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Rajamundry Gurupujas - 2013

09th November, 2013 - Discourse 1



Hearty fraternal greetings to the brotherhood.

By Master's grace, we are celebrating Gurupuja at Rajahmundry's center, at the banks of the sacred river Godavari. We are in a very sacred month of Karthika (Scorpio). This month is considered highly auspicious for the worship of Lord Shiva. Do not think this month is only for worshipping Shiva; worshipping Vishnu is also fruitful. In fact, there is only ONE Divine principle; the beauty, splendor and light of IT are referred to as Vishnu while the brilliance, power (Tejas) of IT is referred to as Shiva. If you consider a fire lamp, the light aspect of it is Vishnu while the fiery flame aspect of it is Shiva. One cannot be there without the other.

This month should be seen the month which helps us recognize our source. This month, nature cooperates with us to perform related practices to realize the Truth. This is in the 8th sun sign of zodiac. In this month, in the path of involution, the consciousness reach the lowest point after descending 7

steps. This descent of consciousness is referred to as snake or serpent. The ascent is referred to as eagle or bird or flying horse. There are also snakes that can fly with wings.

The consciousness descends from the most subtle to the most gross planes. This is what is referred to as the tree of life in the 15th chapter of Bhagawadgita. This tree is inverted. For normal trees, roots are underground. For man-tree, roots are in the head. We get all thoughts in mind. For trees, leaves fall and spring up, based on seasonal cycle. These are indicative of thoughts - leaves. As we can see, there are thought waves coming continuously just like waves in an ocean. So in a man, the thoughts are there always. In general our thoughts are related to objectivity. Man is stuck in objectivity. He is almost dead because the consciousness is almost completely covered up with matter.

So now we have to go back from objectivity to subjectivity. This requires lot of practice because we are too much stuck to matter. As a result, when the body falls, the being has to be pulled out of it forcefully. Then we realize our mistake. So at that time man tries to make a promise to himself that, next time, when he arrives, he should focus on the return path to Divine.

Anything that is given by way of outside support or as a gift doesn't stay for long. Only through practice, hard earned, whatever comes to us, stays with us forever. As we can notice, Krishna showed his Grand form – Viswaroop to many. But people around him, couldn't realize it, as even after seeing his Grand form, there still was a war. So if someone shows or gives some comforts, it is temporary. Grand Sages like Maitreya, Sukha, etc. realized the principle of Krishna through their practice and hence the presence is permanent to them.

If you observe the Grand seven seers, they haven't gone to anyone seeking. They did not ask boons from Vishnu or Shiva. It is because they are all divine incarnations that took birth to lead the humanity in the path of ascent.

When Sage Gautama's son Shatananda asked his father at the age of 20, "Father! What should I do?" Gautama said "Do Tapas." Earlier in ancient days, Indians knew what for they've born. They start Tapas, very early in life. So in this month, we need to do Tapas (penance/constant practice). This month is most suitable for Tapas. The weather in this month is very comforting for the body. As it is very comforting, many people sleep for long hours during this month, due to their ignorance.

Tapas is to reach head centre from the Muladhara (base centre). We are in Muladhara, but inverted. We're inverted because we're more into objectivity.

All the hierarchy related to Teachers, who can help us reach the Head Centre, are available in this month. Dattatreya is a representative of Teacher hierarchy. He has sacred dogs around him. These dogs belong to the month of Scorpio. These dogs keep listening. They teach us listen. We should try to hear inside. As much as we're silent inside, so much the teacher is available to us. This month, darkness sets early in the day. This darkness indicates that we cannot see outside and so we orient to see and hear inside.

Sarama means dog, meaning he listens inside and then talks. The name Sarma has been derived from this word Sarama. We should hear from inside and then talk outside. Sahasrara is the actual position of the Master. Such a Master is available to us in the Base centre. Dattatreya is available to us in Muladhara. He has dogs around him indicating us to align ourselves with the subtle sound. To be able to hear that sound, we should be very silent. To achieve that state, it is advised to worship Lord Shiva, who is the most silent one and is always in penance, in this month.

Those doing Tapas, keep going deep and deeper inside and from there, he see everything that is happening in this creation. So a Master, in general, gets to know what is inside and thoughts of people approaching him. He shows the descended one, the path of ascent. He has great concern for all the beings and wants them to come up and he continuously keeps working in that direction. Generally his actions are not known to his disciples. That is why Masters are referred to Nagas. Ga means movement. Aga means non-movement. Na means No. Na+aga = Naga which means no non-movement. He appears to be not doing anything though he is.

This month, we offer milk to snake and celebrate it as 'Nagulachaviti'. Why do we pour milk in the snake hole (snake pit)? What does it mean? Our consciousness is stuck deep in a hole, in objectivity, in Muladhara. To aide it come out of that hole, we need to pour the milk of knowledge. A Master pours that milk of knowledge. We are all stuck in pits (holes) in earth, matter. A Master pulls us out of the pit.

