

Akram Youth

September 2016 | English

Dada Bhagwan Parivar

₹12



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Publisher & Editor:

Dimple Mehta
Pg. 24 - September 2016.
Year: 4. Issue: 5.
Cont. Issue: 41.

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Printed & Published by

Dimple Mehta on behalf of
Mahavideh Foundation
Simandhar City, Adalaj -
382421. Dist- Gandhinagar

Owned by

Mahavideh Foundation
Simandhar City, Adalaj -
382421. Dist- Gandhinagar

Printed at Amba Offset

Basement, Parshvanath
Chambers, Nr. RBI,
Usmanpura, Ahmedabad-14.

Published at

Mahavideh Foundation
Simandhar City, Adalaj -
382421. Dist- Gandhinagar

Total 24 Pages with Cover page

Subscription

Yearly Subscription

India :125 Rupees USA: 15 Dollars
UK: 10 Pounds

5 Years Subscription

India : 500 Rupees USA: 60 Dollars UK:
40 Pounds

In India, D.D. / M.O. should be drawn in
favour of "Mahavideh Foundation"
payable at Ahmedabad.



Editorial

There are 5 major weaknesses of a human personality, namely Krodh (Anger), Maan (Pride), Maya (Illusions), Lobh (Greed) and Moh (Attachments). This issue is dedicated to understanding the basics of Greed. As per Dadashri, this is a weakness which is the first to manifest within us and the last to leave us. It is a sweet weakness. This means that we do not know about its existence. It appears to give us maximum happiness, but in turn, becomes the foundation for most of our unhappiness.

Let us study what is Greed, the science of Greed and the ways to eliminate or reduce Greed... thus increasing our happiness.

Greed means a strong desire to


possess what rightfully belongs to others. It makes an individual selfish and self-centered. It takes a person away from his religious and social duties. A person can become blind with greed if an effort is not made to control the desire for unlimited possessions.

Dadashri has explained in detail some more basic traits of human personalities. For example, Karkasar (thrift, frugality, economy), Lobhi (greedy), Lafo (spendthrift), Kanjoos (miser or stingy), Jhino (minuteness, subtlety; acuteness of intellect). Let us understand more about these traits and let us conceptualize how a perfect personality should be.

Happy reading...

- Dimple Mehta

Yeh dil maange **More !!!**



“Yeh dil maange more” (This heart always want more) is not just a slogan anymore, it has become an operating philosophy for many of us. Easy money is addictive, and people who get hooked are setting themselves on a course to collision. Money can be earned by both ethical as well as unethical means, but as Dadashri mentions, the difference is heaven and hell.

Greed has its subtle roots in our daily lives. Right from the moment we wake up, until we go to bed, there are probably infinite times when we make our decisions based on greed. Be it saving a few bucks by haggling with poor street vendors, to purchasing products at a discounted rate at online flash sales. Greed is on our mind.

On his death bed, Alexander the great asked his Generals to keep his hands hanging out of his coffin to let people know that he came empty handed into this world, and empty handed, he left this world. Despite chasing all the wealth, he couldn't carry any of his wealth with him in the afterlife.

Greed at times becomes our own worst enemy. Everyone remembers the famous short story of King Midas: Upon asking for “The Golden Touch” from a Greek God, he ended up starving and losing his beloved daughter. Another famous story along these lines, was about a dog and his

THE MIDAS TOUCH

bone. Where, upon finding a decent bone and while looking at a reflection of himself in the water, it was greed that provoked the dog to release the bone in his mouth to get the second one he saw in his own reflection.

Dadashri often said, “Worry about what you have rather than chasing what you don’t have.” Here Dadashri gives many keys helping us in our day to day activities...

Greed is to become perpetually engrossed in anything that becomes dear to you.

A greedy person is preoccupied with his greed from the moment he wakes up, until he goes to bed at night. This is called greed. From the moment he wakes up he is driven by his greed; he does not even stop to relax. He does not have the time to laugh. He is consumed by his greed all day long. The moment he enters the market, his greed is present. Greed, greed, greed and greed. He roams this way all day long, in vain. When he goes to the market, he knows exactly where to find the expensive vegetables and where to find the cheap ones. He then heads for the stall that sells cheaper vegetables every time.


A greedy person accumulates everything for the future. When he collects a lot, a couple of large rats will come in and clean up everything he has hoarded.

You are free to save and accumulate money, but without a desire to accumulate it. Do not obstruct money if it comes your way and do not go digging for it, if it does not come your way.

Money is destined to come to you. It will not stay just because you want it to stay. It will leave when it is time for it to leave. You cannot obstruct or accumulate it. If you save up enough today in the hope that it will be used for your daughter's marriage twenty-five years later, you are mistaken. If people believe in this, they are wrong. Whatever money comes your way at that time, is the reality. Money must be fresh.

Contentment is the opposite of greed.

This contentment comes from an inner understanding carried over from the past life, results in his being content and not running after money. Without this understanding, greed remains.



Why does grandma behave the way she does for the sake of money?

