

Satsang

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From Vasant's Talks in Europe

"You might ask how it is that the scientist of Europe with his space age technology and the paraphernalia of electronic gadgetry has not yet found out the PRANA which is supposed to be effected by the changes in the atmosphere? Well, it would be quite fair to ask such a question. However, you are asking this question a few years too late. Wonderful strides have been taken by the scientist of Europe in the past few years. If you look at the various conclusions reached by them by the methods of experimental science, you might be inclined to take a closer look at the Fivefold Path I am talking about. The Fivefold Path of the Vedas can be better understood in a scientific society where more people have discarded the traditional prejudices and are ready to search for knowledge. It will be better understood where methods of experimental science are respected in spite of the rider that human intellect has limitations. It will be better understood where the scientist has become humble and where the nuclear age is a thing of the past."

"The scientists of Europe have definitely come to the conclusion that there is more than the dense physical body that we wear. In some places like the Soviet Union the scientist calls it the Bioplasma body. Sometimes it is alluded to as PRANA of ancient Yoga. Whether it is the same as the PRANA of ancient Yoga or not is not the point. The point is that the scientist has proved that there is some sort of energy which is not electromagnetic field. It is not gravitational. It is not electrostatic either. You all know that electrostatic

will not work under water. This subtle energy, according to the Soviet scientist, manifests in the form of bioplasma body which corresponds to the physical body. Supposing someone's arm is amputated, it means there is no arm existing on the physical body. However, by the modern method of photography which does not involve a camera, one can actually see the energy arm dangling. These experiments are repeated thousands of times. The energy manifestations of a dying person, of a leaf plucked from a living plant could be seen by the naked eye on the screen and analyzed."

"It is further noted that atmospheric changes have an effect on this energy manifestation. By another set of experiments it is seen that this has an effect on the mind. Yet another set of experiments have proved that the form or shape of an object can exert influence of the subtler energy manifestation of which not much is known. Yet another set of experiments prove that copper is an important metal in the manifestation of this energy. Now if you put together all these conclusions reached by the scientist you will notice that the modus operandi is nicely outlined. You have only to add the basic data regarding Circadian Rhythms and you can well imagine how Agnihotra works at least in its grosser aspects. Then comes the microbiologist with his petriplates and he can learn something from the Agnihotra of the Vedic science of bioenergy. Let the microbiologist not jump to hasty conclusions when he sees some obvious results on his petriplates. Things are deeper than he imagines."

"Agnihotra states that by burning specific substances into fire prepared in a copper pot in a scientific way and at specific rhythms of nature accompanied by some vibrations, changes are brought about in the atmosphere. These changes affect the life energy designated as PRANA. It further states that the beneficial effect is transposed to the realm of the mind. The mind feels free. You become full of joy. You get the strength to react with love to all conditions and circumstances."

"Exactly at sunrise the breathing system changes all over the planet. The moment that the sun appears to rise at those coordinates the breathing changes. If we get into the habit of getting up before sunrise the NADI system on this bioplasma body is automatically adjusted. What is this NADI system? There is a well laid out nervous

system on the physical body. If you can imagine a subtler system similar to this nervous system on the bioplasma body, it is designated as the NADI system. Since the bioplasma body is beyond the scalpel of the surgeon this NADI system is also beyond the surgeon."

"For happy living it helps to learn PRANAYAMA, i.e. the Yogic method to bring about changes in the bioplasma body by manipulating the breath. It helps to make the mind tranquil as PRANA and the mind are functionally connected. Agnihotra helps to remove the tension on the mind by bringing about change in PRANA, the life energy."

"I stated that the form of an object can give rise to the manifestation of subtler energies. It is stated by some scientists that the form of a pyramid for example gives rise to certain energy manifestation at a particular level irrespective of the size of the pyramid and also irrespective of the material of which the pyramid is made. Experiments made on cardboard pyramids of small size also yielded the same result."

"The scientist is now experimenting whether this subtler energy could be stored up at will and whether it could be put to any practical use. In these experiments the metal copper was found to be of special value."

"Once the scientist has recognized the existence of this subtle energy which is not the electromagnetic field, then he may as well go deeper into the ancient Vedas which throw much light on the subject. It seems that in the U.S. and Western Europe these experiments are made apologetically while in Eastern Europe they are made enthusiastically. In America and certain parts of Europe the scientist has not yet officially recognized that this subject can properly come under what he calls 'the universe of discourse of experimental science'. However, where it is recognised as such, much progress can be seen."

