

God is Universal

[...] Wherever you have luxury and too much income, people say, "Why? We don't need God." [...] They think God is necessary only for people who have nothing else. [...] That is why they come only when they are sick or when they lose money or their business folds up. Then they come. Then they realise they need God! Too late, sometimes.

[...] I was telling a story yesterday which Babuji Maharaj told me. Heaven was there and there was a big gate, about five metres, always closed. There was a small gate through which people entered, one by one, and a saint was sitting there verifying their records and allowing them inside. And one young man [...] had been waiting for days and days in that queue. Finally he reached the wicket gate, eleven days, twelve days later. And he saw a car driving up to the big gate. Immediately, the big gate was opened. There was a flurry of activity, a red carpet rolled out and he was taken in. This man was very angry. He said, "I'm here for eleven days in this queue, and this guy comes in his car and swoosh [he is whisked inside]."

Eventually, when he went into the Lord's presence, as all souls must go, he raised his hand. And God said, "Yes, my son?" He said, "I have a complaint." God said "Here too, my son?" He said, "Yes, there is favouritism.

There is nepotism." He said, "How do you say that?" He said, "Well, I was standing in the queue for eleven days, and on the eleventh day when I was about to enter, a car came—red carpet, direct



to your Holiness. Is this not favouritism? Nepotism? Corruption? I thought I had left it behind on earth."

So God laughed. He said, "May I explain to you?" He said, "Yes, I want an explanation." So God said, "People like you, simple folk with devotion and love in your heart, they come by the millions every day. That man was a very rich, powerful man on earth. Such people come once in a millennium. Don't you think he deserves a special reception? Now what do you say?"

[...] I have high hopes of South America, because,

strangely enough, South America is mostly Catholic, [...] — but it is growing in Catholic countries because they are not so prosperous. They have the idea that there is a God who is necessary, who created us. Then they develop the idea that He is not only necessary, He is essential. Then they get into the idea that He is always with us, [...] God is here; God is there; God is everywhere.

[...] It's like an almond; the kernel is inside the shell, not outside. What would the shell do if the fruit was outside, isn't it? [...] He is in every one of us, which is the reason why we try to create a brotherhood of human beings, without distinctions of caste, religion, col-

our, race.[...]. What brings us all together here? The same belief that we are all one, because we have the same thing here [pointing to the heart].[...]

The heart is a miraculous thing. It is pumping from the moment of birth to the moment of death. Where is the engine? We know, as modern people, that nothing can move without a motive force. [...]. But here we have the miracle that, I'm the driven thing; I have the engine inside myself; and there is somebody who is regulating all this whom we call the inner presence, which is the highest presence in the uni-

Thus speaks:

Lalaji

- Afflictions are the boons from God. There are many secrets in them and many inner experiences can be had undergoing sufferings.

Babuji

- All that is born of attachment is misery. Pleasure and pain both contribute to misery. There is no remedy for overcoming these miseries except devoting ourselves towards Godly thought of the purest nature. We need not renounce the world and go to penance in the woods. Let the material world and spiritual world go side by side, glittering equally. One cannot be a loser in any way, if doing his household duties, he brings himself up to the realisation of God as well. We should soar with both wings if we want to succeed.

Chariji

- The goal of spiritual life is not a pain-free existence. It is not a pleasure-free existence. It is not something morbid, in which we have to be always suffering. It is not morbid that we want to die, and liberation should not be a way of escaping from this life. But it is a love affair in which there is always pain. Because the greatest source of pain is love.

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verse. Three in one—me, my Self inside me, and my Maker within that Self. It's like one of these Russian dolls: outermost is me, little inside is the Self, and inside that is the God who keeps the Self alive. This is Sahaj Marg in its simplest form. [...]

Thank you.

