



RAMĀ ŚAKTI MISSION

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Vedanta proclaims the truth of the nonduality of Brahman, and upholds knowledge as the means to liberation. Truth, Wisdom, and Love constitute God's essence or essential nature. But mere study or reflection cannot lead to Realization. Truth should be brought home to the consciousness of the seeker by the Upadesha of the Guru. Wisdom is realized only through direct experience of Reality. Love in its purest form is experienced only when one realizes the identity of Self and the Supreme.

The Word of the Guru, whispered in the stillness of silence, in the form of Upadesha, becomes the internal illumination for the disciple who has the virtue of shraddha in him. Unmindful of age, qualities, qualifications, caste, creed, religion or nationality, Divine Mother has distributed Her wealth of Jnana by means of upadesha. Among Her disciples are young and old, laymen and the learned, men and women, physically strong and physically handicapped. Even people who have reached the fag end of their life and while waiting for their last minute, have received Upadesha from the all-merciful Mother and have thus escaped from the jaws of Yama. Devi vanquished the asuras like Chanda, Munda, Shumbha, Nishumbha and Raktabeeja. But even while killing them in fight, She has blessed them too. Her Ashirvadam thus goes to all. This is what distinguishes from divine mission from man's ego-centric achievements.

Great things are to be accomplished in Garhasthya dharma. Devi has already laid the foundation. Making you, Grihasthas, Her instruments, She is going to fulfill Her mission on earth. The images of Devi in your hearts, the impress of Her words in your consciousness: these are your priceless assets. Threefold fires of life come to all embodied beings. But to remember God with unswerving devotion amidst even the great miseries of life is a great thing. Remain always in the water of smarana. As water is for the fish, so is smarana for the jiva. Jiva is just a drop in the vast shoreless ocean of God. This drop must dissolve in the ocean. That is the ultimate destiny of all created beings. That is the glory of human life. This union with God, is the central truth taught by the Vedas, the Upanishads, the Bhagavatha, and the Bhagavad Gita, and also the great works like Yoga Vasishtha, and above all, by the Sadguru Himself.

In this Age of Kali, (Kaliyuga), human mind is easily susceptible to doubts. Lack of faith is a universal malady. One might have seen many wonderful leelas with one's eyes. He might have listened to truth a hundred times, sitting at the feet of the Guru. But alas! Doubt never leaves. Even recollection of personal experiences fails to revive faith. But look at man's frantic pursuit of worldly pleasures. He mistakes this world for his permanent habitation. His faith is on the unreal, on the shadows. Whenever he gets some enjoyments, gone is the thought of God from his mind. God might have come to his rescue a hundred times, but when engrossed in the fleeting sensations called the pleasure, he forgets God altogether. Such is the plight of the ignorant.

All deities connote one supreme reality, God. That supreme power is in your heart. This truth the Guru has already imparted to you. This truth is eternal. The world is ephemeral. Your own body will leave you one day. Put your trust on the Guru's word, and walk on the path laid by the Guru. That alone leads you to eternal welfare. The monkeys do not know the value of a gem. For little children, even a useless thing is a toy to play with. Divine Mother has not looked into your competency, into your qualities, into your heritage of culture, into your family tradition, while imparting the veda mahavakya. For Her, all are children. The whole world is a mirror for



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Her and it is Her own image that She sees in every one. With such motherly love, She has given you the Upadesha.

World abounds in pleasures and enjoyments. You cannot enjoy all the pleasures of the world even with a whole life time. Life span is too short for such an adventure. But during this brief life-span itself, you can realize the all-blissful Brahman. When you set your heart on Brahman, when you devote yourselves to the task of realizing Him, all powers dormant in you will awake, for all powers are just a ray from that infinite reservoir of power –Brahman. Climb higher and higher. Never retrace your steps. Never go down and sink into Pathala. Bali Chakravarthy of course did go Pathala, but he was a great Bhakta. All cannot be like him. In all other yugas, man used to take resort to serve penance; but in this Yuga he cannot do so. He cannot repair to forests and do tapas. He has to seek God in the field of his daily life. Mother of the Universe, therefore chose Garhasthya Order and raised the status of home and the householder, by Her own exemplary life of dharma, Tyaga and Yoga.

The attachment which one has developed towards one's own body, family and worldly objects, should be directed to God. When this love becomes immovably fixed on God and God alone, it is known as bhakti. In this overwhelming devotion, one loses oneself but gains God. One forgets one's own body, but all bodies become his. It is through bhakti alone that one attains highest spiritual dimension. Whatever you have gained through bhakti, be it knowledge, dispassion, detachment, or spirit of self-abnegation or service-mindedness, are stable and will be always with you as the ornament of your personality.

God-vision is not a mental bhava. It is an abiding state of consciousness. Whether the object of such realization is Saguna or Nirguna, Knowledge is an inward illumination and it never sets once it dawns. Till this state is reached, cultivation of remembrance and loving adoration of the deity are essential. What you have seen with your eyes, that saguna glory, should never leave your heart. That should be the incentive to your sadhana. That should be the source of inspiration behind all your activities. Indeed, the whole life should be moulded in that light of that experience. In daily life, at every second, like regular chiming of a clock, the awareness of God and His glory should be in your heart.