The train from Mumbai reached the crowded Ahmedabad station. Richa, with her mother Smitaben, had come to spend her vacation at her maternal grandmother's house. Her 'Naani' (maternal grandma) Vimlaben, was waiting for them right where their train compartment stopped! "Naani! Nanni!" Richa called out to her grandmother, and hugged her.

"Come along sister", a coolie (porter) started leading them toward the exit and started to pick up all their luggage.

"Wait! How much are you going to charge? Tell me that first!" Vimlaben asked the coolie with all alertness pushing little Richa aside. "Pay me only Rs 150, I won't charge more." Replied the porter.

"No, no there is very little luggage! We will carry these ourselves!" Said Vimlaben while looking at Smita.

"Oh mom! There is so much baggage and after the exit, we will have

to walk a long distance!" snapped Smita, knowing well her mother's thrifty ways.

"I will pay only Rs 50 and not a rupee more ok?" Vimlaben said too the coolie.

"Come on, please pick up the baggage. Rs 150 will be perfectly fine." Smitaben contradicted, without looking at Vimlaben, she was already exhausted from the heat and fatigue.

The next day, Richa went out with her 'Naani' in the evening. On the way the strap of Richa's sandal broke. "Naani let's go back home in a rikshaw, I am finding it hard to walk." Pleaded Richa.

"There is a cobbler just up ahead. I'll take you there". Replied her grandma.

"Hey! Will you repair this baby's sandal?" Vimlaben asked the cobbler.

"That will be Rs 20" declared the cobbler.

"For work worth Rs 5, how can you ask Rs 20?"

“I will not take less than Rs 15.” Replied the cobbler.

“Come, mend it for Rs 10 and don’t harass the little girl!” Said Vimlaben angrily.

“Am I harassing her?” asked the cobbler sarcastically.

Richa was watching this all along. “Naani, hurry up, my bare feet are burning!”

“Come here, little one, I will mend your sandal.” The cobbler cut it short as he did not think it fit to let the little girl suffer.

As soon as the sandal was repaired, Vimlaben handed over the Rs.10 which she had kept ready in her hand, for the cobbler.

“Here, take your money.”

“Thank you uncle!” Richa said with a sweet smile to the cobbler.

After getting home, Richa told her mother everything. Her grandpa Kishorebhai was also sitting there. At the end of her story, Richa asked her mother, “My dad has lots of money. So, why don’t you give some of his money to grandma and grandpa?”

“My dear... why do you say this?” Richa’s grandpa asked astonished.

“Grandpa, the cobbler and the coolie, were both poor, and grandma has very little money, so she could not give them what they asked for!”

Hearing this comment coming from 5 year old Richa, Smitaben was stunned. She quickly replied to her child, “No dear, granny-grandpa have a lot of money.”

“But I think granny is poor!” At that point of time Vimlaben came out from the kitchen announcing that lunch was ready. Everybody sat at the dining table. Are you

going to serve only potatoes again? As usual you may not have cooked ‘daal’, said Kishorebhai while making a face.

“Bear with it for one day. There is no other vegetable at home today.”

“All my life I have put up with your ‘bear with it’, murmured Kishorebhai.

“The vegetable vendor was here yesterday, then why didn’t you buy some vegetables?” Smitaben couldn’t help asking her mother.

“His rates were too high. In this time of inflation, how can one afford such expensive vegetables?”

“With God’s Grace we do not have monetary problems. It would be nice if you would not economize on food and



drinks” Smitaben opined softly to stop further discussion.

“Economize? There cannot be a stingier person than your mother!” said Kishorebhai angrily.

“So you see mummy, that’s why I told you to give some money to Naani, so they would stop quarrelling.” Richa said abruptly, after quietly listening to all that was being said.

“Richa your granny is not poor but she is greedy”, Kishorebhai clarified.

“Oh... once our teacher had told us not to be a miser or be greedy” thus Richa expressed her childlike thought.

“Keep quiet Richa!”, Smitaben admonished Richa to stop her from

saying more.

Richa being one who would not give up until fully convinced, that night, during her bedtime, she questioned her mother, “Mummy, in spite of having money why does granny behave like this?”

“My dear certain people are born with such a nature....”

“What kind of nature?”

“Every person has a different nature: some are wasteful, some are miser, some greedy, some thrifty.”

“So then, what kind of a nature does Naani have?”

“We will talk tomorrow. It is very late now,” Smitaben tried to dodge Richa’s question. She patted her head trying to put her to sleep. She was finding it difficult to answer Richa’s question. After thinking for a while, Smitaben said to herself, “I myself do not have the answer to Richa’s question!”

**Let us see
what Dadashri says
regarding this matter...**





Gnani's Scientific Solutions

Questioner: Being greedy and being a miser are they almost the same?
Dadashri: No, a miser is still different.

A miser acts miserly because he does not have enough money; whereas, a greedy person may have Rs 25,000 at home, yet he will look for the place where he will get lentils and 'ghee' at a cheap price. He is

always engrossed in cheap deals, his 'chitt' (Subtle component of vision) is always drawn there.

A greedy person is the one who is always alert in his dealings.

