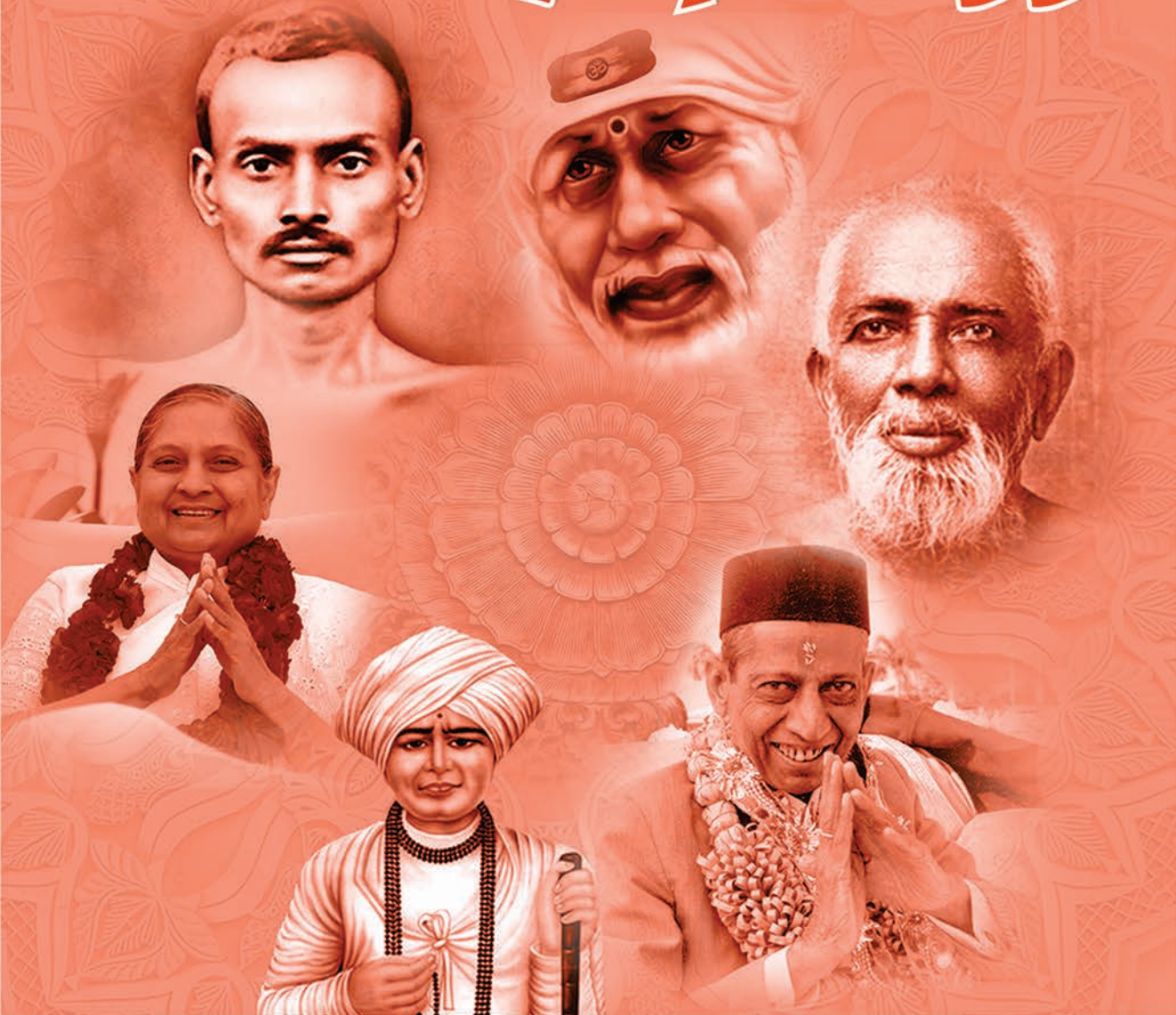


Dada Bhagwan Parivar's

July 2018

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Sant Purush, Sat Purush & Gnani Purush

Sant Purush, Sat Purush & Gnani Purush

Editorial

Friends,

India is a land which has been the birthplace of many saints and 'Gnanis' (enlightened people). In such a country where religion and spirituality seem to be everywhere, saints and Gnanis take birth in every era of the time cycle; even the current era of Kaliyug, (descending era) is no exception.

The cultural and ethical values of India have always taken shape through the religion and spirituality that flow from these saints and Gnanis. Whilst other countries are renowned for making more progress of an outward nature (for example with behaviour and acts of charity) India is a country which excels in making inner progress (in other words, changes in mindset and vision). The credit for that goes to all these saints and Gnanis.

In this edition we learn about Sat Purush (saints), Sant Purush (Self-realized beings) and Gnanis (enlightened beings) in detail. Let us understand the difference between them and establish feelings of admiration in our hearts for them!

- Dimple Mehta



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Contact at:

Balvignan Department

Trimandir Sankul,

Simandhar city,

Ahmedabad-Kalol Highway, Adalaj,

Dist.Gandhinagar-382421,Gujarat.

Phone:(079)39830100

email:akramexpress@dadabhagwan.org

Website: kids.dadabhagwan.org

Questioner: What is the difference between a 'Sant Purush' (saint), a Sat Purush (Self-realized person) and a Gnani?

Deepakbhai: A person whose 'chit' (inner faculty of knowledge and vision) has become pure is called a 'Sant Purush' (saint). He has no expectation of worldly wealth. There is no mischief of sexual pleasure or sexual impulses. His ego is pure such that he prays for everyone's wellbeing and tells people to take the name of the Lord. He strives to give happiness and peace of mind to each and every person. And yet he himself believes that he is only doing what God is making him do and he knows very little else. He therefore has a relatively small ego. All those with pure hearts are called 'saints'. They do not have any worldly expectations. However, they do have an ego; they have not acquired Self-realization yet.

Those who have acquired knowledge of the Self (i.e. of the soul) from or through a Gnani and are in control of their anger, pride, deceit and greed and do not get engrossed in their relative self are called 'Sat Purush' (Self-realized beings).

