

Satsang

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Fire Temple at Bilthoven, Netherlands

Carola Waterman, who acted as interpreter for Vasant in Germany, rented a house in Bilthoven after her return to Holland. She teaches the Fivefold Path of ancient Vedas at this Yoga center. A Fire Temple was inaugurated at this place on September 29th.

In the Fire Temple there is no priest and nothing is worshipped. Silence is maintained all the time. Agnihotra, the smallest process of purification of the atmosphere is performed everyday at sunrise and sunset. Anyone from the community is welcome to meditate in silence. Vibrations of LOVE are built up by daily purification of the atmosphere.

The purification of the atmosphere leads to unburdening of the mind. You feel free. Agnihotra is also termed the process of fumigation. It is based on one circadium rhythm of nature corresponding to the changes that take place at sunrise and sunset. It is the first aspect of the Fivefold Path. It is a material aid to bring harmony to the mind.

If someone is angry, tense, alienated, upset, let him come to this place and enjoy peace. In the conditions of today there are no places where one can go in such a condition. The person takes recourse to public bars for alcohol, or to drugs or sex. He goes in search of places of entertainment which are not always healthy. If he comes to the Fire Temple he will experience the harmony and to that extent become happy.

No questions will be asked to anyone who comes to the Fire Temple. No one is going to ask what opinions he holds, whether he believes in God or is an atheist. These things do not really matter. Once the mind is purified the light shines and the experience is the same irrespective of your formal religion, formal atheism, formal agnosticism.

In the Fire Temple a copper pot of standard pyramid type design is placed at the center against the wall. Daily Agnihotra is done in a separate copper pot of the same design. These copper pots were gifted by Agnihotra friends from United States.

There is a need to set up a chain of fire temples throughout the globe. It will purify the polluted atmosphere and thus remove tension from the mind. The energy cycle of the planet is being reset. The resultant change due to the practice of Agnihotra acts as nourishment to plant life. The effect on plants could be witnessed by our naked eye if you keep some plants in the room where Agnihotra is performed regularly.

It is stated in this ancient science of Bioenergy that the resultant change also helps cleanse the water resources on earth. It is for the scientist to find

out how this works. However, the average person says, "I need not be an electronic engineer to watch the picture on TV. I switch on the button and I get it; this is enough for me."

Heaven is Blooming on Earth

....By Ingrid Howard

What happens if one comes to a point where it is stated, "No Entry. No Right Turn. No Left Turn. No U-Turn.?" How terrible! Society is reaching this point of no return. Such are the conditions in which we live today. On one side we find the gigantic strides taken by the intellect. On the other side we find the enfeebled mind kicked about like a football, tossed about in a void. Result: unhappiness. What else can you expect? But this description is too mild. In fact it is total misery. What a caricature of the highest among all creation, the human being!

Amidst this picture of present day society one comes across angels in the most unexpected places. The human mind is truly mysterious. One never knows what the subconscious will throw out any moment. A man sacrifices everything that he possesses in the service of his neighbour. The same man partakes in a number of crimes. In such a society, punctured at so many vulnerable points, one has to work and spread the message of LOVE.

It seems that the Divine Will is so strong that thousands will be led out of this misery and will attain happiness. It appears that a strong invisible force is masterminding the whole plan. From the precipice of disaster, people will be thrown back and brought home where tranquility reigns.

Vasant's tour of Europe clearly reflects how ordinary people with no special disciplinary background could be brought back to the path of happiness with only a little effort on their part. It was a blessing to witness this happening wherever Vasant went. It was a privilege to partake in this work during a part of Vasant's tour. It seems that people are just ready for the message of the Fivefold Path. The right message has come at the right time. The message is as old as creation; however, it is put into modern language to suit the present conditions.

Gone are the days when the highest states of human consciousness were the monopoly of the exclusive few. Now the average wage-earner, tied down to the seconds and minutes of the clock, enmeshed in his own troubles and follies has an equal chance as the Yogi to get out of this rut and attain lasting happiness through the Fivefold Path. Heaven is blooming on earth!