When an item is lacking in a person's home and he borrows it from someone's house, it is not called greed. But when he has everything he needs, has his own vehicle, has money in the bank, and yet he takes from someone else, then it is greed. If something is needed (of which he does not have), and he borrows it, then it is normal and not objectionable. A miser is tight-fisted in money matters only, whereas a greedy person is greedy about everything, be it money or respect.

A miser has been in the habit of being thrifty when he had very little money. Even when he has enough money this habit continues. In case of a greedy person, his greed is like tumor that is noticeable, yet he never lets himself be carried away. Whereas, when a miser becomes rich, he still continues to buy cheap brand of tea! He will not change for a better variety! Yet he is not at fault, such is his nature. It is not the mistake of his 'atma' (soul). It is mistake of his 'prakruti' (inborn or inherent nature).



Gnani with Youth

Niruma: It is not that you have to do charity (donate money) immediately. Some people may have big knots or tuber of greed and may say that they are unable to give big amounts of money all at once! They go on singing the same old negative tune each time. That should not be done; you should have the intention to donate at all times. On waking up, have the intent to give. Do you know, by regularly doing so, the ‘tumor of greed’ will begin to melt? “I want to donate money” should always be your intention within. This will loosen the tight knots of greed within. Remember, once these knots loosen, your tumor of greed will diminish and you will feel a lot of happiness.

Let me quote one example: One seeker who used to come to me was employed. From his income, he kept aside a certain amount which he donated for the first time to ‘Simandhar Swami’. Seeing this, Dada asked him whether his family members had all consented gladly, and whether this was a surplus amount from his income. To all these questions, this man’s answer was positive. After donating his money, he came back the next day. Dada then asked him if he felt happy about what he had done. The man replied that his happiness knew no bounds after giving away that amount of money. He had no words to describe his happiness; he had not felt such happiness even on his wedding day! Then Dada explained that it was an ‘inner bliss’ he was enjoying. How did that happen? It was due to the bursting of the tumor of greed that made him feel light and happy.

Follow the path I show you: Travel by rickshaw every day for a while and carry coins worth Rs. 25, close your eyes and drop these coins with both hands, all along the way. A week later, carry change worth Rs. 100 and repeat the same act daily. A certain greedy man, who would hesitate to spend money on a rickshaw, took up this difficult task! Dada gave him this remedy to get rid of his greedy nature, and he followed it. A few years after he came out from his greed, Dada had visited his home and blessed him.

Questioner: Can one get rid of his greed and worldly temptations by observing and staying with a noble person?

Niruma: One can become noble. If you observe a noble person’s nobility and appreciate it, then you will also be affected by nobility, do you understand? That is a natural law. What is it to be noble? One who does not think about himself and always thinks about others, has nobility.

Miser

A Person is a miser when inspite of having a lot of money, he does not spend it. He will spend upto Rs 400 only (the maximum possible amount he has set aside) it does not matter if he earns Rs 1000 or Rs 2000. He will not spend money for a taxi fare. A miser is habituated due to his hard times when his earnings were low. When his earnings were low, he would spend each day cribbing about money. Later, even when he has enough money, his nature does not change. Such is a miser. One normally gets irritated by just looking at a miser and his miserly ways.

Thrifty

What is economy? In hard times, be tight-fisted and in good times, be relaxed. On earning a salary of Rs 1000, keep expenditures within Rs 800 and while earning Rs 500, keep expenses within Rs 400. That is thrift. To be thrifty is to practice economics. It makes you aware of future hardships. One should be thrifty. Economy is a kind of support. It is not wrong, but it should not be done at the cost of burning oneself. One does not get irritated by being with a thrifty person. What is it to economize? One who will not spend more time in the vegetable market. Yes, he may take a few minutes to select good vegetables that may not be expensive. This is economy. To buy rotten vegetables at low price is not economy. That is greed.

Lafa (Extravagant)

One who is spendthrift is 'lafa'. He is boastful and spends a lot of money. A spendthrift wastes money in fistfuls; so he does not like an economist in his presence.

Greedy

A greedy person is surrounded by greed in every matter. He will be greedy to gain respect as well as in money matters. He pulls out greed from every direction. When ants come across a piece of wing of an insect, all of them jointly carry away that piece! These ants hoard their food that lasts them 15 years. They are always engrossed in collecting their food and if anyone gets in their way, they bite the 'enemy' before they themselves die! All their life they spend time gathering food and on one fine day, a rat digs into their hole and in one go, eats everything!

What is greed? Our 'chitt' (The subtle component of vision) is always hovering over the 'capital', constantly mindful that it may not diminish one bit! This is greed.

How should one be?

A miser, an economizer, a greedy person or an extravagant person, ultimately, each one will have to come to normality. Not using money, and also wasting of money, both are incorrect. There is no hard and fast rule. One does not have to waste money. One should spend as per circumstances.

Even this Dada is a clever economizer and a spendthrift. He is more a spendthrift, yet he is completely adjustable. The other person can observe my astute behavior. My economy is adjustable, yet topnotch. Even while using water there is no wastage; here too, I economize. It comes naturally to me.

For outsiders I am a spendthrift, for myself I economize and I am sharp in my preachings!

