

Satsang

Vol. 2 No. 1

May 16, 1974

Twice Monthly

We enter the second year of publication with this issue. Time has vindicated the urgency of the message given through Satsang. The message is Love. The Fivefold Path described through the pages of this bulletin explains Kriya Yoga, the science of happy living on earth. We are reproducing in this issue two articles from our first issue published on May 17, 1973. In the first year of its publication, Satsang has reached all continents and the process of purification of the mind through the purification of the atmosphere is gaining momentum. This is a process in the science of bioenergy as explained in the Vedas.

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AGNIHOTRA GOES TO THE NETHERLANDS:

We have received the following letter from one of Satsang friends in Holland. "Dear Friends: I am happy to report the first AGNIHOTRA fire has burned on Good Friday morning at sunrise in Middleburg, Holland. The participants were Harry and Bonnie, Carlos, David, Han and me. We are very grateful to be so honored to perform this act of purification. Truly, knowledge shall spread by Divine Will. He has so willed and His Will be done. Love, Limmy."

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Excerpts from Vasant's discourses at Washington, D.C.:

"The Fivefold path comprises the Eternal Principles of Religion. This is the basis of the message of all the prophets and saints.

"Do not believe anything simply because it is ancient or because many believe it to be true. Try to focus the searchlight of intellect on the things presented to you as the Fivefold Path, which comprises the Eternal Principles of Religion. Examine it by all possible means that are available to you.

"Blind belief is no less misleading than blind disbelief. Take the mantle of the scientist to prove and analyse the statements made before you.

"You can achieve the highest states which some yogis perhaps fail to achieve, even while leading the life of a householder. The Eternal Principles, given at the time of creation through the Vedas (literally, knowledge), are valid at all times. This is Eternal Religion (Satya Dharma). Let a Christian, Jew, Muslim, Buddhist or Hindu become a better Christian, Jew, Muslim, Buddhist or Hindu by following the Eternal Principles which spell happy living on earth.

"It does not matter if you are an agnostic or an atheist. I assure you that if you follow the Fivefold Path, if there is any such thing as Almighty Power, it will unfold before you.

"One has to become a better person first before he becomes a good engineer, good doctor, good teacher. The Fivefold Path offers material and mental aids to achieve peace and bliss as and where we stand.

"You may be a member of any religious or spiritual group. You may be a follower of a Guru or a teacher. The material and mental aids taught by the Fivefold Path will make you a better member of your religious or spiritual group, or a better follower of your Guru or teacher.

"I have not come to the U.S. to open a new shop. I have not come here to sell anything. I do not ask you to leave your group or organization if you have one. I do not ask you to form any group or organization if you do not have one. I do not ask you to join any group or organization at all. I do not ask you to follow a particular Guru to make progress on the spiritual path. When a person is ready, a link is given to him by Divine Will and he meets his teacher. I may not know even his name. I do not wish to carry the burden of knowing it. If you follow the Fivefold Path given through the Vedas, the most ancient knowledge known to mankind, you will notice that the mind gets purified. Once this is achieved an inbuilt mechanism operates and the intellect is freed from the grip of desires that sway our judgement. Then you begin to realise the depth of the Sermon on the Mount given by Jesus or the Sermon at Sarnath given by Buddha. You will then understand the significance of the burning bush which Moses saw on Mount Sinai. You will then grasp the urgency of the clarion call given by prophet Mohammed from the deserts of Arabia.

"The Son of Man, the Avatar for the present dispensation, has descended on earth by Divine Command to do a specific allotted task. On Christmas Day, December 25, 1941, the Almighty Father reiterated to the Son of Man, the Avatar, specifically the task to be achieved.

"The task is to reset the energy cycle of the planet and resuscitate the knowledge given through ancient wisdom. The Son of Man had remarked then that the time for unfoldment had not yet come. However, when the time did come, a message was given to the atmosphere and the atmosphere was seeded with holy vibrations.

"The Son of Man does not ask you to worship his photograph. You may not know his name or see his picture. Your spiritual progress is not dependent on these things. The Son of Man asks you to pattern your behavior on the precepts of the Eternal Principles of Religion. I came to the USA as a humble instrument of the Son of Man, whose message is 'Love thy neighbor.'