From SATSANG Correspondence

Massluis,
Netherlands

Dear Satsang Friends,

I am practicing Agnihotra for two months. I can only say this. Make use of this opportunity while you still can. Even if you do not believe in the beginning, try it as an experiment from which you can only benefit. Do not hesitate because you do not understand the ancient wisdom of the Vedas. There are so many things which are beyond our reasoning capacity. Vasant says, "Some things may be beyond reason,

but nothing that I speak is against reason." For once, give way to something you may not understand. Through Agnihotra deliver yourself to the Unkown Higher Power and all will be well.

If you do not heed this advice and go your own way, be sure that you will get lost. The time has come for us to act like grownups. Use your power of discrimination, the only thing that separates us from the beasts. Do something about your miserable state that no God will tolerate. Nobody else can start the cure but you. It is urgent that you do so. Begin Agnihotra without losing a single day.

Greetings from Holland,
Bill Becker

(Bill Becker is a retired merchant navy man and has spent over thirty years on the sea. He translated many Satsang articles into Dutch to explain to the people of Holland and sent them to Carola at the Bilthoven Fire Temple.)

Excerpts from John Brown's Kriya Yoga class discourses

Never before in known history have things been made so easy. It is an opportunity we can not afford to let go. We have been given through the Fivefold Path a facile, expedient way to achieve happiness in this life as and where we are. It is Grace Alone. The things of the world mean nothing when you get glimpses of this higher power.

You become the instrument of the Higher Power. You are in the world but not of the world. You read this in the books and say 'Well, he can do it but not me. I never could.' But let me tell you the time has come when you can do it too. The Divine Will is strong.

Swadhyaya (Self-study) is the fifth aspect of the Fivefold Path. However, it is at the base of everything. Self-study asks the question, 'Who am I?' 'Why am I here?' 'What is true happiness?' Through Tapa i.e. self-discipline, self-study is done. For Swadhyaya you need to do intense effort. But you start making the effort and you find how easy it is to do so. It is much easier than many things that you do. Through meditation we come to know the true nature of this world."

Excerpts from Vasant's discourses in Europe

"Psychology is not yet an applied science in Europe or America. Unless psychology is able to define mind in its total aspect, you can not expect to have a science of psychology. It is strange but true that only those who have been able to transcend the mind are in a position to define mind in its totality.

Open any German, Danish, Dutch or Swedish dictionary. You will come across several words given as the meaning of mind which have hardly anything to do with the mind. Sometimes it is convenient and apt to use the English word mind. The word in English means a limited thing but at least there is no confusion. All this has happened because in the West, people do not realize that after all mind is only an instrument, however subtle that instrument may be. Mind is like a machine and machine implies automation. Mind has no original powers of initiative. Mind should not be confused with Spirit. Mind shines not of itself but by some other light. Mind does not think, does not love. When you observe the fan blade of your air-conditioner rotating you do not see electricity that is the motive power behind the rotation. Spirit motivates the mind. Mind is subtle matter.

Mind moves in the grooves of habit. It needs some outside push to break away from the grooves. Examine the effect of Agnihotra from this angle. Then you will see how a thrust is given to the mind to get out of the grooves of old habits. You need something to pull you away from the pattern of habits that are formed. A man steeped in vice weeps and prays that something should get him out of his habits. He just can not do it himself. Agnihotra helps him in his predicament. Purified atmosphere has a deep influence on the mind. It is the law of Nature that purified atmosphere leads to purified Prana (Life Energy). Purified Prana exerts a great influence on the grooves of the mind. Hence, Agnihotra is a great material aid."

Excerpts from Elwood's letter sent to several institutions in United States

"The day of fulfillment is about to dawn. The world is on the threshold of a new era. The Kingdom of Heaven is near.

The Divine Messenger has returned bringing to the people of the earth the message of deliverance, to save mankind from the most undesirable end, ecocide... Parama Sadguru has brought the message of Agnihotra and the Fivefold Path to the earth for the present dispensation...