The Science of Greed

In Nov 2013, Dr. Paul K. Piff, a Social Psychologist gave a great talk about how he and his colleagues have been studying greed for 7 years now. Following are games and experiments they had conducted on how the Greedy behave.

1. Rigged Game of Monopoly: We all know the game of Monopoly, but in a rigged game of Monopoly with a flip of a coin you either end up being a player with a) Privileged Position: Double the Initial Money, Double the Chance of Moving around on the board. b) Regular Position: Less money, and only single chance to move on the board. Along with this

rigged setup, there was a bowl of pretzels, a popular American snack placed at the table. During the course of 15 minutes of game, Player's behaviour was recorded and it was shocking to discover the following

- **Player with Privileged Position showed more arrogant and dominant behaviour.**
- **Players with Regular Position showed more consummatory behaviour. They ate more pretzels.**



2. Pro-social Behaviour: The study of who is more likely to help. Someone who is rich or someone who is poor? In this experiment, he got different participants from different backgrounds. They gave each participant \$10 and said that they could a) Keep this \$10 for themselves or b) Share some portion of the \$10 with a stranger. They monitored who were likely to give more. What they found was people who were earning less shared more than those who were well to do.

From these experiments Dr. Piff concluded

- **People with greed show less signs of empathy and compassion.**

- **Greed festers more greed. The more you collect, the more you want.**

- **Often times greedy people forget that there is a 'random chance' at play and boast about all the things they got right to be in that position.**

Following are some details Dadaji gives on this topic...

You are free to save and accumulate money, but without a desire to accumulate it. Do not obstruct money if it comes your way and do not go digging for it if it does not.

Money is destined to come to you. It will not stay just because you want it to stay. It will leave when it is time for it to leave. You cannot obstruct or accumulate it. If you save up enough today in the hope that it will be used for your daughter's marriage twenty-five years later, you are mistaken. If people believe in this, they are wrong. Whatever money comes your way at that time is the reality. Money must be fresh.

So use everything that comes your way, do not waste it. Do not throw it away.

Use it for a good cause. Do not have a strong desire for accumulating it. There should be one principle about accumulating money and that is that there should be a limit to how much you accumulate. It is called the 'necessary capital'. Retain the capital and spend the rest in the right places. You should not waste money.

Contentment is the opposite of greed. This contentment comes from an inner understanding carried over from the past life. This understanding is different from Gnan, which is the 'Knowledge of the Self'. This understanding of 'contentment' which is the knowledge of the relative world, results in his being content and not running after money. Without this understanding greed remains.

One has enjoyed all this in many previous lives, and therefore there is contentment that he does not want anything. The one who has not enjoyed these things in his past life is discontent. There remains within him, a constant need and greed to enjoy this, that and the other. Then greed of many varieties sets in.

How to reduce Greed?

In our quest to become good human beings, we have to face a tough enemy called greed.

Greed is nothing but the endless desire to get more and more material things in life. Greed is what dictates our actions and thoughts, if we aren't cautious enough. It's greed that tells you to grab that larger piece of pie, or that bigger pack of chips.

Greed cannot be satisfied, but yes it can be controlled.

EXPERIMENT

Imagine that the object of your desire is in front of you. It can be anything – choose one that means the most to you. Imagine how it would feel if you had it right now? How would you consume it? How will you feel after consuming it? Now as you're imagining this, try to observe your mind at the same time – How does your mind react when it sees a desirable

object? What does your mind think, while imagining you consume those objects? Does your mind send you to a fantasy land away from reality? How does it make you react, when you think you have that particular object? From these observations, can you guess what it is that makes you act greedily?

If not, here is the answer – It's your mind that makes you greedy and forces you to perform the actions to fulfil your greed. The purpose of this little experiment is to tell you that it's not your body that needs those things; it's your mind that makes you think so.

Your hands are not greedy when they try to grab an object; your tongue is not greedy when it enjoys eating; your eyes are not greedy when they want to see something beautiful. The only thing that makes your body act this way is your mind.

It's as simple as that. There is no mystery, no external research needed to prove it. You can do this research on your own, and get to know firsthand how your mind tricks you into having those objects. And you can do this simply by observing your mind.

Controlling your mind is the key to controlling your greed.





EXAMPLE

Suppose you are with a group of friends eating pizza. And one piece is significantly larger than all other pieces. What happens now?

Your mind tells you to grab the larger piece, as it knows you like pizza. If you take that larger piece, you can enjoy it for a longer time. So you go ahead and take that piece, eat your pizza, and later even forget about it.

This cycle continues every time you are in this situation. If you were to hang out with your friends for the rest of your life, you would do the same thing again and again. Even if you allow others to have it, you won't feel happy inside.

But the problem is that greed is not limited to a piece of pizza. It attaches itself to every little thing you desire that is supposed to make you happy; happy for a moment, not any longer than that moment.

So to overcome greed, we have to stop ourselves from acting the moment a selfish thought comes to our mind. So as soon as the thought to grab a desirable object comes to your mind, stop right there. Don't take any action. Just observe your mind for that moment.



CONCLUSION

Again when greed arises, do the same thing. Stop everything the moment you realize that you are being greedy, understand the greed inside you, let it go, and then choose the option that's best for everyone.