"Nothing that I speak is against reason. Some things may seem beyond reason. Why? The material scientist has come to the conclusion that human reason has limitations.

"True knowledge never comes merely by reading scriptures or any literature. It does not come by acquiring the ability to debate philosophical conundrums. True knowledge dawns only if you start practicing the precepts. You will never know the depth of 'Love thy neighbor' even if you repeat the sentence a thousand times. However, the moment you start practicing it, you will see how the light spreads. The Fivefold Path teaches the material and mental aids to achieve this state.

"Vedas is high knowledge but again it is lower knowledge. For higher knowledge, you have to approach a qualified teacher in a spirit of humility with offerings to fire in hand." (Mundakopanishad)

"The offerings to fire in the above quotation refer to the ancient process of fumigation and purification of the atmosphere to bring about unburdening of the mind. This technique will be borne out by the science of bioenergy, which is quite new to the material scientist. The above process gives nourishment to plant life and is an antidote to pollution. It relieves tension on the mind and helps you establish yourself in the state of 'Love thy neighbor.' This is the first aspect of the Fivefold Path.

"A simplified version of this technique, which anyone in any walk of life may practice with ease, was unfolded by the Son of Man, Avatar, Shri Gajanan Maharaj. This is termed Agnihotra."

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May 17 is the birthday of the Son of Man, Avatar Shri Gajanan Maharaj. Karen Jeffreys has sent us the following offering in verse. In India, the Avatar is referred to as "Shree."

Sadguru Shree offers gifts unto me,
Love, Peace and devotion so bountifully
Should I have a question,
The answer is clear,
Fivefold Path well-followed
Removes doubt and fear.

Master, your name is pure light and delight.
Here and now you show me the path that is right.
Infinite mercy,
Praise be, oh, praise be
Works to set me free,
Blessed Shree,
Oh, praise be.

* * *

The Son of Man sent the following message to SATSANG on April 20, 1974:

"VASANT AND ALL TRAVELLERS TO KINGDOM OF HEAVEN. STOP. SEE THE RISING SUN OF NEW ERA PARADISE ON EARTH. STOP. BE SURE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS NEAR AT HAND."

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SATSANG by Fred Clifton

Sometimes the most extraordinary things can be happening around us, or even to us, and we are so habituated not to see that we are blinded to them. Experiences with groups are often that way. I realize now that a group I was part of, many years ago, was really something more than a casual assembly of friends and acquaintances. It was the one thing that had it been missing, several persons would have had different lives. Such groups are not just ordinary company. They are sources.

So it is on the Path. The revered traditional requirement to attend Satsang is the recognition of the profound importance of groups even on the path toward the fulfillment of the ultimate individual goal. And yet Satsang is not just in attending the meetings. Satsang is that which is established by attending the meetings for the purpose of hearing, seeing, or otherwise experiencing the Master's omnipresence.

Literally translated, "Satsang," which contains "Sat" (Reality) and "Sang" (Company), means 'company of those who have seen Reality.' Although knowledge of Reality is an individual realization, the company of others who have had similar realizations confirms and intensifies each realization.

Within the company of those who know Reality, greater intensity of that knowledge is experienced. The resultant confirmation strengthens each individual in his own realization.

Satsang can be likened unto an amplifier. In the company of fellow devotees on the path, the tiny sound that emanates from each of us is magnified into a noticeable comment or accent. A new scale of realization is attained in Satsang. In the company of those who know, my voice is a joyful voice.

It is easy and familiar for each of us to have doubts. Trouble is something that we all know by direct experience. Satsang is total relief from doubt. Satsang is a bridge over troubled waters. In the company of those who have seen Reality and those who are striving to see it, we are comforted.

Satsang is affirmation. It is the company of those who affirm the brief glimpse of Grace which they have been given and the infinite mercy, beneficence, power at its Source. It is the company of those who say yes to the Almighty. It is the company of those who investigate and not those who merely interrogate. Negation vanishes in the company of those who affirm.

Satsang is the establishment of "we" as a realization and the diminishing of "me." Satsang is the realization of many selves as Self. In the company of the we, "I" relinquish "me."