A Master enhances the surrounding ambience with his sound, sight, smile and touch. He brings about transformation in his disciple without the disciple knowing it. That is why being in the presence of a Master is significant. In Scorpio month, this transformation is necessary. We have come down 7 steps during the last 7 months and got stuck in objectivity in the 8th month. Now we need to trace back the 7 steps. A Master gives you the practices to trace back these steps.

Snakes are of two types. One just moves on the earth, on its belly. Other type is Naga. It is not a normal snake. It has special abilities. It has the ability of intuition. It can fly in the air without anybody noticing it. This is used by Shiva to decorate his neck. This Naga is present in us as Kundalini Consciousness. It provides us path for both descent and ascent. The descent of Man is through Serpent. Ascent of Man is through Eagle. A thousand tongued man is more dangerous than a single tongued snake, says a Grand Master. So in this month, we need to retrospect, if I'm a snake or a Naga? A true aspirant secretly works in transformining himself under the guidance of a Master. He does not reveal anything about his practices to anyone other than the Lord and his Master.

So in this month we need to become Naga. All Masters are forms of Nagas. Lord Maitreya is a grand Naga. In India, there is a place called Nagaland. We used to have great beings at that place earlier. They performed grand activities without any publicity. Similarly there is a place called Nagpur. Don't think there are lot of snakes there. There used to be great beings similar to Nagas in that place. Jews called the Naga as Naza. There is Latin word Naza with a similar meaning. Jesus has a title Nazarene and is called Jesus of Nazareth. What does Nazareth mean? It is a place where many Nagas used to live. Nagas part their hair in the middle while combing it. Their left and right brains are equal in proportion and activity. Generally for most of us, due to dominant matter, one side of the brain functions better while the other remains dormant. It is not so for Nagas. There used many Nagas among Red Indians, Mexicans, Mayans as well. They had magical powers and creational abilities. That is why it's recommended to part the hair in the middle.. If you see Maitreya, Maru, Devapi, their hair is combed in that manner. This is because there is lot of energy in the hair on the head.

In this month of Scorpio, there is also lot of chance that a Grand Master may appear before you. Their energies are highly active in this month. They stay in the secret caves which are not visible to normal beings. They keep seeing and doing everything but it does not appear so. Such is the principle of Naga.

In Indian weddings, there is a small ritual related to groom traveling to Kasi, but is stopped by a bride's brother and is requested to marry the bride. At that time, it is told that the groom can visit Kasi later.

How many of us, those who married, recollect that and travel to Kasi later? Its not going there to drop off ashes of your elders. You should be able to travel to Kasi without any reason. In us Kasi is above forehead, above the Ajna centre. We should reach that point. This is what our elders meant when they said people should go to Kasi after fulfilling and retiring from family affairs. The travel that we make to that place in the outer world is just to gain the presence but the real travel has to happen within.

If instead of reaching the divine and remaining in alignment with him, we just worship him with a wish to fulfilling our desires, it results in further descend of the being into lower planes. In the next month, the month of Sagittarius, we've ladder, to travel upwards. If proper practice happens in this month, we have an access to that ladder in that month. That is why Sagittarius is considered highest among the months. If we can observe, all the zodiac signs are symbolic of snakes and ladder.

Secret activity is the feature of this month. The activities of Shiva are so very secretly. Even Vishnu says that he does not understand some of activities of Lord Shiva. It is due to the depth in his activities. It is the affect of brilliance of the divine principle. Beauty and splendour is better visible than the brilliance which is more subtle. So in this month, we are given the worship of Lord Shiva but remember that it is still the same divine principle which we worship.

In this month, we've Visakha, Anuradha and Jyestha stars. Those born in Anuradha star, have continuity towards a goal, as a great advantage. What ever be the activity, there will be continuity. So determining the right activity is important. It may be even money making or some other desire. It is the freedom of the being to determine his choice.

Next in Jyestha star, there is expansion. The tip of the snake is not visible but as we move towards its head, it constantly expands. It is the result of evolution. As you evolve, expansion is inevitable. In you, if there is evolution, there is expansion.

In this month, we light a lot of lights. We need to know why light so many. LIGHT itself means GOD. Why do you light a lamp before the God if the light itself is God? The light is not for God, it is for us. It should be developed within us. The outside light is just a symbolism to help us in recollection.

If you can see the number of petals of the lotus in the centers from Muladhara, upwards, all the petals keeps increasing. When you reach Sahasrara, there are 1000 petals. 1000 does not mean there are exactly 1000 but it is to indicate that there are innumerable number of petals. Generally 1000 is used to represent a larly unknown number. So there is magnanimous expansion when you travel from Muladhara to Sahasrara.

