment and wisdom which enable you to experience life to its fullest potential, and the spiritual love to digest it. This knowledge and love fuels your arms, and the more you help others today, the greater, the richer, the sweeter, the lighter, the more nutritious the loaf, you receive, shall be.

So walk and lend a hand to God, and you will walk in paradise soon and never again need a hand in anything – such is the power in this loaf and in this giving.

FRIENDSHIP

One of the things that make us feel great is friendship. Friendship is the basis of every genuine relationship. But it has to begin with me. Until I take responsibility for and start listening to myself, I cannot be my own friend. Am I kind and loving to myself? Are my thoughts, feelings, attitudes, words and actions friends with each other, or are they often in contradiction and out of control? Inner harmony and honesty begins the flow of friendship between me and the outside world – not only the world of the other actors in my life but the worlds of time, nature and matter.

Creating this kind of partnership, in which I feel positively connected to all other aspects to all other aspects of life, creates a great feeling – for this is the feeling of fulfilment.

(From the book ‘Feeling Great’ by **Dadi Janki**)

HUMAN-BODY: THE ULTIMATE AUTOMOBILE



– Dr. B. K. Gopinathan,
Hosur

One may be surprised if I say that our human body is just like a car that we find running on the roads, the only difference is that this human car is far more efficient and superior to the metal cars, which more developed and designed by scientists and engineers after a lot of research effort. Both these cars need a driver to run. The driver of Human car i.e. body, is the “SOUL”.

For safe driving driver must have an easy access to all the controls like clutch, brake, accelerator, steering, etc. In the same way, the soul, the driver of the body also needs to have proximity to all the controlling organs of the body. Eyes are the glass windows of the car to see through, thoughts are the accelerator, intelligence is the brake, mouth is the horn, hands and legs are the four wheels, etc. To control all these organs properly and in time the soul driver has to sit in the place from where it can control all these organs. The best place is the hypothalamus, behind the

forehead between the two eyebrows which is also referred to as the ‘seat of the soul’

The car gets its energy by the ignition of a fuel like petrol, in a combustion chamber along with air by a suitable sparking mechanism using a spark plug. When the fuel burns, it expands causing a reciprocating motion of a piston, which in turn is converted into a rotary motion using a crank and connecting a rod mechanism. This rotary motion is transmitted to the wheels through a suitable transmission system and the car starts moving.

Now look at the human body. It also requires the fuel to burn in combination with oxygen to get life energy. What is the fuel for the human body? Don’t be surprised if I say that sugar is the fuel for the body! The food what we eat is converted into glucose through various digestive systems in the body like stomach, small intestine, lever, big intestine, etc. The air from the atmosphere is inhaled through the nose and in the

lungs oxygen is separated from the air and injected into the blood stream. The lever injects the glucose from food into blood. All human organs are made up of cells with similar design, but different shape, colour and function. Each cell has a stove called Mitochondria, where the glucose is burnt using oxygen and heat energy is produced. This heat energy is used for the functioning of all organs. Without this energy, the human being is as good as dead.

In a car if the used petrol is contaminated or adulterated, there is no method to detect it and avoid it. This adulteration causes malfunctioning of various parts and efficiency is reduced. In the design of human body, Nature has provided an organ called pancreas, which testifies the sugar in the blood by secreting insulin. Sugar with insulin is called glucose and is permitted to enter the cell for producing heat energy. When pancreas does not testify the sugar with insulin, it is bad sugar and it will not be permitted to enter the cell and will be sent out as waste through urine. No human made automobile till date has a system like body to test and permit the fuel quality. If anybody can design a system to testify the fuel in the car, that is going to be the best performing car in the world!

In the car, to filter the solid particles like dust in the suction line, a filter is incorporated. This filter requires to be replaced every 5000 or 10000 km of car running. Otherwise the filter will not function properly. In human body, the nose acts as an inlet suction pipe and to prevent dust, etc. entering the lungs, a hair mesh filter is provided near the tip of the nose, which acts as a filter. This filter does not require a replacement till death.

Once the fuel is burnt and piston is moved, the waste product of combustion is required to be removed from the system for the next cycle to start. For this, in cars exhaust pipes are provided with silencers. This creates a lot of problems, requiring the silencer to be cleaned frequently to remove carbon deposits. Whereas in human body the same nose is used both for inhaling and exhaling, i.e. both inlet and exhaust pipes are combined. Such combined inlet and exhaust pipes are not designed so far in any of the human designed cars.

Also in cars, oxygen is not separated from air and sent into the combustion chamber. Air

containing only about 27% oxygen is sent. This reduces the efficiency of the engine whereas in human body, lungs separate the oxygen from air and provide supply to the blood vessels. If such a system is incorporated in cars, the efficiency will be enormously improved. Some engineers should look into this aspect seriously to get better efficiency in cars.