Satsang can be likened unto a chain that is as strong as its strongest link. In the presence of the greater, the weaker is overcome and the whole takes on the traits of the strongest. The weak are thereby made strong.

Satsang is an unbroken circle. It is the many as One and the One

as many. Oh Lord, when I do recognize myself in others I do realize that it is all Thy very Self alone.

Satsang is an instrument of self transformation. When this holy company stands before my eyes as a vision of what I might become, I move to plunge into the limitless expanse. These experienced swimmers of the ocean of life give me courage and I rejoice. I place myself in their careful hands, and I am baptised in this trust. I rejoice. In the company of the holy, I surrender.

In the company of those who have seen Reality, love reigns, and faith and support and the council of perfection are the most ordinary things.

Satsang prefigures the perfection of nations. Satsang is the trans-personal realization of the Kingdom of Heaven. Into these hands I commend my self that I may be eternally with the Master.

SATSANG

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Biweekly

RESUSCITATE THE DIVINE BLUEPRINT OR PERISH

There is only a thin layer of useful atmosphere that surrounds our globe. Any tampering with the atmosphere leads to a chain reaction which encompasses in its sweep the physiological and psychological functioning of the human frame. We are already caught in the jaws of atmospheric pollution, jaws of death. Let us face the facts and not be complacent about it. Let us not shun the issue like the proverbial ostrich. Ivory tower syllogisms will not avail. Wrangling of politicians in international covenants, sophisticated gadgetry of the technocrat, sermons from the pseudo-spiritualist; none of these will save us from the impending catastrophe.

We are not only forewarned; we are also forearmed. The Vedas specify antipollutionary measures. They are material aids to human happiness. Ancient tradition has preserved this intact for posterity.

All this is in Sanskrit, the ancient tongue that underlies English and virtually all European languages. European scholars call it the mother of the Indo-European group of languages.

The Vedas speak of numberless billions of solar systems, non-differentiation of matter and energy, the effect of vibrations on consciousness, the effect of consciousness on matter and vice versa, and many other things from which modern science may benefit. The Vedas prescribe a code for happy living on earth, which is called the eternal principles (Satya Dharma). The code is summarized as the Fivefold Path. The first step on the Path enjoins you to practise an anti-pollutionary exercise as a material aid to mental tranquillity. Sometimes this is described as a process of fumigation, as destruction of harmful bacteria takes place. Of course, fumigation is only one of the grosser aspects of the process. You set in motion a chain reaction in tune with the elements, and this sets right many things.

With our greed to force nature to yield more and more, we have disturbed the natural cycle. Indiscriminate use of pesticides and insecticides eliminates nitrogen-fixing bacteria and pollinating agents. If man is to survive, he cannot do so independently of his surroundings. He is part of the biosphere, and he must recognize this and adjust accordingly. Industrial society is paying a heavy price in terms of wanton destruction, which leads to atmospheric imbalance. Do we want to aid in grinding the cosmic process to a halt? If we do, we will be starved of food, water and air. Nature will seek its equilibrium.

We are heir to numerous diseases, which manifest in a surprisingly multi-pronged way. Our mental health is rickety. We do have a way out of this tragic situation. We wish to focus attention on anti-pollutionary measures that each family may adopt with no cost. All this is from ancient wisdom; all this conforms to reason; all this is amenable to verification by available methods. We will reap a rich dividend in terms of mental health. This dividend brings in its train multifarious rewards.

Practise the Fivefold Path of ancient wisdom. It is sanctified by all true religious traditions in all parts of the globe. "I and my Father are one" is the aim of all Yoga practise, and the Fivefold Path is the means. Grace is yours for the asking; you must only know how to ask.

Practice AGNIHOTRA for purification of the atmosphere.
Practice DAAN (sharing your assets in a spirit of humility)
for generating non-attachment.
Practice TAPA (self-discipline, austerities, purification)
for fruition of thy affirmations.
Practice KARMA (meritorious deeds) for self-purification
Practice 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 and fame. We live only in the present moment. The past is no more. The future is yet to be. Do not waste precious moments on trivia.

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