A 'Gnani Purush' (an enlightened person) has experienced the soul. Their sense of attachment and abhorrence, as well as their anger, pride, deceit and greed are all null. They do not need to read or learn anything, nor do they need to constantly recite God's name. Each and every sub-atomic particle of

Gnanis say ...



all vices have finished. They are liberated and liberate others. Gnanis are always only in a state of pure soul. These super humans, who are embodiments of knowledge, are very rare. That is why they are extremely difficult to find!

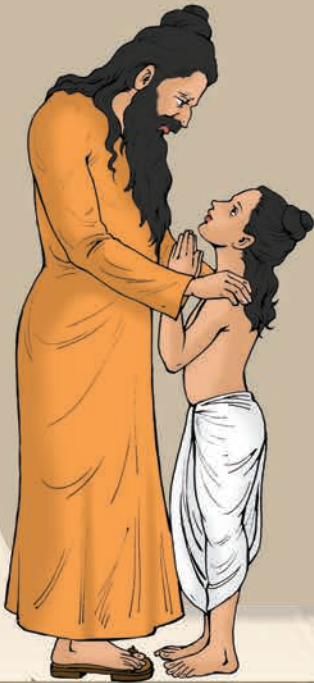
Thus these three types of beings are huge instruments for mankind to achieve any peace and happiness: Saints, Self-realized beings and Gnanis. It is not possible for worldly comforts or any material possessions to give peace and real happiness. One can find peace by listening to them and keeping in association with them.

Questioner: And then there is a plea that may the unified energy of mind and speech of Saints, Self-realized beings and Gnanis give salvation to the whole world.

Deepakbhai: That's right. The power of their speech, their thoughts and their actions are all for the salvation of the world. They themselves have attained the state of a saint or a Gnani and so their speech, thoughts and actions will give peace and happiness to others; their presence itself will give joy to people and make unhappiness disappear.

Why do we request everyone to pray in this way? By saying this, all the external bad effects become weak. Nowadays, the world is in a degrading state and for some years and for some years still, it will remain in this state and get worse. That is why we should pray every day for world salvation.

Disciples have a student-teacher relationship with saints. Whereas the relationship one has with the Gnani is of absolute humility and oneness unlike a teacher-student relationship. A follower of a Gnani sees the Gnani verily as his own soul, so there is a feeling of oneness or of extreme humility.

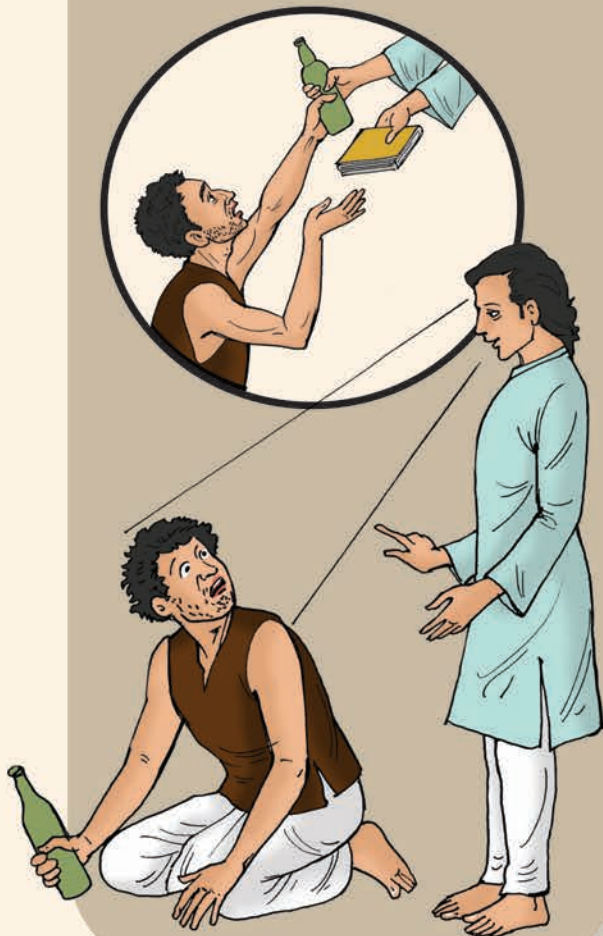


Absolutely New



Saints, Self-realized beings and Gnanis, these are the three who are instrumental in the salvation of the world. Otherwise, even God cannot give salvation to the world because he does not have human form which is required for salvation.

Saints lead people from bad to good; they help them to leave bad habits and form good ones. Whereas the Gnani transcends good and bad and help them become pure souls.



And Different !



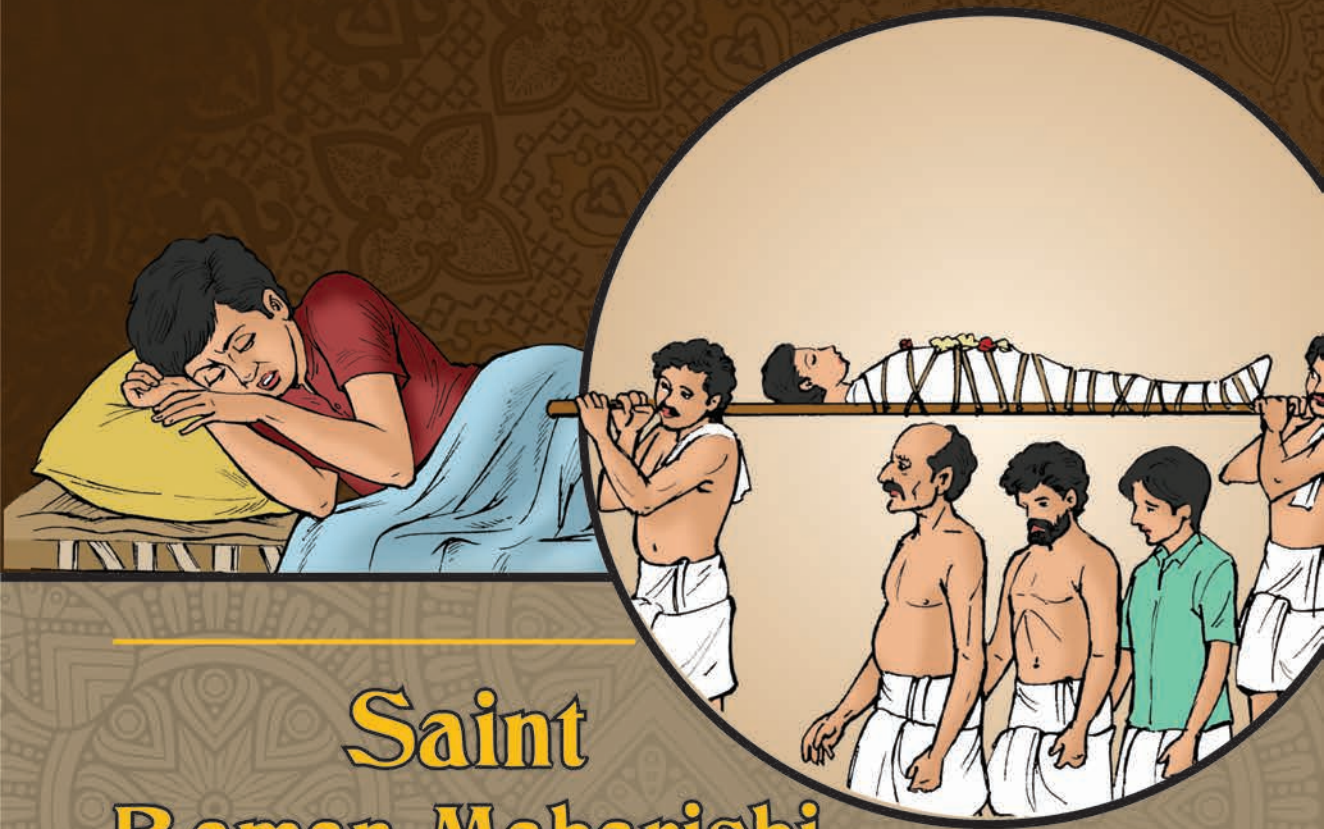
These three are the instruments. We should therefore pray every day as follows:

To all saints who are present in the world today, with your unified energy of the mind, speech and body let there be salvation of the world; salvation in the world; salvation of the world.

To all Self-realized beings who are present in the world today, with your unified energy of the mind, speech and body let there be salvation of the world; salvation of the world; salvation of the world.

To all Gnanis, who are present in the world today, with your unified energy of the mind, speech and body let there be salvation of the world; salvation

By saying this as many times as possible you are expressing an intention for world salvation. And that's it!



Saint Raman Maharishi

Raman Maharishi (meaning a great sage in the ancient Indian language of Sanskrit) was born in 1879 in a small town 30 kilometres away from Madurai in Tamil Nadu. His childhood name was Venkatraman.

Maharishi Raman's personality from childhood was powerful and dedicated. He was not interested in education. One day his grammar teacher gave him three chapters to write. While writing he thought, 'this is useless'. There and then he put his book and pen to one side and started studying literature about various saints. This was the first stage of his spiritual life. He was in search of the meaning and purpose of life.

At the age of 16 he had an amazing spiritual experience. He was at his uncle's house sitting by the window. All of a sudden he fainted and fell down. He felt as if he was dead and that everyone was getting ready to take his body to the crematorium. It was understandable that this experience really shook him up. It led him to realize that the body was going to end up as ashes one day so there was no point wasting time by pampering the body. Without wasting any time one should do something for benefit of the real Self (Soul). After this incident at the age of 16 he set out in solitude to progress on his spiritual journey.

Right from childhood, the Maharishi was attracted to Arunachal Pradesh (the North Eastern-most state in India). When he was young some guests had visited his house and they were from Arunachal Pradesh. Venkatraman was drawn to

the word 'Arunachal'. He thought to himself, 'I will go to Arunachal one day'. He was attracted by Arunachaleshwar Temple which was located in Arunachal. Although he had never been there he could see it in his imagination exactly as it was. It was this desperate urge which took him there later on.

Raman thought that his precious time was being wasted on useless tasks. Then one day feeling restless he decided to leave for Arunachaleshwar. He wrote a note to his mother and set off. When he reached Arunachaleshwar he took renunciation and started his spiritual practice and devoted his life for the good of the public.

A lot of devotees found eternal peace in the presence of the Maharishi. Worshippers came from inland and abroad to meet him and get a true understanding of spiritual knowledge. The Maharishi's 'satsangs' (spiritual discourses) turned out to be a blessing for his mother and she also turned towards spirituality. When his mother was seriously ill, the Maharishi served her day and night wholeheartedly.

The Maharishi was exceptionally careful about everyone's feelings. If he unknowingly hurt anyone's feelings he would straight away correct his mistake.

One day he was passing through the mountainous parts of Arunachal Pradesh and he accidentally walked into a beehive. The bees were irritated and started attacking the Maharishi.

The Maharishi understood his mistake. He stood there without the slightest fear and endured the pain of being stung by hundreds of bees.

