O Mother, grant me one gift...
Purity in all my interactions...
Editorial

Friends,

If the King’s friend gets into trouble, then who is the first person they would run to for help? To the King, right? And the King would help them also. However, the friend has angered the King, would the King help him? If the friend wants to maintain the friendship with the King, then he will have to follow the rules of friendship.

We must have worshipped Goddess Amba many times at the temple and prayed to her so that she remain pleased with us. To keep Goddess Amba happy, what rules should we follow?

In this issue we will gather knowledge about these rules through interesting stories. We will also find out about the connection Dadaji and Niruma have with Goddess Amba. Why do we celebrate Navratri (nine night festival celebrating Goddess Amba)? We will get answers to all this, as well as discover many other interesting facts. So, during this month of October let’s immerse ourselves in the celebrations for Goddess Amba!

- Dimple Mehta

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Every goddess has a specific set of rules. If you follow her rules, then the goddess will be pleased with you.

Questioner: What are the rules of Goddess Amba? How can we follow them?

Pujyashri: What does Goddess Amba say: Be natural. What comes to you naturally will be as good as milk, what comes to you after you ask will be as good as water and what you snatch forcefully becomes like blood. So be happy and enjoy what you get naturally. Take full advantage of it and don’t interfere unnecessarily.

Questioner: What does it mean to ‘interfere unnecessarily’?

Pujyashri: ‘Why did he get it? Why didn’t I get it? You’re like this, you’re like that!’ When we behave like this with our mother, what is it called? It’s called creating interference. Where there is unnecessary interference, Amba Maa will not be pleased. Eat, drink and stay with whatever you get naturally. When you don’t get something, don’t whine and complain. If you are offered something to eat that you don’t like, then just eat a little. For example, if mother has cooked rice and lentils then you might feel like not eating it at all. But you should not do that. Whatever has been made for you, have at least a little bit of everything. Live with straightforwardness. Don’t create interference and Amba Maa will remain pleased with you.

Worshipping Amba Maa helps our personality to become more natural.

Questioner: What does it mean for our personality to become more natural?

Pujyashri: It means that we stop creating interference. In all situations we try to adjust. We adapt to whatever we get and don’t get upset over anything. Sugar dissolves easily in milk, but a small stone does not dissolve and rattles around creating noise. So then people take out the stone and put it aside. We should not be like the small stone; we should be like the sugar.
All religious sects acknowledge Goddess Amba with the same devotion.

Absolutely New

Whatever circumstances occur on the outside and if you remain calm from within, then know that you have made Amba Maa very happy, and you have shown divine strength.
‘We’ (Dadashri) have never broken Goddess Amba’s, Goddess Lakshmi’s or Goddess Saraswati’s rules. We constantly follow their rules. That is why all three Goddesses are always happy with us.

and Different!

‘We’ (Dadashri) are Goddess Amba’s one and only favourite. If you go to Mataji with our letter of recommendation, she will accept it.
Banku’s friends Ricky and Ria call him “Bookworm Banku.” Do you know why? Because he stays in his room all day and is always reading something or the other. Ria and Ricky keep asking him silly questions to try and annoy him. But does Banku get annoyed? Let’s see...

Today is the first day of Navratri. Ricky and Ria are all dressed-up and going out to do garba (group dance traditionally performed during Navratri). They call on Banku. Banku is sitting at home in plain clothes.

Banku, Navratri starts from today. The festival for nine days. This time we are going to do garba and win a prize.

It is not Navratri (nine nights), It’s “Navi-Ratri! (A new night)”

It’s called Na-v-ra-tri...

No. In India there was a time, during the monsoons when it rained a lot, mosquitoes increased, and people got malaria and many of them died.
Whoever survived celebrated “Navi-Ratri”. They could have died so they celebrated still being alive. They prayed to and worshipped Goddess Amba. That is why “Navratri” was actually “Navi-Ratri.” Bad times had passed and now good times would begin.

So good days have come. Is that why everyone does aarti to say “Thank you” to Mataji?

By worshipping Amba mataji we become natural and pure and life becomes better. Not only that... but doing aarti also purifies the chit (photographic memory) that may have got spoiled by facebook, movies, TV and internet.

Ricky, we will do garba to show devotion to Amba Maa and purify our chit and that way we will get a bigger reward.

Yes for sure. Banku, you get changed too. Just reading about it will not benefit you. You will have to do garba too!

Ricky, Ria and Banku got ready for garba and show sincere devotion to Amba Maa. What about you?
This story is from a long time ago. Germany suffered a famine. Poor people did not have food to eat. One gentleman was really fond of children. He called around twenty children and said, “This basket contains a pie for each and every one of you. Take one today and come back tomorrow to get another one; For as long as the famine lasts, you will get one pie every day.”

