



The Vision

A monthly journal started by HH Swami Ramdas in 1933
DEDICATED TO UNIVERSAL LOVE AND SERVICE

Vol. 89

OCTOBER 2021

No. 01



ANANDASHRAM, PO ANANDASHRAMA 671531, INDIA



Beloved Papa Swami Ramdas (1884-1963)

Vol. 89**OCTOBER 2021****No. 01**

Om Sri Ram jai Ram jai jai Ram

ॐ श्री राम जय राम जय जय राम

Om Sri Ram jai Ram jai jai Ram

IN MY HEART DWELLETH GOD

*J*n my heart dwelleth God,
and I love Him in all beings.

In my eyes dwelleth God,
and I see Him everywhere.

On my tongue dwelleth God,
and take His name for ever.

In my ears resounds His voice that fills all space.

My every thought and impulse is surcharged by God.

I walk as He walks; talk as He talks.

I am His and He is mine — I am He. □

— ***Swami Ramdas***



Vol. 89	October 2021	No. 01
CONTENTS		
From The Editor	-	5
Intuition	- Swami Ramdas	7
Words Of Beloved Papa	-	9
With The Divine Mother	- Swami Shudhananda	12
Discrimination Leads To Intuition	- Swami Satchidananda	15
Intuition — A Still Small Voice	- Peace Pilgrim	18
Inner Voice	- Swami Ramdas	20
Intuitive Light Comprehends Majesty Of Self	- Swami Krishnananda	23
Divine, Voice And Guidance	- Swami Ramdas	24
The Inner Voice	- Mahatma Gandhi	27
Dear Children	-	31
Epistles Of Swami Ramdas	-	33
Sannyas Centenary Of Beloved Papa	-	34
Anandashram News	-	37

THE VISION

A monthly Magazine

Published by

ANANDASHRAM

PO Anandashrama 671531, Kanhagad, Kerala, India

Phone: (0467) 2203036, 2970160, 2207403

Web: www.anandashram.org

Email: anandashram@gmail.com

For free edition of “The Vision” on the web,
please visit: www.anandashram.org

FROM THE EDITOR

Spiritual practices help us in quietening the mind thus opening up a channel through which the guidance from the indwelling Reality in the form of intuition is clearly experienced. In other words, one comes to know and consider every prompting as coming from Him as an instinctive feeling rather than as conscious reasoning.

A simple, innocent and value-based life, which is also reflective and contemplative in every approach, provides the needed ambience for the emergence of intuition. Regular and intense inward journey coupled with purity in outer life, hastens the process. Here purity stands for subservience to the Higher Power within us in all matters, whereby humbling ourselves. Gradually, this results in reducing the dominance of ‘me’ and ‘mine’ to the minimum.

Oftentimes, while acting based upon our inner promptings, we might be faced with the challenging question as to how are we to differentiate between intuitions and interpretations of our own mind? The yardstick to understand intuition is that it will be spontaneous in nature and free from any trace of vested interest.

To get more clarity on intuition, which is very subtle, Beloved Papa said: "Intuition is the outcome of the fusion of a purified heart and an illumined intelligence. Intuition is a spontaneous outflow of Divine thought, feeling and action in and through us. The chief condition to be fulfilled in order to reach this blessed state is elimination of the ego-sense. How to do this? It is no doubt very hard. It is surely not by intellectual endeavours, but by humbling ourselves before the Divine."

This month's issue of THE VISION carries articles that would give us a clearer understanding of intuition. □

— **Editor**



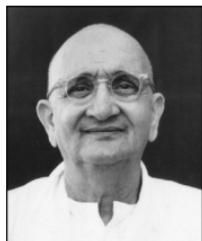
If you want to take a leap into the Infinite and realise your oneness with It, you have to stop reasoning. Reason must give place to intuition. Intuition is born of a purified heart and an illumined intelligence. It is a spontaneous outflow of Divine Light. This can come only after the elimination of the ego-sense.

— **Swami Ramdas**

INTUITION

By Swami Ramdas

Intuition is the working of the inner being of a man when he has tuned his life with the universal and all-transcendent Existence. When intuition really works, the egoistic sense of man is completely absent and the experience of such a man is of a consciousness which is above the body-idea. To rise above the notion of the body does not mean the stock-stillness of the physical members but the performance of all their actions in a state of perfect self-effacement and therefore of spontaneity.