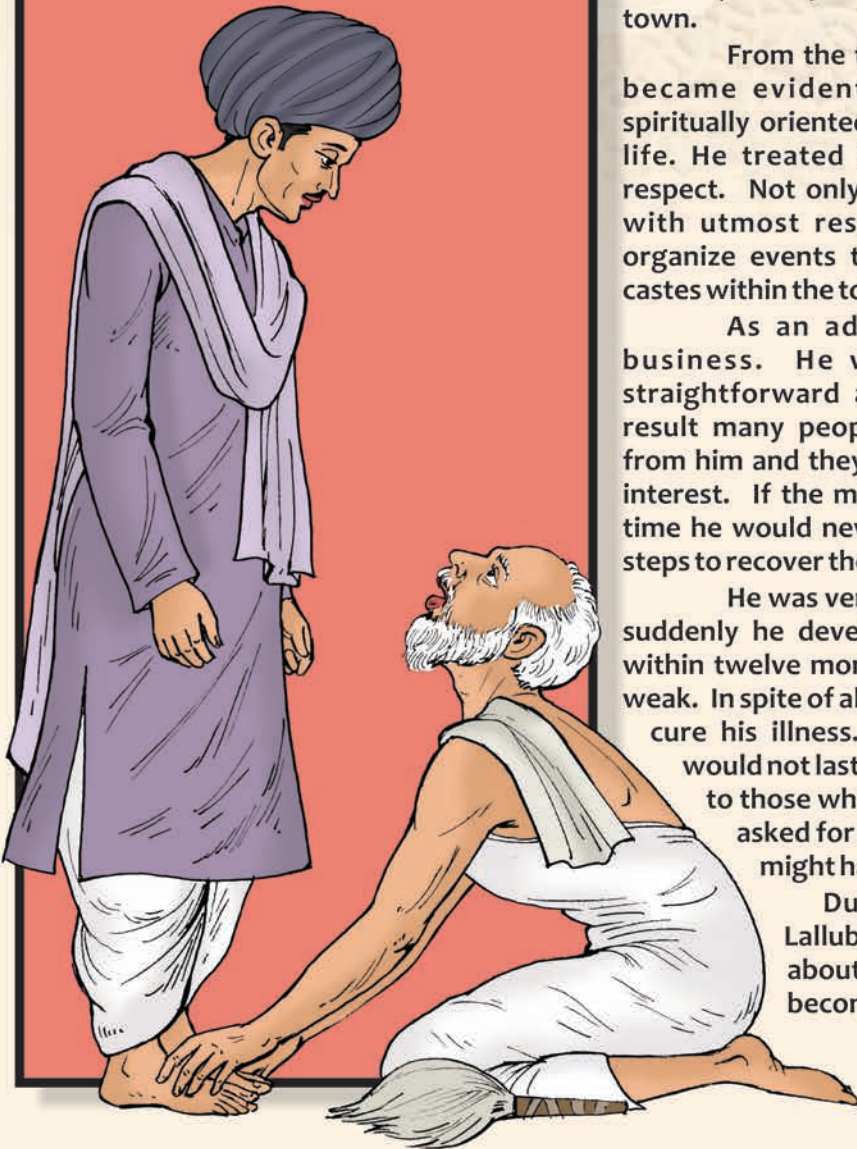
The bees stopped stinging the Maharishi once the karmic account of hatred had been settled. It was only after that did the Maharishi proceed with his journey through the mountains. He often used to say, "If we do not hurt other beings then there is no reason to be scared of them. They will not hurt us."

In the Maharishi's 'ashram' (hermitage) even the violent animals became calm. Monkeys, birds, cows, squirrels used to come to the ashram and stay there peacefully.

The Maharishi stayed at the Arunachaleshwar ashram until his last days. He breathed his last on 24th April 1950.

Even today whoever visits the ashram can sense his presence there.

A Self-realized Person Shree Laghuraj Swami



The time around the year of 1850 is believed to be an historical era in India. During this period in India, the 'Maratha' and 'Mughal' empires were coming to an end and the British Empire came in force. There were strange incidents taking place in the royal, social, cultural and religious sectors. Shree Laghuraj Swami was born during this time.

This holy soul was born in a town called Vataman which is in the Western state of Gujarat. As a baby he was named 'Lallubhai'. His father's name was Shree Krishnadas and his mother's name was Kushalbai. This 'vaishnav' (devotees of Lord Krishna) family was highly regarded in the town.

From the time he was a small boy, it became evident that Lallubhai was a spiritually oriented being, since his previous life. He treated everyone with love and respect. Not only would he treat all guests with utmost respect but he would also organize events that encouraged different castes within the town to mix with each other.

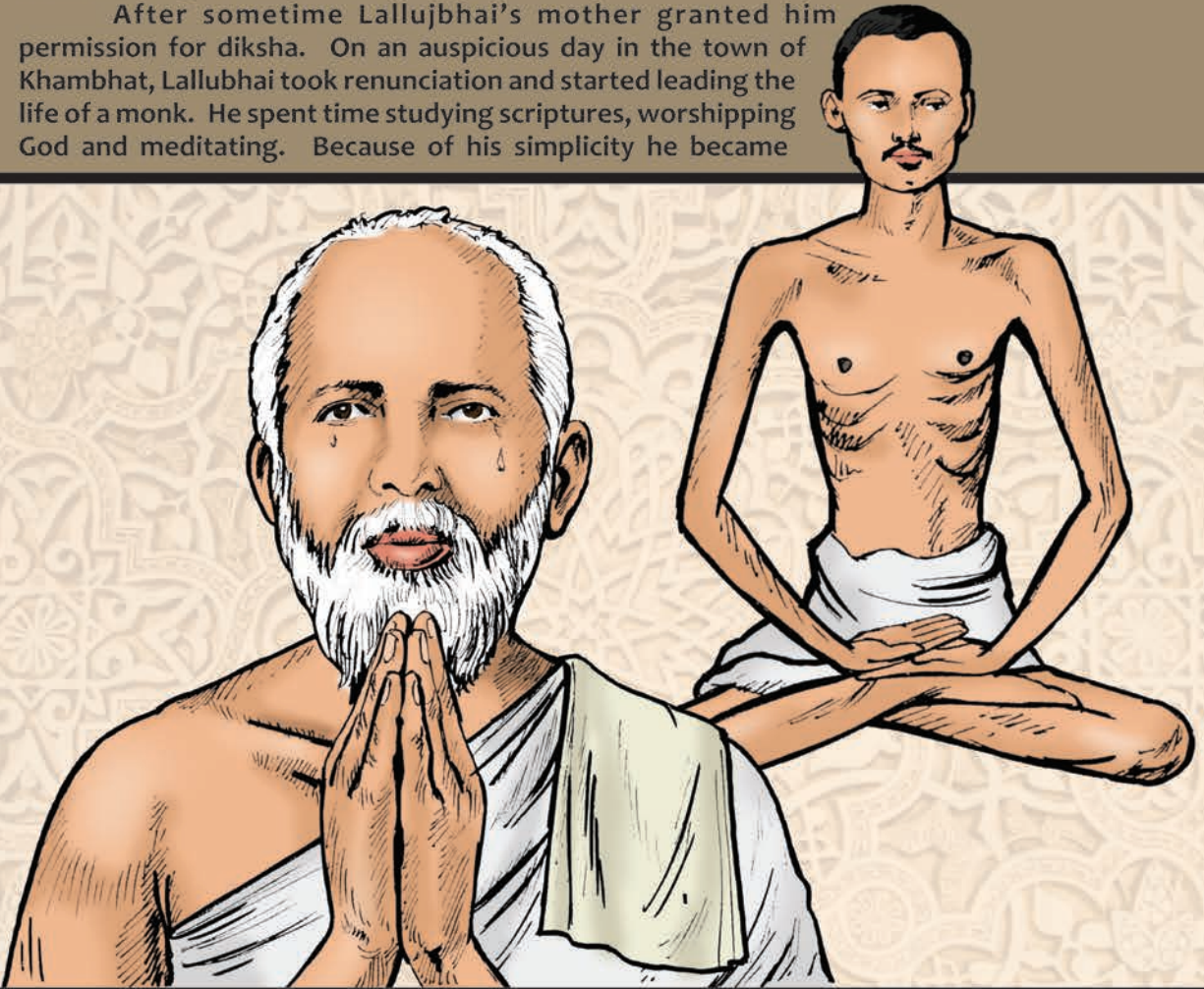
As an adult, he started a small business. He was hard working and straightforward and very generous. As a result many people would borrow money from him and they would pay him back with interest. If the money was not returned on time he would never think about taking any steps to recover the debt.

