

Satsang

Vol. II No. 20

March 6, 1975

Twice Monthly

Dear Agnihotra Friends in America

Carola Waterman
Nederland

The light is spreading day by day more and more. In December, 1974 and January, 1975 I visited many Agnihotri families in Germany. I made a tour to meet these people and hear their experience. I wanted to share with them the experience of Agnihotri friends from Holland. I met several families in the Bodensee area of Germany bordering Switzerland around Lake Konstanz. I also met several people in and around Stuttgart. The discussions were interesting and fruitful.

Herr Werner and Frau Erica Metzger have started SATSANG group discussions every week at their residence. They teach Agnihotra and the Fivefold Path on the lines taught by Vasant when he was in Germany a few months back. They teach how the message of "Love Thy Neighbour as Thyself" can best be implemented by following the Fivefold Path of Vedas.

On the first of February, Roland Geisselhart, a teacher from Germany invited me to come to Heidelberg to give talks for interested people. I went there as per his invitation and the people were very attentive. At the end of the day, at sunset, we performed Agnihotra. I explained how Agnihotra is a great material aid to bring about tranquility of the mind and how the person begins to feel happy with its daily practice. We induce a change in the polluted atmosphere. This has immediate effect on PRANA, the life energy that pulsates through us. This automatically brings about peace of mind.

When the wanderings of the mind are calmed we notice that many of the problems are no problems at all. We get more energy to execute our profession and we are always in a state of Joy. There is nothing comparable to Agnihotra to bring about this state. Hence, Agnihotra is the first thing on the Fivefold Path to live happily.

When Vasant first entered Germany with the message of the Fivefold Path last year, I was his interpreter. By Divine Will his Volkswagon was directed to Lake Konstanz in South Germany and the work started. Hosrt Lozynsky arranged many meetings for Vasant and we used to perform Agnihotra at the close of each meeting. Many teachers are interested in Yoga discipline, and I told them that Vasant shall return to Germany in April when many Fivefold Path meetings shall be arranged. Agnihotra has come to stay in Deutschland. Vasant brought this gift from America under a Divine Command and people are ready for it.

On the 8th and 9th of February, a Kriya Yoga group was started. Special exercises to strengthen and make flexible the spinal column were given by Roland Geisselhart. There was a tea pause. Special macrobiotic foods were served with a pinch of Himalayan herbs. At the end of the session there was group Agnihotra.

A system of sound intonations to energize the body was first introduced in Holland by Vasant last year and John Brown of Agnihotra Press gave several demonstrations. The same will be practiced in the course of Kriya Yoga in Germany and Holland.

A special Yoga weekend was arranged in the first week of March.

Salutations from Carola

From Vasant's Bible Discourses

(Many SATSANG readers have asked us to reproduce in short, explanations given by Vasant in his Bible discourses. We do so below for the convenience of our friends.)

1. "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God." (Mathew 5,8)

Soul vision is the end achievable in human existence and purity is the means. The Sermon on the Mount which forms the gist of Jesus' teachings stresses purity of body, mind and speech. Through purity alone further evolution is possible.

"No one has seen God any time." (John 1, 18)

The above statement of St. John apparently contradicts the previous one from St. Mathew. However, they are two expressions of the same Reality. How? Vedas provide the answer.

Purity of mind frees the intellect from the cobwebs of desires and we establish ourselves into the state of "not my will but Thy Will be done". Our knowledge about the illusory nature of the world becomes an awareness. However, the awareness about the Reality that underlies creation is not yet there. Reality dawns only when the intellect is transmuted into higher intuition. Purity brings about this state. Then one does not see a thing, one BECOMES it. The trinity of seer, seen and sight; the trinity of knower, known and knowledge is fused into one. The physical eye does not see it. The seer as such does not exist separate from the seen. Hence, St. John stated, "No one has seen God any time." Vedas describe this state of "nectar experience". Vedas is the standard reference.

Sankara, the young philosopher Yogi of the 12th Century, A.D., describes it thus:

"Our perception of Creation is a continuous perception of Brahma (all pervading Power). The universe is nothing but Brahma. The ignorant is not aware of it. See Brahma everywhere with this eye of the Spirit. The physical eye sees but the physical objects. The mind of the enlightened person sees nothing but Reality."

