

Akram Youth

August 2018 | English

Dada Bhagwan Parivar

Price per Copy - ₹ 20



Have we ever thought

How pure are we?



Akram Vignan

Taste the purity



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Pg. 24 - August 2018.
Year: 6. Issue: 4.
Cont. Issue: 64.

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Printer & Published by
Dimple Mehta on behalf of
Mahavideh Foundation
Simandhar City, Adalaj -
382421. Taluka & Dist - Gandhinagar

Owned by
Mahavideh Foundation
Simandhar City, Adalaj -
382421. Taluka & Dist - Gandhinagar

Published at
Mahavideh Foundation
Simandhar City, Adalaj -
382421. Taluka & Dist - Gandhinagar

Printed at : Amba Offset
B-99, GIDC, Sector-25,
Gandhinagar – 382025.
Gujarat.

Total 24 Pages with Cover page

Subscription
Yearly Subscription
India :200 Rupees
USA: 15 Dollars
UK: 12 Pounds
5 Years Subscription
India : 800 Rupees
USA: 60 Dollars
UK: 50 Pounds

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



Editorial

The entire world is in search of purity. Individuals ask for pure things, people, food, water and even the air. Nobody chooses impurity. Have we ever given it a thought of how pure are we? How is purity important for us in order to move forward in relative as well as the spiritual world? According to Dadashri's viewpoint, for daily life, the purity of lakshmi (money), pride and vishay (sexual relationship) have received importance. The principles of purity were so deeply embedded in Dadashri's life that in religion, business, married life and matters of money-vishay-pride he always remained pure which exhibited an ideal behavior to the

world. Dadashri used to say that if one is pure in worldly interactions, doesn't have a single thought related to vishay and kashay and is completely detached from 'want' of everything then only the world can be understood in its real form. However, in the current time cycle (kalyug) where people do not have harmony in thoughts, speech, and body, people cannot remain in purity even if they have best of the intentions (bhaav) to do so. Hence Dadashri has rightly elucidated "So much of pure you are, that much of world is yours". Let us understand Dadashri's principles of purity and take steps towards achieving purity in life.

- Dimple Mehta

A man with short, grey hair, seen from the back and side, is looking at a large bulletin board. He is wearing a grey sweater. The bulletin board is covered with various items, including a red card with a white envelope icon, a small photo of a man, and a blue card with a circular logo. The background is dark and out of focus.

Gnani

With
Youth

Questioner: What is meant by purity?

Pujyashree: It means, not having to beg for anything. Be it for any object, sexual desires, pride, prestige, fame or followers. One should not have longing for anything. Pure person does not want any possession. What is meant by pure? The one who lives for Jagat Kalyan (salvation of the world) is pure. All the suffering must end in the world. I am going to get my share of things as a result of my punya (merit karma) and prarabdha (effect of past karma) karmas, then why should I beg for them? Give me this, give me that. Whatever there is in my vyavasthit (result of scientific circumstantial evidence), so be it. I have received the knowledge of self from Dada through which I can attain Moksha, what else do I need? So, I have surrendered my mind, speech, body to Dada's mission of Jagat Kalyan. I don't want any relative materials. If I come across a rich person, the person doesn't own a thing from which can benefit me. Similarly, if a poor man comes then what will he give and what do I need that for? Rich or poor, you are after all a pure soul. Hence gain this insight of a pure soul and attain moksha (salvation) by settling all karmic accounts. There is no other desire, except the desire of compassion. One cannot achieve compassion until he begs of his desires. To beg is to have desires for things, have greed, to know that this is for your benefit. 'I do not want anything' is the end of it.

Questioner: Can we become such pure?

Pujyashree: Yes, who compels you to beg? These pre-conceived desires. When the desire is for pride, all we want is pride. If one insults you, you will be tormented by it from within. If you have likings for good looks, you will want number of clothes and they should be good too. This is the store of the person we know so we will get new spectacles. These all are allurements. Anger, pride, deceit, all these take a person in the wrong direction. Once all the desires and longing for the material world gets neutralized and the person is completely insistent upon the eternal only, (one attains purity) as the person is free from desires.

