

Right Behaviour — the True Culture

My dear young-folk of Sahaj Marg, and the not-so-young, and myself,

We have to live life in such a way that the physical age of the body should not matter. The spirit, the soul, the heart—it never ages. But if you have not lived life properly, you will find that even before you are forty, you are seventy. The heart has grown old; it has taken the pummelling of the world. [...] That is why, in English we say, “Don’t take everything to heart.” You know, our languages are very beautiful. They reflect a wisdom which is not just the wisdom of the words. ‘Don’t take it to heart’ means don’t allow it to affect your heart.

You know, I have said so many times that human beings are described by their hearts. “That boy has a golden heart.” “He is cold-hearted.” “She is warm-hearted.” “He has a loving heart.” Nobody describes you, unless you are a cinema star, by your measurements. It is always the heart. And when you come to the modern world of success, whether it is corporate success, or success on the stage or the silver-screen as it used to be called, there is no mention of the heart at all. [...] A life must be measured by what has been achieved in that life. [...] We must be able to, as Babuji said, *leave the world at least as good as you found it when you entered it, if you cannot make it a better place when you*

leave. [...]

So you see, as youth you have enormous responsibilities. The first responsibility



is to learn how to conduct life—your life. The second responsibility is to know what is discipline. Discipline means conducting my life without interfering and spoiling other people’s lives. If I’m eating a banana on the third floor of B Block, and throwing the peel out of the window, is it right? Such considerations must apply to your lives. Most importantly, think of others before you think of yourself. [...]

So the sum and substance of culture—it is not Hinduism, it is not Christianity, it is not Islam—it is how you behave. That is true culture. And behaviour comes more out of concern for others than concern for yourself. [...] So I hope you have understood that true culture is a human culture, which says, “Learn all the essentials of life to

apply them in your own life.” Don’t preach to others. Don’t tell another man to tell the truth; you tell the truth.

Don’t tell your father, “You are cheating in your income tax.” You don’t cheat. Don’t tell your brother who is a paan-chewer, “Don’t spit out of the window.” You stop spitting, anywhere. [...] After applying these principles, remember that the other is more important than yourself, always, in every walk of life.

So this is my advice to all of you, young and others not-so-young who are here. Because the time for learning is there always. The time to apply the right principles to your own life is always. Because there is always something that we have not done that we should do, and something which we should not do that we have been doing—both. [...]

So, do what should be done, give up what should not be done. That way is the way to harmony, spiritual growth, and what little of material success you have brought with you as your samskara. May Master bless you all.

Address to youth, 30th September 2006, Chennai, Tamilnadu, India

Thus speaks:

Lalaji

• *Wickedness spoils the heart and makes it heavy and unholy, which results in sorrow. Besides this, the person on whom it is inflicted no doubt experiences sorrow. But a current of sorrow flows from his heart and makes the person inflicting sorrow sorrowful. To take an example, if your neighbour is sorrow-stricken and unhappy, you cannot in any way escape from the influence of his sorrow. This sorrow is just like the smoke of poisonous fuel, so to say. Burn it in any home and its bitterness spreads in the neighbouring homes.*

Babuji

• *Love is not the feeling of reality, it is the way to reality! Do not feel surprised if I say love and hatred are the same. Love is only positive thinking and hatred negative thinking. I feel happy when the words “universal love” come from the mouth of any person. Generally the saints of the day preach universal love but they do not find ways to tell you how it is acquired. Only remove the hatred, I say, and universal love is there.*

Chariji

• *Love is wonderful. Love is a many-splendoured thing. Yes, of course, on the screen! In real life, it is full of discipline, of orderly behaviour, of correct living, of self-discipline. In this sense, charity begins at home, but it does not end there.*

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Centres in the Indian Ocean – Madagascar Part Two: 1988-2006

Consolidation and Expansion...

In July 1988, Chariji made a second visit to Madagascar, during which the seminar took place mainly in Antsirabé, except for the last two days spent in Antananarivo. Chariji appointed 8 preceptors during this visit, and established five new centres: Antsiranana, Mahajanga, Toamasina, Amparafaravola and Manjahandriana.

In 1990 two books: "The Practice of Sahaj Marg" and "Role of the Abhyasi in Sahaj Marg" were translated into Malagasy, published in 100 copies, and sold at cost price.

In March 1992, Sister Boda Ranjeva Moved to Antananarivo. On July 6, the same year, a meeting of about thirty abhyasis and preceptors from all over the country was held in Antananarivo. Chariji completed his third visit to Madagascar in 1999 in Antananarivo. He appointed an additional number of preceptors. Moreover abhyasis organized themselves and managed to send on a regular basis, abhyasis to India, to see Master, who appointed them preceptors.

gions in the country. Whereas, the total number of registered abhyasis is about one thousand, 300 are considered to be practising on a regular basis. There is a dire need for new preceptors that would attend to groups of abhyasis living in remote places or join preceptors in charge of big group of people.