See the difference between a oil lamp and electric lamp. The latter is more subtle than the former. The oil lamp fluctuates at times but the electric lamp does not fluctuate like that. It is more stable. So once you enter subtle planes, you are more stable than you are being in the gross planes.

Now a days, children tell that they are bored. What is meant by bore and why it comes? It means there is a lot of activity in mind. It is due to the highly wandering nature of the mind. Mind for a moment is here and the next moment it can be in New Jersey. That is why people cannot sit for sometime with eyes closed. The mind will just not allow them. So to bring you back from that highly momemtus status to a stationary, stable state, this month of Scorpio is the best. It brings in such stability into you based on your practice. If you wish to take up a good practice, take it up in this month because the stability bestowed by this month is amazing. It is work of energies of Shiva or Stanu.

So in this month, we need to take to a discipline, a practice. We need to pick some discipline and deeply instill it in us. If you just move without establishing yourself in anything, your life is just wasted. This is the case of many who just move around the Lord remaining in the illusion that they are devotees.

If we do not doing anything, the time just runs out. What is meant by the time running out? It means you are running out of breath. The number of pulsations for each one of us, for a life time is fixed at the time of birth itself. There is a count of number of pulsations per day. For a person with BP, its more. This is said in reference to time getting over fast. Time doesn't get over. We get over, by time. So you have to uplift yourself before the time runs out. How we utilize time is what matters. The more the time we utilize for practice in the path, the more we are uplifted. If you do wrong activities, you come down.

Since recently, I've started giving information related to stars/months in Gurupujas. This month is said to be the North east of the zodiac chart. Master EK wrote it so in Spiritual Astrology. North East direction is considered very pious. That is why we keep sacred things in North east direction in our house. A prayer room or puja room. Now a days, Vastu Science is being given a lot of importance, while building houses. This is related to placing right things at appropriate directions. We need to know the Corresponding directions in our body. It is even more important. The point above the Ajna centre is the North East, heart centre is south and so on. There are also devas working at each of those centre. There is one principle which synthesizes all this and we are craving for that principle.

In this month, we should take to a discipline relating to divine and follow it daily without fail. We should do it at the same time daily. The Lord of discipline and will is Karthikeya (also called Kumara or Subrahmanya or Ayyappa). It is stable will power. That is why we have a 40 day discipline (Ayyappa Deeksha) practiced by many in the month of Scorpio.

We take to a discipline at the time of Guru Purnima (in the month of Cancer). It is a water sign. Again we take to a discipline in this month of Scorpio which is also a watery sign. Sometimes it may be a 4 month discipline or sometimes 40 day discipline. Every time we must take to some discipline to ensure that the mind remains stable. Otherwise it is very difficult to control the unstable mind.

There are many dimensions to this month and the Grand Seers have given us many practices relating to each of the months in a year. So we need to understand the related symbolism in our tradition and move forward. Else, we're at the same place and each year Gurupuja passes over and it just becomes mechanical.

We should lead a disciplined life and keep practicing by sticking to a discipline. If you are committed to a discipline, the devas and the nature start cooperating with you. So that is the story of Scorpio in relation to our lives.

Let us remain in alignment with the stable one, Shiva. If we look at Shiva's photo, you'd notice a Scorpio too. What has Scorpio got to do with Shiva? It is because Scorpio is the symbol of this month.

Disappearance from the objectivity is the feature of this month. What happens is you are uprooted from the objectivity. If you keep on leading your life in objectivity, when will we come out? We are strongly rooted in matter. We need to try to try close our daily routine by 9 pm and disappear from objectivity. If we look at any grand being, there is a period of disappearance. If we want everything in objectivity, no transformation. So in this month, you should disappear.

Disappears happens naturally to each one of us on a daily basis, in the form of sleep, for 5 to 8 hours depending on the person. Before you disappear, you think of the divinity in you. Last activity of the day should be something related to divinity and not any TV serial. This will help us to break free from all the thoughts of the day and close the day peacefully. Just think of a deity of your liking and go into sleep. It is also a kind of disappearance. The thought with which you close your day, you wake up the next day with the same thought. So closing the day with the right thought is very important.

Mid night 2 to 4 is related to this month. 4 to 6 is related to Sagittarius. Generally you enter very deep planes during the sleep between 2 and 4. It is also very difficult not to sleep during that period. So if you close your day like this, between 2 and 4, you have to chance to visit Secret Caves and Ashrams present on the planet. During this time, meeting grand beings and receiving teachings from them may happen.

In this manner, there are many special features relating to the month of Scorpio and they are not only applicable to the ones born in Scorpio. Remember that all the 12 signs are present in each and every being. So in the above said manner, we can utilize this Scorpio sign effectively.

-Swasthi.