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Vizag Gurupujas – Labours of Hercules

Discourse 7 by Master K.Parvathi Kumar (12 Jan, 2014)

Hearty fraternal greetings to the brotherhood. We are into the 7th and last discourse of Gurupujas.

From tomorrow, we have the festival of Sankranti and let the festival bring light into each one of us. We are generally stuck in the objective world, live in it and die in it. We develop a web around and we get stuck in that web and die in it. Most of us die like that. That is why Prahalada says that we should find a path which leads us to immortality. We discuss that we should reach the inner world, build the subtle body and so on but we too fail in doing so. We have too many activities and we are always busy and we postpone this primary activity of life. The activities we have are like waves in an ocean, they never stop. If you think of postponing this until all objective activities cease, we just die without any upliftment. Subjective development should happen hand in hand with objective life. Early morning hours and night hours should be specially allocated for subjective practices.

The kind of life we lead in the objective world is common to all and it is repetitive in each and every life. When will this change? The knowers tell us that we should build an etheric body and live eternally even though this body falls. We moved around in objectivity for lives together and indulged in lot of useless activity, faced ups and downs in life, faced consequences of previous karma and so on. We kept changing many roles facing the law of karma. When will we come out of this? When will we change? We keep many pictures of Master CVV on our altars but we are not ready to follow his instructions. We fail to do at least 2 prayers a day. We keep discoursing all this many times but all this is useless, unless you practice what is told.

So coming back to Hercules.

"Up to the limits of the snow he went, following the tracks of the fierce boar; up to the heights and bitter cold he followed it, and yet he saw it not. And night was drawing on, and one by one the stars came out, and still the boar outdistanced him. Hercules pondered on his task and sought within himself for subtle skill. He set a snare with skill, and wisely hid, and then he waited in a shadow dark for the coming of the boar. And hour by hour went by, and still he waited till the dawn drew near. Out from its lair the boar emerged, seeking for food, driven by ancient hunger. And in the shadows near the snare waited the son of man. Into the snare the boar fell and in due

time Hercules released the savage beast, making it the prisoner of his skill. He wrestled with the boar and mastered it, and made it do the thing he said, and go the way that he desired."

Hercules could not find the boar easily and he pursued with for a long period. He followed its tracks in cold and yet he could not see it. Hercules thought over and found a better way to catch it. He sought within himself. We hear many discourses regarding Spiritual practices but does it help you ascend the path? No! Only when you follow the prescribed path, you move forward. Hercules trying to catch the boar outside is like our hearing of discourses.

Here the catching the boar is nothing but catching the objective urge that one has. We keep moving in objective just like pigs move in gutters or stray dogs move on the roads. Once a person asked Master EK, "Why the pig always moves in sewage gutter? Why not a better place?" Master EK said "That place is good for it. When it feels that the place is bad, it will not stay in it." We need to have a similar realization. When we find a better place, we leave this place.

Here Hercules goes into the hiding (inside) place and waits for the boar to come to him. It means that he went inside the heart and waited there. He learnt the technique to go inside in Leo but forgot it in Virgo and now he is recollecting that technique. It keeps dropping from time to time and we need to gather it and stick to it again. The objective urge is so strong that it can pull you out easily.

The sign Libra has the gateway to both inner world and outer world. The Manipuraka (Solar Plexus) is the centre through you can either go inside or outside. The lotus present there has 10 petals of which 5 point upward (Subjective) and 5 point downward (Objective). It is a 3-dimensional understanding which was given only by Master DK. It is like the main gate to our house through which you can go inside and outside. It is your choice where you want to go. You need to wait at the interlude point of inhalation (prana) and exhalation (apana) which is Samana. When you wait there, the objective consciousness comes and falls in that pit.

Only when you touch upon Samana prana, this is possible. If you lot of rituals in the objective world, they do not help you much. They help you only when you do them with subjective orientation. If ritual is done with objective orientation, we do not get energy from within but in fact we lose energy and that is why, most often, people become tired after a ritual. If the ritual happened with true orientation, one will not be tired but more energized.