If the fuel is adulterated or contaminated, the car gets damaged. In the same way, if human beings don't control the food intake and eat unhealthy food, they suffer from ailments. Again, by touching the engine a good mechanic is able to tell its condition. In the same way, by testing the body temperature, the doctors are in a position to judge the condition of the body. So the fever is only warning us that something is wrong with the body. Fever by itself is not a disease. As by hearing the noise of the engine we can tell about the functioning health of the car, similarly we can also tell the condition of the body by listening to the heart-beat.

The petrol tank of the car is limited in size. Hence we have

to fill the tank at regular intervals, say 400 to 600 km. In the same way, a human body also requires to be fed with good and proper food at regular intervals. The car also requires servicing and cleaning at regular intervals. Similarly a human body also requires to be maintained both internally and externally at regular intervals (daily bath for external cleaning, dieting, fasting, healthy food habits, etc. for internal cleaning).

If the driver of the car is not drunk, and he takes good rest etc., he can safely drive the car to destination. During the travel, there will be lots of speed breakers, traffic lights, human crowd, etc. In the same way, the soul has to travel a very long journey (the 5000 years Journey) and during its journey it will meet lots of obstacles like anger, ego, body-consciousness, hatred, lust, waste thoughts, negative thoughts, etc. To overcome all these obstacles, the soul-driver has to apply brakes to the thought. That is why traffic control is advised by the Supreme Soul.

“True happiness is an experience which touches others.”

When I am really happy, I have a natural desire to share it with others. This urge to share helps me to spread my happiness. If the happiness is based on the truth, no harm will follow for myself or others, and all concerned will benefit from my state of mind.

THOUGHTS WILL CHANGE THE WORLD

– B.K. Shikha, Pune

Probably, we don't assign the required importance to the thoughts we generate. We feel that they are not visible to anyone. Many people opine that even if they think negative about someone, it doesn't really harm them. But is it really so? Actually man is a creation of his own thoughts. As he thinks, so he becomes. Therefore one must ponder deeply on what to think and how to think. We must know how our thoughts impact us and others around us.

How often when talking to someone, we feel a disconnection between what the person is saying and what his true intentions are? What causes this disconnection? Do we really communicate with people orally only? Do we also communicate through our feelings and thoughts? The things that really matter are mostly unspoken. How is it that even when we mostly consider ourselves to be this physical body, we are still able to catch subtle vibrations? And what do we trust more—the words or the feelings?

Let's think about it for a moment. Though thoughts don't have a gross form, these generate feelings, and the feelings affect our state—our physical and non-

physical being. A thought never dies; it travels in the whole universe and comes back to us after getting multiplied many times.

The saying goes, '*As you think, so shall you become*'. As per Hindu scriptures "Brahma created the world by thought". Then, what should we think? How to know what is negative, positive or wasteful thought?

When my thoughts are driven by the consciousness that I am a physical body, they automatically revolve around the physical possessions, relations and attainments, but none of these things are going to last forever. These are all accessories of the drama. Just as the actors are given a set of costume, and situations to support their roles, these are provided by the drama. As soon as my role in this body is over, I leave all these physical possessions and fly out of the body, to take on the next role. I might be assigning a lot of value to these physical and material things and people who are in my contact, but all this ceases to have any meaning for me, the soul, as soon as I leave this body.

Compare this to being driven by the consciousness of being

a soul, an imperishable, incognito, immortal point of light, sitting in the middle of the forehead and ruling this body. My true nature is Peace, Love, Happiness and Purity. I remember that I the soul have earlier taken many bodies, I can never die and I have nothing to lose. All the physical possessions are part of the drama. When I came to this body as a child, I didn't have any possessions, except my account of *Karmas* and my *Sanskars*. As per my *karmas*, material things and other souls started coming in my contact automatically. It is certainly by our positive and creative thoughts that we can create heaven on earth.

All this is happening automatically as per drama plan. The only thing I can control is my quality of actions. The thoughts, words or actions, created under the influence of the vices—Lust, Anger, Greed, Attachment, Ego—create a negative account for me. All *karmas* driven by the original qualities of soul, giving happiness to someone, having good and pure feelings for other souls, doing generous acts, all these generate a positive account for me. Positive thoughts benefit others, make me feel good and create a good atmosphere. With positive thoughts I can serve the souls around me and accumulate an account of good wishes of those souls. This account will go

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All agree that moral and spiritual fibre of our public life has weakened and it has also been underlined as the greatest challenge. Though on the other hand, it also cannot be denied that India has a message of tolerance and spirituality for the world, even while the world may not have any unanimity on the meaning or connotation of the word 'spirituality'.