The children rushed at the basket. Everyone wanted the biggest pie. For a few minutes the children wrestled with each other for a bigger pie. Everyone was so busy arguing that they forgot to thank the kind gentleman. Eventually everybody grabbed their own pie and ran off.

A little girl named Gretchen was standing in the corner. After everyone else had left she came forward smiling and happily took the smallest pie which was the last one left. After saying a heartfelt “thank you” to the gentleman, she took her pie home.

The same thing happened on the second day. Without taking part in the pushing and shoving, Gretchen took the smallest pie left over at the end and went home. The size of Gretchen’s pie was half the size of other children’s pies.

At home, when Gretchen’s mother cut the pie, six silver coins fell out.

“Oh Gretchen, quickly go and return these coins to that gentleman. These are not ours.” Her mother sent her back to the gentleman.

Gretchen quickly ran to the gentleman to return the coins and said, “Sir,... there has been some mistake. These are not ours.”

The gentleman said tenderly, “There has been no mistake. I had specially put these coins into the smallest pie and had it baked for you. You did not fight for the biggest pie like other children. You stayed calm and you were content with getting the smallest pie. This is the reward for that.”

Friends, there is a saying that goes, “What we get naturally is equal to milk, what we get after asking is equal to water and what we get by snatching is equal to blood...”

Gretchen did not ask for a bigger pie, neither did she snatch it from anyone. She got a bigger reward by being content with what she got naturally. The happiness from being content with what we get is much more than the happiness from something we get after throwing a tantrum. You don’t believe this? Then test it out and see for yourself the happiness that comes from being straightforward.
This is a story from years ago. Niruma and I left Mumbai and traveled to the Surat temple in a minibus. All the mahatmas (those who have received Self-realization through Gnan Vidhi) residing in and around Surat also joined Niruma at the temple. The reason for visiting Surat temple was that one mahatma had received a message from the gods that the world's obstacles and obstructions will be removed and a lot of people will able to obtain Dada's Akram Vignan (Knowledge of the Self attained through Self-realization) and Niruma should worship Simandhar Swami every full moon.

All of us sat with Niruma in the temple and worshipped Simandhar Swami for almost two hours. Then Niruma touched Swami’s feet. On the way out, while we were walking down the stairs of the temple, I asked Niruma, “Niruma we just worshipped Simandhar Swami and you just took blessing from him. Do gods and goddesses come here?” Niruma said, “Why wouldn’t they come? They definitely come. They are always present.”

I asked Niruma another question, “Niruma while we were worshipping, were there any deities present there at the time?”

Niruma paused for a moment and then said, “Yes, they were present. Many deities were present.”

“Wow what are you saying Niruma?! Can you see the deities and where they are sitting?” I was very curious.

Niruma looked at Swami and then said, “Yes, I can see. Which deities have come, what they are doing, where they are sitting, I can see everything.”

I was very surprised, “Is that so Niruma? Can you really see all that with your eyes? Which deities were there just now? Where were they sitting?”

Niruma said casually, “Amba Mataji was sitting at Swami’s top right, Parshva Yakhshdev (male deity) was sitting at Swami’s bottom left.” And she named three or four other deities as well. Then she continued to slowly climb down the stairs.

I thought to myself, ‘Wow, Niruma is such an amazing person and I have her by my side! She knows all the deities, she can see them too. Niruma is by my side 24 hours a day. Niruma can see through everything. What a normal person fails to see, my Niruma can see that very easily.’ From that day onwards, I felt a different type of devotion towards Niruma.
(In the last edition we saw that Goddess Saraswati showed Nisarg the path forward and then disappeared. Nisarg walked a little way along the path and then saw a door. Something was written on the door).

Nisarg read the notice on the door and then went through. As soon as he entered he saw a huge lake ahead.

Nisarg became afraid, “How will I get past? I don’t even know how to swim.” He began to panic.

Just then he saw some big boulders scattered at intervals and jutting from the lake. He read the words written on the rocks, “Collect the key, open the lock.”

“How do I collect the key? What do I do now?” Nisarg was at a loss to understand. Without thinking he stepped onto the first rock. The rock wobbled and Nisarg tumbled into the water. A mermaid appeared. She helped him up onto the second rock and warned him, “You have two more attempts. You will receive help two more times. But after that...” saying this, the mermaid disappeared.

“But after that... what? What am I supposed to do after that?” Nisarg’s question floated into the air, as there was no one to hear it. In order to decode a password, one gets a certain number of chances and in the same
way, in order to cross this lake and collect the key, Nisarg had only two chances left. He panicked even more. He tried stepping on the second stone but once again he fell and got soaked and the mermaid had to help him out. She smiled and disappeared. Nisarg calmed down a little, and a thought came to him, ‘Whenever the mermaid comes to help me, I calm down and I can balance on the rock easily. I fall in when I panic. I should stay calm.’