The enclosed copy of SATSANG Vol. 1 No. 1 (first issue) was written by Vasant Paranjpe... Please read it carefully, for that day has come. His Divine Love and Mercy are given to those who are willing to receive...

Agnihotra, and the Fivefold Path are not religion but the embodiment of Eternal Principles behind all religions. This is the epitome of all spiritual endeavours - the point where all Yogas end... and it is offered for your liberation... Further information about Agnihotra and the Fivefold Path will be sent to you upon request. Devotees now stand ready and at your service to give instructions in the proper application of this unique antidote to the deadly effects of obnoxious pollution.

For further information contact Barry Battista, 7015 - 5th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20012."

We reproduce below the article from Satsang enclosed with the above letter.
(Note: The New Era has already dawned... Editor)

Satsang

Vol. 1 No. 1

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Twice Monthly

OPERATION FULFILLMENT

The world is on the threshold of a new era which may be designated as the Age of Bioenergy. Technology has nearly played it's innings. The inevitable concomitants of a highly technological society have bared their fangs. Ecology and ethics are the most visible victims. Human existence on the mother planet is threatened. Nobody can turn the clock back, but we can, if we will, reset the whole mechanism in tune with the cosmic cycle. Intelligence is not lacking, but we have to reorientate the search towards the missing dimension. Time is fast running out before ecocide overtakes us. We have to put our shoulders to the wheel; we have to carry our own crosses. What is the missing dimension? "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and all other things shall be added unto you."

We are bringing out the first issue of our journal on May 17th. This is the day on which Jesus delivered the Sermon on the Mount before the disciples. This year, May 17th coincides with the full moon day of Vaishakh of the lunar calendar. This is the day on which Gautama became Buddha (Enlightened). It is also the day on which Buddha was born and the day on which he left the mortal coil and attained Mahanirvana. Again, May 17th is the birthday of Parama Sadguru Shri Gajanan Maharaj of Akkalkot. Parama Sadguru means Highest among the Perfect Masters. His message of the Fivefold Path was reiterated by all Prophets, Messengers of God, and Divine Incarnations in all traditions in various parts of the world. All the Messengers of God used the language suited to the times in which they manifested. They laid stress on specific aspects of the Fivefold Path according to the need of the hour. The Almighty is one and His message is one. Experience comes from beyond the domain of intellect, and mere intellectual syllogisms do not carry us far.

The quintessence of the Fivefold Path runs like a golden thread through the necklace of pearls which the Divine Incarnations wove for humanity. When we start practising the Sermon on the Mount, the Dharmakaya of Buddha or the message of the Upanishads, a new faculty develops within us which takes us to higher tiers of consciousness. Christians, Buddhists, Islamics, saints, Indian Yogis, Siddhas, Gurus all stand united in trying to depict the experience which manifests as the unfoldment of Grace.

"OPERATION FULFILLMENT" is our project. The Fivefold Path is the means. Publication of this journal is merely an occasion. SATSANG is only an instrument. Knowledge shall spread by Divine Will. He has so willed, and His will be done.

The time is most opportune now to resuscitate the Fivefold Path for our happy journey on earth. All these days science has blasted beliefs, and rightly so. Henceforth science will not only bolster but foster faith. The time is not far off when science and religion will become synonymous terms. Breathtaking advances in technology have deadened the gamut of scientists' guilt complex regarding their end use. The times we live in are loaded with hot lines of pushbutton conflagration which can wipe out human existence. While trying to devise solutions to human problems man himself has become a problem. We are able to soft-land on the moon and return safely, but it is not safe to stroll in parts of New York City after dusk. Pushers of deadly drugs ply their trade in broad daylight, unmindful of the long arm of the law. Pornography floods the stalls, claiming to tranquilize the tantalizing eruption of desires. Psychedelics and hallucinogens are palmed off as mystic experience. Even Yoga exercises and minicars are termed sexy in commercial TV.

