

25/08/10

SATSANGA WITH SW. SHRADDHANANDJI

Morning Session:

Since today is Mahavatar Babaji's Smriti Divas, let's reflect for a while on Babaji's nature.

One of the qualities of Mahavatar Babaji is his power – extraordinary power. He materialized a golden palace in the Himalayas and this is a manifestation of one of his abilities of control over the universe. The palace was materialized in order to fulfil the wishes of his disciple Lahiri Mahasaya during one of his previous life times. Daya Ma explains this was a wish, a fancy Lahiri Mahasaya had in a previous incarnation which did not need to be fulfilled, because Lahiri Mahasaya was already freed. The avatars have already freed themselves from desires. Yet they go through the drama, and part of the drama is to fulfill wishes. It is good to have the drama, good to have wishes fulfilled and one of them was to be in a golden palace for Lahiri Mahasaya.

Another power that Mahavatar Babaji had was to bring back a body totally shattered back to life. You remember the story in the Autobiography of a devotee who was searching for Babaji in the Himalayas:

"On another occasion Babaji's sacred circle was disturbed by the arrival of a stranger. He had climbed with astonishing skill to the nearly inaccessible ledge near the camp of the master.

"'Sir, you must be the great Babaji.' The man's face was lit with inexpressible reverence. 'For months I have pursued a ceaseless search for you among these forbidding crags. I implore you to accept me as a disciple.'

"When the great guru made no response, the man pointed to the rocky chasm at his feet.

"'If you refuse me, I will jump from this mountain. Life has no further value if I cannot win your guidance to the Divine.'

"'Jump then,' Babaji said unemotionally. 'I cannot accept you in your present state of development.'

"The man immediately hurled himself over the cliff. Babaji instructed the shocked disciples to fetch the stranger's body. When they returned with the mangled form, the master placed his divine hand on the dead man. Lo! he opened his eyes and prostrated himself humbly before the omnipotent one.

"'You are now ready for discipleship.' Babaji beamed lovingly on his resurrected chela. 'You have courageously passed a difficult test. Death shall not touch you

again; now you are one of our immortal flock.' Then he spoke his usual words of departure, 'Dera danda uthao'; the whole group vanished from the mountain.'

Babaji had the power to bring the dead person back to life. This person was not only dead but his body was not in shape anymore.

Another rare power of Babaji is immortality. Few people can retain their physical state eternally and Babaji is one of them. A part of Babaji's drama was when Babaji's sister, Mataji called Babaji and asked him to meet him at Dasasamedh burning ghat.

During my visit at Ranbajpur with Ram Gopal, "the sleepless saint," he related the wondrous story of his first meeting with Babaji.

"I sometimes left my isolated cave to sit at Lahiri Mahasaya's feet in Benares," Ram Gopal told me. "One midnight as I was silently meditating in a group of his disciples, the master made a surprising request.

"'Ram Gopal,' he said, 'go at once to the Dasasamedh bathing ghat.'

"I soon reached the secluded spot. The night was bright with moonlight and the glittering stars. After I had sat in patient silence for awhile, my attention was drawn to a huge stone slab near my feet. It rose gradually, revealing an underground cave. As the stone remained balanced in some unknown manner, the draped form of a young and surpassingly lovely woman was levitated from the cave high into the air. Surrounded by a soft halo, she slowly descended in front of me and stood motionless, steeped in an inner state of ecstasy. She finally stirred, and spoke gently.

"'I am Mataji, the sister of Babaji. I have asked him and also Lahiri Mahasaya to come to my cave tonight to discuss a matter of great importance.'

"A nebulous light was rapidly floating over the Ganges; the strange luminescence was reflected in the opaque waters. It approached nearer and nearer until, with a blinding flash, it appeared by the side of Mataji and condensed itself instantly into the human form of Lahiri Mahasaya. He bowed humbly at the feet of the woman saint.

"Before I had recovered from my bewilderment, I was further wonder-struck to behold a circling mass of mystical light traveling in the sky. Descending swiftly, the flaming whirlpool neared our group and materialized itself into the body of a beautiful youth who, I understood at once, was Babaji. He looked like Lahiri Mahasaya, the only difference being that Babaji appeared much younger, and had long, bright hair.