"Scriptures merely stimulate spiritual awareness. The wise man crosses the ocean of ignorance by direct illumination which is Grace of God."
(Sankara in Vivekachudamani)

Thus no physical eyes have ever seen God.

"Dispassion leads to illumination. Illumination stills all desires. Then you enter the bliss of soul experience."

"Dispassion comes only through purity and hence "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God."

For clarification of such statements, Vedas is the standard reference.

2. "Be ye therefore perfect as your Father which is in Heaven is perfect."

What is the perfection set forth by Jesus as the goal of human existence?

"I have become perfect. I am everywhere. I am not an object of perception neither am I the subject who perceives. The subject object duality has disappeared. It is not possible to put into words the experience unfolded within me by the Grace of my Guru."

(16-year old saint philosopher Dnyaneshwar in his celebrated work "Nectar-experience")

"I have offered to the world the nectar of Divine experience. Let the world enjoy it to its heart's content."

3. We see misery all around. God created the universe. Did God create evil as well? It is stated that God is merciful. If God created evil then He may be Almighty but certainly not merciful. If God did not create evil then who did? If there is any other power which overrules God's mercy then God is not Almighty. If God acquiesces in evil then God is not merciful.

This is Yang and Yin of Chinese philosophy. This is Ahurmazd and Ahriman of the Zorastrians. This is God and Devil of the Bible. This is Buddha and Mara of the Buddhists.

The Yin and Ahriman become Satan and Devil of the Bible. God created the universe. God created man 'in His own image'. Man was granted free will to choose between right and wrong. If he chooses wrong things the law of Karma, the law of reap as you sow, operates and man is tossed from one miserable event to another.

To understand the superimposition of Yang and Yin in the frame of time, space, causation continuum, Vedas is the standard reference.

The Old Testament God of wrath punishes us for our sins by earthquakes, floods and famines. He also tempts us through the agency of Satan. The God of the New Testament is benign, loving and merciful. Which is true? Both, if you study the Vedas.

The Vedantic law of Karma is the law of automatic compensation. Reap as you sow is an inviolable doctrine. This is the God of wrath of the Old Testament. Pain and misery become bearable if we fix our attention on God. Intense good Karma (action) done with non-attachment to the fruit thereof in a spirit of "Thy Will be done" nullifies the effect of previous wrong actions. This is justice tempered with mercy. This is the God of mercy of the New Testament.

The word PAIN in English and the Latin word POENA meaning punishment both stem from the Sanskrit verb PU, meaning sacred. Our thoughts determine our circumstances, state the Vedas. Vedas is the standard reference in such matters.

4. "In the beginning was the Word. The Word was with God. The Word was God. All things were made by Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made." (John 1, 1-3)

The initial vibration AUM (pronounced OM) split into particularized forms of energy. The Vedas call it SHABDA BRAHMA (literally, all pervading WORD). How can this be? Vedas provide the answer.

5. "God created all things by Jesus Christ." (Eph. 3-9)

Combine this with Jesus' words,

"Before Abraham was, I am." (John)

Historical Jesus came down as an embodied being merely 2000 years ago while creation was hundreds of thousands of years ago. What then is the meaning of the Biblical expression? Vedas were given at the time of creation as a manual of creation. Study of Vedas will provide the answer.

6. "Behold, what manner of Love the Father hath bestowed upon us that we should be called the sons of God." (John 3-1)
"The works that I do you shall do also, and greater works than these shall ye do." (John 14-12)

Is it feasible for man to achieve the ability to do even greater works than Jesus? Vedas provide the answer.

7. "And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father) full of grace and truth. (John 1, 14)

The concept of "word made flesh" also appears in Bhagawad Geeta.

"I am the birthless unchangable Supreme. I am born through my MAYA. When righteousness declines and wrong flourishes I give myself birth to restore the balance...Every age witnesses My birth to protect the devoted and destroy the wicked. I come to re-establish the Eternal Law." (Bhagawad Geeta, 4-6,8)

Vedas shed light on the divinity of birth and the resetting of energy cycles that keeps creation in harmony.