Intuition does not work always in consonance with the views and opinions, or swayed by the criticisms and oppositions, of the world. The external form of work, which the intuition takes, directly flows out from the omnipotent Power that causes the birth, growth and dissolution of all phenomenal life.

If one could at all distinguish the works of intuition from those emanating from an individualistic sense, it is possible only through their results. While the former, being of a selfless nature, tend inevitably to the benefit and delight of others, the latter, being born

of a personal ambition and for personal gratification, causes loss and misery to others. So, intuition is the product of complete self-surrender and its work is in its inherent nature beneficial to all.

We hear of saints and sages receiving unspoken messages from the Great Master of the Universe as to the conduct of their lives. Their intimacy and communion with the Great Guide is so perfect that they carry out works in the world without favour or prejudice, without caring for praise or blame, but only in fulfilment of their life's mission as set by the Divine Guide.

In the field of spirituality, intuition is spoken of as the "Inner Voice". When the soul has fallen under the spell of this Immortal Voice, he realises his ever free and blissful existence. Thereafter the individual lives and moves in the consciousness of God. In all states he now feels he is utterly liberated and inexplicably happy. □

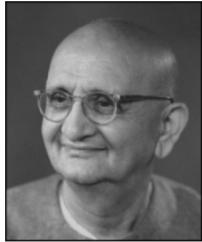


***Intuition guides you unerringly. Intuition is
the voice of God within you.***

— Swami Ramdas

WORDS OF BELOVED PAPA SWAMI RAMDAS

R amdas always feels he is made to do the right thing at the right time. Doubt arises if we think we are doing something ourselves at any time. We are not sure then whether we are doing the right thing or not. When we have entirely surrendered ourselves to His will, and are in His hands, our ego is completely absent and we feel sure that we are doing everything according to His will and guidance. There is no cause for regret because we do not do things which will have any reaction on us. Intuition becomes our guide.



Before we have intuition, it is better we are guided by reason which helps us to do the right thing to a great extent. We must think well before we enter upon any action or before we agree to do any action, whether that action is congenial to others in relation to whom the action is done, or whether it causes any pain or sorrow. If it is congenial and helpful you must act, otherwise you must withdraw from the action. You cannot always depend upon reason because it sometimes misguides you, unless

it is illumined reason coming from the enlightened intellect.



Intuition is the outcome of an enlightened intellect and purified heart. Intuition is the Divine speaking and acting through us. Here the ego-sense is absent. We are conscious that we are one with the Divine and that our body is only an instrument through which the Divine works for fulfilling His work in the world.

The person who has gained this highest experience does nothing by or for himself, and he rightly says that he talks because God makes him talk, he works because God makes him work. Your life is now utterly dedicated to the Divine. You are one with Him and still you are different from Him. This is indeed strange. This is an experience which cannot be put into words. However, the mystics have struggled to express it and when you hear them you wonder what they are talking about.



You know, there is a borderline between the material and the spiritual, between the intellectual and the spiritual. Reason can take us up to that border and not beyond. If you want to take a leap into the Infinite

and realize your oneness with Him, your reason must cease to function. Reason is a help, no doubt, but to some extent only. After a stage, it becomes an obstruction. It cannot grant you the experience you aim at. Reason cannot therefore be a safe guide throughout your journey. You must, at a certain stage, replace reason by what is called intuition.



Mind is witness of physical activities, but not of its own activities. Who finds out that the mind is thinking wrongly? It is Buddhi — the discriminative faculty. Make Buddhi and mind still and realize the Atman. Buddhi is not infallible. After Self-realization, it is the Divine Power that guides you. We call it intuition. If you ask a saint, "Why do you do that?" he says, "God makes me do it." It is intuition that makes him do it. We call it "God's voice" or "Inner Voice". Saints have become one with God and all things they do are by the will of God. That is the highest state. There, reason has no part to play, mind is still and intuition or God's power is at work fulfilling a universal purpose and plan. They are then Vibhutis or illumined instruments in the hands of God. □



WITH THE DIVINE MOTHER

By Swami Shudhananda

Devotee: “Which is more efficacious — chanting God’s Name by lips or mentally?”