Benefits of Purity

Can become embodiment of salvation.

Our purity will attract pure people.

The world can be understood well in its original form.

Can attain the stage of supreme divinity by becoming pure.

Completeness' is felt when 'chit' is totally pure.

The entire world is attracted towards purity.

Can lead others towards salvation.

Developes a powerful speech.

Creates strong impression on other.

A pure person dosen't fear anyone.

Purity leads to salvation.

Moral Story

Laxman was the son of king Dasharatha's second wife Sumitra. He was Sri Ram's younger brother and was an avatar (incarnation) of Adishesh lord. He had always stood by his older brother in all his pleasures and sorrows. His love for his brother was pure. He had shown absolute humility towards Sri Ram and stood with him like his shadow for his entire life. Laxman gave up his comfort, wealth and luxuries to be with him. Despite being aware of the perils of a jungle, he still gave up everything and started to live with Sri Ram. Sri Ram, Sita, and Laxman were passing their days in the jungle. One day, Sita got captivated. When Ravan was taking her towards Lanka, Sita threw her ornaments towards Rushimukh mountain. Sugreev found several ornaments (from the ones thrown by Sita) which he then kept with himself. While in search of Sita, Sri Ram and Laxman came near the mountain. On enquiring Sugreev, he gave them the ornaments he had found. Sri Ram gave those ornaments to Laxman and asked him to identify them. Laxman was unable to identify Sita's earrings and bangles. The moment he saw Sita's anklets, he spoke up with excitement, "These are the anklets of mother Sita." Sri Ram asked him, "You couldn't identify the earrings and the bangles, but how come you recognize her anklets?". To which Laxman replies,

*नाहं जानामि केयूवम् , नाहं जानामि कुण्डलं,
नूपुवम् एव जानामि नित्यं पादाभिवंदानत् ॥*



I have never taken a look at mother Sita's earrings or bangles. However, whenever I bowed down to take the sand of her feet and use it as a tilak on my head, that's when her anklets had come to my notice.

Laxman was pure by his mind, speech, and body. This way he passed 14 years with Sri Ram and Sita in the jungle.

Glimpses of Great Souls



Abraham Lincoln, worked as a clerk in a shop before he became a lawyer. He was an honest man. The shopowner had complete faith in his honesty and was sure that he would manage the shop very nicely. Even the customers were confident that he would never cheat them.

One day, a lady came to the shop and purchased necessary items after which she left. At closing time, when Lincoln did the accounts, he found 6 pennies surplus. He realised he had made an error when returning the change to the lady. He looked at the six pennies. It wasn't a big amount. It was already dark and quite late. On top of this, the lady stayed three miles away from the shop. However he decided to close the shop and walk three miles to her house. When the lady opened the door, she was surprised. "Lincoln, what are you doing here?" asked the lady. While giving her the pennies, Lincoln replied, "In error, I gave you less change therefore I have come to rectify my mistake." "You came this far just to return the six pennies?", the lady asked. She expressed her gratitude. As a result of his trustworthiness, Lincoln was known by the title "Honest Abe".

Purity in Greed

Before I took gnan (A scientific process of Self Realization), I used to run a beauty parlor, back then, it was always on my mind of how more and more money can be earned. At that time, what I did was, if the makeup cost me rupees five hundred, I would charge a thousand. Later, I would tell the customer that all I will get as a commission is just rupees hundred or two hundred. But in actual, I was earning rupees five-six hundred as commission. Occasionally, if a middle-class customer came, I would tell them that they would be charged rupees five hundred for a thousand-rupee makeup. I would be still getting my commission. Even though the makeup cost me a hundred, I still took four hundred from them. I did no seva (selfless deed). I had never thought of keeping the purity of wealth and had never done that too. As I had not taken gnan, so I never had any ethics of taking a limited commission. I charged the commission as per the customer.