"We are living in a period where the nuclear armoury has already become 'old junk' and 'rusted iron'. More dastardly weaponry is already on the production line. This weaponry can totally destroy the layer of useful atmosphere that surrounds our planet earth. This weaponry includes the acceleration of ozone (O_3), disturbance of gamma rays and the like. This can destroy the whole of life from the planet. While it is not too late let us be aware of the situation and learn about the ancient science of YAJNYA which is

based on rhythms of nature to purify the polluted atmosphere. The world has become like a multi-storied building as atmosphere and the effect of its pollution on human mind recognizes no manmade national borders."

Kriya Yoga in Holland

By Jan Willem Scheres

Vasant returned to Holland in June this year and held group meetings at about six places. The last one was at Maastricht, the southernmost end of the country, on June 26th. The meeting was held at the residence of Jean Michelle and Charlotte Jurrisen and I acted as interpreter. In most of the meetings Carola acted as interpreter except in S'Hertogenbosch where meetings were arranged by Lex Smit who also translated for Vasant. People showed keen interest in the teachings of Kriya Yoga which is the Fivefold Path beginning with Agnihotra.

Now a flashback. I went to America as a tourist in 1973. Three hours before my departure for Holland on September 16, 1973 I found the culminating point of my wanderings. A meeting was held at the residence of John Brown in Baltimore and an unknown Indian was to speak on Kriya Yoga. Many people gathered. The L-shaped living room was full of people. As it turned out, the only place left for me was around the corner. It was not possible for me to have a visual perception of the speaker. What a pity!

Oh well, I speculated, if this man was what I thought he was then, I must be able to receive his message by other means than the ordinary senses. So, for the first time in my life I made a continuous attempt to meditate in order to open myself to more subtler ways of communication. I did my best to sit in half lotus pose with erect backbone and thumbs and forefingers touching.

Before I realized that the meeting was over I knew I had not really understood what this Indian teacher had spoken about. But, I had a tremendous feeling of well-being which was beyond description. An hour or so later I left for Baltimore Airport with my friend Alma to return to Holland, knowing my life had changed. This was my first introduction to the message of the Fivefold Path.

Later, John sent me a tape of the meeting and the Agnihotra Mantras. Back in Holland I received many letters from American brothers and sisters carrying information about the Fivefold Path. This was a direct invitation to start Agnihotra, the smallest form of YAJNYA to purify the mind. Since I had no cassette recorder, I went to my friends' Harry and Bonnie in Middelburg. Thus, on Good Friday, 1974, the first Agnihotra was performed in Europe. After the meditation those who were present were not able to speak. We just sat there smiling at each other. I realized then that I had experienced this feeling of purity before, namely during Vasant's lecture in America. There I was, not able to understand all but experienced it right there while Vasant spoke. It really turned me on.

Sometime later John wrote me a letter if it would be possible to make arrangements to give Vasant and John shelter for a few days, for they wanted to come to Europe to spread the Fivefold Path. Later on I learned that John Brown met Vasant on the same day as I had met him, that is at the time of the meeting. My parents were kind enough to open their house for Vasant and John and thus we had a base from where they could direct their trips to various places in Holland. It was a privilege for me to be with them in their tour in 1974. It was quite an experience for me to arrange those meetings and act as interpreter for Vasant.

It is interesting to note that when my translations were not correct enough Vasant seemed to know somehow. Anyway, everything went wonderfully smooth. Grace Alone. We seemed to meet the right people at the right time and right places. Vasant gave lectures to various groups and institutions in different towns.

We met Lex Smit in S'Hertogenbosch (Den Bosch), we went to Kosmos in Amsterdam, we went to a macrobiotic restaurant in Breda. We visited Harry and Bonnie in Middelburg. A talk was given at Utrecht University. In DeBilt we met Carola Waterman at the end of the tour. Vasant was about to leave for Germany. He had fixed his date and had told John to return to America.