"Lahiri Mahasaya, Mataji, and myself knelt at the guru's feet. An ethereal sensation of beatific glory thrilled every fiber of my being as I touched his divine flesh.

"'Blessed sister,' Babaji said, 'I am intending to shed my form and plunge into the Infinite Current.'

"'I have already glimpsed your plan, beloved master. I wanted to discuss it with you tonight. Why should you leave your body?' The glorious woman looked at him beseechingly.

"'What is the difference if I wear a visible or invisible wave on the ocean of my Spirit?'

"Mataji replied with a quaint flash of wit. 'Deathless guru, if it makes no difference, then please do not ever relinquish your form.'

"'Be it so,' Babaji said solemnly. 'I will never leave my physical body. It will always remain visible to at least a small number of people on this earth. The Lord has spoken His own wish through your lips.'

"As I listened in awe to the conversation between these exalted beings, the great guru turned to me with a benign gesture.

"'Fear not, Ram Gopal,' he said, 'you are blessed to be a witness at the scene of this immortal promise.'

"As the sweet melody of Babaji's voice faded away, his form and that of Lahiri Mahasaya slowly levitated and moved backward over the Ganges. An aureole of dazzling light templed their bodies as they vanished into the night sky. Mataji's form floated to the cave and descended; the stone slab closed of itself, as if working on an invisible leverage.

Another power of Babaji is his ability to materialize and dematerialize anywhere. He can easily go from one place to another disappearing from one place and appearing elsewhere. Not only does he do it himself but he can make his entire group of disciples materialize and dematerialize.

After Babaji has been in one locality for some time, he says: 'Dera danda uthao.' ('Let us lift our camp and staff.') He carries a symbolic danda (bamboo staff). His words are the signal for moving with his group instantaneously to another place. He does not always employ this method of astral travel; sometimes he goes on foot from peak to peak.

Another quality of Babaji is his love. He resurrected the lost science of Kriya Yoga. He gave it first to Lahiri Mahasaya, through whom it was given to Sw. Sri Yukteshwarji and ultimately through Guruji it has been transmitted throughout the world. Babaji realized how complex life is today. People in Bombay realize that more as compared to people in other cities. The type of activities, the time spent in travelling and all the other things makes life very complex.

Babaji has promised:

“Babaji added, 'Repeat to each of your disciples this majestic promise from the Bhagavad Gita: "Swalpamasya dharmasya, trayata mahato bhoyat"—"Even a little bit of the practice of this religion will save you from dire fears and colossal sufferings."

Our suffering is created not in this life but in previous lives. Now we have some understanding but we did not have this understanding in previous lives. Due to ignorance we did things, said things, which cause us pain now. Because of ego the consequences do not happen immediately but it takes a long time to come to fruition. In saints it happens at once. There is the story of a simple saint Sadasiva in the Autobiography of a Yogi. (Saints are always simple)

“On another occasion the great master was roughly pressed into service by a passing foreman whose labourers were carrying fuel. The silent saint humbly bore his burden to the required destination and there placed his load on top of a huge pile. The whole heap of fuel at once burst into flames.”

I am sure you realize we are often forced to do things by people that we don't like to do. When we have an ego it takes a long time for the consequences to happen, but when we do not have an ego then we see the consequences immediately. People can hurt us and seemingly go scot free. Now people are hurting us and going scot free because even saints have created karma in past lives. Therefore you go through tremendous pain.

Another expression of Mahavatar Babaji's love (part of his drama the way Mataji had to request him to stay on in the physical world) is that when he gave Kriya Yoga to Lahiri Mahasaya he said:

Babaji instructed me in the ancient rigid rules which govern the transmission of the yogic art from guru to disciple.

"Bestow the Kriya key only on qualified chelas,' Babaji said. 'He who vows to sacrifice all in the quest of the Divine is fit to unravel the final mysteries of life through the science of meditation.'

Lahiri Mahasaya pleaded with Babaji on behalf of the ailing humanity and said:

"Angelic guru, as you have already favored mankind by resurrecting the lost Kriya art, will you not increase that benefit by relaxing the strict requirements for discipleship?' I gazed beseechingly at Babaji. 'I pray that you permit me to communicate Kriya to all seekers, even though at first they cannot vow themselves to complete inner renunciation. The tortured men and women of the world, pursued by the threefold suffering, need special encouragement. They may never attempt the road to freedom if Kriya initiation be withheld from them.'