Actually, that is the greatest tragedy of our times. All our problems have, in fact, arisen from identity crisis. Man is ignorant of his real identity and considers himself a body. The discrimination based on the accident of birth would go if man realised that each one of us is a soul and, therefore, we do not live by bread alone. There would have been no massacre in August, 1947 or even the partitioning of the sub-continent would not have taken place, if people had the awareness that they are souls. Also, there would be no injustice of any kind or corruption of any brand or gender-bias if people become soul-conscious. Our spirituality and spiritual response will arise from our soul-consciousness and therein lies the real *Swaraj* (rule of the self or soul); else it would be an illusory *Swaraj*.

If today we Indians realised our true identity and treated human world in a soul-conscious manner, many of the vices and evils and sins would evaporate in no time and our country, our society, our towns and villages and our families would become no less than the gardens of happiness, joy and bliss. The need of the time is to ponder on this Independence Day whether we are the sons and daughters of one God, *Parampita Parmatma* – the Supreme Soul, and thereby all are brothers and sisters. Let us pledge ourselves to bring this change at the earliest and transform India into Heaven in the true spirit of the word.

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Baba asking him to formally appoint an administrator of the organization in place of Mateshwari Jagdamba. I also requested him to make this decision in writing, since that would solve many a legal problem. So on April 01, 1966, Baba wrote in his own hand in Sindhi language on the last page of that day's Murali and appointed Dadi Prakashmani the Chief Administrator and Didi Manmohini Ji as the Additional Chief Administrator of the organization. Baba sent a copy of this appointment letter to me and said, "Today I have formally made this appointment and informed others through the Murlī." In this way Dadi Ji was appointed the Chief Administrator, the responsibility she continued to discharge very efficiently till her last moments in the mortal coil."

It is no exaggeration to say that like a talented, efficient and mature captain she guided this ship of the BK family and led it to great heights. On August 25, 2007, she left her mortal coil and joined the Advance Party to lay the foundations of the New World. I had an opportunity to meet her in the year 2000, as an illiterate and ignorant person spiritually, but came out of the Pandav Bhawan as one of His enlightened and devoted children.

Our multi-million salutes to Dadi Ji!

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with me wherever I go, even when I leave this body and take another one.

All this shows the power of thoughts. Our thoughts have the capacity to not only heal us but also have the potential to guide others and the world towards becoming a more loving place. Therefore, we need to be constantly aware of the thoughts that we create and understand the influence they have.

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1 Aska (Odisha): B.K. Sis. Pravati presenting Godly gift to Sri Sri Nischalanand, Shankracharya of Puri Govardhan Peeth. 2 Shirala (Sangli): B.K. Sis. Nanda presenting Godly gift to Vidya Vachaspati Jagadguru Dr. Chandrashekhar Shivacharya Mahaswami. 3 Gyan Sarovar (Mt. Abu): A seminar-cum-Rajyoga Retreat on Transport being inaugurated by Mr. Subrat Tarai, Hon'ble Minister for Commerce & Transport, Odisha; Rajyogini Dadi Ratan Mohini, B.K. Sis. Meera, Mr. G.K. Chaukiyal, Member (Operation), Airport Authority of India; B.K. Om Prakash and others. 4. Sendhwa: B.K. Sis. Chhaya presenting Godly gift to Mr. Shivraj Singh Chauhan, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh. 5. Shantivan (Tapovan): Tree Plantation being performed by Mr. R.K. Ajmera, former Dist. Governor, Lions Club; B.K. Atam Prakash, B.K. Bharat and Lions Club members. 6) Jari (Kullu): B.K. Sis. Kamla presenting Godly gift to Mr. Veerbhadra Singh, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Himachal Pradesh. 7. Bhubaneswar: Prof. Manoranjan Kar, V.C., Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology, B.K. Sisters Leena, Geeta, B.K. Vijay, B.K. Rajesh and others, after a spiritual talk. 8. Peace Village (New York): A group of participants-cum-coordinators in the age group of 18-35 years of an annual retreat 'Choose, Change and Become'.

DIVINE MESSAGE OF DADI JANKI ON THE AUSPICIOUS OCCASION OF RAKSHA BANDHAN

Feeling ever safe under the protective canopy of the Supreme Father, my dear divine brothers and sisters,

Extending millions of Best Wishes on the eve of Raksha Bandhan and Janamashtami!

This Divine Festival of Raksha Bandhan symbolizes the unbreakable thread of Godly love and unity and conveys the message to maintain the flow of sacred love in our hearts and our minds. Adorned with Godly powers, we receive the inheritance of liberation and liberation-in life as the most precious Godly gift.

Let's take a pledge to imbibe teachings of the Supreme Father in our lives in order to completely purify ourselves in thought, word, deed and dream, on this auspicious festival.

It is our heartiest wish that through the strict observance of the hymn - "Be holy, Be yogi", tie the sacred Rakhi on the wrist and through your merciful stage send vibrations of peace and happiness, offer each other the imperishable sweet of cordial words and apply the eternal tilak (mark) of soul-consciousness - all these would make one fortunate forever.