Mataji: “It is only after you have chanted His Name aloud for some time that you will be able to do mental Japa. If you try to do mental Japa right away, your mind will be running here and there in ever so many directions so much so that whatever Japa you do will have no impact. But, if you are to take His name aloud and concentrate on the sound of the Name, that itself will take your mind within and you will take to mental Japa also very easily. That is what Papa taught me. He asked me to take His Name aloud in the beginning, and assured me that it would gradually go within and become both the Saguna and Nirguna Swaroop and the state beyond both. I was then chanting the Mantra both mentally and orally. I have told you only what my experience was. Each one has to take the Mantra the way it suits him. You should hearken to the promptings of your heart and do as Papa wants you to.”

Devotee: “Yes, Mataji”



Devotee: "Mataji, I have always wondered — in his talks and writings Papa often speaks of Ram having talked to him. For instance, in one place Papa has narrated how he wanted to expend himself in austerities in the Himalayas but that Ram from within told him that his mission on earth was yet to be, and so he should not think of dropping his body and so on. How is it that Mataji has never spoken about Ram or Papa speaking to you from within in this manner?"

Mataji: "In my Sadhana days, I too used to speak of Papa from within telling me to do this and to do that. I used to refer to myself in the third person and say that Papa told Krishnabai this and told Krishnabai that and so on. That was the time when Papa was rarely in the Kasaragod Ashram but used to be out on all-India tours most of the time and I had to rely entirely on His voice and guidance from within. But I found that people in the house where I lived in those days started making fun of Papa and poured ridicule on His sacred being whenever I said that Papa told me this or Papa told me that, giving me directions in my Sadhana. I was aghast at the ridicule of Papa that my artless talk had evoked and

I could not stand it. So, I dropped all such references and again started talking of myself in the first person. Papa had taught me that I should not bother myself about the external name and form. Actually, when Papa says 'Ram' and I say 'Papa', we both mean one and the same thing. □



***W*hen the diverse, confining sheaths of Atman have been dissolved by Sadhana, when the different Vrittis of the mind have been controlled by mental drill or gymnastics, when the conscious mind is not active, you enter the realm of Spirit life, the superconscious mind, where Buddhi — pure reason — and intuition — the faculty of direct cognition of Truth — manifest. You pass into the kingdom of peace where there is none to speak, you will hear the voice of God which is very clear and pure and has an upward tendency. Listen to the Voice with attention and interest. It will guide you. It is the voice of God.**

— ***Swami Sivananda***

DISCRIMINATION LEADS TO INTUITION

By Swami Satchidananda

Jife of man can be happy only if guided, not from outside but by one's own discrimination. So, discrimination plays a very important part in everybody's life, more so in the life of spiritual aspirants. Let us have a dialogue on this essential quality that only human beings are endowed with.



Ramu (To Discrimination): Where do you work?

Discrimination: The Lord has willed that only human beings should have my company. If properly used, I can help man to become God.

Ramu: What type of power are you?

Discrimination: I act through and help your intellect to sort out things depending on their qualities and advise as to what you should accept or reject.

Ramu: What about animals? They also accept or reject things — on what basis do they do this?

Discrimination: Animals are bestowed with INSTINCT. So, they accept or reject instinctively.

Ramu: How do you work in humans?

Discrimination: Suppose you see some attractive things in the market. They look so tempting that you want to have them, not knowing that they are harmful to you. Then I warn you not to buy them. On such occasions, you must listen to me and reject those things. Having done so, you must be firm in your decision, even if your mind puts pressure on you to go for them.

Ramu: Are you so important?

Discrimination: For spiritual aspirants, yes. They have to strive hard to distinguish between the Real and the unreal, Imperishable and perishable, even in their own body. Having known what is Real and what is unreal, they have to identify themselves with the Atman, which is Real, giving up the wrong identification with the body, mind, the senses and also me, which belong to the perishable category. That is why it is said that I should be keen in seekers.

Ramu: How long should this continue?

Discrimination: I can work only when I am keen, which means I am free from all impurities, and sharp enough to discriminate unlike the “dull intellect”.

Ramu: What happens next?

Discrimination: Along with that process, the heart also gets purified, and intuition starts guiding the seeker unerringly. This is the voice of God.

Ramu: What is the result?

Discrimination: Decisions on important matters, which normally need my discussing with the mind, taking a long time, are now made spontaneously and correctly.

Ramu: Do you mean to say they have no thinking process at all?

Discrimination: Their decisions are spontaneous. When they are asked some questions of importance on spiritual or mundane matters, their answers come out immediately, just as some object comes out the moment a coin is inserted in a slot machine.

Ramu: What happens to you then?