"Be it so. The divine wish has been expressed through you.' With these simple words, the merciful guru banished the rigorous safeguards that for ages had hidden Kriya from the world. 'Give Kriya freely to all who humbly ask for help.'

This is a proof of Babaji's compassion. Not only has he given mankind a higher technique but he has promised to guide and guard us and promised to protect us.

Another example of his love and compassion:

We all get very enthusiastic at times. Often we get overenthusiastic in helping others to follow the teachings. Lahiri Mahasaya had been given the Kriya Diksha in Ranikhet and he was going back to his office.

"Before returning to Danapur, I spent a few days with a Bengali family at Moradabad. A party of six friends gathered to greet me. As I turned the conversation to spiritual subjects, my host observed gloomily:

"Oh, in these days India is destitute of saints!"

"Babu, I protested warmly, 'of course there are still great masters in this land!"

"In a mood of exalted fervor, I felt impelled to relate my miraculous experiences in the Himalayas. The little company was politely incredulous.

"Lahiri,' one man said soothingly, 'your mind has been under a strain in those rarefied mountain airs. This is some daydream you have recounted.'

"Burning with the enthusiasm of truth, I spoke without due thought. 'If I call him, my guru will appear right in this house.'

"Interest gleamed in every eye; it was no wonder that the group was eager to behold a saint materialized in such a strange way. Half-reluctantly, I asked for a quiet room and two new woolen blankets.

"The master will materialize from the ether,' I said. 'Remain silently outside the door; I shall soon call you.'

"I sank into the meditative state, humbly summoning my guru. The darkened room soon filled with a dim aural moonlight; the luminous figure of Babaji emerged.

"Lahiri, do you call me for a trifle?' The master's gaze was stern. 'Truth is for earnest seekers, not for those of idle curiosity. It is easy to believe when one sees; there is nothing then to deny. Supersensual truth is deserved and discovered by those who overcome their natural materialistic skepticism.' He added gravely, 'Let me go!"

"I fell entreatingly at his feet. 'Holy guru, I realize my serious error; I humbly ask pardon. It was to create faith in these spiritually blinded minds that I ventured to call you. Because you have graciously appeared at my prayer, please do not depart without bestowing a blessing on my friends. Unbelievers though they be, at least they were willing to investigate the truth of my strange assertions.'

"Very well; I will stay awhile. I do not wish your word discredited before your friends.' Babaji's face had softened, but he added gently, 'Henceforth, my son, I shall come when you need me, and not always when you call me. '

"Tense silence reigned in the little group when I opened the door. As if mistrusting their senses, my friends stared at the lustrous figure on the blanket seat.

"This is mass-hypnotism!" One man laughed blatantly. 'No one could possibly have entered this room without our knowledge!'

"Babaji advanced smilingly and motioned to each one to touch the warm, solid flesh of his body. Doubts dispelled, my friends prostrated themselves on the floor in awed repentance.

"Let halua be prepared.' Babaji made this request, I knew, to further assure the group of his physical reality. While the porridge was boiling, the divine guru chatted affably. Great was the metamorphosis of these doubting Thomases into devout St. Pauls. After we had eaten, Babaji blessed each of us in turn. There was a sudden flash; we witnessed the instantaneous dechemicalization of the electronic elements of Babaji's body into a spreading vaporous light. The God-tuned will power of the master had loosened its grasp of the ether atoms held together as his body; forthwith the trillions of tiny lifetronic sparks faded into the infinite reservoir.

"With my own eyes I have seen the conqueror of death.' Maitra, one of the group, spoke reverently. His face was transfigured with the joy of his recent awakening. 'The supreme guru played with time and space, as a child plays with bubbles. I have beheld one with the keys of heaven and earth.'

Sometimes the people whom we are trying to help are not ready to be helped. Even if they are ready they may not have evolved sufficiently. It can take incarnations to evolve and years in an incarnation to evolve. So that was the proof of Babaji's love for his disciple that his words should not be falsified. He also had compassion for those who were not ready as yet to follow the path of Kriya Yoga.