When you practice this a few times, you'll realize that you always had the choice to choose between greed and generosity. It's only that you never thought you had the choice.

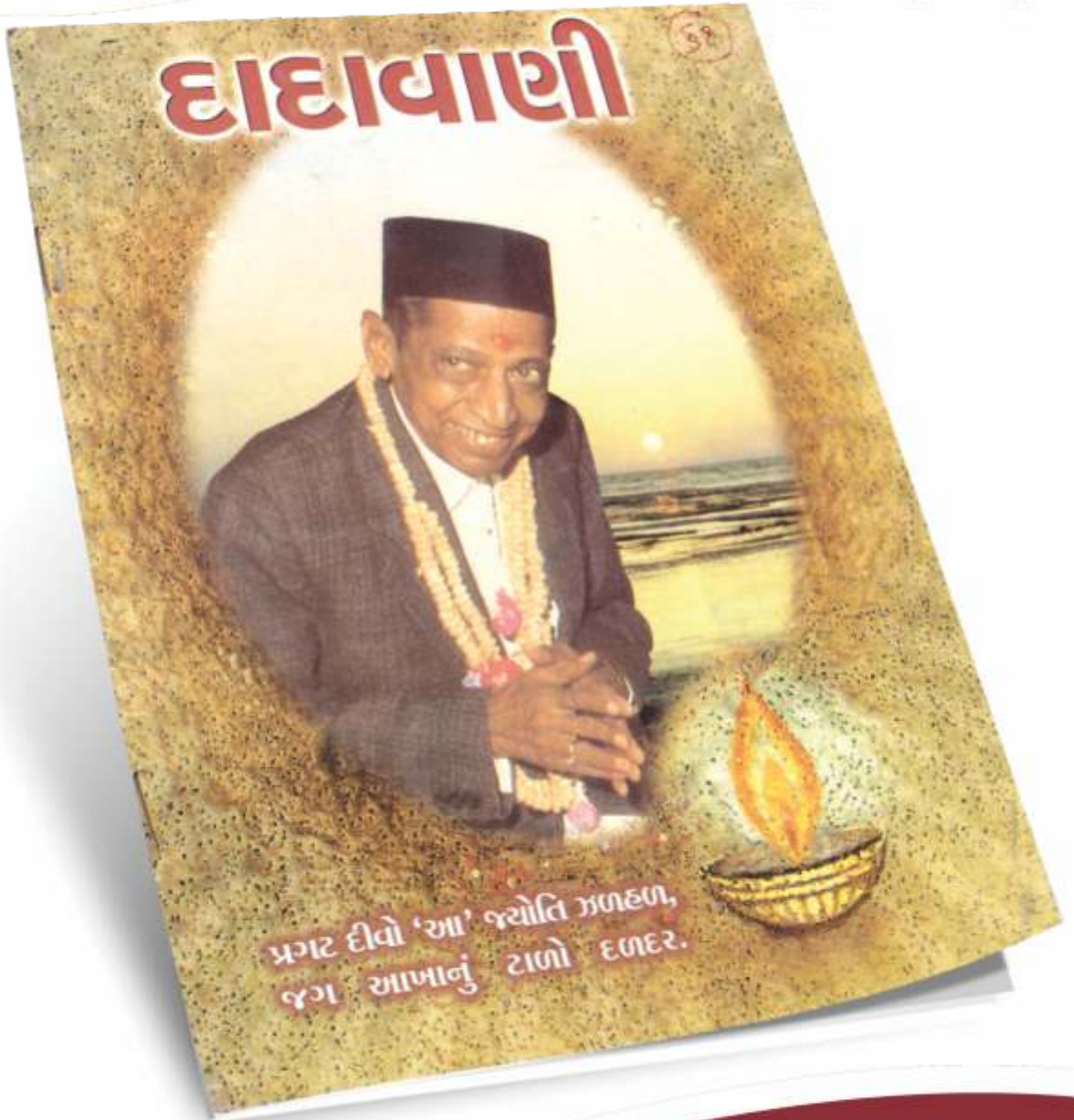
Your mind is conditioned to make you act greedily. This conditioning can be caused by several factors – your upbringing, your society, your friends, and can even be self-learned.

Giving up greed is among the best things that happened to me as I grew up. If you're like me in any way, then it'll be among the best things that could happen to you.

Your life will become more peaceful, happier, and satisfying when you give up greed in every aspect of your life. Be it friendship, relationships, or even people you've never met, you'll want nothing from anyone.

Dada's Book Excerpt

Dadavani
September 2000



Surrender everything... why?

Shrimad Rajchandra has said that a Gnani Purush is one who grants 'moksha' (salvation); the one who is the mokshdata (confers compassion for attaining self-realization). Seek him and serve him physically, mentally and financially. Then someone said, "Sir we offer ourselves physically and mentally but He does not have any monetary needs!" To this, his answer is, "Who then, will untangle your bundle of greed?" The Gnani Purush will tell you to donate a certain amount to an appropriate place and you would do well to follow his instructions. Otherwise, you will not do so on your own. Even if you were to be threatened with death, you will not part with your money. Your devotion towards the Gnani will make you do so and that will shatter the knot or tuber of greed. Once you start giving, you will slowly, do more of the same on your own. You have to do it at least once to start with, and the greed will go! Greed is like a bundle of small knots and there is no end to it. The act of giving is done to break those knots of greed and not to deprive you of your wealth. That is the reason Krupaludev has said, "Worship the Gnani Purush with devotion, physically, mentally and charitably.