He was very happy in his life but then suddenly he developed acute anaemia and within twelve months his body became very weak. In spite of all efforts nothing seemed to cure his illness. Knowing that his body would not last long, he would give sweets to those who came to visit him. He also asked for forgiveness for any hurt he might have caused them.

Due to this serious illness Lallubhai became dispassionate about worldly life. He vowed to become a monk and become free

of karmic bondage if he recovered from the illness. The strength of his determination to fulfil that wish started to improve his health. True to his vow, Lallubhai went to see Munishree Harakhchandji and informed him of his intent to take 'diksha' (renunciation). The Munishree asked him to get permission from his parents.

After sometime Lallubhai's mother granted him permission for diksha. On an auspicious day in the town of Khambhat, Lallubhai took renunciation and started leading the life of a monk. He spent time studying scriptures, worshipping God and meditating. Because of his simplicity he became



popular amongst many.

During the Hindu festival of Diwali the great spiritual ascetic named Shrimad Rajchandra, who was Self-realized visited Khambhat. At the time of the very first meeting Lalluji muni (monk) was overcome with devotional affection for Shrimadji. He bowed down in 'sashtang namaskar' to Shrimadji three times and begged him to bestow him with Self-realization. Shrimadji immediately saw Lallujimuni's spiritual inclination from his previous life. Thus for as long as he stayed in Khambhat he imparted knowledge of the Self to Lallujimuni.

After they parted company, Lallujimuni's devotional bond with Shrimadji grew as they frequently wrote to each other. Whenever he received a letter from Shrimadji he would circumambulate it (walk around a sacred object as a way of worshipping it). He would count himself to be extremely fortunate and read the letters with

tremendous joy and excitement. In Lallujimuni's eyes Shrimadji was verily God incarnate. All his life he was engrossed in his devotion.

Once Lallujimuni had spent the night in the jungle and he had been fasting. The next day when he went into town, he got the news that Shrimadji had passed away. This news was unbearable for him. He went back to the jungle without food and spent the whole day there in grief of separation.

Even after the death of Shrimadji, Lallujimuni's devotion towards him kept on increasing. Shri Ratnarajswami Muni addressed Lalluji Muni as "Laghuraji". Due to his divine vision of seeing God in everyone, people addressed him as 'Prabhushri' (Lord).

Shree Prabhushri travelled to a lot of places in Gujarat and helped people turn towards spirituality. As time went by, his disciples encouraged Laghuraj Swami to settle in Agas, which is near Anand in Gujarat. With the welfare of the public in mind, He found the Shrimad Rajchandra Ashram in Agas.

Everyone started visiting Agas whether they were young or old, rich or poor,

*Shri Ratnarajswami Muni addressed
Lalluji Muni as "Laghuraji".
Due to his divine vision of seeing God in
everyone, people addressed
him as 'Prabhushri' (Lord).*

villagers or city dwellers, women or men, etc., without any differences of caste, religion or age. On seeing Shree Prabhushri's pure love, people would bow down to him and stay at the ashram to give service in different ways and progress towards salvation of the soul.

While reminiscing about his time with Shrimad Rajchandraji, at the age of 82 Laghuraj Swami left his body. His devotion towards Shrimadji was indescribable. Shrimadji was present in every atom of his body. Whenever people came to visit him he would introduce Shrimad Rajchandraji to them and request them to accept him as everything. He would give people the true identity of the 'Gnani' (fully Self-realized being) that was Shrimadji whilst he himself remained secondary.

Laghuraj Swami's life shows us unique love and devotion towards the Gnani.

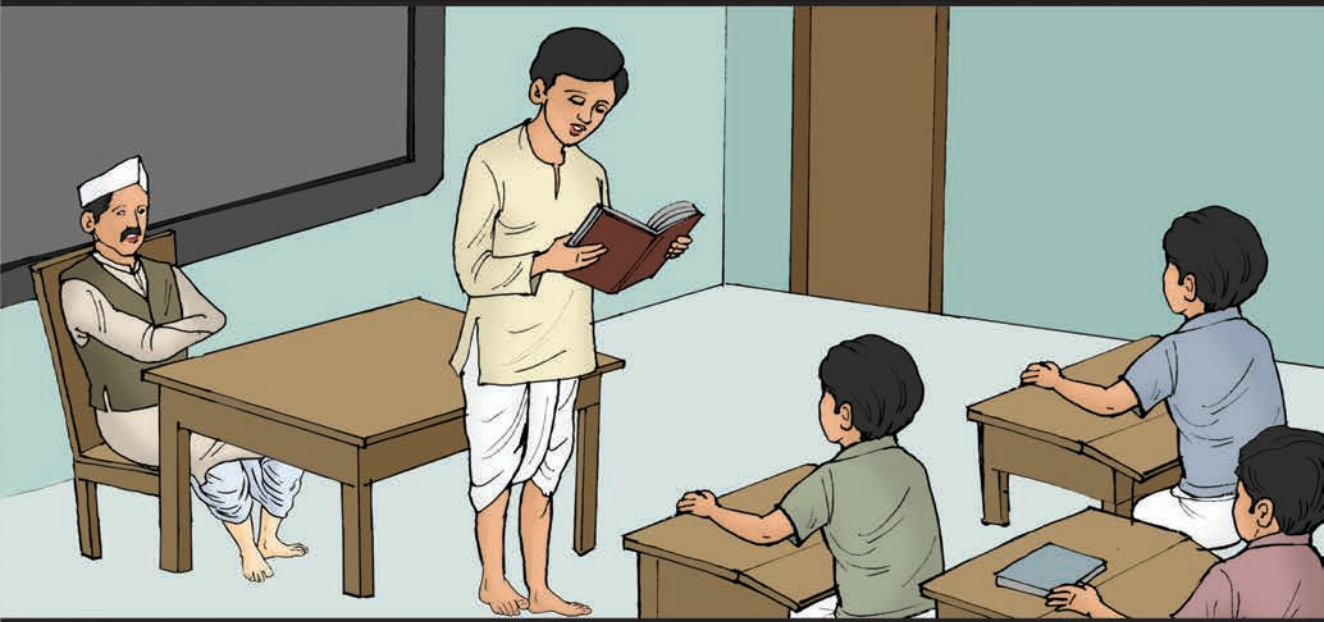
Friends, in this invaluable life even we have met a Gnani - Param Pujya Dadashri so let us also become saturated with love for him and get our spiritual work done!

