

Sister Jayanti – 19th September 2021 – GCH

Drama is waiting for us to get ready ...

Tomorrow is the day that we begin the 14 days in which there are special offerings for departed spirits and in Hindi it's called Shradh. I think most of you are aware this is a system that happens in Bharat. But it's also interesting that the remembrance of ancestor souls happens not only in Bharat but it's actually in all the continents and all the traditions. I'm remembering in particular a situation in which a person who became one of the instruments together with Nazar Bhai, but the idea was first from Marcus from South Africa, who has passed on now. But Marcus at some point around 1995 or maybe a bit later, had the idea of a project that would cover the whole of Africa and, of course, that resulted in 48 countries in Africa having centres. A few still remain without centres but ... so he was very creative in his thinking.

I am remembering when he became a Brahmin and he'd been a Brahmin for about a year, he spoke to me and he said, I want to share an experience with you and I was interested. He said that I've found the way to reach young Africans. When I talk to them about ancestors they're very familiar with that concept. I hadn't thought about African spirituality and ancestor worship but he was telling me that they've all grown up with that idea that it's very important to honour and worship ancestors and so on. So I tell them at some point, you are going to be an ancestor but only if you have that quality of life and character that allows other people to see that your life is a very elevated life and so you have to make that elevated life now so you can be listed as an ancestor and yes, then there will be offerings made to you also. He said that concept of becoming an ancestor was something that struck them very deeply and many of them would want to know more and it would lead to a conversation about Raja Yoga, but his entry point was ancestor worship.

It made me aware that across that whole continent there's a whole lot of emphasis on that. But, of course, you all know about the Chinese, Taoism, Buddhism, ancestor worship. So today, although Baba hasn't used that word, Baba is talking about our role now and Baba has mentioned two very specific things that have to happen at this moment, because we're seeing that it is the last chapter. One of them is that, together as a collective we should be able to reveal God, and the second is that we have to make sure that we're able to give something to everyone. Baba specifically mentioned that, whether the souls that you're serving become deities or whether the souls that you're serving become the bhagats, the devotees of the Copper Age, you don't have to think about that, but just simply make sure that you are giving. In the giving those souls who are going to become deities, they first have to be able to receive something, and then they can become the devtas, the ones who give. The first step is that they should be able to receive something and then the second step is, yes, if they're going to take something now from you, even the bhagats have to receive something of value from you, and that then becomes their foundation for worship of the deities in the Copper Age. So now just be the ones who are able to give on both accounts.

You are the ones who are the children of the Bestower so just as the emperors of the Golden Age, or even later on, the kings are always remembered as the bestowers, the mother and father, who are able to give and sustain others, so that role of being able to give now – it's now that I have to be able to be an instrument so that Baba is able to give. So, I found that very interesting, that if you want to become one of those souls that is remembered in the Copper Age or one of those souls that's playing that very special role in the Golden and Silver Ages then the secret is to give at this moment.

So, that idea of worshipping souls who have elevated characters and elevated lifestyle and are in that awareness, it's something that's there in all the different traditions (ancestor worship or offering of bhog). In Christianity they have 31st October, all souls day, when it's not just the memorial of one or two or a few individuals but it's all the souls that have departed. So a very interesting concept. I hadn't thought about it earlier but, just today, that recognition that it's one of the things that connects all the different traditions, whichever continent, whichever spiritual path they follow. In fact it's true of all the different traditions, birth, death, weddings, major life changes, all of them are honoured and celebrated. The food that you share might be different, the customs that you share might be different but they're observed to signify that there's something sacred in that and of course now at the end of Kaliyug you just go and sign something in a register and that's it. There's no awareness of the sacred commitment or the sacred promise in anything. Or parents just choose a name. In India they choose all the names of the film stars now. Earlier they used to choose the names of the deities, and that's just in my lifetime, so nobody chooses names of deities for their children anymore. They always choose names of film stars or even politicians. So things have changed dramatically by the end of Kaliyug but generally old traditions honour each time there's something significant that happens during life and they honour it as something sacred.

Even the relationship with nature. Every single tradition has honoured nature, the environment, our home, so this is how nature has managed to continue to provide for us for 5000 years. It's only in the last hundred years that all the things connected with remembering that nature is sacred have been forgotten. And, of course, over the last 50 years just total commercialism taking over. But all the traditions remind us not just of our relationship with each other and with God but also our relationship with nature itself. So, we've seen how bhakti has deteriorated over this last period of Kaliyug. I won't go more into that. But just this idea that now is the time that we're creating whatever it is we wish through the whole cycle. This is that moment.

So, Baba is saying, it's only, and at that time it was even fewer, but even today if you think about the population of the world, it's still only a handful who actually become Brahmins, which is also fine because we know that part of Satyug is the limited number of people there, so when people say that one of the big problems of the world is the big population, it's absolutely true. Baba agrees with that. It's just that they have a different plan to reduce the population and Baba has a very different plan.

So, today's murli is very much about serving all souls and being able to reveal Baba to the world and, you've often heard this expression "revealing Baba". One aspect is that it's not one individual who is going to reveal Baba, it has to be the whole community. There have always been individuals who've been powerful and who have come and given a message and their life is powerful and elevated, whether it's Buddha or Christ, whoever it may be, but a whole community being able to reveal God and glorify God and show the world who God is, that hasn't happened. And, of course, in drama it wasn't their role. They came to establish one branch, so they did what they needed to do. But today Baba is saying that the main purpose of everything that you do, whether you are giving drishti to somebody, the way you look at them, what you say, what you speak, the way you say it, the steps that you take, can you reveal Baba through everything you're doing? And, revealing Baba means connecting them with Baba. So every soul has a right to be connected with God, so am I able to bring others closer to God and make them see what God's qualities are.