Discrimination: When the heart is purified and I am illumined, the result is Intuition. The Sadhaka who used me has now become a Siddha (a perfected soul). God speaks and acts through him. □



INTUITION — A STILL SMALL VOICE

By Peace Pilgrim

Questioner: Can you describe intuition?

Peace Pilgrim: Real intuition is a spiritual receiving through the Divine Nature — but I realize that psychic receiving is sometimes referred to as intuition.



Clarity Gained By Listening To The Inner Voice

When I was a senior in high school, I began to make my search for God, but all my efforts were in an outward direction. I went about inquiring, "What is God? What is God?" I was most inquisitive and I asked many questions of many people, but I never received any answers! However, I was not about to give up. Intellectually I could not find God on the outside, so I tried another approach. I took a long walk with my dog and pondered deeply upon the question. Then I went to bed and slept over it. And in the morning, I had my answer from the inside, through a still small Voice.

Now my high school answer was a very simple answer — that we human beings just lump together everything in the universe which is beyond the capacity

of all of us, and to all those things together some of us give the name God. Well, that set me on a search. And the first thing I did was to look at a tree, and I said, there's one. All of us working together couldn't create that one tree, and even if it looked like a tree it wouldn't grow.

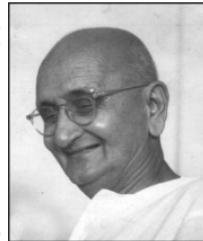
There is a Creative Force beyond us. And then I looked at my beloved stars at night and there's another. There's a Sustaining Power that keeps planets in their orbit. I watched all the changes taking place in the universe. At that time, they were trying to keep a lighthouse from washing into the sea. They finally moved it inland and said they had saved it. But I noticed all these changes and I said, there's another. There is something motivating towards constant change in the universe. When I reached confirmation from within, I knew beyond all doubt that I had touched my highest light.

Intellectually I touched God many times as truth and emotionally I touched God as love. I touched God as goodness. I touched God as kindness. It came to me that God is a creative force, a motivating power, an over-all intelligence, an ever-present, all-pervading Spirit — which binds everything in the universe together and gives life to everything. That brought God close. I could not be where God is not. You are within God. God is within you. □

INNER VOICE

By Swami Ramdas

When confronted with important problems of life, merely reasoning does not help you in arriving at a correct solution. Taking advice from others, however great and wise they may be, does not help either. In such situations you have to draw inspiration and guidance from within yourself. God or Truth that dwells within you can alone give you, from time to time, right direction for the harmonious adjustment of the affairs of your life. Reason can prove to be a safe guide when you are prone to be actuated only by the waves of passion that rise in your mind and when you have not found the Divine within you, who can prompt and lead you. The decision arrived at by reason is not always free from error. However, in all cases the reasoning faculty should be exercised in deciding the questions of life, until the Divine Voice becomes your sole guide.



How does the advice of even your well-wishers, who have knowledge and experience, give rise to confusion in your mind? Doubt is the worst enemy

of an individual. When a well-intentioned advice is given to you, you begin to doubt its efficacy. If you act according to it and things go contrary to your expectations, you lose all faith in the well-wisher causing disturbance in your mental equilibrium.

It must be admitted that there are some people who possess a rare trust in the guidance of their Teachers and Elders on whom they rely implicitly. Whatever be the results or consequences of acts done in obedience to their advice, they calmly accept them in a spirit of resignation and goodwill. Such cases are found hardly one in a million. Even such a one would prefer one day to throw up the crutches, and by listening to the Inner Voice be guided by it.

The people who act under the urge of a fickle and uncontrolled mind err all along and come to grief. Here, while reason is not brought into play, the voice of intuition or God is silent. Reason can begin to give light only when the mind and its desires are subjugated, whereas the Divine is heard when mind, reason and will are all surrendered up unto the Truth, who is the absolute Being, Knowledge and Bliss.

When God in your heart guides, you are ever safe. You commit no blunder, for you see your way

straight and clear. You face all situations boldly and cheerfully. Doubts do not harass you. When thus you live and act in a state of perfect union and identity with the Divine, a deep peace and joy pervades you. Your life now becomes a beautiful and fragrant flower dedicated at the feet of your Eternal Beloved. You realize that you are the Infinite Reality full of love and radiance.