8. "And being turned I saw seven golden candlesticks. And in the midst of them one like unto the Son of Man."
"And he had in his right hand seven stars."
"The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches."
(Revelation 1-12, 13, 16, 20)

"And I saw in the right hand of Him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside sealed with seven seals." (Revelation 5-1)

Vedas describe creation into seven spheres known as SAPTA LOKAS. Seeds of human desires do not go beyond the last three known as BHOOH, BHUWAH and SWAH. Since man was made in His image there are seven centers of energy in his material body, sometimes described as Chakras. These are the seven churches described in the Bible. The lights perceived therein are the seven angels.

9. Is there reincarnation? What reincarnates?

Buddha stated that the law of Karma, i.e., the law of "reap as you sow" operates and leads to the chain of birth, death and rebirth, the chain of suffering. This

law operates only so long as we attach ourselves to the ego. Bhagawad Geeta tells us that we obviate the law of Karma and reincarnation if we become non-attached to the fruit of action and do our duty in the spirit of service to the Lord. Early Christians accepted reincarnation expounded by numerous church Fathers viz. Origen of Third Century A.D., Saint Jerome of Fifth Century A.D. The Gnostics swore by the law of reincarnation.

"To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne even as I also overcame and am set down with my Father in His throne." (Revelation 3-21)

Such a one is freed from the outgoing and incoming wheel of reincarnation. Along with diagnosis the remedy is also shown by all Messengers of God. The remedy is Eternal Principles of Religion (Satya Dharma) which comprises the Fivefold Path.

"All trees and grass, these shall also become Lord Buddha."
(A Japanese proverb)

Everything in creation pulsates with the Word and higher stage means higher unfoldment.

10. "I am the way, the truth and the life. No man cometh unto the Father but by Me." (John, 14,6)

"The Blessed One (Buddha) has become the truth. Whosoever comprehends the truth sees Buddha." (From Buddhist scriptures)

"I am the goal, I am the way. I am the witness, the Lord, the beginning, the refuge. Only the ignorant fail to recognize My majesty because of My human embodiment. Fill your heart and mind with Me: you will then come into My Being." (Shri Krishna)

The I and Me of the Avatars (special Divine incarnations) do not refer to any historical figure but to the "Alpha and Omega", to the eternal Spirit that pervades creation. Study of Vedas provide the answer.

The knowledge given through Vedas sheds light on the mystery of the presence of Christ as expounded by the Mediterranean world. An intelligent scrutiny of these expositions and concepts in the pitiless light of Vedas (literally meaning Knowledge) will benefit all and help establish the Kingdom of Heaven.

The Fivefold Path (Kriya Yoga)

What is the basic problem that faces mankind today. Despite material plenty, man is not happy. In the beginning of the century, it was stated that advancement in science would banish misery from our planet. However, the scientist has succeeded in banishing drudgery; misery still persists. Misery is not a disease but merely the symptom of a disease. The disease is bondage. The average person knows that mind is an instrument of bondage. It has to be turned into an instrument of his liberation. Man has free will and by exerting his free will in the right direction, he can avoid misery that is yet to come.

KRIYA YOGA is an ancient science that offers material and mental aids to undo tensions on the mind. Our happiness depends on the reactions of the mind to the various situations and conditions in life. Any intelligent person knows that he should

"Love thy neighbour" and be of service to his fellow men. He also knows that he should control lust, greed, temptation, anger, envy and pride. The difficulty comes when we are unable to implement this judgement given by our intellect. KRIYA YOGA does not view man in compartments but treats him as a psychosomatic entity and something more. KRIYA YOGA starts with the purification of the atmosphere.

The useful atmosphere surrounding our planet is a thin layer and may be compared to the lacquering on a wooden globe. When this layer is polluted, it disturbs the energy cycle of the planet. Today, as an inevitable concomitant of industrial growth, pollution is rampant. There is automobile pollution, pollution due to industrial exhausts, noise pollution, water pollution due to industrial effluents and marine pollution due to radiation effect of nuclear waste. Various conferences of scientists on pollution have shed limelight on the complexity of the problem. The effect of pollution on the body is well known. However, ancient wisdom states that pollution has an immense and deleterious impact on the human mind. The science of bioenergy is recent and we do not yet have sufficient parameters to gauge the damage done to the human mind. Ancient wisdom given through the Vedas offers material aids to undo the effect of pollution on the mind. Vedas is the most ancient codified knowledge known to man. The word comes from the Sanskrit verb VID, meaning "to know". Hence, Vedas literally means "knowledge". There is no label attached to it. It is universal. It is in Sanskrit language. European scholars call Sanskrit the mother of the European group of languages.