It was only after taking gnan did I realize that I was not sincere in the matters of Lakshmi (wealth). During samayik (self-introspection), I saw that just in order to earn more and more money, I had done a deceitful job. After taking gnan, I realized that all this money is immorally earned, for which I should do pratikraman (ask for forgiveness). I wanted to give all this money for Jagat Kalyan (salvation of the world). I stopped earning money in this immoral way and gave away all the previously earned dishonest money for Jagat Kalyan.

What is the nature of wealth? Gives unhappiness while we earn it, gives unhappiness while keeping it safe, gives unhappiness while saving and even while spending it. If we earn wealth naturally/spontaneously i.e. easily, then we should keep it but we should not depend on it. We can relax on the support of wealth, but we have no idea of when this support will slide away. In this kalyug, we ruin our life by being greedy. It is the nature of wealth that it stays for a while and then it will leave us for sure.



Purity in Pride



give seva in the decoration department. Being the coordinator of the department, I always insisted on getting the work done strictly as per my instructions. During events such as satsangs, Janmajayanti or Guru Purnima, after completion of seva i.e., after the decoration work gets over, the event in-charge team members come to see if all the work is done right or not. On that day too, the event team came to see the decoration after it was done. As the work near the stage was pending, I was standing there and heard them appreciating the decoration from behind. "Oh! It is so beautiful, the idea is so wonderful". They were saying all this from behind and here I was beaming, 'I did a great job, everything has come out well, only because of me', such thoughts were running in my mind. For two-three days, I couldn't let go of the ego of the decoration work that had been done the other day and kept appreciating myself by saying that I have such amazing decoration skills.

It was only during the feedback meeting, which was a few days later, I saw other team members and realized that I had made a mistake. When I saw the faces of all the team members, I understood that I alone had not achieved that. It was the entire team's efforts. I had alone eaten the entire ladoo of credit. During samayik (self-introspection), I was clear that this should not be done.

Hence if people appreciate you, there is no harm in enjoying the credit, but we should be aware within that this should not occur and we also must be alert not to get attached towards the person who gives us credit. Krupaludev has rightly written that why can't one attain moksha (salvation) in this world? It is not due to greed or anything else but moksha was here itself if there was no pride.

Purity in Sexuality



There lived a guy in my lane who kept noticing me and I was unaware of it. He was my brother's friend. They used to hang around together every day. One day, he took my contact number from my brother. Gradually, he started calling me. Initially, the calls were restricted to some work. Slowly, the number of calls started increasing. I thought that he called only because he was a friend, but then his calling frequency increased. He called daily and I had to answer his calls anyhow. I realized that it had taken shape into an affair. I felt that I was trapped. He called every day, and I had to receive his call and if it took a little longer time for me to reply or if I did not answer his call, I had to explain the reason for the same. It was only on Sundays that I did not answer his calls. I have YMHT sessions on Sundays, and as the day is super packed, so one day in a week I did not think about him or answer his calls. I felt that it was wrong and it should not occur. I was strong-willed to come out of that. I also wanted to share

it with an aptaputri ben (celibate ladies), but I was scared. One day, I gathered courage and told one aptaputriben about all that was going on. She taught me to pray to his pure soul by saying, "Oh the inner lord, I do not want to get into all this, I want to get free from it." I used to do Pratikraman (asking for forgiveness) daily and asked for strength. Soon he stopped calling me. Hence, with the help of strong intentions, pratikraman, and prayers, I was saved.

This way, by disclosing our mistakes (alochana), seeking forgiveness (pratikraman) and deciding not to repeat the error (pratyakhyan), we can be free from the missteps of seeking sexual indulgence and hence become pure.

Gnani *An Idol of Astonishment*

Dadashri started to mold Niruma by removing all of her weaknesses and imperfections. To remove pride (the karmic tuber of pride) of Niruma, Dadashri used to insult her in front of everyone by saying, “Who made you a doctor?”. Additionally, when Niruma passed with a 70% in MBBS, to make sure that Niruma doesn't get intoxicated by the ego of being a doctor, Dada told her, “Niruben, with how many marks did you become a doctor?” Niruma answered, “Dada, by 70%”. Dada replied, “Which means you are a doctor who failed by 30%”.