Therefore, go within and by holding communion with the Supreme, bring out the latent light and power to bear upon your conduct in relation to the affairs of the world. The one infallible standard by following which you are made to walk with safety on the Path, until you realize the Divine Goal, is to be true to the great Self within you. Pray to Him for enlightenment and you get it. Put yourself in His hands and what a wonderful lustre your life takes! Hold Him as your all-in-all and what an absolute state of joy and peace you experience! You become an illumined being, a child of Immortal Love and Wisdom. This is the summum bonum of life — the highest consummation — the perfection all beings aim at. □



INTUITITIONAL LIGHT COMPREHENDS THE MAJESTY OF THE SELF

By Swami Krishnananda

Che why, what and how of Maya can be known only by one who has transcended Maya and has entered the Glory of the Self. Others can merely speculate over it, but cannot solve the riddle as the instrument or the mechanism of human knowledge is centred in his psychological organ which is a modification of Maya itself. Ignorance cannot remove ignorance as they both are not contradictory forces. Man's highest faculty of knowledge is the intellect, which is itself a creature of self-limitation, and hence, it is impossible for the human being to determine the nature of the Power that supersedes him in extent and subtlety. It is only the intuitional light which comprehends in itself the totality of existence that can step above Maya and behold the majesty of the Self. Only then can the illusoriness of Maya and the eternity of Brahman be realised in completeness. Intellect should give way to the higher religious experience not based on the ego. Real religion begins when the intellect stops working. That is the religion of Self-realisation where the entire Brahman is experienced and Maya is totally negated. □

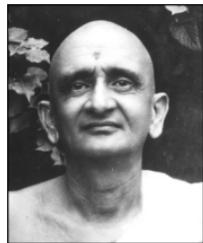
Source: Moksha Gita

DIVINE, VOICE AND GUIDANCE

By Swami Ramdas

Inner voice speaks in the devotee when he has surrendered up his body, mind and soul into the keeping of the Divine who dwells within him. In this state of surrender, this body becomes the willing instrument, the mind is enlightened with Divine radiance, and the soul unites and identifies with the Supreme Spirit. Now God's guidance is felt at every step and the devotee's life becomes a spontaneous expression of Divinity in all its modes of activity. His consciousness becomes one with the Universal Consciousness and he transcends the limitations of time and space. His vision becomes all-inclusive and all embracing. The petty distinctions which held sway on him in his days of ignorance dissolve in the infinite vastness of this exalted spiritual experience. Thus, equality of vision becomes the background of the devotee's life and this outlook illumines his entire external life.

Sometimes, when a devotee, who is struggling for a complete surrender, confronts a difficult problem and he has to arrive at a definite decision and plan



for action, he fails to interpret rightly what God wills him to do. Here the devotee is sorely puzzled, becomes restless and worried over the solution. This is because the devotee's reasoning faculty is at work creating doubt and vacillation, even when the Inner Voice has spoken and given a clear guidance. The ego raises its hood and seeks to confuse his mind. Here the way out of the difficulty is to adopt an attitude of perfect reliance and resignation to the Divine will and to make the mind still and serene, so that the Divine Spirit within may point out emphatically a clear-cut line of thought and action.

Often, even after a particular decision is reached, according to the command from the Divine, should the immediate results prove to be apparently harmful or undesirable, doubt assails the devotee and he is led to think that his decision is wrong. He then unwisely withdraws or gives up half way the plan of action upon which he had embarked. He is unable to see his move, as willed by the Higher Power, would ultimately produce the most beneficial effect for all concerned.

Now the question is: how can one understand whether a certain prompting the devotee gets is either from the Divine or from the ego? For this

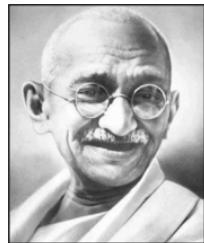
there is no external way to test. When the heart of the devotee is in perfect attunement with the Divine and he is surcharged with the peace of the Eternal, the Voice directs and there is no mistake. It is the sense of separation from the Immortal Spirit that prevents the devotee from receiving or recognizing real guidance from Him and hence arises uncertainty and confusion. So, the devotee should live at all times in uninterrupted communion with and the resultant surrender to the Divine. He should offer himself to God within, so thoroughly that by His power and grace the devotee's life is transformed in all its aspects, and His omnipresence and all-controlling Power is experienced by him. He becomes the mould, as it were, into which Divine pours Himself, converting him into His very expression and image. As he has attained Divine vision and beholds his own Self in all and as all, he becomes a powerful force for awakening and guiding humanity to the goal of spiritual liberation and beatitude. His touch and sight act like magic to reveal the light and peace of the Divine in all who come in his contact. Such a one is a rare blessing on earth. He brings unity, goodwill, peace and harmony on it. □



THE INNER VOICE

By Mahatma Gandhi

The Inner Voice defies description. But sometimes we do feel that we receive an inspiration from within. The time when I learnt to recognize it may be called my prayer time, say about 1906. I recollect it. For the rest, never did I feel at any time in my life that I had some new experience. My spiritual growth has been unnoticed like the growth of hair on our heads.