When Vasant was asked where in Germany he would go and who would interpret for him, Vasant replied that he did not know anyone in Germany. He said that he would start walking the streets of

Germany and spread the message as the Divine had already given the message to the atmosphere. And so it was. Carola, whom we had met a few days back, requested Vasant whether she could be allowed to act as his interpreter as she knew German as well as her mothertongue, Dutch, and Vasant agreed. She arranged for Roger to chauffeur Vasant in Germany and the party left Holland knowing that the seed was planted. Carola returned to Holland after a month to "water the seed". Roger who had come from England was asked to stay around Stuttgart to continue the work.

Karen came from Washington to Lubeck, northernmost port of Germany from where Vasant had planned to enter Denmark. Karen acted as Vasant's interpreter in Denmark and did a fine job. In August, 1974, the first Fire Temple was inaugurated in Denmark at Fosdalsgard. Sara Nielsen made all the arrangements and looks after it. Vasant met Sara during his tour of Denmark where many lectures were given on the Fivefold Path. At this place people gather at sunrise and sunset to perform Agnihotra and silence is maintained all the time. The place is open to all who wish to meditate. Everyone is welcome. No questions are asked. Later Vasant visited Sweden.

In September, 1974, the first Fire Temple in Holland was opened. We started working on Dutch edition of Satsang to spread the message of the Vedas in Holland.

In April, 1975, Vasant came back to Holland and Ingrid came from Canada to join him. They went to Germany for a while. Carola accompanied them. A Fire Temple was inaugurated by Vasant on 17th May at Wald in Germany. Later, Vasant returned to Holland while Ingrid remained in Germany.

Vasant gave talks in Bilthoven, Utrecht, Laren (at Ria's residence). In S'Hertogenbosch, Lex Smit arranged two talks. A very lively meeting was held in the capital city of Den Haag (The Hague) at Tullia's house. In Maastricht it was at the residence of Jean Michelle and Charlotte Jurrissen.

One peculiarity about Vasant's talks this year. Stress was laid on the methods and conclusions of experimental science as it developed in the last few years. This approach to the Fivefold Path seemed to be much appreciated by the Dutch public. It was interesting to listen to Vasant explain the Fivefold Path in terms of

the science of medicine, bioenergy and psychology. I have made tapes of his talks and we will use them to spread the message of the Fivefold Path.

I was present when Surya Green, a reporter and writer of spiritual topics, was interviewing Vasant. She asked Vasant, "Are you in the state of Sat-Chit-Ananda?"

Vasant: "I have heard that word before but I do not truly know the meaning. I am an ignorant person."

Surya: "But, then do you feel bliss?" The lady tried to cling to her question.

Vasant: "I am just a happy person."

I need not state that Vasant's reply elicited much laughter in our little family of friends. However, this was a lesson for me. Vasant asks us not to intellectualize things too much or waste time over ivory tower philosophies, but to keep our minds concentrated on first things first, like control over greed, anger, etc.

At Maastricht where I was interpreting for Vasant, the group seemed just ready for the message. From the questions that were asked, one could easily conclude that some of them were trying to live the Fivefold Path. Some of them were practicing Agnihotra for some time. This made it altogether a very pleasant meeting.

Vasant asked me to continue the meeting with a session of questions and answers. I was to answer the questions when Vasant left. I did my best to clear various points. This was a very important exercise for me since some of those present will be students in Kriya Yoga classes that I might give in September. The next morning, 27th June, at about 4:30 (sunrise), Vasant taught Agnihotra Mantras to some. Then, we drove Vasant to the railway station where he left for Germany to inaugurate a new fire temple.

Excerpts From Satsang Correspondence

"It has been a pleasure to see your magazine. In this century of sin and evil, your magazine is a sample of purification. But sir,

when every religion teaches the Fivefold Path of Life, then where lies the difference? Why should there be hatred and violence towards each other? The time has come to realize the spirit of each religion (which is all the same) and to come under one banner. I wish that you put light on my above view...Your magazine will be a source of enlightenment for humanity..."

Dr. M. Ali
Hyderabad (India)

We give below the Editor's comments:

Various philosophies have failed to bring humanity together under one banner. The fear of impending disaster due to wrongly orientated scientific inventions have created a feeling of one world although the human mind has not yet developed to carry out the logical consequences of such a conclusion.