In Antananarivo, the centre is located at Boda's place. In the other provinces, most of the preceptors built meditation halls, except for two cities where meditations take place in individual homes. In one city, the renting of a room proved to be necessary.

Relaying Master's teachings

Masters' teachings are made available to the greatest number of abhyasis thanks to the translation of several books into Malagasy: "The Practice of Sahaj Marg"; "The Role of the Abhyasi in Sahaj Marg"; "Reality at Dawn" and "Questions and Answers on Sahaj Marg (not published)"; "My Master (not published)" and "Religion and Spirituality (not published)".

manga, this bulletin is published in French and Malagasy, it contains excerpts of Master's speeches and quotations, news of the Mission in Madagascar, as well as world news.

Amongst the last events that took place is a



preceptors' seminar held in Antananarivo from October 28-29, with attendance from 15 preceptors. Topics discussed during the seminar included the organization of regional days; recent news from the centres; the preparation of abhyasis' travel to India to attend the celebration of Master's birthday in Tiruppur, etc...

News from the centres are given to showcase the actual involvement and commitment of preceptors and other abhyasis in the running of centres, the construction of meditation halls and libraries... In terms of determination with regard to practice, the most edifying example is given by some abhyasis from the Faratsiho centre who walk for nearly 3 hours to attend satsanghs!

BR.; JN.



Current facts

Madagascar has currently 22 preceptors for 17 centres distributed across various re-

Since September 2002, "Vaovao" - a newsletter - is published regularly. Edited by brother Michel Rasamy, preceptor in Mora-



SRCM and the U.N.

SRCM Commitment

Shri Ram Chandra Mission is associated with the United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI) since 12 December 2005. This association constitutes a commitment on the part of our Mission to disseminate information and raise public awareness about the purposes and activities of the United Nations and issues of global concern.

The United Nations recognizes the need for solidarity, goodwill and collective responsibility amongst the world's nations and peoples in order to establish a lasting peace and sustainable development for all.

Our Mission has been providing a spiritual and worldly platform for people in more than ninety nations. Recognizing the urgency for people with similar values to convene on a shared foundation, Shri Ram Chandra Mission embraces this association in the faith that, ultimately, selfless actions will govern the destiny of human beings.

The Mission's contribution comes in the form of Babuji suggestion expressed in His letter to the United Nations on 8th July 1957, offering a universal prayer for the benefit of all of mankind.

There are 49 UN commemoration days in total. SRCM activities may be planned to coincide with these commemorations days.

Babuji Wrote to the U.N.

N.B349 / SRCM
Shahjahanpur, U.P.
Dated: 8th July 1957

Dear Sir,

I am glad to receive your bulletin and I pour forth my warm thanks for the awakening for peace created among our brethren of the world. The idea of peace common in all minds, though shattered by the self of the individual mind, is working on individualistic basis to gain one's own end on account of the narrow mindedness of people. To dissipate the idea of individual self and to work harmoniously for the common good is the demand of the time. The conferences and meetings held for the purpose may only be like spark to offer a temporary glow to the scattered fragment of peace. Their cries in the wilderness will not carry far on the path of success because of the material agony of faith working at the bottom. What we, therefore, require at present is only to improve the morals and to discipline the mind. We must learn how to create within the heart a feeling of universal love, which is surest remedy of all evils and can help to free us from the horrors of war. I perfectly agree with our friend late Mr. Bernard Malan when he expresses his faith to unite in the common search for happiness. Happiness, of course, is necessary to end all grief. But it is like the Black wall of the scientists, which does not allow them to proceed further towards universal love. To come up to the level of real happiness we must necessarily rise above ourselves, which is essential for the creation of atmosphere of universal love. That is the primary factor in the solution of the problem.

[...]

Unless the foundation of peace is made to rest on spiritual basis no better prospects can be expected. It is but definite and certain that sooner or later we will have to adopt spiritual principles if we want to maintain our existence. If the material force can avert the incursions and attacks, blood shed cannot be avoided because even then we have to apply force causing thereby bloodshed on either side. Arrogance can not be stopped by material force. It is only the spiritual force, which can remove the causes of war from the minds of people.

How to introduce these things among the masses who are yet unfamiliar with the accuracy of the mark is the next problem and is equally intricate. If my opinion were to be invited I would lay down the simplest possible method as given below. **Let all brothers and sisters sit daily at a fixed hour individually at our respective places and meditate for about an hour thinking that all people of the World are growing peace – loving and pious.**

This process, suggested not with exclusively spiritual motives, is highly efficacious in bringing about the desired result and weaving the destiny of the miserable millions.