Another quality of Babaji can be seen in Daya Ma's meeting with Babaji in Kathgodam where Daya Ma experienced Babaji's soul cloaked in the thought essence of his being. Daya Ma experienced not Babaji's physical body, not his astral body but his causal body – no describable quality, just the thought essence of his being. (Only Love)

"In an ecstasy of sweetest joy I beheld the presence of Babaji. I understood what Saint Teresa of Avila meant when she spoke of "seeing" the formless Christ: the individuality of Spirit manifesting as soul, cloaked only in the thought essence of being. This "seeing" is a perception more vivid and exact in detail than the gross outlines of material forms, or even of visions. Inwardly I bowed and took the dust of his feet."

On her return journey, at the rest house that night, Daya Ma had another experience with Babaji.

Then I said, “Babaji, my Lord, our Guru taught us that whenever we want to feel wisdom, we should pray to Sri Yuktेशwarji, because he is all jnana, all wisdom; and whenever we want to feel ananda or bliss, we should commune with Lahiri Mahasaya. What is your nature?” As I said it, oh, I felt as though my heart was going to burst with love, such love – a thousand million loves rolled into one! He is all love; his whole nature is prem (divine love).

Though unvoiced, a more eloquent response I could not conceive; yet Babaji made it even sweeter and more meaningful as he added these words: “My nature is love; for it is love alone that can change this world.”

More of us have to meditate so that we can change this world.

Also during this meeting Babaji told Daya Ma:

This time he said: “My child, know this: it is not necessary for devotees to come to this spot to find me. Whoever goes within with deep devotion, calling and believing in me, will find my response.” This was his message to you all. How true it is. If you only believe, if you just have devotion and silently call on Babaji, you will feel his response.

In fact Ma didn't find Babaji in the cave. She had an uplifting meditation in the cave but she experienced the presence of Babaji on the way up and on the way back.

Where is God? He is within and if we go inside then we don't have to see his body or the astral light. Babaji is the essence of that light – he is the essence of Spirit. When we look for the astral light we are in essence going away from Spirit; when we look for physical characteristics we are going further away from Spirit.

Go within and request his blessings, a spiritual upliftment or anything else and we will surely find his spiritual help. At times when you need spiritual growth or when there is a nagging problem connected to us or a family member and we actually need a response, go inside and seek a response.

Many people ask me ‘if I have seen Babaji,’ and my answer is ‘No.’ But ‘have I felt his response,’ and my answer is ‘Yes,’ as many of you must have felt. So be interested in seeing not his body, but feeling his response in the form of Infinite Love.

Now from all this it is very clear that Babaji's spiritual state is beyond comprehension. His role is to help saints. He keeps himself away from the general masses. He doesn't appear before everyone. He has an extraordinary spiritual state, spiritual lifestyle. Guruji too had an extraordinary spiritual state from childhood

and he did manifest it at times, but he manifested it later after 1948. Daya Ma has said, Guruji had an experience with Divine Mother in 1948 where Divine Mother spoke through Guruji using Guruji's voice. Guruji later said that he would always remain in that spiritual state but no one would know it. He told disciples "don't touch me or your body will burn."

For us it is good that Guruji did not manifest that spiritual state earlier. I was discussing this with the pravesharthis some time back:

Guruji has said, "I will help you more when I am not in body." You think Guruji's power increases and decreases that he can help us more and less. When Guruji left his body he is not bound to this place or that place. When Guruji is omnipresent we are more receptive to his omnipresence and he can help us more. If we are less receptive then we get less help.

Any avatar's consciousness is beyond human consciousness. It is aware of what's happening there and some place beyond too. As part of Guruji's drama when Dr. Lewis was caught in the storm Guruji was pacing back and forth. Dr. Lewis then looked at the spiritual eye and saw a great light and felt reassured. The storm abated and Dr. Lewis and the others could return home safely.

"...some time later, when I was talking with Sister Yogmata about this episode, she told me that Master had been at her home in West Somerville on the afternoon of the storm. He was reading a passage about the sea by Emerson. Suddenly he threw the book down and began pacing back and forth.

"Sister," he said, 'Doctor is in trouble. He is in real trouble.'

"This happened at precisely the hour at which we were caught in the storm at sea.

"I told Master about what Sister Yogmata had said. 'Is it so, sir?' I asked. Swamiji just quietly dropped his head and smiled a little and nodded, 'Yes.'"