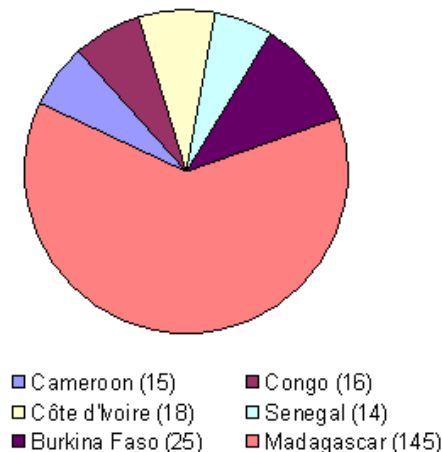
Kangayam, Tamilnadu, 27th December, 2005, India

Echoes of the Centres

April 30 Attendance...

A global count of the number of abhyasis who attended the morning satsangh on Rev. Babuji Maharaj's Birth Anniversary (April 30, 2008) across the Mission's centres worldwide was carried out. Using

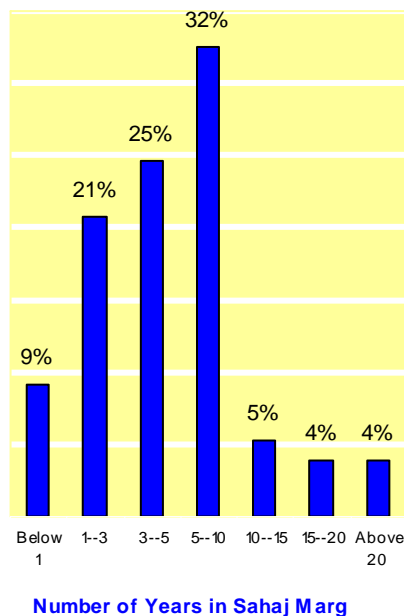
Chart 1: Attendance Count



the information provided by some centers in the region, we have prepared a chart showing the seniority of abhyasis, i.e. how long they have been practising in Sahaj Marg. This analysis is based on numbers from the following centers only: Cameroon, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Madagascar and Senegal. We did not mean to be exhaustive. Our intention is only to give a rough indication of the seniority trends emerging from that limited bunch of

reporting centers. Chart 1 is self-explanatory. It shows the number of abhyasis who reportedly attended the morn-

Chart 2: Seniority in Sahaj Marg



ing satsangh on that celebration day in the six centers. Chart 2 shows that the greatest number (57%) of abhyasis for which information was provided have been practising for between 3 and 10 years (25% between 3-5 years, and 32% between 5-10 years). There is also a significant pourcentage with seniority between 1-3.

JN-MMK

Burkina-Faso

On April 20th we received this mail from Brother Ramanathan Sridhar, from Burkina-Faso:

"[...] After the frequent communications and my report regarding Yaïka, Master was content and asked me to be prepared for preceptorship. I was called by him to be at Manapakkam with him on the 26th of March which I did. Brother Rajabhai prepared me and I was blessed by Master on the 27th of March and he made me a Preceptor. I always request fellow abhyasis to have the craving for the master like the Abhyasis of Yaïka.



Master knows what he is doing and he takes care for those who love him.

Actually I was posted to Cote d'Ivoire and at the last moment my organization asked me to come to Burkina for which I was not happy at all. Then I wrote to Master about my stay in Burkina and then he gave instructions to meet Siméon Nana. The rest you know. Have Unconditional Love for him and Unquestioning Faith towards him. Love him who loves all. HE IS A MIRACLE"

R.S.

Region-in-Charge's Regional Tour

Seminar in Mauritius

We had a wonderful spiritual seminar conducted by Brother Kamlesh Patel from evening of 26th to evening of 28th March 2008 with 6 group satsanghs and many individual sittings, all conducted by brother Kamlesh.

The sittings were very deep and profound and abhyasis felt special work being done on them. We have all gained and benefited spiritually by the hard work done by Brother Kamlesh and so we would like to express our deep and sincere gratitude to Master and to Brother Kamlesh. However we felt that the time was too short. We would kindly make a request for such seminars to be conducted twice yearly as it

gives a spiritual boost and also renews the zeal and enthusiasm required for the growth and harmonious development and smooth running of the Mission in Mauritius.