Nobody has, to my knowledge, questioned the possibility of the Inner Voice speaking to some and it is a gain to the world even if one person's claim to speak under the authority of the Inner Voice can be really sustained. Many may make the claim but not all will be able to substantiate it. But it cannot and ought not to be suppressed for the sake of preventing false claimants. There is no danger whatsoever, if many people could truthfully represent the Inner Voice. But unfortunately, there is no remedy against hypocrisy. Virtue must not be suppressed because many will feign it. Men have always been found throughout the world claiming to speak for the Inner Voice. But

no harm has yet overtaken the world through their short-lived activities. Before one is able to listen to that Voice, one has to go through a long and severe course of training, and when it is the Inner Voice that speaks, it is unmistakable. The world cannot successfully be fooled for all time. There is, therefore, no danger of anarchy setting in, because a humble man like me will not be suppressed and will dare to claim the authority of the Inner Voice when he believes that he has heard it.

Man is a fallible being. He can never be sure of his steps. What he may regard as an answer to prayer may be an echo of his pride. For infallible guidance man has to have a perfectly innocent heart incapable of evil. I can lay no such claim. Mine is a struggling, striving, erring, imperfect soul.



Divine Messages

The first question that has puzzled many is about the Voice of God. What was it? What did I hear? Was there any person I saw? If not, how was the Voice conveyed to me? These are pertinent questions.

I saw no form. I have never tried for it, for I have always believed God to be without form. But what

I did hear was like a Voice from afar and yet quite near. It was as unmistakable as some human voice, definitely speaking to me, and irresistible. I was not dreaming at the time I heard the Voice. The hearing of the Voice was preceded by a terrific struggle within me. Suddenly the Voice came upon me. I listened, made certain that it was the Voice and the struggle ceased. I was calm. The determination was made accordingly, the date and the hour of the fast fixed. Joy came over me. This was between 11 and 12 midnight. I felt refreshed.

Could I give any further evidence that it was truly the Voice I heard and that it was not an echo of my own heated imagination? I have no further evidence to convince the sceptic. He is free to say it was all self-delusion or hallucination. It may well have been so. I can offer no proof to the contrary. But I can say this that not the unanimous verdict of the whole world against me could shake me from the belief that what I heard was the true Voice of God... For me the Voice was more real than my existence. (1933)

One experience stands quite distinctly in my memory. It relates to my twenty-one days' fast for the removal of untouchability. I had gone to sleep the

night before without the slightest idea of having to declare a fast the next morning. At about 12 o'clock in the night something wakes me up suddenly and some Voice — within or without, I cannot say — whispers, "Thou must go on fast." "How many days?" I ask. It says: "Twenty-one days." "When does it begin?" I ask. It says: "You begin tomorrow." I went quietly off to sleep after making the decision. I did not tell anything to my companions until after the morning prayer. I placed into their hands a slip of paper announcing my decision and asking them not to argue with me as the decision was irrevocable. Well, the doctors thought that I would not survive the fast. But something within me said I would and that I must go forward. That kind of experience has never in my life happened before or after that date.

This I know that all that glitters is not gold, and also that if a man has really heard the Voice of God, there is no sliding back, just as there is no forgetting it by one who had learnt to swim. The listening must make people's lives daily richer and richer. □

Source: Pathway To God



DEAR CHILDREN

A mountain climber, who wanted to climb the highest mountain, began his adventure after many years of preparation, but since he wanted the glory just for himself, he decided to venture out alone.

When he had climbed quite a distance, it started getting dark and instead of preparing his tent to camp, he kept climbing until it got really dark. The night felt heavy in the heights of the mountain. The moon and the stars were cloaked by the clouds. It was pitch dark and the mountaineer could hardly see anything, but he kept trudging on.