In his talk "Remembrances of the Guru" by Br. Mokshananda, he has described:

In the ashrams we have a rule that we do not go swimming in the ocean in Encinitas all alone. This was started in Master's time. And there was one disciple, he was a very big man and he loved to swim and he was very self confident and he had formed the habit of going out to the ocean to swim. And he would go out beyond the breakers and float around beyond the breakers for a while then he would go back. This he had been doing for weeks. But he was not acquainted with the rip tides and the --- that are characteristic of the sea. Smart swimmers would go around but he was not aware of these things and Master had said to him : "I don't want u to go swimming alone anymore" and just that

evening before this incident he had said several times to this man: "I don't want u to go swimming alone anymore." But that next day he had gone down to San Diego to do some work in the temple and in the afternoon the sun was shining and it was heavy but he thought probably it was nice for a swim; so he gathered some of the boys that were staying there in the Encinitas ashram to go to the beach with him. He followed the rule just a little bit. He took the group of boys with him But he left them on the beach. He then swam out as was his custom and he noticed very easily that day .the breakers were not a resistance to him as usual but there was an undercurrent. And then he went beyond the breakers, swam for a while and when the time came for him to swim in and he started to swim in and what was his surprise – instead of the breakers taking him to the shore he found himself going down. He took in water. He became more desperate. He was a big man, strong man. He took another big dive to try to go under this current; he was confident he would get through but he went down, took in water. This time he realized he was in a rather sad state. He did not give up swimming. He made another effort didn't make it so he turned over on his back and began praying. If you know him a little bit you would understand his prayer. "Lord if you want me to do something in this life you better help me." So he lay there weak and he felt bad for disobeying master and he remembered all the times master had said, "I don't want u to go swimming alone anymore," and he said "I am sorry master" and as he lay there with the thought of giving up and surrendering his will to God and Guru a great light formed around him and then he knew that everything is all right no matter what happened, and he was enjoying this light, and he put up his head and a big breaker formed beyond him up in the ocean. He saw it come towards him. Next thing he knew he was being carried by this breaker into the shore. The next thing he knew he was lying on the beach trying to catch his breath. And he looked around and he saw the boys still playing on the beach and he wanted to thank master, so he climbed the cliff and went for the hermitage. As soon as he took the stairs to go up to Master's quarters, Master put his head out of the window and called out "I don't want you to go swimming alone anymore" and then he said "I had to pray very hard to bring you in today. I had to argue with the Father." This shows his omniscience, the guru knew where he was, his omnipresence and his omnipotence – that light was there.

Babaji's qualities of phenomenal manifestation are manifested by Lahiri Mahasaya, Sw. Sri Yukteshwarji and Guruji also.

Guruji has mentioned in the Autobiography of a Yogi, :

"Whenever anyone utters with reverence the name of Babaji," Lahiri Mahasaya said, "that devotee attracts an instant spiritual blessing."

I have chanted Babaji's name with reverence and I have not asked him for anything. I have received instant spiritual blessing. Many of you may have received that too.

"You all have the same potential as the great ones (as Babaji, Lahiri Mahasaya, Sw. Sri Yukteshwarji, Guruji). But you have to make the effort as they did to realize your immortal self." We will now have a short meditation. You can be inwardly taking his (Babaji's) name and be aware of his immortal consciousness.

Now we will read about one of Guruji's greatest disciples – Rajarsi Janakananda who through his selfless discipline was able to receive the blessings of the guru.

He was born very poor and his initial desire was to become a millionaire. He was a very talented person, he studied very hard and he did become a millionaire when he was around 30 years old. He met Guruji in January 1932.

By that time, Rajarsi was a financial success by any standard. His inner life, however, was another matter.

"My life was business," he later said, ...

He had created many businesses – he had the largest reciprocal fire exchange in any industry in the world, he had a reciprocal insurance for the motor car dealers, he had launched a new stock company, he was a very active oil man and he owned several grapefruit and orange groves. He had studied law, and accountancy; he was the youngest certified accountant (one year below minimum age required for qualifying as an accountant) and was handling at the age of 24 top-bracket accounting jobs.

"but my soul was sick and my body was decaying and my mind was disturbed. I was so nervous I couldn't sit still."