Leaded gasoline is taking a heavy toll of men, women, and children alike. Dangerously high blood levels among city dwellers are recorded, and lead exhaust is the cause. Smog has exacted a heavy toll from agriculture. Emphysema and bronchitis, lung cancer and heart disease are rampant due to smog. Aerosol sprays, insecticides, paints, enamels, room deodorizers and fresheners demand their pound of flesh. Toxic chemicals are released with solvents. They undermine the reading comprehension among children and create more discipline problems for school authorities.

Gadgetry is booming, which puts more pressure on our energy supply. Frequent invention of ingenious devices for substitution of human energy by energy extracted from nature, culminates in added doses of pollution. Noxious molecules belch out of thermal plants. Coolant water from natural sources is overheated in nuclear energy plants, thus disturbing marine biology. It is as if the devil has been let loose. Pollution, the masked marauder, is ravaging through the edifice of civilization, built brick by brick, through centuries of human endeavor. Anxiety, tension, and allergy have become household words. Crime curves record a steep ascent in big cities. The advances in medicine are accompanied by baffling manifestations of diseases in different forms. A recent survey stated that every alternate adult in New York City needs the services of a psychiatrist. People have become erratic and tense, no one knowing when the pent up emotions will burst. The power of discrimination is enfeebled, righteous vision is blurred, and permissiveness dons the glittering garb of modernism.

What do we know of the effect of pollution on the mind? We have not yet formulated the necessary parameters to gauge the damage. The pathological changes in the cerebrum and the spinal cord have recently been noted. That migraine headaches, insomnia, and depression result from pollution has been recognized. All this damages the power of concentration and dampens discrimination. To discriminate between right and wrong is a major function of man's intellect. When this ability is impaired, he indulges in bad Karma. Then the inexorable law of Karma comes into operation. The law of cause and effect in physics may be termed the law of Karma in metaphysics. This is the same law of "Reap as you sow" of the Bible. Literature depicting the effect of pollution on the mind is sparse. When the future scientist steps into the domain of bioenergy he may be able to delve deeper into this problem.

The Vedas are the most ancient literature known to mankind. This word comes from the Sanskrit root "Vid", to know, and hence Vedas means treasure house of knowledge. This ancient wisdom asserts that mind and Prana are like two sides of the same coin. You induce changes in the atmosphere and the Pranic content is affected. This automatically affects the human mind. Beneficial or detrimental changes in the mind are brought about by inducing corresponding changes in the atmosphere. The Vedas specify practical antipollutionary exercises. It is stated that by practise of these exercises the tension of the mind is relieved, anxiety disappears, and mental peace is restored. The gross effects of these exercises on the atmosphere and the effect on pathological bacteria and non-bacterial parasites could well be tested by the methods of physical science. Release from anxiety and tension leaves us free to function normally in a healthy way. Thus, vitality, bodily peace, and tranquility of mind are achieved. The incessant capering of the attitudes of the mind is quieted, and perception acquires clarity.

This process is a material aid to peace. Its neurophysical and neuropsychological effects are revitalizing. The split personality becomes a thing of the past, and the practise of a spiritual discipline becomes more facile. The journey on the Divine path is hastened. This material aid, which any one can practise in his home is termed AGNIHOTRA in ancient literature. In due course we shall examine the various aspects of this material aid for relieving tension.

The antipollutionary exercise is the first of the Fivefold Pathways which have been resuscitated from the ancient wisdom by Divine Will. SATSANG is merely an occasion and an instrument. The Kingdom of Heaven is coming.

Let the Christian, Jew, Buddhist, Taoist, Muslim be a more righteous Christian, Jew, Buddhist, Taoist, Muslim. There is no conflict between Divine Messengers; it is our wrong understanding and vested interest that beget conflict. The Fivefold Path is common to all traditions, The Gospel of Jesus, the Law of Moses, the Bhagavat Geeta, the Dharmakaya of Buddha, the Holy Koran, the doctrine of Tao, the Gatha of Zoroaster all uphold the Fivefold Path of ancient Vedic wisdom.