The various topics explained by brother Kamlesh were extremely important and were an aid for progress and tips for being in connection with Master, in Constant remembrance and how to carry over the condition created during morning meditation into the activities of the day.

The first Sunday Satsangh after the great Seminar we talked about the necessity of harmony, co-operation, brotherhood and Oneness - moving forward as One as we all have One Master in our hearts.

G. & N.

Region-in-Charge's Regional Tour (Cont'd)

South Africa

A spiritual seed that was sown by Babuji Maharaj during the early seventies has blessed



South Africans. South Africa has a population of forty five million; of these we have somewhat hundred and fifty practising abhyasis. The majority of the population is multicultural with several diverse groups of Africans speaking languages ranging from Xhosa, Zulu, Pedi, Venda or Sotho etc. The minority of the population comprises of Indians, Afrikaners, English and the mix race groups called coloureds.

Upon Master instruction Brother Kamlesh Patel was sent to Mauritius, South Africa and Botswana. His journey in South Africa commenced on the 29th March 2008 to the 4th April 2008. We flew by air from Johannesburg to Durban, to Cape Town and returned to Johannesburg. While on the trip I had been sincerely typing on my experiences and salient features of Kamlesh talks. What surprised me was that when I needed to print the report of my transcripts the document became corrupted. I realised that at times certain situations are created for the betterment of self. I am writing this article through memory, heart and a deeper understanding of my practice. There is always a way of communicating through the heart. The language of the heart can unify a nation.

Here in South Africa majority are Christians followed by Muslims and Hindus. I am glad to say that we have a mix group of abhyasis from diverse cultures and religious back-grounds. The majority of the abhyasis are between twenty and fifty years of age. Despite problems of misery, suffering and crime in the country we are trying to practice Sahaj Marg earnestly. We are grateful to be living during these times of uncertainty and Sahaj Marg has made us realise the importance of surrender. Kamlesh trip highlighted the importance of various teaching of Sahaj Marg. He mentioned to us the importance of the correct attitude. We should not only be satisfied with a single experience. This may lead to stagnation in our spiritual practice. One should aspire and pro-

gress towards deeper and more rewarding experiences. Our desires should be spiritual in nature and we should strive to be Him.

After returning to Johannesburg, Brother Kamlesh left with an entourage of abhyasis to Botswana.

The silent longing of our hearts for master to visit South Africa has been felt by all South Africans. We are grateful to Master for this opportunity we could share with Brother Kamlesh Patel...

P.R.

Gaborone - Botswana

At about 2.30 pm on Thursday 3 of April, Br. Kamlesh Patel along with 32 abhyasis including 4 preceptors drew from Johannesburg to Gaborone. In the afternoon, Br. Kamlesh and the visiting preceptors got busy giving individual sittings to Gaborone abhyasis. At 5.30 pm, Br. Kamlesh conducted the group medita-



tion that was attended by about 50 abhyasis. After Satsangh, the abhyasis got ready to leave for the venue of the Open House which was organized at the Botswana Hindu Society Hall from 7.00 pm onwards. It was attended by about 65 persons from Gaborone, apart from the visiting and local abhyasis. Br. Jimit started with a brief introduction about Shri Ram Chandra Mission and Sahaj Marg Raja Yoga system and then requested Br. Kamlesh to take over the rest of the proceedings. Br. Kamlesh started explaining about the true meaning of Yoga and how it is erroneously understood in the West as some sort of a physical exercise. He brought out the essence of Sahaj Marg Raja Yoga citing several illustrations. Br. Kamlesh reiterated that the audience need not believe in what he said but should rather believe in their own personal experiences. He brought in the concept of PRANAHUTI and its uniqueness which seemed to touch the heart of many in the audience. The audience was invited to ask questions after the talk. Br. Kamlesh convincingly answered varying questions ranging from the

daily practice of Sahaj Marg to the more intellectual questions pertaining to Religion and Spirituality and thereby demonstrated how religions seem to have lost their utility in modern times and how they are dividing societies whereas spirituality promises to unite the people.