We have the tendency to think that my body is decaying, my mind is disturbed. Rajarsi Janakanand is way beyond us. But in truth he belongs to our category. Maybe he was even below our category, our bodies may not be as much decaying and our minds not as disturbed as his.

"I was a totally frustrated man," he recounted on another occasion.

Can you imagine, a millionaire in 1920's saying that he was a totally frustrated man. What we do not know is that most billionaires and trillionaires are totally frustrated people (news do not show that).

“I had thought money could give me happiness, but nothing seemed to satisfy me. I lived in a state of nervousness, a state of strain, an inward state of uncertainty. Then I met Paramhansa Yogananda and started to practice yoga.”

Money cannot satisfy us, nothing can satisfy us.

Such was Rajarsi's receptivity that in that first meeting in January 1932, the Guru was able to transmit to him the experience of Samadhi, ecstatic union with God.

He wasn't our category of devotee. All of us have experienced if not something so spectacular as Samadhi something less spectacular – we have seen our lives changing.

Paramhansaji said: “A wealthy Kansas city man, the first day we met, touched Christ consciousness. His soul was ripe. When he received the Kriya technique he said, ‘Life boils within my spine. That is the technique I have been seeking. I have found God.’ He meditated six hours with me the first day.”

The life energy within the spine burns away the seeds of karma. One who practices discipline and willpower (it needs a lot of discipline and will to become a millionaire) through that willpower and discipline he can transfer his consciousness to the entire creation.

Guruji asked him for only one thing (it is easy to do one thing for the Guru than having to do many things).

“Master told him: ‘I make one request of you – that in spite of your many responsibilities you arrange your schedule so that you have a period of meditation each day.’ Rajarsi resolved to follow his Guru's instructions, no matter how difficult it might be. Conditions at his home were not favorable, so he arose early each morning and went to his office to meditate. To insure that he was not interrupted, he would leave a note on his secretary's desk, which she would see when she came to work: ‘I am in conference. Please do not disturb.’ He smiled when he said to us: ‘Of course, I never let on that I was “in conference” with God.’ The staff may not have understood what he was doing, but they had tremendous respect for him; and it was accepted that until ten a.m. every day, he was “in conference.”

Another quality that Rajarsi Janakanand expressed was humility. All great saints are very humble. Those who are wealthy are conscious of their wealth, those who are successful are conscious of their success and that prevents them from feeling humble.

“I have never seen anyone more humble than he,” Paramhansaji often said. Rajarsi signed most of his letters to his Guru “Little One,” or simply with a small dot followed by a one...

He kept silent for the most part; but from time to time he would say, almost as if marveling to himself: ‘What Master has done for me! What Master has done for me!’ He never talked about all the things he had done for Master – only what Master had done for him.’

Guruji was going through severe financial difficulties and Rajarsi Janakananda had helped him out of those difficulties. But he was never thinking of what he had done for Guruji.

“He hardly talked when he was with us,” recalls Brother Anandamoy, a member of the Self-Realization Fellowship Board of Directors. “When he said anything, it was ‘Master’s light; Master’s love.’ He was so absorbed in it; he radiated it.”

He was totally absorbed and lost in that state.

“Rajarsi was both very spiritual and very methodical – he wasn’t born with material wealth; his success came because he earned it. His material environment made many demands on him, but he was very strong-willed and high-principled: he never drank, he never smoked, he never swore, he was always honest.

Somebody was telling me that heads of all businesses are thieves and scoundrels and worse. It was difficult for him, there were temptations, but he was strong willed. Durga Mata said about him:

When I first met him he was more business than spiritual – except when he was in Master’s presence.

Recently a devotee told me that “when I am not in your presence I am different.” He also is a businessman. He also is deeply spiritual but does not manifest the spirituality.

Gradually through meditation the balance came between business and spirituality. He did not have it easy. He fought for his meditations, and he won. ‘Towards the end, he was all spiritual, and businessman nil.’

‘After Master left his body, I would sometimes read to Rajarsi from letters Master had written to him. Rajarsi was not an emotional person at all; but when he felt Master’s love, tears would come to his eyes – not tears of sorrow that Master was no longer in the body, but tears of love. As though experiencing for the first time the unconditional love of the Guru for his disciple, he would say, ‘ I did not know he loved me so much.’ He would just become drowned in that love, inwardly dancing in that love. He would repeat over and over: ‘Joy, joy, Master’s joy! Love, love, Master’s love!’”