With prayer for the success of your noble mission

Yours sincerely,

Ram Chandra

President, Shri Ram Chandra Mission

Shahjahanpur, U.P., India

What Can the Centers Do ?

In the Africa and the Indian Ocean Region, centres are encouraged to celebrate the Human Rights Day (December 10) and invite brothers and sisters to remember that December 20 is the Human Solidarity Day.

Human Rights Day. Given the sensitivity of human rights issues in some countries, it is suggested that only centres where SRCM is officially recognised should consider organising activities open to the public in

the form of open doors and/or public conferences. In this case, it is recommended to choose themes common to the Mission and the United Nations; here are some examples: One world, One humanity - Unity through the heart - Prayer and human transformation. Reference texts should be selected from the SRCM literature and Master's speeches.

Where our Mission is not yet officially recognised, centres-in-charge are advised to conduct meditations, lead readings and discussions of Babuji's letter to the UN as

well as Master's speeches related to humanity, unity, human transformation, etc...

December Agenda:

10 Dec. – Human Rights Day

20 Dec. – Human solidarity Day

Daily Reflections

'To SEE'

Darshan in its true meaning means 'to see.' Master told me several years ago that many people come to see him, but few people really see him. Now what is this real seeing which constitutes true darshan? Our Master is able to look inside us, to analyze us spiritually, find out our shortcomings, find out our strength, find out what we lack and fulfil those lapses and thus develop us spiritually into something approximating to his own stature. We on our part should be able to look into him, going beyond the physical form which is a very big limitation for most of us. We just look at this form and think we have seen him. We evaluate him by what we see with our physical eyes.

Taken from lecture "Yoga through Love" Yatra, vol. 2, pp. 85-86, (Blossoms in the East) -Rev. Chariji

Familiarity

[An] English proverb says, "Familiarity breeds contempt"... Closeness to the Master is a very dangerous thing. Please

remember this. Don't go very near to the Master. From a distance, he is adorable, he is divine. When you are close to him, you can make this very tragic mistake of thinking that he is a human being. Because it is there in him, both are there you see. He is as much a human being as he is a Divine Being. A Divine Being is enshrined into a human being. The human being is a vehicle which is carrying that Divine Being through this life, for our benefit. This calamity, spiritual calamity, I was able to avoid. I was close to him and yet I did not lose my love for him or respect for him, as many others have done, I would say almost without exception.

Taken from The Principles of Sahaj Marg, vol. 7, p. 104, chapter "What to do And What Not" -Rev Chariji. Disc Hyderabad 25-03-87

No Demands

He [Rev. Babuji] has told me, "Abhyasis should not compel the Master. All that the Master possesses is only for the abhyasis. So compulsion should not be there. I may also say it is wrong eti-

quette. Can the Master ever deny anything to his associates? But see how foolish people are. They make demands and thus curtail the freedom of the Master. The Master must be made totally free to do anything that he wants. Then see the splendour of his work!"

Rev. Babuji, qtd. in Yatra, vol. 2, p.120 (The Garden of Hearts, chapter three) -Rev.Chariji

Transmission

Transmission is also a vibration. But unfortunately we have no organ of sense, organ of perception, which can possibly ever see it or smell it or taste it or touch it or feel it. It is not possible because it is the transcendental, ultimate, vibrationless vibration. Therefore, when we depend upon sensory inputs to test or prove the existence of transmission, we are occupying ourselves in a very very futile exercise, which will shake faith if we have any.

Taken from the book "Transmission, SMES", chapter "What Transmission Is", pg 265 -by Chariji

Getting Prepared for the July 24, 2007 Celebrations

Cameroon — So far the number of people that wish to travel to India has not been finalised. However, Sister Mariette, Centre-in-charge and Brother Jean Armand - preceptor - or his wife, have indicated that they will attend the celebrations.

Congo-Brazzaville — In Congo also, Brother Serge, Centre-in-charge, plans to participate, whereas other abhyasis are yet to register.

Madagascar — Madagascar centres intend to be massively represented at the celebrations. The current lowest fare of the Antananarivo-Chennai return flight is reportedly estimated at 9,600,000 Madagascan Francs (i.e. about US \$ 1,100). This does not include an additional cost for the Chennai-Tiruppur flight as well as hotel accommodation costs for those who will not stay at the ashram. Sister Boda suggested that a special group fare could be bargained

with Air Mauritius. People interested in benefiting from this are recommended to register with her without delay and to make the necessary passport arrangements.

Mauritius — About 15 abhyasis are likely to attend the celebrations.

Similar reports are yet to be received from the other centers.



Photos

Page 1: Master in Bangalore, August, 2006

Page 3: Abhyasis in Madagascar.

This page - left: Children singing for Master at Omega



School on 12th Nov 2006

Middle: Master lighting the lamp on 12th Nov 2006

Right: Master being given traditional welcome on 12th Nov 2006



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