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**Jai Guru!**

### **VOLUNTEER'S MEETING BY SW. NISCHALANANDA ON 03112019**

(I missed some part in the beginning.)

We never had special satsanga or lectures with Sw. Chidanandaji. He would come and eat with us instead of eating in his separate room or walk in where we were and talk with us.

One of the days we had given him something special to eat and when it was given to him he passed it around to the rest of us insisting 'No, you also eat, you also have...' We felt this is how the Gopis must have enjoyed being with Krishna.

The last day he was in Ranchi, he gave a talk; I don't remember anything from the talk but I felt visibly uplifted. On that day there was continuous activity, it was raining. I had my morning meditation and I just seemed to go through the morning meditation. But later, after he had talked when I sat for meditation, I found it difficult to get up from my meditation. We experienced an inner transformation.

That is why after a meditation, don't discuss, 'Arre kya achcha meditation tha, kya talk tha, etc.' Just remain in silence.

As volunteers go about your duty in silence, no casual conversation. How would you behave if Guruji was around? Let us keep the same attitude.

Be enthusiastic remembering that Guruji's representative on earth is holding a meeting.

One of the days I was with Sw. Chidanandaji, then I came out and when someone spoke to me, I was a little preoccupied and slightly irritated. Then I remembered Guruji is coming to us not just as Sw. Chidanandaji but as all the other devotees, all volunteers, all other people too. Let us keep this in mind when serving. All Guruji wants is a willing channel. Are we ready to remove the 'I' and allow Guruji to flow? It will be a challenge, but nothing good is easy. There may be friction, but if we ask Guruji where do I have to change Guruji helps.

Guruji said, "Love one another as you have loved me."

Daya Ma said, "Ask yourself these three questions: Am I loving? Am I kind? Am I peaceful? Do I radiate compassion and love?"

This is my mantra. Make it yours too.

It is not my concern if others express this quality. Sw. Premamoyi said that the minute I want others to be perfect that is my downfall.

Devotees will come with a lot of expectations. They do not understand the amount of hard work that has gone in. They naturally come with the expectation of getting Guruji's blessings and being in an exalted state. Let us not be the ones to give them one negative experience by our irritation or carelessness. Occasionally we may have to make a sacrifice for that.

In the 1970s the school from Hatia had to be shifted to Jagannathpur as Government gave YSS land over there. The local people were very upset about it. On one of the days when Sw. Shantanandaji was giving Kriya diksha from 8 a.m. to 12 a.m. the local people with some local goons came and gheraoed Sw. Shantanandaji right upto 6 p.m. They did not allow Swamiji to even go to the washroom. But Swamiji just stayed there, not answering anything, not losing his temper.

People are coming with problems, we will give them a sympathetic ear, but we will not change or bend rules. We will not take them to the Department Head. Be as kind as possible.

If Dept Head asks you to do a duty, do it willingly. Mrinalini Ma said that on one occasion she had neglected some small duty like calling someone up. Guruji called her and asked her, if she had done that duty. Then he told her that you are being unwilling. I don't want you if you are being unwilling. I will find someone else. Guruji never put up with unwillingness. Don't do any duty cribbing, or forcibly. If you feel something is wrong, tell Guruji about it. Tell him I leave the judgement to you. Let us ask for Guruji's help to overcome our ego. Give willingness at that point of time. For you Guruji I am doing this unpleasant job too. Give willingness and obedience.

Once Sw. Achalanandaji was told by his councilor Sw. Anandamoyiji to be the speaker for a Sunday Service. Sw. Achalanandaji tried to ask him to ask someone else to do the job. But Sw. Anandamoyiji did not listen. So, Sw. Achalanandaji went to the head of the Committee and told him about it and he too did not support Sw. Achalanandaji's unwillingness. Then Sw. Achalanandaji went up to Ma and complained to her. Ma asked him, "Who ordered you to be a speaker?" Sw. Achalanandaji said, "Sw. Anandamoyiji." Ma asked, "And who do you think told Sw. Anandamoyi to ask you to do this duty?" Sw. Achalanandaji said, "Committee head." Ma asked, "And who do you think told the Committee head that you should be given the task?" Sw. Achalanandaji said, "Of course, it was you Ma." Ma said, "Whom do I represent?" Sw. Achalanandaji said, "Guruji." Ma said, "Remember, that any task that is given to you is ultimately given by Guruji through someone." Cut through the cords of agency and perceive the single Cause.

There is nothing wrong in bringing up your problem later respectfully. Guruji doesn't demand blind obedience, but intelligent obedience.

Smile more. It is a joyous occasion. Keep mobiles switched off. If I am not smiling, smile at me, so that I smile back.

Sometimes we need to be quick. Pause just for 2 min look back mentally ask Guruji what would you want me to do.

Even a small job in Guruji's consciousness is important. Help each other.

One last point – some of us monks in the administration approached Sw. Chidanandaji and asked him for guidance. He said only one thing:

“Be a friend to each other. Cover each other's back.”

If I am doing a duty and I know I have a friend who is covering my back, and not ready to pull me down and criticize me, how do I feel?

What did Sw. Sri Yuktेशwar tell Guruji? “If you ever see me falling from my high state, then put my head in your lap and bring me to the feet of the Divine Mother whom we both worship.

There is no need to touch Swamiji's feet. He is touching us internally. He is giving us a far greater blessing at a far deeper level.

Our teachings give us direct contact with Guruji. No need to go through the Secretary. Just gaze at the kutastha, close your eyes and you have a direct hotline with Guruji.

This is a very joyous occasion in all our lives but please don't click pictures. Don't say 'for memory.' Don't keep outer memories but inner memories. Don't do it on the surface. Be a little thoughtful of Sw. Chidanandaji. Because of devotees surrounding him and taking pictures with flashes all the time he could not enjoy a peaceful moment in the Smriti Mandir nor could he enjoy the lighting of the Mandir because of the lights of the flashes. Let's just absorb the moments. Don't bring worldly things in between.