Questioner: Otherwise, will the 'bhakti' (devotion) be fruitful?

Dadashri: No your worship will be in vain. It won't show results. This he has spoken from experience. Otherwise, who would bother to get rid of these knots of greed?

Science of surrender!

When will you receive that which you are seeking from me? Only when you surrender your most valuable item. When you give away that which is most dear to you in the world to me, then it is possible for you to come closer to me. You have already surrendered your mind, speech and body to me. Yet, one thing still remains: (wealth) Lakshmi! If you surrender this, you can come closer to me. However, I do not need money. So how can it be done? Find another way to offer it! Last year, when you gave away your Lakshmi, since then, don't you feel that you have progressed spiritually?

Questioner: Yes Dada.

Dadashri: This trick has worked. Otherwise you would not be drawn towards spirituality. You would remain aloof. In fact, we did not have any means of gathering funds. We were not accepting money. So, our mind was carefree. When it comes to money matters, our minds get bogged down in it. It raises up in the presence of The Gnani Purush. People have great adoration for The Gnani Purush and they obey Him when He tells them to divert their money elsewhere. As soon as your craze towards money diminishes, you will be able to attain self-realization.

Eliminating Greed

Manu and Karan were good friends. Karan was a rich merchant who lived in the city, Karan liked Manu for his simplicity. Manu didn't have a lot of money, but he never worried about it.

One day on the first death anniversary of his mother, Karan sought to do a religious ceremony in her honor. There were many pundits (priests) in north India and he decided to call one of the famous head pundits in the city. When he got to Karan's home, the head pundit asked him, "What was your mother's last wish? Because it is said that a dying person's soul is satisfied if his or her last wish is satisfied."

"My mother's last wish was to eat a Mango" said Karan. The pundit said "Then you must give 50 gold mangoes, in diamond studded silver bowls to 50 pundits, only then will your mother's soul be at rest"

"I can get 50 golden mangoes with 50 diamond studded silver bowls, but from where will I get 50 pundits?" said Karan, to which the head pundit replied "I will get 50 pundits, if you kindly arrange the needful."

It was a grand occasion, and Manu was also invited to the ceremony. Upon his arrival, Manu was surprised to see so many pundits conducting the ceremony.

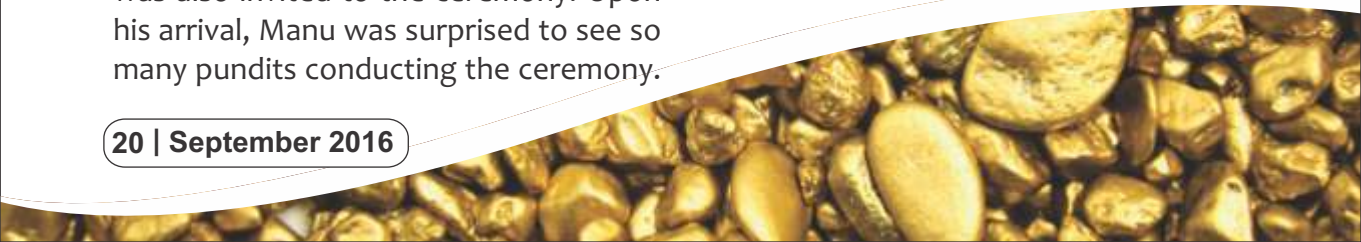
Manu asked Karan, "Wow, there are so many pundits at this function! What happened?" Karan explained how the head pundit suggested that he should gift golden mangoes in diamond studded silver bowls to 50 pundits. Manu understood the situation and the ceremony was conducted as planned.

A few days later, Manu went to the same head pundit and said "I would also like to conduct a ceremony in honor of my deceased mother. Can you arrange for 50 pundits to conduct a grand ceremony at my house next week?". "Sure, why not!" replied the head Pundit.

After the ceremony, Manu asked all the pundits to gather in a hall which lead to a room with small doors at either end of the room. Manu asked the pundits to enter the room one by one. When the head Pundit entered the room, Manu heated a poker, at which the head pundit looked surprised. "My mother's hand was hurting a lot in her last moments." Said Manu. "She asked to be massaged with a hot iron rod to ease the pain. I will now do the same to you and the rest of the pundits with this hot rod to satisfy my mother's final wish", he clarified.

One after another, all 50 pundits received the same treatment whereby they realized their mistake of being greedy with Karan.