Nisarg took a deep breath and calmly placed his foot on the rock. The rock remained stable! In this way, by keeping his balance without getting scared, Nisarg placed his foot on the rocks patiently one by one and managed to cross the lake.

Nisarg thought to himself, “This was so easy! I only imagined that it was difficult out of fear. This means that if we do a task without panicking, we can get it done easily.” As soon as he had this thought, the lake behind Nisarg disappeared and the door in front of him opened by itself.

“What’s this? The locked door opened without a key?” Just as Nisarg was thinking this, a fairy appeared and gave him the answer.

“Your correct understanding was the only key to the lock! Now get ready to cross this tunnel with a companion,” said the fairy.

“Companion”? Before Nisarg could think anything further, he caught sight of another boy who looked the same age as himself.

As soon as he saw the boy, his intellect interfered, “If only I had a thinner partner, then I could get through the tunnel easily.”

Seeing Nisarg’s troubled face, the fairy asked, ‘Is there a problem?’

Nisarg was about to tell a lie but then he recalled the promise he had given to Goddess Saraswati to always speak the truth, and so he kept quiet.

Nisarg ventured into the tunnel. Alas because they were strangers to each other, they were not on each other’s wavelength. If one said something, the other understood something else. Nisarg got irritated, “Why is he not understanding what I say?! Crossing the tunnel with such a partner is impossible!” Suddenly a thought flashed in his mind, “No, no, I will not accept defeat. I will not go back without meeting the one I came to meet.”

For two minutes Nisarg closed his eyes and took deep breaths. Then he shared his ideas of how to cross the tunnel with his partner. Then he listened to his partner’s ideas too. They both came up with a plan together and crossed the tunnel easily. ‘Wow, with teamwork and adjustment a task becomes so simple to complete.’ As soon as he thought this, the tunnel and the partner disappeared and the door in
front of him opened. This was the second key that Nisarg obtained from his understanding.

He went through the door and saw a huge ocean in front of him. Ocean waves rose high and the water spray given off formed words in the air. The words were – “Inside a special shell you will find the key; put on the life jacket and search the sea!” Then the words dissipated and the water merged back into the waves.

A fairy appeared and handed a life jacket to Nisarg. The fairy said, “If you wear this life jacket you will be able to go deep inside the sea without fear of drowning.”

After putting on the life jacket, Nisarg again readied himself to go find another key. He took a dive into the ocean. After a while he found a large shell and was happy, but he saw that it was empty! Without wasting any time, he took another dive. After some time, he found a strange star shaped shell and his hopes rose again. He came out of the sea with the shell but again suffered the same disappointment!

At that moment he heard a voice in his ear... ‘Nisarg, you won’t be able to do this. You can’t do anything properly. You will never be able to move forward in life.’

The hands that had been spread out to look for shells, suddenly covered his ears. Everyday he used to listen to such words at home and at school. These words were even more hurtful and discouraging than the disappointment of not being able to find the key.

Before Nisarg could give up on finding the key, he realised that there was a power here that was regularly giving him the inspiration he needed to move forward. With the influence of that power, he removed the unwanted words from his mind in an instant, and took another dive.

He was surprised to find a shiny shell in his hand. As he opened the shell, golden rays emanated out of it. This time Nisarg got a golden key. For the first time Nisarg understood that if we do not allow interference and criticism to affect our self-confidence we can definitely succeed. After this, Nisarg felt a lightness in his heart. When he looked back, the ocean had disappeared and
then he saw a door in front of him. When he opened the door with the key, Goddess Amba appeared.

As soon as he saw Amba Mataji, he genuinely knelt down in front of her. He was surprised at himself because, despite his mother nagging him, he never went to the temple and had never knelt in front of anyone. Yet today that same person had become so straightforward!

It seemed Amba Mataji understood Nisarg’s confusion as she called him to sit beside her. As she placed her hand on his head, the confused, agitated, angry and cranky mind became absolutely calm and empty. Mataji looked at Nisarg and smiled. All of Nisarg’s unanswered questions melted away in an instant.

Nisarg did not want to move from her side, but after being honoured by her blessings he had to move forward in his journey. After receiving Mataji’s blessings, he prepared himself to go on ahead. For a moment he closed his eyes and thought of all the understanding and knowledge he had gathered in the form of keys. When he opened his eyes everything in front of him had disappeared.

With happiness in his heart he moved forward and noticed a diamond studded door.

Amba Maa’s rules
One day two friends, Prince Bhaumik and Prince Bhaskar, went for a stroll in a park. While strolling they came across two beautiful eggs.