As he climbed up and up, only a few feet away from the peak, he slipped and fell from a cliff at a great speed. He experienced a terrible sensation of being sucked by gravity. Those moments of great fear brought to his mind all the good and bad deed done in his life. He thought of how close to death he was getting. Then all of a sudden, he felt the rope tied to his waist pull him very hard, which prevented his further descent into the unknown abyss. His body was dangling in the air. Only the rope preventing his fall. In that moment of stillness, he had no other

choice but to scream: “HELP ME GOD!!”

All of a sudden, an Inner Voice prompted: “CUT THE ROPE TIED TO YOUR WAIST...”

There was a moment of silence; and the man decided to hold on to the rope with all his strength. The next morning, the rescue team found him hanging by the rope just a few feet above the ground.

How attached are you to your rope? Will you let go? Will you listen to the small Inner Voice calling out to you from within to let go?

Don’t ever doubt God and feel that He has forgotten or abandoned you. Don’t ever think that He does not take care of you. Remember that He is always holding on to you, waiting for you to let go; ...but, are you listening? □



You should pray to Him to give you inner light and make you aware of the Divine Presence within you. The inspiration you get from Him is called intuition. It is verily God working in and through you. It is the Inner Voice that directs and controls you.

— Swami Ramdas

EPISTLES OF SWAMI RAMDAS

Beloved Ram,

...You call the Divine Mother, "Mother, Mother", and you complain, you do not hear her respond to the call and say to you, "Son, Son". But the fact is, you fail to hear Her. For, your attention is externalised. Your mind is distracted with the noises of the world. Still the mind and in perfect silence listen to the sweet and melodious voice of the Mother within.

She is infinite love, and be sure that She has acknowledged you as Her child. Through the inner vision, behold Her; through the inner ear, hear Her; through the inner voice, speak to Her; thus, through close and intimate communion, lose yourself into Her resplendent being. The worlds are Her forms; all activities therein are born of Her power. She is the Supreme Mother of the Universe — the Creator, Sustainer and Destroyer... □

Ramdas

*



SANNYAS CENTENARY OF BELOVED PAPA SWAMI RAMDAS

(From 27th December 2021 to 2022)

Contemplating on IN QUEST OF GOD
as a LIFE-MANUAL

A Renunciation To Remember

27th December 2022 is a momentous historic occasion that marks the centenary of Revered Swami Ramdas' renunciation (Sannyas). On this blessed day, a hundred years ago, on the banks of the river Kaveri at Srirangam, Vittal Rao, as Beloved Papa was then known, renounced all that bound him to this mundane world and adopted Sannyas and the name 'Ramdas'; this heralded a new beginning in his spiritual journey. Traversing the length and breadth of India, he was touched by the undeniable Divine Presence during his eclectic encounters and unpredictable environments. This journey that transformed him from a mere individual to an enlightened visionary, culminated in the founding of Anandashram in 1931.

Beloved Papa's Sannyas serves as a beacon of fiery aspiration, inspiring sincere seekers to hasten on in their spiritual quest. It reminds us of the true

meaning and purpose of our lives. It makes us introspect and gauge as to where we stand in our spiritual quest and as to where we are heading. It constantly and consistently inspires us to journey inward to eventually attain the fruition of our lives.

Signposts In Our Spiritual Quest

As we reverentially observe this Sannyas Centenary year (27th December 2021 to 27th December 2022), which we hold on to as a sacred event in the Ashram's history, we are offered an opportunity to imbibe the teachings of Beloved Papa through an in-depth study of his seminal autobiographical book — IN QUEST OF GOD (IQG), which was first published in 1925. IN QUEST OF GOD (IQG) may seem to be a fascinating travelogue to many casual readers; but, if and when we look deeper into it, new facets will be revealed with each reading. It will no longer be a mere chronicle of an outward sojourn; it will serve as a set of signposts in our spiritual quest.

As illustrated in this book, Beloved Papa wandered all over India from the deep South to the far North, abandoning all comforts and conveniences of an earthly life, relying solely on the Great Provider. Often, the sky was his roof and the earth his bed; wild

streams quenched his thirst; in fact, he was led, fed and taken care of in different forms by the indwelling and all-pervading Reality, addressed by him as Ram. Indeed, no one was a stranger to him, for, he found Ram in everyone along the way; he shared his endless love and compassion with the whole of humanity. He wanted everyone to walk towards that which would provide unending peace and happiness.

A Life-Manual

When we buy a new gadget, it comes with a manual that guides us to operate it and also acquaints us with the care and precaution to be taken while using it. Likewise, IN QUEST OF GOD is a manual for our day-to-day life.