Once a mahatma (follower of akramvignan) came to Dada with a complaint of Niruma. Dada was aware of the truth that Niruma was not at a fault still, He scolded Niruma in front of all. Even Niruma did not say anything. Later, after satsang got over Niruma asked Dada, “Dada did you know who was at fault?” Dada told Niruma, “If I scold that mahatma, he would have gotten disinclined from Dada but if I say anything to you, I am sure that you wouldn't go anywhere.” This way, to break Niruma's pride, Dadashri had given Niruma a variety of heat treatments.

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Dada used to say that the world will accept only the one who is pure. As soon as Dadashri's message started to spread through Niruma's satsang, her reverence (pujyabhaav) amongst the people increased multifold. As a result of which, Niruma got massive fame. However, Niruma always held purity. She never got bad influenced by her praise.

This way, Niruma bore all the heat treatments given by Dadashri with ultimate humility and thus we got an unparalleled gnani Pujya Niruma!





Questioner: I cannot remain pure in the matters of maan(pride). I am always on the lookout for praise, like if I am performing seva and if I say that, “All the work happens because of me only”, how can I come out of it?

Answer: You must check. Where there is a teamwork, nothing is possible by one. It is like this, for example, you pass an exam. In that situation, you would think that this was possible because of you. But you should show yourself what would have happened had my parents not paid the fees? Had my mind not been healthy? You should also show yourself that it is because of the merit karmas of the previous incarnation that you found favorable conditions to perform well. That's why you could do it. You must show such circumstances and whenever you are working as a team of four-five members, then all of them do some or the other work, all these must be shown. You must share (the achievement) with everyone, do not eat the fruit (of credit) alone. If we learn to share the credit, our intellect and ego would understand the reality, which in turn helps to develop an insight to see other peoples' contribution to the work. Without them, the work which became a success would not be possible. You can say that “This work was done by me”, but show yourself what if all circumstances were not favorable? This way, by showing yourself the importance of favorable circumstances, you will understand the Vyavasthit (Scientific circumstantial evidence).

Sex/Immoral Conduct



Sex / Immoral Conduct

Questioner: If I misuse the internet, what should be done?

Answer: There are 4 steps to come out of it. Firstly, it must be understood that “This is wrong” and then the second step, “If it is wrong, then how is it wrong?” must be analyzed. Then the third step is, to do Pratikraman (repentance) as and when you commit the mistake. If you happen to commit the mistake, do not defend (your mistakes), the fourth step.

Questioner: At college or other places, I have guy friends with whom I talk, at times touch them and tease them, there is nothing like an affair, but they are just friends, is it wrong?

Answer: Primarily, we should understand our limits. Along with that, we should also have some principles in life. Come what may, it must be like, I need to follow the principles I have adopted. Hence, if I commit something which is not appropriate, I should do pratikraman for the same and should vouch that I must never repeat such a thing. In consequence, if you are pure, nature will provide you with a pure partner. If you want to get married then you will get a pure person according to your purity. Impurity will not let you be at peace from the inside. Make fun and flirt with the boys and simultaneously you want to remain pure? It is not possible, you will not get peace and attraction is bound to occur.

Greed



Questioner: Generally, everyone does formality. So, if we go somewhere and if someone says that I will pay for you, then I feel that “Okay. You pay this time, then later, I will pay you back.” Is this a form of impurity?

Answer: Yes, that is also called impurity. Dada says that you must ensure purity at such places. Thus, if you go out with someone and they get ready to pay for you, you must pay for them at some other place, if they pay once, the next time, you should pay for them. As a result of which, our mind would not long for properties which are not ours. After all, this kind of behavior does not look good in the worldly interactions too. The person is bound to notice someday. Hence, whoever the person is, however rich he might be, but we have never seen money being tossed around in their house which implies that even the rich people long for money. Therefore, we must pay their money. It must end by you saying that you have paid their money, or else they might become unhappy, which lead you to impurity, it will not let you be at peace. So, we must hold our purity.

