

16. Guru Poornima

ADWESHTAA Sarva Bhoothaanaam (with no ill-will against living being), *Sarva Bhootha hithe rathaah* (always engaged in promoting the well being of all beings), *Samah shathrou cha mithre cha* (considering foe and friend alike)---jewels like these contained in the Geetha, are, as known to all, pointers to the need for Universal Love. The Geetha offers plenty such, to help the worldly to swim across the sea of sorrow. In the Geetha the Lord lays down the ideal, "Do all acts for Me; become Mine; be devoted to Me, giving up all other attachments."

By declaring that man shall not bear ill-will towards the entire world of living beings, the Geetha is positing a lesson with invaluable inner meaning; that in all beings and even things, there is moving and revolving, as an active illumining Principle, the Divine, appropriately called as *Aathma*. The *Vedhic* assertions, *Ishaavasyamidham Sarvam* (All this is enveloped in God), *Sarva Bhootha antharaathma* (The inner core of all Beings is He), *Vaasudhevah sarvamidham* (All this is God, Vaasudheva)--firmly establish this profound Truth.

It is a wrong against God, this Omnipresent Divine, to hate living beings, to injure them; that is to say, it is as bad as hating and injuring oneself---the reason being that the injurer is as much a living being with God as his core, as the injured. Potharaaju, the classic Thelugu Poet, had realised this truth; so he writes in the *Bhaagavatha*:

*"Grant me, O Lord,
So ready to reward rigorous self-control!
Grant me, O Lord,
The adoration of Thy Lotus Feet
The comradeship of those who adore
Thy Lotus Feet
And give me compassion,
Deep, vast, unlimited,
Towards all beings in all the worlds.*

Love cannot be tarnished by malice or hate

Until you become aware of your own Divinity (*Devathathwa*) so long as you are conscious of your distinct individuality (*Jeeva-thath-wa*)---so long as you feel you are you and God is God, you cannot but struggle, with some attitudes and objectives. This is the stage called the *Saadhaka* stage. During that stage, you must endeavour to equip yourself with the above mentioned qualities of Love, Sympathy and Compassion. For, without these, *Yoga* and *Jnaana* cannot be secured.

Love is vital. Love is Divine. To render an act fit to be offered to God and pure enough to win His Grace, it has to be a manifestation of Love. The brighter the manifestation, the nearer you are to God. *Prema* is not affected or modified by considerations of caste or creed, or religion; it cannot be tarnished by envy, malice or hate.

Preserve Love from being poisoned by these evils; endeavour to cultivate hatred-less, distinction-free feelings. The root of all religions, the substance of all scriptures, the rendezvous

of all roads, the inspiration of all individuals is the Principle of *Prema* (Love). It is the firmest foundation for man's mission of Life. It is the Light that ensures World Peace and World Prosperity.

Fill every word of yours with Love, fill every act of yours with Love. The word that emerges from your tongue shall not stab like the knife, nor wound like the arrow, nor hit like the hammer. It has to be a foundation of sweet nectar, a counsel of consoling *Vedhaanthic* wisdom, a soft path of blossoms; it must shower peace and joy.

Love knows no fear, shuns falsehood

Love for Love's sake; do not manifest it for the sake of material objects or for the fulfillment of worldly desires. Desire begets anger, anger provokes sin, for under its impact, friends are seen as foes. Anger is at the bottom of every variety of calamity. Therefore do not fall a prey to it. Treat every one---whoever he may be---with the all-inclusive compassion of Love. This constructive sympathy has to become the spontaneous reaction of all mankind.

Saturate the breath--while you inhale and while you exhale--in Love. Saturate each moment in Love. Love knows no fear. Love shuns falsehood. Fear drags man into falsehood, injustice and wrong. Love does not crave for praise; that is its strength. Only those who have no Love in them itch for reward and reputation. The reward for Love is Love itself.

When you are eager to place offerings before the Lord, instead of transitory materials, let your offering be Love. Love is the very Light of Love; it is the only comprehensive Code of Conduct.

Love is no merchandise; do not bargain about its cost. Let it flow clear from the heart, as a stream of Truth, a river of wisdom. Let it not emanate from the head, nor from the tongue. Let it emerge, full and free, from the heart. This is the highest duty, the noblest Godliness.

Start the day with Love. Live the day with Love. Fill the day with Love. Spend the day with Love. End the day with Love. This is the way to God. If you repeat 'God' 'God' but receive anger and lust, hate and envy into your heart, you cannot rise into Divinity, you will only slide into Diabolism.

Today's Festival is called *Guru Poornima*; it is a name full of meaning. *Poornima* means, the effulgent Full Moon. *Guru* means (*Gu*-ignorance; *Ru*-destroyer) he, who removes the darkness and delusion from the heart and illumines it with the Higher Wisdom.

The message and lesson of *Guru Poornima* Day

The Moon and the Mind are inter-related, as object and image. On this Day, the Moon is full, fair and cool, its light is fresh, pleasant and peaceful. So the Light of the Mind too has to be pleasing and pure. This is the Message of the Day. That is to say, in the firmament of the Heart, the Moon is the Mind. There are clouds there, thick and heavy---the sensual desires and worldly activities, which mar your joy at the Light of the Moon. Therefore, let the strong breeze of Love scatter the clouds and confer on you the cool glory of moon light. When devotion shines full, the sky in the heart becomes a bowl of beauty and life is transformed into a charming avenue of *Aanandha*. That beauty of heart, that *Aanandha* (bliss) in life can be won through the mind, if the lesson of this Day is remembered and realised.

Strengthened by Swaami's Grace, encouraged by Swaami's Blessings, engage in Saadhana (spiritual practice) and achieve success by realising the Goal of Life.

Prashaanthi Nilayam, 29. 7.1969