A Gnani Purush Shrimad Rajchandraji

Shrimad Rajchandra (aka Shree Raichandbhai) was born in the town of Vvania which is in the region of Saurashtra in Gujarat, on 9 November 1867. His father's name was Ravjibhai Mehta and his mother's name was Devbai.

He started going to school at the age of seven. His memory was so sharp that if he read anything just once he would remember it word-for-word. Due to this sharp memory he did not need to revise anything. Whatever the teacher read while teaching he would remember it! At the age of 8 he started to compose a poem, which is supposed to have 5000 verses.

From a very young age Shrimadji was very straightforward and loving. In his own



words he described his inner state as, "At that time I had a lot of love and affection. I wished for unity amongst everyone and only be happy by treating everyone as my own; that is something which came naturally to me. If I ever saw anyone behaving in a discriminatory manner my heart would cry with sadness."

It was obvious that teachers and peers alike were very fond of such an intelligent and loving student! In the classroom teachers watched in amazement as Shrimad Rajchandra taught the other sixty students.

From childhood he was interested in learning different things, listening to new things and to reflect upon it all. By the age of ten he gave interesting lectures on vivid subjects.

Shrimad Rajchandra's father was a devotee of Lord Krishna. Hence, he had heard various devotional songs and stories about Lord

Krishna from his father. Since then Shrimad had a deep urge 'see' the Lord. From about the age of thirteen he started to look after his father's shop. As soon as he had some spare time he would write sacred poems and also read and reflect on scriptures.

He never cheated any customers by overcharging nor would he cheat while weighing the goods. Thus, even in his younger years he always conducted all worldly dealings with morality.

He developed his business very well. All stock for the business was purchased after he had personally checked it himself; he always sold the goods at one price and made sure to make only a fair profit; he always kept his word.

Mahatma Gandhi had once noted, 'Those who are experts at religion are never experts in day-to-day dealings'; however, Shrimadji was an exception! He acted with full care and shrewdness and he was never anxious about business.

Thus, Shrimadji stood out as a fair and expert businessman; however, he was more interested in spirituality than in business!

In the same way that the fragrance of flowers attracts bees from all directions, all seekers, learned folk, saints and householders alike were all attracted to Shrimad Rajchandra.

The children of Kavitha had the honour of attaining this precious knowledge. One day the students of Kavitha accompanied Shrimadji in the jungle.

Shrimadji asked them, "Children, if you had a tumbler full of buttermilk in one hand and a tumbler full of 'ghee' (clarified butter) in the other and if someone knocked into you, which one would you try to save?"

One child answered, "The tumbler full of ghee."

When Shrimadji asked the reason, the child replied, "Anyone would readily refill the tumbler with buttermilk, but no one would be willing to refill that much ghee so readily." Thus Shrimadji explained the essence behind this analogy, "Always look after this valuable soul like ghee and when you have any calamity then let the body, which is akin to buttermilk, go."

Again Shrimadji asked, "Children, have you ever seen a goat?"

The children replied, "Yes".

"Okay then, have you seen a bull?" Shrimadji asked.

"Yes, it's a bit like a buffalo," they replied.

Shrimadji informed them, "A goat can go to a lake and stand at the edge and drink the water, whereas a bull would return without drinking any water."

The children asked, "Why is that?"

When the bull goes to the lake it disturbs the water and that is why it not able to drink from it. Similarly, some people try to show off their wisdom in front of a Gnani and so they are not able to grasp the essence of the knowledge being imparted. Those who are straightforward, like the goat who is able to drink