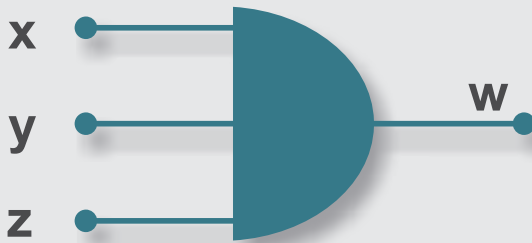
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Truth Table
for AND Gate

| x | y | z | w |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |



x = Purity against Pride
y = Purity against Money
z = Purity against Lust

w = Purity Output

The And Gate for Purity

We all are aware of digitalization. For digital India also, many projects are going on. In this digital world only two digits rule. 0 and 1. “0” stands for “OFF” and “1” stands for “ON”. These digital digits work with the help of engineering gates, primarily there are three gates, AND, OR and NOT. Of these, the work of AND gate is to give output only when all the inputs are ON. Our life is also like an AND gate.

Only if there is purity of input of all three, pride, wealth and lust, then our spiritual bulb will glow.

If there is impurity of even one of these, i.e. the input is “0”, then the spiritual bulb will not glow.

As you Sow, so shall you Reap

There lived a lady in a small village. Her young son had left her alone and had gone to live at another place. The lady was very poor and sad too. The old lady had a lot of self-respect and hence didn't say anything to anyone. Neither about her sadness nor about her financial status and somehow, she managed to live on.

One day, out of blue, she gets a message from her son that he will visit the village for some work. The lady becomes overwhelmed with joy. She becomes very excited and while waiting for her son, she cooks tasty food. She waits for him the entire day. Unfortunately, she doesn't get any message about her son's arrival which makes her upset. She accepts it as her fate and without eating, gets back to her daily chores.

The same night, a beggar came to beg near her house. The lady was upset because of her separation from her son, and she was hungry for the entire day and had slept. She gets angry because of the beggar's arrival and thinks that where did he come from? With such negative thoughts, she wakes up to give food to the beggar. She thinks of giving away the food she had cooked

for herself and she moves forward and looks at the food, and what is this? A lizard in the food she cooked! She gets scared. The food had turned poisonous. Now what? She starts to think as to what to do now? That's when she realizes, big deal, is the beggar aware that the food is poisonous. Anyways, how will he ever know who gave him the poisonous food? Thinking this, she moves forward to give the poisonous food to the beggar. But all of a sudden, her hands start to shake. She was sweating all over and thinks, "Oh man! what is this? What was I about to do? the beggar who came to my house will die because of me.". This mere thought froze her. She was feeling disgustful on herself and was very disappointed that she was about to commit such a crime. She started to feel ashamed of herself for what she was about to do. She gave up the idea of giving the poisonous food to the beggar. She turned back and looked around in the house. She saw two days old stale rotis (chapattis) and she served them to the beggar warmly. Now her heart was at peace that she had done nothing wrong with the beggar and then she got busy with her daily chores.

Later, unexpectedly, there was a knock on her door. She opens the door and looks and gets surprised “What is this!!! son... what are u doing here??”, Her eyes widened open out of wonder as her son for whom she has been waiting for years was standing in front of her that too in a very horrible condition. She takes him inside the house, did his dressings and feeds him food with a lot of love. She then very lovingly asks her son, “Dear son, what happened? How come you are here, all of a sudden, in such a horrible condition?” The son, while he cried, narrated the whole story to his mother. “When I was living outside the village, I made a huge loss, and escaping from others I somehow managed to reach here. But all of a sudden, I met with an accident on my way because of which I was badly injured. I couldn't ask for help from anyone as a result of my bad deeds. Anyhow, I managed to reach a little further. Due to hunger and thirst, I could not move any further. I was feeling very weak and I wouldn't have survived without food. Out of blue, a beggar came there, he gave me the food he had. He himself was looking hungry but still, he offered me the food he had. I had nothing so gladly ate the 2-3 stale rotis he gave me and which satisfied my hunger a little bit. After thanking him, I gathered the strength to come to this village”. After narrating the incident, the son went off to sleep.