Vedas state that all matter is energy. There are numberless solar systems of which ours is a tiny speck. Mind is subtle matter. The objective world is the appearance in form of the time-space-causation continuum. Vibrations affect matter and can bring about changes in consciousness. Changes in consciousness bring into operation hitherto latent faculties in man. Atmospheric change induces qualitative change in PRANA, the life energy which pulsates throughout creation. PRANA and the mind are like two sides of the same coin and anything which affects PRANA affects the mind. There are undulatory cycles of nature pertaining to the day, week, month and season which affect the rhythm of life. Recent discoveries in science point in the direction of Vedic wisdom.

KRIYA YOGA consists of the following:

1. AGNIHOTRA (purification of atmosphere through the agency of fire)
Disciplines involved:
 - a. Burning of specific organic substances into fire
 - b. Vibrational effect
 - c. Timings of cosmic radiation based on undulatory cycles of nature, of which sunrise and sunset are one.

This is also termed a process of fumigation as it eliminates the effect of pathogenic bacteria.

Modus operandi: Induce changes in the atmosphere. →
This leads to changes in PRANA. →
This affects the mind beneficially. →
This brings about peace and removes
tension and anxiety due to emotional impacts. →
This leads to intellectual illumination.

2. ASANAS (bodily postures) to remove the tension on the mind that comes about due to bodily causes.

3. PRANAYAMA (breathing techniques) to remove the tension on the mind that comes about due to the disharmonious flow of energy through the nervous system.

Numbers 2 and 3 above tone up the somatic and visceral systems and aid inner equilibrium. Thus, the result is better health and performing ability.

4. MEDITATION and setting up life patterns.

The above is covered by the FIVEFOLD PATH. The FIVEFOLD PATH is Eternal Religion (Satya Dharma).

We have to discard useless targets of lesser importance and learn efficiency in effort-making. Modern medicine has taken note of this fact and has regrouped all psychosomatic disabilities under a new name, "Dysponosis". The FIVEFOLD PATH of ancient wisdom has done this milleniums ago. By following its discipline, man gains better understanding, awareness and emotional adjustment. Thus, the latent faculties in him start operation with an illumined sense of values.

Practice AGNIHOTRA for purification of the atmosphere.

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

Practice TAPA (Self-discipline, austerities, purification) for fruition of thy affirmations. Purified thought patterns gain potency.

Practice KARMA (meritorious deeds) for self-purification.

Practice SWADHYAYA (Self-study) for liberation.

The FIVEFOLD PATH which covers KRIYA YOGA is taught to anyone who cares to seek in earnest. For further details, please write to:

FIVEFOLD PATH
Parama Dham (House of Almighty Father)
RFD #1, Box 121-C
Madison, Virginia 22727
U.S.A.

Agnihotra Press, Inc.
P. O. Box 13
Randallstown, Maryland 21133
U.S.A.

Fire Temple
3315 Powhattan Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21216
U.S.A.

For centres in Europe, please write to Agnihotra Press, Inc.

Name _____

Street _____

City/Town _____

State _____

Zip Code _____ Country _____

To the Son of Man Who gave simple Agnihotra for the first time
in known history.

The love of little children
Is His so great to give
To just be close and love Him
Is the only reason to live.

Seeing Him in the Dawn
When sunlight sparks the morn
Is why the birds are singing
'tis why the stars are born.

Oh dearest Master keep us
In everlasting Light
Please let us love You dearly
And keep us warm and bright.

By David Powers

Editor: Vasant V. Paranjpe

Publisher: Sally Hobart Kocak for Fivefold Path, Inc.

Parama Dham (House of Almighty Father)

RFD #1, Box 121-C

Madison, Virginia 22727

U.S.A.

Published on the first and third Thursday of each month.

All SATSANG correspondence should be directed to SATSANG Editor

Agnihotra Press

P. O. Box 13

Randallstown, Maryland 21133

Reproduction by permission only.