Br. Jimit concluded the evening by requesting the audience to contact him or the visiting preceptors urging them to try out Sahaj Marg by themselves. Five members of the audience immediately came up requesting for first introductory sittings, which were conducted by Br. Kamlesh and the visiting preceptors from Johannesburg at the venue hall immediately after the Open House. After the introductory sittings, Br. Kamlesh was then driven back to Br. Jimit's residence where the sisters had prepared a supper for all abhyasis. After supper, Br. Kamlesh sat outside in the yard and shared some wonderful moments of his with Rev. MASTER and with Rev. BABUJI. It was such a blessing to reflect on Br. Kamlesh's experiences and time seemed to have stopped.

On Friday, 4th April 2008, after breakfast, the visiting abhyasis drove off from Gaborone for Johannesburg with Br. Kamlesh.

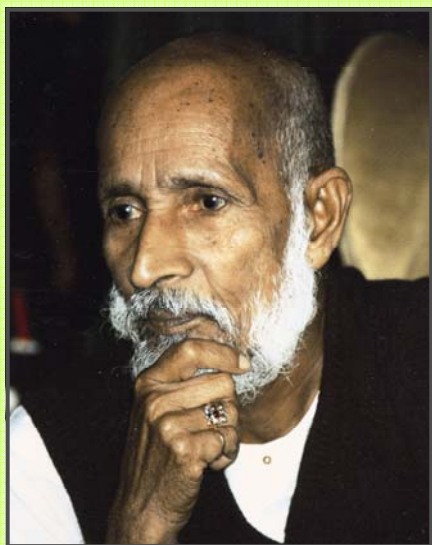
Apart from the 5 persons who indicated their willingness to be introduced after the open house, 2 other aspirants came in, and I have completed all the balance of the sittings for these 7 people now. We are eternally grateful to our Beloved MASTER for having sent Br. Kamlesh and other brothers and sisters to Gaborone. Apart from the new introductions, this visit has helped the existing abhyasis of Gaborone to interact with other brothers and sisters and reaffirmed their faith in this beautiful system and has made them feel as part of a much larger Sahaj Marg family. All Glory be to our Divine MASTER.

J.P.



Whispers From the Brighter World

Saturday, April 3, 2004 – 2:00 p.m.



"This teaching coming from the world of the Spirit will take its letters patent of nobility in our way, under the high authority of its Master, my son. This harvest of messages is not given in vain; it will bear its fruits in the heart of our brothers, ready to understand them.

"Our way will be able to adapt to future times, it will evolve according to the broadmindedness of our aspirants, caught in the upswing of human evolution. Sahaj Marg was founded from this point of view; it is making its way among an ever-increasing number of persons who are more receptive to the reality of a true spirituality (stripped of a sluggish context) where the power of some people will not supplant that of the Spirit. It will be established come hell or high water according to divine will; it is up to men with good faith to act according to their principles and profound convictions.

"May all be blessed and strengthened, in their undertakings."

Babuji

*Daily Reflections***Life Divine**

So Babuji used to say, "I am powerless but I can give you any power that you need." You have to use the power. Now this is precisely what the Master wants - people who can use what He can give. If He gives money, you must be able to use it wisely. If He gives you knowledge, you must be able to use it for the progressive welfare of humanity. If He gives you strength, you must be able to use that strength to build what He wants you to build. This is the Life Divine. There is no other Life Divine.

Taken from The Spider's Web, vol. 3, p. 69 –Rev. Chariji

Another Soul

Another thing Babuji always said, "Nothing we do can help another soul, except prayer." Prayer should be a reflection of our

sympathy or love for the other person, so what we should pray is, "May your blessings be with this person." It can be in life, it can be after life, isn't it?

Taken from The Spider's Web, vol. 3, p. 73 –Rev. Chariji

His will

As always, I shall continue to pray for you, but you must also remember that it is His will that will prevail. Prayer puts the problem before Him. The response is as He wishes it to be, for the good of all. And then of course there are one's own samskaras to be dealt with.

Taken from The Spider's Web, vol. 3, p. 80 –Rev. Chariji

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