The son was off to sleep as he was tired, but his mother got into deep thoughts.

She thought it was me who had given the stale rotis to the beggar. She thanked the beggar for saving her son's life. She further thought that had she given the poisonous food to the beggar then, her own son would have died because of her and this thought shook her, she started to feel ashamed of herself thinking about the horrible crime she was about to commit. She thanked God and decided to never ever do anything such. She understood whatever karmas we do, good or bad, it is us who have to face them.



Dada's Book Excerpt

Dadavani - october 2017

What are the effects of immorality and dishonesty?

It is such that, a living being (jiva) has never heard what tool he should apply for his benefit-harm. He does not have the awareness of what is beneficial and what is harmful to him. He applies the tool of benefit-harm by seeing others. People 'run' after money. [They believe,] 'If I get money, then I will become happy'; but they do not benefit from it. Acquiring money through 'Beg, borrow or steal,' is not acceptable. Would it be acceptable to acquire money through any means? Shouldn't there be some morality in it? There is no problem if one gets money through moral means. But when one gets money by immoral means he 'shoots himself in the foot' and when he dies, that money will be left behind. It will be 'confiscated' by nature, and he will still have to suffer the entanglements he had created for it.

You should take the right path; from it, you feel peace from within. It's okay if you don't have money, however there will be peace and happiness from within. Money acquired through wrongful means will not last, and it will create suffering from within. Therefore, make a decision, 'To not proceed on the wrong path at all.' And if you give happiness to everyone, then you will get happiness. If you inflict pain on others, then you will start to get pain.

Those who forcibly take that which is not rightfully theirs, who enjoy that which is not rightfully theirs, will go from being two-legged to four-legged

with the addition of a tail [take a birth in the animal kingdom]. One should have honesty. Through honesty, one can become a human again.

If I spend anything of this world, even a rupee, then, by that much, I enter into bankruptcy. Therefore, he will lose whatever siddhi (powers that one acquires as a result of continuous spiritual practice) he has attained. All these people were gathering around him because of whatever little siddhi he had attained. But that siddhi will go away. If any siddhi is misused, then it will be lost.

Therefore, there should be purity. Even if 'we' were offered all the things of this world, 'we' would not have a need for them. Even if 'we' were offered all the gold of this world, 'we' would not have a need for that. Even if 'we' were offered all the rupees of the entire world, 'we' do not want it. 'We' do not have thoughts about woman whatsoever. Therefore, 'we' do not have any type of beggary in this world. Is it an easy thing to attain the state of the Self!

You Have Not Known This Poison as Poison

One has never known sex to be 'poison'. Had one known it to be 'poison', he would never touch it, would he! That is why the Lord has said that, "The result of Gnan is the cessation (virati)! What is the result of knowing? It is that one would stop. One has not known the dangers of sex, therefore he has not stopped it.

If there is anything worth having

*The result of Gnan
is the cessation
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dangers of sex,
therefore he has
not stopped it.*

fear of, then it is worth having the fear of sex. There is no other 'place' in this world worth fearing at all. Therefore, be cautious of sex. Aren't we cautious of snakes, scorpions or tigers? We are cautious, aren't we? When we hear about a tiger then, even though we do not want to have that fear, we do become afraid of it, don't we? Similarly, when it comes to the topic of sex, one should feel fear. Where there is fear, would a person eat food with pleasure? No. So, where there is fear, there is no indulgence. Does the world indulge in sex out of fear? No. People enjoy it with pleasure.

'We' have seen many such men who despite having a brother-in-law are 'married' to their sister. So then they go

to their brother-in-law's house every day. Hey! Encampment in your brother-in-law's home. I have seen many such cases. I even tell them, "Hey what nonsense is this? In what life will you become free? Come to me and I will cleanse you, provided you are not going to do this again." Whatever mistakes one has made in this world, whatever mistakes he has, if he is never going to make that same mistake again in this life, then I will cleanse him in every way. What terrible mistakes these people have made. They will address the women as 'sister' and will marry them. But the seventh [level of] hell is not for them, at the most they will go to the first, second, third or the fourth [level of] hell!