So mind objective should become mind subjective. All the rituals should happen subjectively and we do them objectively only for representation. By seeing in objectivity, we can visualise the same in subjectivity. So, outer worship should happen with inner visualization. We should be able to visualise a very beautiful and auspicious form of the Lord within. With this visualisation, a mind subjective develops. Even when you go to a temple, you can see the deity once in the

temple and then come out and sit at a place and visualise the form which you saw in the temple, within you. Even the occult meditations are given for this purpose of developing a subjective mind.

So the outer mind has to come and fall in the pit that is dug. That is what Hercules did. He dug a snare and waited in it. You need to go inside and wait. The mind keeps going outside, initially. You need to bring it back inside. You can imagine any divine form or form of a Master or light. This should become a habit which is taught by Libra. We learnt to see outside by habit from childhood. Now we need to do the converse, see inside. Respiration helps us because it continuous goes inside and comes outside. So you can go inside with it and worshipping sitting there. When you experience the divine inside, you feel so blissful that a smile appears on your face. Such a one loses interest in the objectivity and he goes into objectivity, only to fulfill his obligations. For such a one, Libra is said to be closed. Virgo and Scorpio become one and there are only 10 sun signs for such a one. This was for the first time given by Madam HPB in Secret Doctrine and reproduced by Master EK in his book “Spiritual Astrology” under Libra sign. Only such a one is said to be completely prepared for Yogic practice.

Then such a one develops taste for subjectivity. One also finds a friend inside who is a good friend, unlike Phalos. That friend is Udana air. Then pulsation starts travelling upward and it tries to trace back to its source. So there is a lift up from inside to upside. It is the meeting of horizontals with verticals. The path is from outside to inside and then from inside to upward direction.

The Lord descends and attracts the aspirant to come inside from outside. A Master remains vertical and attracts the horizontal ones towards himself, the vertical pole. The horizontal one is an animal. We need to become vertical. Only when you go inside, you can go up. Without going inside, you cannot go up. It is like going to an airport, catching a flight and then flying up. You cannot just fly from where you are. There is a take off point in the body and that is Samara air. Then your zodiac contains only 10 sun signs and it becomes a perfect zodiac.

The boar here is your consciousness that has gone out with the objective mind. You need to bring it in by developing a subjective mind and developing a taste towards subjectivity. That is what Hercules is trying to do here. You cannot remain outside and bring it inside. Once you go inside, it is so attractive that you want to move closer towards it. If you see the image of a Master outside, it is not so effective but if you see it inside, you feel like staying with it. It is more attractive inside. A man with subjective mind only comes out when required and not at any other time.

Do you know about Shri Aurobindo? He used to stay inside for 3 months and used to come out only for 1 day. It was so with him. He used to give some teachings to his followers, answered

their questions on that day. Living inside became primary to him. What is it with us? We are always outside and we make very little effort to go inside. Is it possible that way? No! Because the mind is more staying outside; so it is habituated to the objectivity and it will not allow you to stay inside. So you must allocate sufficient time in your day to go and spend inside. Many take to a vow of silence but it is useless if it is just objective silence. If you go inside, you automatically stay inside and remain silent. If there is continuous thought process happening inside and you feel like speaking but restrict it in the name of vow, it causes hypertension to you. It should not happen so.

So Hercules waited for a long period and finally the boar came and fell in the snare. He tried to catch it first but he failed. It cannot be caught like that. Arjuna himself says that it is impossible to catch the roaming mind. He is none other than our representative. Krishna says "It can be done through practice and detachment."

You need to realize the outer activity always remains like this and they are repetitive in nature and nothing much can be done about them. That realization is nothing but detachment. The outer activity is never constant. Even the outer weather is constantly changing and is never still. At one time, it may be clear, at one time, it may be cloudy, at one time, it be raining. Even the weather within the body keeps changing. If they give you something to eat after lunch, you will say "I am not hungry." If the same is given after a few hours, you will take it. Why did you take it now and why not earlier? The weather within has changed. You should not plan dinner right after having lunch because you will not feel like eating anything at that time but later you will feel hungry. The objective world keeps changing in this manner.