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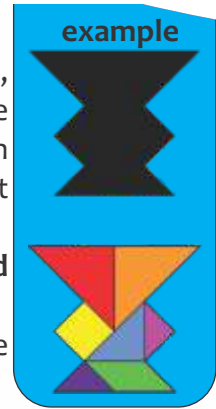


The Tangram

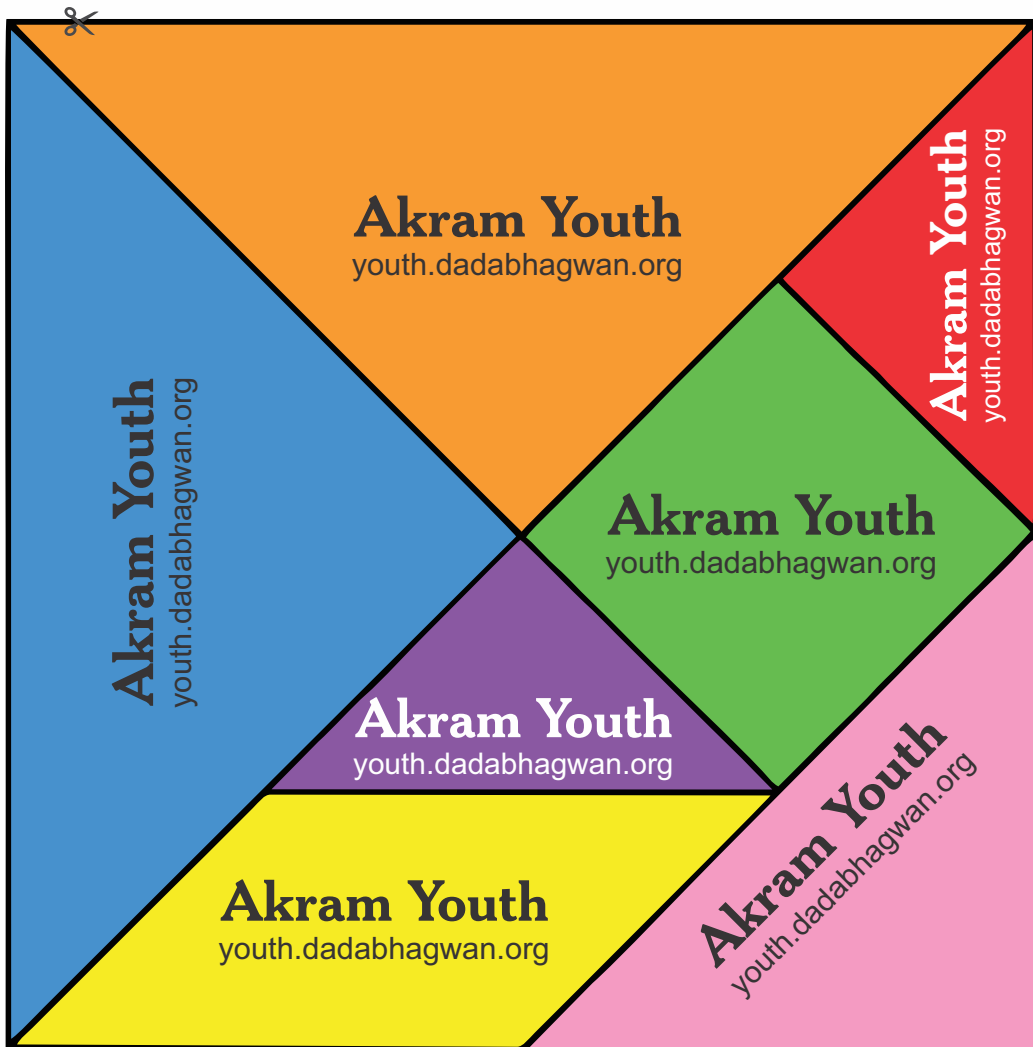
The Tangram is a dissection puzzle consisting of seven flat shapes, called tans, which are put together to form different shapes. The objective of the puzzle is to form a specific shape (given only an outline or a silhouette) using all seven pieces, which may not overlap. It is one of the most popular dissection puzzles in the world.

Cut the shapes (tans) as per the instructions, and make the desired shapes... Turn page over for shapes...

Click a selfie with any one of the solved puzzles and upload it to the Akram Youth Facebook page.