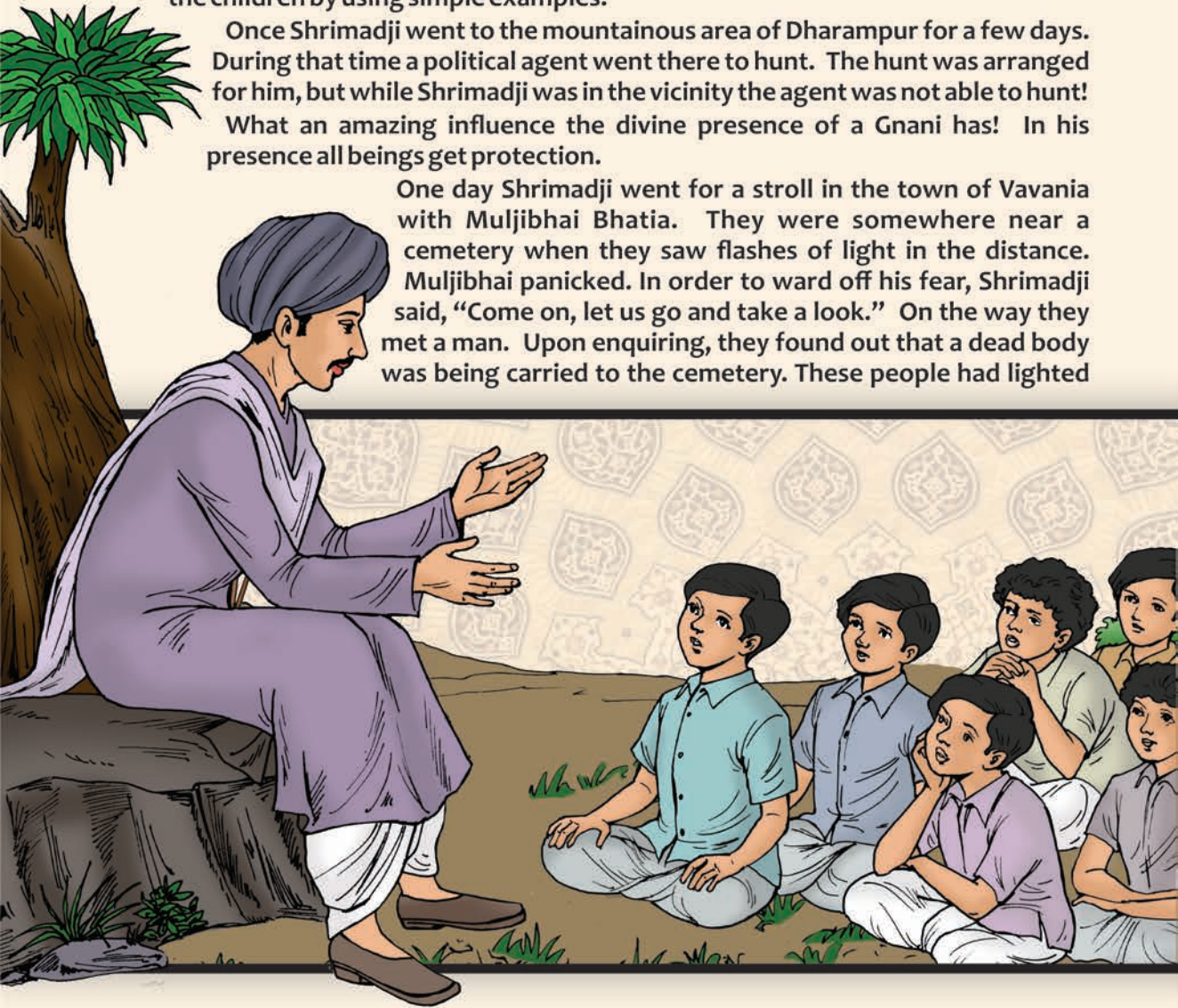


the water, they grasp the meaning of what the Gnani is saying. This is how Shrimadji taught the children by using simple examples.

Once Shrimadji went to the mountainous area of Dharampur for a few days. During that time a political agent went there to hunt. The hunt was arranged for him, but while Shrimadji was in the vicinity the agent was not able to hunt!

What an amazing influence the divine presence of a Gnani has! In his presence all beings get protection.

One day Shrimadji went for a stroll in the town of Vavania with Muljibhai Bhatia. They were somewhere near a cemetery when they saw flashes of light in the distance. Muljibhai panicked. In order to ward off his fear, Shrimadji said, "Come on, let us go and take a look." On the way they met a man. Upon enquiring, they found out that a dead body was being carried to the cemetery. These people had lighted



lanterns with them!

As soon as Muljibhai found out the truth his fear disappeared. Shrimadji therefore explained that all the fears are due to ignorance. As soon as we come to know the truth then all kinds of fears are dissolved.

Shrimadji lived for 33 years. In this short lifespan a lot of people came into contact with him and were impressed by him but only a handful of seekers recognized him fully and attained knowledge of the Self.

Friends, Shrimadji said that liberation is attainable but to meet a Gnani is extremely difficult. We are extremely fortunate that we have found Dada Bhagwan and that we have made a connection with him. Let us absorb the knowledge given by Dadashri and get our spiritual work done!

Let's Play...



1.

Which number will come in place of question mark?

2. Help Nancy to find out which number will come in place of question mark.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□



Sweet Memories

This incident happened at Dada Darshan when Niruma used to live there. During that time, shooting for the serial 'The lives of Tirthankars (the absolute enlightened Lords) was in progress.

One celibate brother had come to Niruma about a year before that. Whenever he went for his 'seva' (selfless service) he would peep into the room to watch the shooting. If there was a little break in between the shooting he would go inside and pay his respects to Niruma.

In the same manner, one morning at 10 am he was going for seva. The door to Niruma's room was ajar. Niruma was resting in bed reading Aptavani (Dada's spiritual book).

Niruma saw him and called him inside and asked him to sit down. She then asked, "How is everything? Are you regularly doing 'vidhi, vanchan, samayik and pratikraman' (recitation of spiritual verses to sustain knowledge of the Self, reading, self-introspection and going through the process of asking for forgiveness)?"

The brother said, "No, Niruma, I am only spending 30 to 45 minutes every day for my spiritual practices."

On hearing this Niruma said, "Look, have you ever seen me resting like this at 10:30 in the morning?"