There is a world which is not changing like this. If we sit in such a world, we can observe the changing world without getting affected by it. One who is flooded in a river cannot enjoy the flow. One who goes into a river, on a boat, can observe and enjoy the flow without getting affected by it. Even when you are sitting on the shore of river or ocean, you can enjoy it. We can even observe the splendour of creation around us. We can enjoy the changing seasons. We need not feel that it is hot in summer and cold in winter. That is how knowers enjoy the nature around. So when you are in the changing world, you are mortal, when you sit a higher level in an unchanging state, you remain immortal. Now days, we are easily affected by heat, cold and rain because we are in it and not observing it. We get excited or depressed by the changing weather instead of observing the splendour in the change.

Here Hercules waits with the Samana, in a snare and the boar falls into it and he catches the boar. He finds a new friend there in the form of Udana which shows you a new upward path, through Sushumna, and along the path there are many splendorous sceneries to watch and enjoy. The subjective world is more permanent than the objective world.

So in this sign Libra, there is the path to inner world. In that manner, we go up and reach Ajna. It is reaching Aries from Libra. So there is a path from Libra to Aries, from Autumn Equinox to Vernal Equinox.

Among the 5 elements, we can see only 4 elements and only air cannot be seen though it can be felt. It is the only element which demonstrates to us invisible presence. So with the help of this air within, one can travel inside and up into subjective sphere. Libra is an Aerial sign. It will lead you to Aries, which is Ajna, with air as the basis. That is the first journey, there is even further journey to Sahasrara.

That is why it is said that an aspirant should first marry a Ram (A type of sheep - representation of Aries). There is a story in Mahabharata. Gandhari, wife of Dhritarashtra, was born in Libra and as per her Astrological chart showed that she would become a widow. So it was advised that she is to be married to a 'Ram' first and then the 'Ram' would die and then she can marry the King. Why only the Ram and why not some other animal? The story here is highly symbolic.

When you are in Navel, it is the South Pole while Ajna is the North Pole. North Pole distributes all energies while South Pole receives. When you reach Ajna, the existing North Pole dies (Ram dies) and it becomes the South Pole and another higher North Pole is formed in the head centre. It is the centre where the Lord is present in us.

Every being is a female, when he is a mortal. When that female reaches the Ajna, which is the male centre, he becomes an immortal and there appears another male (divine) in Sahasrara centre. So your abode determines your state whether you are in Head centre, Brow centre or Sacral centre. As you go up, the necessity with lower planes decreases through remain accessible to you.

So this is the prescribed path in Libra. In the beginning of Libra itself, there is a ladder to travel up. In a yearly wheel, there are some ladders and some snakes. In Snakes & Ladders game, some take ladders one after the other and go up while others become prey to the snakes and go down. All such days of opportunities of climbing up a ladder are given as festivals to us.

So Hercules fulfilled his labour but he killed the Centaurs and he has to face the consequences of it in the 9th sign.

Thus Hercules performed his seventh labor and returned unto the Teacher of his life. And the great Presiding One within the Council Chamber of the Lord remarked: "The lesson of true balance hath been learnt. A lesson still remains. At the ninth Gate again, the centaur must be met and known and rightly understood."

So Hercules has to face the consequences of his karma in the 9th gate and he has to learn his lesson then. We will come to the 9th sign in the next Gurupujas and we will discuss then.

And the Teacher said: "The seventh labor is completed, the seventh Gate passed. Ponder upon the lessons of the past; reflect upon the tests, my son. Twice have you slain that which you should love. Learn why." And Hercules stayed within the city gates and there prepared for that which later should befall, the test supreme.

The teacher tells Hercules that he completed the 7th test and gave him an advice to recollect the past lessons and instructions and be prepared for the next labour. The next labour is said to be a great test relating to Scorpio which we will discuss in the next Gurupujas. So after this 7th test, Hercules remained within, without going out and was recollecting the lessons and preparing himself for the next labour. He was introspecting his past acts.

We will continue in the next Gurupujas.

-Swasthi