“Whose eggs are these?” The princes became curious. Their bodyguard informed them that those were peacock’s eggs.

Both of the princes wanted to take the eggs back to their palace. They took one egg each and placed it in their respective palace’s stables with the other eggs of the hen.

Bhaumik often wondered if a peacock would still hatch out of the egg after keeping it with the hen and her eggs. He checked the egg everyday. He would pick it up, tap it, turn it and examine it. Due to his frequent handling and interference, the peachick died inside the egg. Seeing this, Bhaumik was very sad. He disappointedly thought to himself, ‘Now I will not get to play with a peacock’.

On the other hand, Bhaskar was confident that at the right time the peacock would hatch. Due to this confidence, he never interfered with the egg. He never tapped or twirled the egg. He was patient, and as a result, at the right time, a baby peacock hatched out of that egg.

Bhaskar carefully raised the baby peacock. In a short time the peacock started dancing. It showed its beautiful feathers everyday and made Bhaskar happy.

Friends, have we ever interfered like this?

“Will the teacher check my exam paper properly?” “Why is the pizza delivery taking so long?”

“I want that thing right now!”

Has interfering like this ever led to better results? No! Ultimately it leads to disappointment, just like it did for Bhaumik. So let us decide that from now on, like Bhaskar, we will have patience and not interfere in things and we can experience the joy that results.
I wonder how Posie can walk with eight legs, when it’s such an effort for me to walk properly with four?

Hey Posie, how many legs do you have?

Eight

Have you assigned numbers to each of your eight legs?

So how do you know which leg to put first?

Okay, so what happens if you put leg number three in place of leg number two, and leg number seven in place of leg number five?

Tito please don’t confuse me! Now I have even forgotten which number leg I put first.

So this is how Posie, who used to walk naturally and confidently everyday, got confused because of Tito’s interference, and fell down.
Chicky the Monkey and Jumbo the Elephant were playing run and catch and ended up running into an unknown forest.

Help! Help! Chicky help me! I have fallen into a well.

Oh! Don’t you worry. I will get you out right away!

Look Chicky, I can run faster than you. While running Jumbo fell into a well which had been covered up by fallen leaves.

What do I do? What do I do?... An idea!
Chicky bought a huge branch from a tree.

Jumbo, grab onto this. I will pull you out.

Really?

Yes, yes... ready? One, two and...

Chicky pulled the branch with enormous force.

and threeeeeee.....

Chicky fell down and Jumbo came out of the well...

Thank you so much Chicky. You saved me.
When Jumbo told this story to his friends, nobody could believe it.

It’s not possible!

In the coconut-lifting game Chicky is unable to lift even ten coconuts. Then how could he lift the much heavier Jumbo out of the well? Impossible!

It is possible!

In any other game, Chicky has a lot of friends present who say, “Chicky you won’t be able to do this.” That is why he then ends up not being able to do it.

How?

But in that quiet forest there was no one around to say, “Chicky you won’t be able to get Jumbo out!” Chicky put in his best efforts and was successful.

So friends, did you see that because of Tito’s interference Posie got confused and on the other hand Chicky the monkey, in the absence of any interference, could complete even a difficult task easily. If someone interferes in our work then our work can get spoilt. So we also should not interfere in others people’s work. Right?
Amba Maa Aarti

Jay jagdambe ma, Om jay Ambe mata;
Aarti tari utari, (2) shakti sadhu sada; Om jay Ambe mata.

Aadhya shakti swarup chhe tu, Prakrutik devi, ma prakrutik devi;
Sahaj prakruti thati,(2) bhajna tuj karta; Om jay Ambe mata.

Mruduta rujuta pame, Hraday sparshi bhasha, ma hraday sparshi bhasha;
Tri yoge ahinsak thai, (2) Sukh shanti deta; Om jay Ambe mata.

Nemi nathna shashan devi, Sarwa dharme manya, ma sarwa dharme manya,
Moksh gamina vighno, (2) Saheje dur karta; Om jay Ambe mata.

Purush ane prakruti na bhedo, Gnani thaki bheday, ma Dada thaki bheday;
Bhed pachhini bhakti thi, (2) Prakruti chheday; Om jay Ambe mata.

Tara rup ma bhalu, Durga kali maha, ma durga kali maha;
Bahuchar khodiyar mane, (2) Pancha guli padma;Om jay Ambe mata.

Dilthi tari aarti, je koi gashe, ma je koi gashe;
Abhyuday fal pami, (2) Anushangik varshe; Om jay Ambe mata;

Dilthi tari aarti, je koi gashe, ma je koi gashe;
Abhyuday fal pami, (2) Anushangik varshe; Om jay Ambe mata.
Ganpati Bapa Moriya

BMHT & LMHT in Simandhar City celebrated Ganesh Chaturthi !!!

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