Facebook - <http://facebook.com/akramyouth.mag>

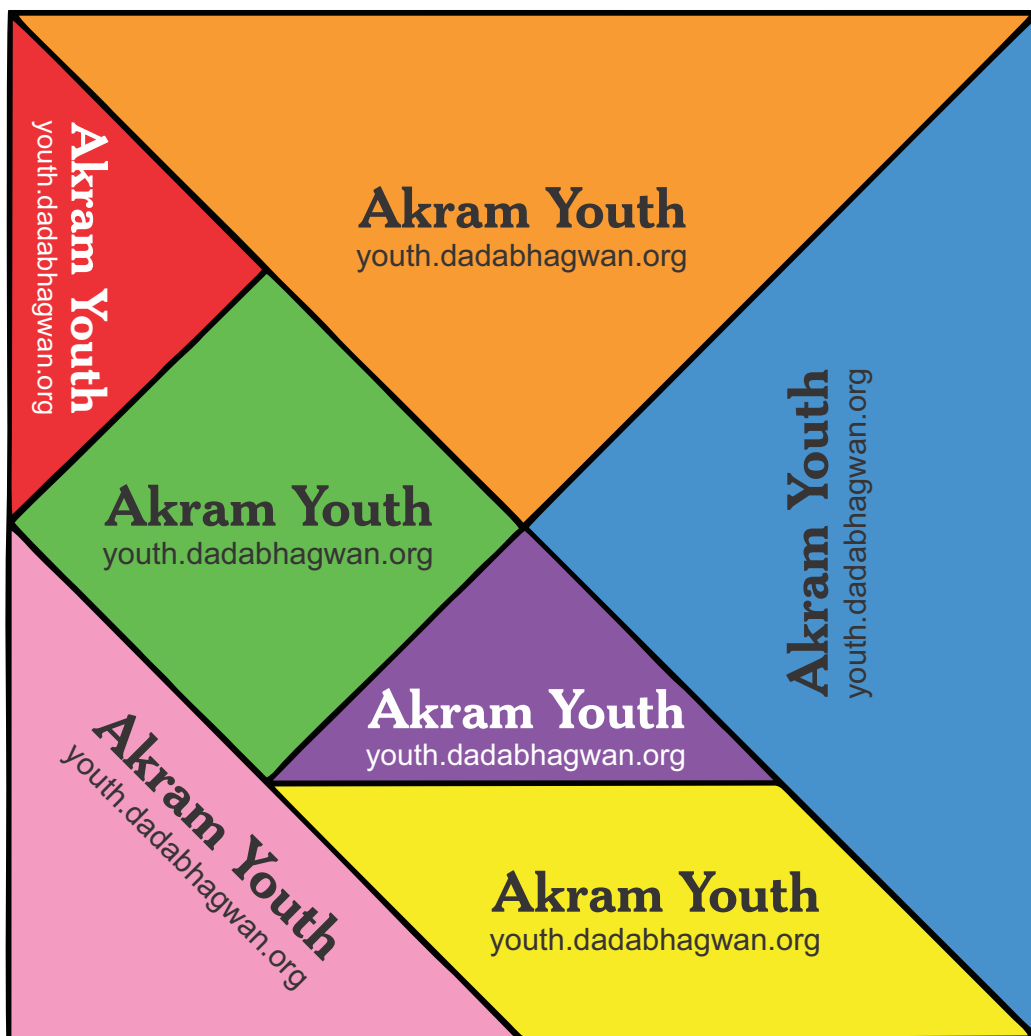
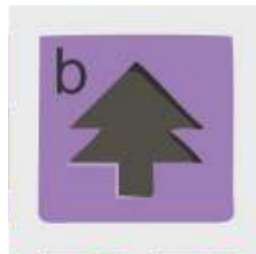


Prepare the following shapes using all the tans...

and send us your selfies...

For answers, visit

<http://tinyurl.com/ay-sept2016>



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Eliminating greed continued from page 20

How can one be free of “greed”? There are 3 very effective solutions to this...

1) By donating secretly

Dadashri: One should donate to charity willingly. This should always be done in secret. These Marwaris visit temples and donate secretly to God! This donation becomes fruitful as it is not revealed to others. One should never fear that his money will be used up in just donations. One should utilize his wealth in a righteous way, so that greed will shatter, and time and again one will be able to give money generously.

2) By surrendering to The Gnani

Dadashri: When will you receive that which you are seeking from me? Only when you surrender your most valuable item. When you give away that which is most dear to you in the world, to me, then it is possible for you to come near me. You have already surrendered your mind, speech and body to me. Yet, one thing still remains: (wealth) Lakshmi! If you surrender this, you can come closer to me.

3) If you come across a notorious thug, he may snatch away all your greed!

Dadashri: A greedy person never gets trapped.

Questioner: But once in a while doesn't he get trapped?

Dadashri: He may get cheated – but that may happen only if he is confronted by notorious thugs or thieves.

Feedback

JaiSatChitAnand.

I liked very much, the Akram Youth's new article on 'Common Sense'. It's a good read and I was able to learn about new stories and new things. Also, the experiences of Aptsinchan Sadhak bhaio and behno were very touching. It contained very good elements of Dadashri's original vani (Speech) on 'Common Sense' and of course, a very good article on Abraham Lincoln also! The whole issue was filled with knowledge and had interesting stories too.

Jsca. Keep it up!

- Binita Joshi



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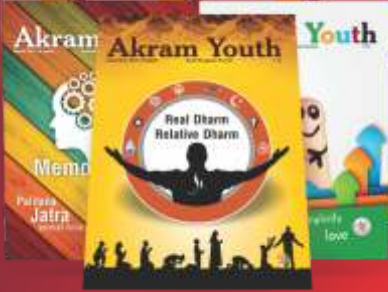


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Pg. 24 - September 2016.
Year: 4. Issue: 5.
Cont. Issue: 41.

Date of Publication: 22nd of Every Month
RNI No. GUJENG/2013/53112
Reg. No. G-GNR-311/2014-2016
Valid up to 31-12-2016
LPWP Licence No. CPMG/GJ/121/2014
Valid up to 31-12-2016
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Printed and Published by Dimple Mehta on behalf of Mahavideh Foundation-Owner. Printed at Amba Offset, Basement, Parshvanath Chambers, Usmanpura, Ahmedabad-38014