In 1858, Karl Marx said that religion was an opiate of the people. Marx was referring to the petrified traditional religions which had developed themselves into a gigantic machine to exploit the ignorance of the masses to fatten on the proceeds. Such religions have nothing to do with prophets in whose name they swear. It was fanaticism, barbarism, vested interest. It was big business. Under such conditions the very idea of bringing people "under one banner" would smack of doctrinaire dogmatism.

However, when you use the word "one banner" it is in a different context. Let us have a look at the past two thousand years.

Jesus repeated the message of Eternal Religion (first given through the Vedas). The message was LOVE. He gave it in simple words for anyone to understand. After a few centuries after Jesus, people again formed themselves into sects and the eternal message of Jesus got twisted. It is interesting to note that Prophet Muhammed manifested in the same geographic area where Jesus lived. Mecca and Jerusalem are

not far. Prophet Muhammed gave the same message of Eternal Religion through the simplest possible language. He wanted to wipe out the crust that had enveloped around the message of Jesus. In very clear terms he stated,

"We gave you Jesus the Son of Mary but you did not understand."

"Allah has no son and nobody is the son of Allah."

This was a clear reply to the twisted meaning of the phrase "Son of God". In several passages of the Holy Koran one finds it written that Allah sends messengers all the time, in all nations and languages. The messengers are graded and come to do the allotted task. Because we are humans the messengers come as humans. If we were angels, the messengers would have come as angels.

Prophet Muhammed stressed that he was only a messenger and had come to do the allotted task. He stressed that in the beginning there was only one religion but people quarrelled and brought about sects. He called that one religion which was in the beginning, ISLAM. It was the Eternal Religion first given through the Vedas. Vedas is the oldest literature known to mankind. Vedas literally means knowledge as the word comes from Sanskrit verb VID meaning to know. Similar words for knowledge are found in most of the European languages.

Prophet Muhammed gave the same answer of Love, Charity and Faith. Muhammed laid much stress on the Law of Karma of Eternal Religion which is the law of "Reap as you sow" of the Bible. He asked people to reduce attachment to worldly objects and for this he asked the people to practice DAAN (the second aspect of the Fivefold Path of Eternal Religion). It was called ZAKAT in Arabic tradition. The name is not important. The meaning is important. At Ka'ba prior to Muhammed's arrival there were many idols and many sects woven around the idols. It was business in the name of religion. He threw them all away and stressed that ALMIGHTY IS ONE. This was the reiteration of the ancient Vedic message.

Muhammed laid down certain rules like fasting, etc. The Eternal Principles of Religion remain the same. Certain rules and regulations change according to times, country and climate but the Eternal Principles which the prophets give do not change. The prophets use the language, considering the conditions in which they take birth. All prophets come to reiterate the same message of PURITY OF MIND which culminates into LOVE and GRACE. Muhammed stated that after the prophets leave the body, the people again form themselves into sects. So-called followers of Muhammed were no exception. Again things go bad. However, things were never so bad as they are now. From this point of view, all people can come under "one banner" as you say. The time is now ripe for the scientist to join hands with spiritual leaders. He has already started doing it. Science will put us under one banner. The time has come when it has to be total love or total destruction. The sooner we recognize it the better. This is the day for the true message of Buddha, Mahaveer, Krishna, Zoroaster, Moses, Jesus and Muhammed to shine.

Lastly, I am reminded of the words of Muhammed when he states what would happen after fourteen hundred years. A new era dawns. The period is over now. The time coincides with the period of twenty-five hundred years mentioned at the passing away of Mahaveer who was Buddha's contemporary.

The sun has risen on a new era. You can see it; you can experience it.

Practice AGNIHOTRA for purification of the atmosphere.

Practice DAAN (Sharing of assets in a spirit of humility) for generating non-attachment.

Perform TAPA (Self-discipline, austerities, purification) for fruition of thy affirmations.

Perform KARMA (Meritorious deeds) for self-purification.

Perform SWADHYAYA (Self-study) for liberation.

This is the Fivefold Path. Start the spiritual discipline today. The span of life will not be extended. What is given unto you is to utilize wisely every moment of your existence. Let us engage ourselves in meritorious deeds without expectation of reward in the form of name or fame. We live only in the present moment. The past is no more. The future is yet to be. Do not waste the precious moments in trivia.

A link will be given to you by the Divine Will when you start practicing the above. You will be a more righteous Christian, Jew, Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, whatever be your formal religion label.

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