As we travel through the book, we will find many sublime and salient insights that make us look upon our own life-experiences with a new perspective. When we mentally recall many of the incidents that have transpired in our lives in this light, we might be able to see the ‘finger of God’ silently working behind every event and individual. Although at the time of undergoing the so-called “painful” or “pleasure-giving” experiences we may not have realised that all events are actuated by Him for our ultimate good,

but now, with this new outlook, kindled by IQG, we can try to gradually realise the truth that His guidance has been steering every activity in our lives.

IQG is indeed a storehouse of anecdotes which unveil various life-changing lessons.

Devotees are requested to take part in this year-long programme, the details of which will appear in the next issue of THE VISION.

Those of you interested in participating may kindly send us your name and address, mobile/WhatsApp number by email to pms.sanyas.centenary@gmail.com □



ANANDASHRAM NEWS

15,500-CRORE NAMA JAPA YAGNA FOR WORLD PEACE: The total Japa received in the third round of the 15500-Crore Nama Japa Yagna For World Peace in the month of August is 220 crores.

The grand total of the Japa done so far in this round now stands at 11096 crores.



118th JAYANTI OF PUJYA MATAJI KRISHNABAI

Pujya Mataji Krishnabai's 118th Jayanti will be celebrated on the 6th of this month. On this sacred occasion, THE VISION offers its humble homage to Pujya Mataji with a prayer to bless all devotees with intensity to actualise the spiritual values in their daily lives.



13TH MAHASAMADHI DAY OF PUJYA SWAMI SATCHIDANANDAJI

On 12th of October 2021, we observe Pujya Swamiji's 13th Mahasamadhi Day. Pujya Swamiji was the personification of humility, forbearance and Guru-Seva. May this day be instrumental in reminding us of these noble ideals that he epitomised, and may he bless us to live up to the teachings of our Guru.



LIST OF PUBLICATIONS IN ENGLISH

Sr.	Book Title	Price (Rs.)
1	Ashram Seva	30
2	At the Feet of God	85
3	Call of the Devotee	130
4	Dive Deep and Soar High	120
5	Gita Sandesh	110
6	Glimpses of Divine Vision	60
7	God Experience, Vols. 1 & 2 (Set)	240
8	Gospel Of Swami Ramdas, Vols. 1 to 3 (Set)	750
9	Guru's Grace	150
10	Hints to Aspirants	100
11	In Quest of God	150
12	In the Vision of God	285
13	Krishnabai	80
14	Lectures of Swami Ramdas, Vols. 1 to 5 (Set)	1100
15	Letters of Swami Ramdas, Vols. 1 & 2 (Set)	240
16	Mundane to Spiritual	100
17	Passage to Divinity	120
18	Pathless Path	50
19	Poems	100
20	Points to Ponder	150
21	Religion — Its Universality	50
22	Sadhaka and Sadhana	30
23	Sayings of Swami Ramdas	60
24	Srimad Bhagavatam	380
25	Stories as told by Swami Ramdas	100
26	Swami Ramdas on Himself	120
27	Swami Satchidananda	50
28	Talks of Swami Ramdas	130
29	The Divine Life, Vols. 1 & 2 (Set)	380
30	The Mother of All	60
31	The Silent Sage	60
32	Thus Speaks Ramdas	60
35	Viswamata Krishnabai	70
36	With My Master	90
37	With the Divine Mother, Vols. 1 to 3 (Set)	540
38	World is God	210

ANANDASHRAM PUBLICATIONS

Tel: (0467) 2970160

Email: anandashrampublications@gmail.com

R.N.: 3047/57 || Registered: KL/KSZ/8/2021-23
License to post without prepayment of postage
Lic. No. KL/PMG/NR/WPP/1-1/KSZ/2021-23
Date of Publication: 01/10/2021

ॐ श्री राम जय राम जय जय राम

THOUGHT FOR
THE MONTH

ANANDASHRAM

When your mind gets more and more imbued with the peace of the Eternal and when your surrender to the Divine is complete, the Divine within you will speak clearly and definitely. Always act according to the dictates of this Voice. It is the voice of Truth. The Inner Voice is the real guide. May the Infinite within you reveal Himself in all His glory and grant you changeless peace and happiness!

— Swami Ramdas

Edited and published by:

Swami Muktananda on behalf of
Anandashram Trust, Kanhagad.

and printed by him through: Prakash Offset Printers, Mangalore.