Here in this satsang if such thoughts about betrayal arise, then I would say that it is meaningless. Here, this type of behavior will not be tolerated at all, and if this ever comes to my attention that it is going on, then I will set you on 'fire', reduce you to 'ashes' [throw you out]. This will not be tolerated here to even the slightest extent, this organization is not of that kind. Such a mistake should not happen here.

Deceit in pride (kapat in maan)

Questioner: Does enjoying respect not weaken the awareness (jagruti) Dada?

Dadashri: It will definitely reduce the awareness (jagruti). Awareness will not arise where there is deceit in pride – where there is kapat in maan. When one's deceit is operational in his pride, he cannot see his pride. There are many kinds of distortions of pride and that is what makes one fall. There is nothing wrong in enjoying respect. If someone tells you, 'Welcome sir... welcome', then enjoy that respect. You will feel good inside; enjoy it with leisure, but do not become intoxicated (keyf) with it. The intoxication of pride will make it ugly. One appears ugly and unattractive when there is such an intoxicated ego for pride.

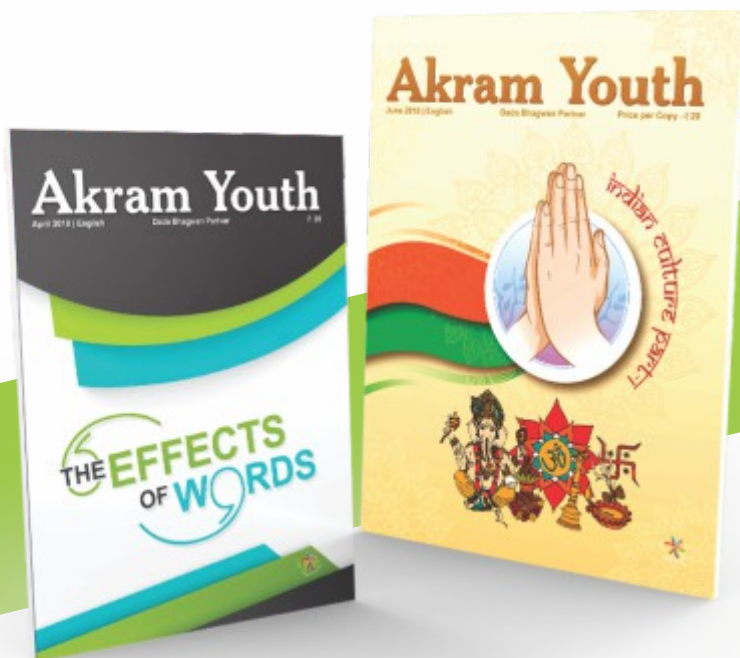
Even a handsome face will appear ugly.

That is why Krupadudev has written, 'why does one not attain liberation?' Then He said it is not greed or any such problems but if maan were not there, one would attain liberation here and now!

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1 Yearly Subscription

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August 2018 **23**

August 2018.
Year: 6. Issue: 4.
Cont. Issue: 64.

Akram Youth

Date of Publication: 22nd of Every Month
RNI No. GUJENG/2013/53112
Reg. No. G-GNR-311/2017-2019
Valid up to 31-12-2019
LPWP Licence No . PMG/HQ/080/2018
Valid up to 31-12-2019
Posted at Adalaj Post Office
on 22th of every month

The entire world, particularly people of India, have tremendous strength (relative). Greed causes all these strength to cease. If 'pure', then a single person is more than enough. The person has potential to make a difference in the world. If I get such five people, then it will be more than enough.



Send your suggestions and feedback at: akramyouth@dadabhagwan.org

Printed and Published by Dimple Mehta on behalf of Mahavideh Foundation-Owner.

Printed at : Amba Offset, B-99, GIDC, Sector-25, Gandhinagar – 382025.