Baba has mentioned it often but has mentioned it again today, there are many who give brilliant speeches out there in the world and people will say that he speaks, or she speaks, with great authority or of wonderful things but here also sometimes the same thing happens but the question is, are they able to give others the awareness that what they are saying isn't just from them, but it's actually knowledge that has come from God, so that then those who are listening are able to connect with God.

Baba has commented on how when there's love in the heart then it's like a musical instrument and the one who has love for God will have only songs of praise going on in their heart all the time. I hadn't appreciated that this word 'dilruba' also is actually a musical instrument. So the song that's playing in the hearts of those who love Baba should simply be praise of God and sometimes it changes a little bit, and there are two other things that come in. Sometimes it becomes complaints to God and so check and see, are there complaints to God going on in my heart. Baba, why is this happening? Why is that happening? It shouldn't be like this. She shouldn't be like this. Why is that one like that? It shouldn't be like that at all. And, secondly, sometimes it's praise of the self. It was so good I was able to do this. I did this so well. So Baba's saying the songs shouldn't be praising yourself. The songs should be of praise of Baba.

And, so if Baba's in my heart, yes, Baba's going to be present in my words in such a way that souls are going to be able to come closer to Baba. So, my words are powerful, for everyone, I don't mean me personally. But people remember words you said to them for decades and they'll remind you. Sometimes, they'll say that, what you said to me in such and such a situation helped me so much and it really encouraged me to move on and at other times somebody else will say you said such a thing and it so much. They carry both, the hurting words, and they also carry the loving uplifting words. So am I so aware that my words have such an impact, and it's a reality for everybody, out there, here. Words have a great impact but are my words such that people are able to recognise who God is and come closer to God. So, it's not one individual but it has to be the whole community. Eight jewels are ready, that's fine, but drama is still waiting and the suffering of the world still continues, and so it's waiting for all of us to be ready also.

When we think about time then sometimes there's a thought that, well, we've been hearing Baba say this for a long time. It was very interesting somebody writing to me the other day, in another country, and saying, she feels that reading each day's murli is like reading a fresh newspaper. It's like Baba is talking about the sign of the times and what is going on now. Why she thought of that is because somebody said to her, when I read the scriptures it feels like I'm reading an old newspaper. When I read Baba's murli, it's today's news, fresh news. So, Baba's telling us everything that's going but Baba's telling us the secrets of everything that led to what's going on. Why is all of this happening, so understanding all of that and recognising the time it is now. So what do my eyes reveal? Do my eyes reveal God's love, God's compassion, God's kindness and the steps that I take (Baba always connects steps with srimat), and so are the steps that I take the steps of srimat, the father's footsteps, and just think about that.

How did Baba live and work and what did he do? And, we've had the fortune of hearing stories about Baba from Dadi, and not just one Dadi but all the Dadis, but also through the avyakt murlis. Some people find the avyakt murlis beautiful and fascinating. I do. And, some people find that the avyakt murlis are somewhere up there and they can never reach up there and so they're not quite able to take it as Baba talking to them. The first time I heard avyakt murlis in January 1969, I was stunned by the beauty of the language. With sakar Baba, the language is very simple, the Hindi language. I think it has around only 200 words in the vocabulary. That's it. Learn 200 words of Hindi and you'll be able to understand a fair bit of the sakar murli. But the avyakt murli has such a vast range of language and very often I have to ask what does this word mean. What is the translation of this word? Like today, the word 'dilruba'. From the feeling it was a word of great love, but it's also a musical instrument so that's new for me.

But Avyakt Baba is always talking about Brahma Baba and the efforts that Brahma Baba made. And so, Shiv Baba, through the sakar versions, Brahma Baba was able to learn and understand what he needed to do and achieve that stage through 33 years of practice. Many of us here in this gathering are 33 years plus in gyan, and so we can see why Baba is number one. But also Baba

said that, even if you can't be number one, you can be in the first division, so make sure that your effort is such that you enter the first division at least. So following in the steps of Baba's srimat, and it means that, yes, I can definitely reach that first division and be able to be part of that community, that collective that's able to reveal Baba to the world.

I'm very aware that at this moment now when you come in white clothes, or even if it's not white, your family knows that you are coming to the Brahma Kumaris. They understand that. So, what transformation have they been able to see in you that enables them to say, this isn't just another organization or another little twig or branch of the tree? But it enables them to say there's something special happening here, something unique and they want to come closer and they want to find out more about what's going on. So, Baba's revelation is not far away but I think it needs that last spurt of effort from everyone to actually make it happen so that everywhere there is the sound that, yes, this must be God's work. So today the reminder of the ancestor souls and, starting tomorrow, special bhog will be offered every Sunday, but be aware that it's a universal awareness of ancestors and what they've done for us and also how we can also be part of that and be ancestors ourselves. So, every murli has many layers of understanding.

Today, we've got something that happens every year, our fire safety video and it was actually very stunning for me to see what happened next door in the garage (there had been a fire some weeks back) and you still see a pile of stuff there but that night, at about ten o'clock at night the fire must have started and we could smell the smoke coming in through our windows. When we went up on the roof to see what was going on we just saw four fire engines and a lot of firemen and a lot of smoke. And, it was only because they had safety precautions. Apparently, one of the lithium car batteries had exploded – your telephone battery can explode – so just be careful. But in this case they had some fire protection things in place so the fire didn't spread. Otherwise we were literally about 2 to 3 feet away from the fire, so I was grateful that they had their fire safety in place. So, very important. So we'll be seeing that and after that we'll be having bhog.

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