Various isms have failed to bring humanity together. However, technology and impending annihilation due to pollution have perforce made us think in terms of one world. The scientist has recognized the limitations of reason. However, nothing opposed to reason will be tolerated. "Love thy neighbor" is a must if we wish to survive. Henceforth, no half-way measure will suffice. The time is, therefore, most opportune for the resuscitation of the Fivefold Path, which any one in any walk of life may commence in the sanctuary of his home. "Knock and it will open"; "Ask and it will be given." The highest things of human existence are always free. Grace unfolds within you.

Whatever be your formal religion, whosoever be your Guru, GRACE unfolds within you by practise of the Fivefold Path, We do not propose to open a new show window in the U. S. We assert that Light will come to you through your own window. As stated earlier, SATSANG is merely an instrument and an occasion. Knowledge will spread by Divine Will. The Kingdom of Heaven is coming.

RICH OR POOR

....by David Powers

(A dialogue taking place anywhere in the U.S.A.)

Pete: You know, I've been out of a job for two weeks now, after being laid off at the factory. I've got three kids to feed not to mention the payments on my car, and here you tell me about this new technique called Agnihotra and something called Daan, talking about how happiness is not dependent on outside conditions. You must be crazy.

Sam: Well, happiness is how you feel inside; how you react to your situation. What is taking place to us, be it good or bad, is not happening by chance but as a result of some past action that we did. Grass doesn't grow by accident. A seed must be planted. And speaking of Daan, I think it makes a lot of sense. You know how it is when you forgive your wife after a quarrel, or when you spend some time with your kids and give them a lot of love. Everything seems to really come together as if there wasn't any friction at all. Well, the same is true of Daan. You give something, even a quarter or a helping hand to someone in need. Perhaps it's five dollars to your neighbor who can't quite make the payments on the bill to the Electric Company. And what you do give really comes back to you, and more. Not just material benefits and such, but also a feeling of inner security.

Pete: Wait a second, you can talk like that because you drive a new El Dorado, and live in a nice comfortable house. But here I am just a little guy caught in the money squeeze.

Sam: But don't you know that material prosperity has nothing to do with happiness. Whether you're rich or poor you've got to start some place. Money just makes you comfortable, not happy. You remember me before, don't you? I used to have three martinis a day, two for lunch and one before dinner. I worked from 8 a.m. in the morning until sometimes 10 o'clock in the evening, having two jobs. And where did it get me? I almost divorced my wife, hadn't spent over two days a week with my kids. My eldest son was doing drugs, besides. Sure, I was rich, but you better believe that I hurt inside. Just starting out doing Agnihotra though, and later on getting into the practice of Daan, I could feel a real change come over me. I knew that something was definitely missing in my life and now I know that I wasn't really knowing my real Self. Agnihotra without any time wasted helped me get in touch with my Self, and that awful void was filled. Hey listen, why don't you bring your family over for a big dinner on Friday night and we'll talk. What do you say?

Pete: Well, I'll give it a try but I don't promise anything.

(ONE MONTH LATER)

Sam: Hey Pete! How's it going? Say, you look good.

Pete: Well, since you showed me Agnihotra, it's like my whole house just seemed to transform. My family noticed the change too. So much bad feeling has gone about losing my job. Yesterday morning I looked my wife in the eye and felt so much warmth like it was always there, and yet I knew that it wasn't before. I also went out looking for a job, and even though I got

turned down my first four times, I kept trying. The fifth try proved to be a winner.

Pete: Even if it isn't the highest paying job, it sure beats no money at all. But, I know it isn't the job that makes me feel good. I can't really explain it. I even gave five dollars to the newsboy as a bonus. Wow, I must be crazy, but I felt so good. You know what I mean?

Sam: Yes, I sure do.

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, Hindi, whatever be your formal religious label.

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