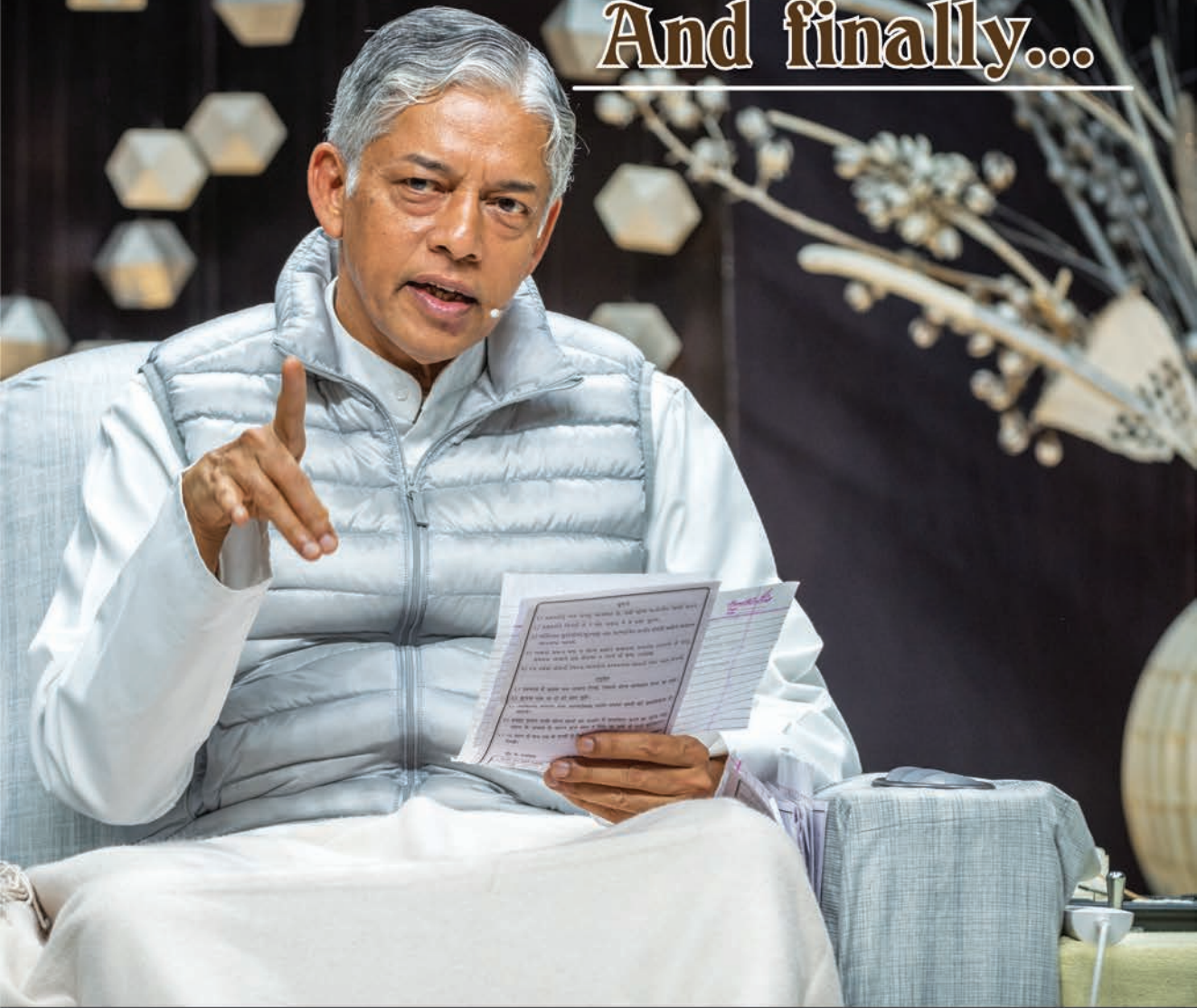
The brother said, "No, Niruma, even I was wondering...."

Niruma said, "At the moment I have a fever. If it was one or two degrees then I would not let anyone know. Only if it is 3 or 4 degrees then someone would notice. For that reason we have cancelled the recording today. I decided to rest and read. Can anyone object to that? Even if I sleep for 12 hours a day would anyone object to that? So we need to take time out of our routine for this. There should be no slacking even in the midst of all the work. We just have to carry on with our work."

Niruma's words really touched the brother. Gnanis are always a step ahead and they never waste a single moment, no matter how unwell they may be. And as for us, we just go to sleep even if we have a slight headache!

O Niruma...! Our endless salutations to you ! 15 Akram Express
July 2018

And finally...



Questioner: Saints, Self-realized beings and especially the Gnanis are amongst us but why do we not understand their value? If Lord Krishna or Lord Mahavir were amongst us then we would fully appreciate their value, so how come we do not truly recognize or value Gnanis?

Deepakbhai: Because we have not really recognized them. We are simply acquainted with them. Say for example, someone has moved into our neighbourhood. You might say, 'Yes I have met him, he is a good person'. But that does not mean that I actually know him. What is acquaintance? It is just knowing him at a very basic level. Then after 6 to 12 months we get to know him a little more, we go to each other's houses for tea. Then we realize that this person is humble and he is very

helpful. That is getting to know him a little more. Recognizing someone is knowing their character. For example, we would even trust him with one lakh rupees. We know he will not do anything dodgy, he has a good nature. That is called knowing someone. In this way, the more we get to know a person the more we understand and appreciate their true value.

Questioner: What should we do to increase recognition of a Gnani?

Deepakbhai: To increase recognition of a Gnani we need to increase our acquaintance with him. In these 'satsangs' (a gathering of spiritual seekers), 'jatra' (pilgrimage) and 'shibirs' (spiritual camps), we can increase our acquaintance. As a result our recognition for him increases and gradually we become like 'him'.

Dada said that if you recognize me *as a monk* then you will become like a monk; if you recognize me *as a teacher* then you will become a teacher; if you recognize me *as a Gnani* then you will become a Gnani and if you recognize me *as a God* then you will also become a God. If you count me *as the fully enlightened* one then you will become that!

The one who recognizes someone never doubts him. In any situation they remain the same. Today, if Dada was even slapping someone, Niruma would never feel that Dada has changed, she would not doubt him at all. Once you have recognized that he is Gnani then that is it. He would always be in 'gnan' (knowledge of the Self), dwelling in his pure soul, not in his physical body for even a moment. The body might be doing any deed but he himself is never the owner of it. To have this sort of recognition would make you like them. That is all that is needed.

Questioner: Is it the case that we value the worldly life more and that is why we do not value the Gnani?

Deepakbhai: The acquaintance of worldly life has increased. We have placed value on sensual pleasures, money, recognition, skill, doership, etc, hence the value of a Gnani has decreased. That is why we need more acquaintance. If you come to satsang one day and then disappear for 12 days then how would that help you to increase your acquaintance?

Dada says that this Niruben has recognized me. She doesn't want to leave Dada for even one second. She had a big hospital waiting for her to serve as a doctor, but she said, 'No, I want to serve the Gnani'. This is called true recognition.

'This is my pure soul and this is where I will gain liberation. I will depend on him, I surrender myself to Dada'; this is called recognition. As the recognition increases then you become like them. Niruma had so much recognition that she became like that: a pure soul.

Origs Explore Something NEW!

Orrington town is getting so boring!



I feel the same too.



If you are all free, would you like to join me?



Only if we are going to do something different ...



I am sure you've never done anything like this before



What's that?



It's a world worth exploring, a place where we can help by doing selfless service "seva"...



Oh! Wow... do you think can I go there?



Yes we all can but I have heard that you need to be very active, lively and full of energy to participate.



Wow! When do we have to go... will we get more information on the webpage?



Yes! To find out more, watch out for...

<http://jld.dadabhagwan.org/>

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