I was listening to Sw. Anandmoyeeji's talk – Your Thoughts Can Change Your Life, and I will close with one of the lines from that talk:

“No one can know how deeply, how sweetly and how tenderly God loves you.”
The only thing Rajarsi knew was Guruji's love, because no one can know how deeply, how sweetly and how tenderly Guru can love you. Now let us have some bhajans.

We will be releasing today a book titled:

Rajarsi Janakananda: A Great Western Yogi

When Sw. Sri Yukteshwarji met Babaji at the Kumbh mela he realized that people came there were wearing outer garb of renunciation but were not having inner realization and people in the west studying science etc. had techniques that could give them spiritual awakening.

One person came up to him and said to him that a saint was calling him. When Sw. Sri Yukteshwarji met Babaji (though Babaji prevented Sw. Sri Yukteshwarji from recognizing him), Babaji asked:

“What do you think of the Kumbha Mela?”

“I was greatly disappointed, sir.” I added hastily, ‘Up until the time I met you. Somehow saints and this commotion don't seem to belong together.’

“Child,” the master said, though apparently I was nearly twice his own age, ‘for the faults of the many, judge not the whole. Everything on earth is of mixed character, like a mingling of sand and sugar. Be like the wise ant which seizes only the sugar, and leaves the sand untouched. Though many sadhus here still wander in delusion, yet the mela is blessed by a few men of God-realization.’

“In view of my own meeting with this exalted master, I quickly agreed with his observation.

“Sir,” I commented, ‘I have been thinking of the scientific men of the West, greater by far in intelligence than most people congregated here, living in distant Europe and America, professing different creeds, and ignorant of the real values of such melas as the present one. They are the men who could benefit greatly by meetings with India's masters. But, although high in intellectual attainments, many Westerners are wedded to rank materialism. Others, famous in science and philosophy, do not recognize the essential unity in religion. Their creeds serve as insurmountable barriers that threaten to separate them from us forever.’

“I saw that you are interested in the West, as well as the East.” Babaji's face beamed with approval. ‘I felt the pangs of your heart, broad enough for all men, whether Oriental or Occidental. That is why I summoned you here.

“East and West must establish a golden middle path of activity and spirituality combined,” he continued. ‘India has much to learn from the West in material development; in return, India can teach the universal methods by which the West

will be able to base its religious beliefs on the unshakable foundations of yogic science.

"You, Swamiji, have a part to play in the coming harmonious exchange between Orient and Occident. Some years hence I shall send you a disciple whom you can train for yoga dissemination in the West. The vibrations there of many spiritually seeking souls come floodlike to me. I perceive potential saints in America and Europe, waiting to be awakened."

Rajarsi Janakananda was one of the potential saints awakened by the technique of Kriya Yoga. All of us are potential saints who will gradually be awakened by Kriya Yoga technique.

This is a newer edition. Many years ago SRF had printed a smaller edition. This is a larger edition containing many additions in the letters that Guruji wrote to Rajarsi in 1935. There are glimpses of the guidance given to an enlightened disciple like Rajarsi Janakananda.

We are also releasing today some Marathi translations of Guruji's how to live series. Nicely packed books. These are 7 of the how to live series, hopefully you will get more in Marathi within a few years.

Many devotees want lessons in Hindi. They will be available from this Sharad Sangam. From the beginning of January next year we will be dispatching the Hindi lessons. Application forms for the hindi lessons will be available from 1st October and you will start receiving four lessons per mail from January.

I don't know what will happen to all of us because the number of monks is the same, the size of the organization is the same but the number of devotees will be much more. Let's see.

I will close with the line from Daya Ma's Guru Purnima message:

"I want to remain steadily in the spirit of God, that I can give you something, that I can saturate you, bathe you, and change you forever, and forever in this infinite ocean of Light that I behold."

This is what Guruji is doing for us. Guruji is remaining steadily in the spirit of God; he is giving us something to saturate us, to bathe us forever and forever in the Infinite light which he beheld. Guruji is a part of the Infinite Light.

All of us are particles of light of God. Let us also see ourselves as particles of light. There is only one reality. The more we learn to look upon ourselves as particles of light we will be close to the goal of realization that we are seeking.