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Sri Durmukhi Ugadi New Year – 08th April 2016
Message for the year by Master K.Parvathi Kumar

My hearty fraternal greetings to the brotherhood on the New Year which is named Sri Durmukhi. We have the tradition of celebrating this festival from ancient most times. Today we wish that everyone enters the New Year with renewed aspirations and renewed energies and move forward in life.



Every year, when the Sun is in Aries, the moon follows the sun and enters Aries and that day is celebrated as Ugadi as per our tradition. Sun is in its highest position during this month. In this month, we have the chance to experience the light in the highest planes of Sahasrara and Ajna. The moon principle represents our mind. When the Sun is in Aries and the moon too enters Aries, the mind dominant beings, that is us, have a good opportunity to experience the light in our head. We should visualize that the sun is present in our head right now and the moon too has joined the sun. That can be symbolically understood as the mind ascending to the soul level. So it is an upliftment.

We exist as souls and our consciousness is at the soul level when we are born but as we start interacting with the objective world, the consciousness starts descending with the mind dominating in the lower planes. The Lord or the Master takes the responsibility of uplifting us and taking back to our original state. Starting this day, the next 10 days are very important for aspirants. We should visualise and worship the light in our head and releases us from all objective bondages. So this day is a day of initiation and we can renew our practice by utilizing this opportunity presented by time.

For the next 90-93 days, the Lord of the year who has entered into year on the first day of Sun in Aries, descends gradually into the heart centre. We can visualise this descend for the next 90 days which will result is light filling the whole body, which is sufficient to perform duties effectively for the rest of the year. It is like taking a heavy breakfast which gives strength to work for the day.

Our Seers advised us that if you cannot do it for 90 days, atleast do it for these 9 days starting from Ugadi. It will be very fruitful to remain in alignment with the Lord for the next 9 days. Then you can move forward in life without any limitations. You also gain the cooperation of nature. Then you need not search for which day is better to do some work.

Time works in its own way. We cannot expect time to behave as we want. It has its own rhythm. It is our duty to tune to its rhythm. Astrology throws us light on aspects of time which help us tune to its rhythm. The Astrological predictions for the year are given on this day just as indications of how we need to adjust our lives to the coming time. So we should adjust to the time and not try to adjust it for our convenience. That is not possible. Even Lord Krishna worked as per time. He never tried to change time though he had the ability. When the Pandavas were in forest before the war, Krishna remained in penance during that time for 12 years because the time is still not ripe to establish dharma in the world. So he prepared for the war by remaining in penance and when the time came, he ensured that the dharma is established through the Mahabharata war.

When the time cooperates with you, you get the intuition on how best to act in a given situation. Your mind remains in tune with Buddhi. Transformation in the personality and expansion of consciousness is possible only through Divine worship because we cannot cause that transformation by ourselves. When it is time for something to happen, it will happen and you cannot change it. When the time for departure will come, you have to leave the body. There are very few exceptions to this like Savitri or Markandeya who could defy death. But that was possible only because of their intense Divine worship. There is no other way to gain the cooperation of time.

We think "we are very good but still why do we have many problems". Many people get this doubt. If we take the case of Rama or Dharmaraja, they did many good acts and we are nothing before them but still they too faced many problems in life. Why? Similarly there are stories of many devotees who lead a very righteous life but still faced many difficulties. What is the message from their stories? We should understand that the righteous life and the situations that you face in life are no way related. Most of the situations are results of past actions and it is time that decides when one should face what.

Bheesma asks Krishna after the Mahabharata war, "Dharmaraja is the most righteous one I have ever seen. He has the support of his brothers like Bheema and Arjuna who among the most powerful warriors in the world. All that apart, you yourself stood with them and cooperated with

them. I still do not understand why they had to face so many difficulties in life even though they were so righteous and so powerful?" Krishna tells "However righteous or however powerful one is, one has to accept what comes through time and no one can be above it. That is the law of this creation."

When one is on earth, one has to accept the features of time on earth. Everyone on this planet will have to face day and night. If you leave the planet in some rocket, then there is no day or night to you. There are many dualities that one has to accept when one is in this body. They will not be there once you are out of this body. So as long as you are in it, you have to accept what happens. You do not know exactly what will happen in the next moment. You do not know when you will die. So the time is very surprising in nature. You can only accept it.

We should remember that this is the age of Kali. Unlawful activities will dominate the righteous activities. We will be easily attracted to bad things than good things. That is the aspect of Kali. So we have less hold over good habits compared to bad habits. The name of this year is "Durmukhi" which means "ugly-face or unfriendly face". This name indicates that this year there is a chance for the bad habits to be furthered strengthened. We should be very cautious in this regard.

Once a disciple asked Master Maruvu "Master! You have been working for many years in trying to establish the dharma. Why is that dharma never dominates the world and most of the times non-righteous ones win?" Master Maruvu replied "In this age of Kali, the strength of adharma is much greater than the strength of dharma. That is why mostly dharma loses to adharma in the short run." That disciple questions "Why is so Master? People like you are there to guide and there are people like me are there to follow your advice. Why can't we establish dharma?" Master Maruvu then gave that disciple a book and asked him to make a copy. Those days there were no copying machines, so manual copies are to be made. The disciple was asked to get a copy of that book as early as possible. So the disciple goes to a person who is very effective in copying books and asks him to make a copy. That person says he does not have enough paper (not the paper we know. The one used for making manuscripts in ancient times). So this person gathered the required paper in a week. That person asks one month time to complete a copy. So this disciple goes back to the ashram. The next day another person comes who brings a book which has content to spread the word of Kali. He threatens this writer "Make a copy of this book within 15 days or I will kill you." That writer uses the paper gathered by the disciple and makes a copy within 15 days and gives it to this person. Master Maruvu's disciple did not even bother to check the status of the copy during that one month. When the disciple finally goes after 1 month, the person puts up a sorry face and again asks for paper again telling what happened. Then Master Maruvu appears there and asks the disciple "What happened to the work I entrusted to you?" The disciple remained silent. Master said "That is the difference between the people we have and the people Kali has to promote his work."

I told this story because we should understand that our good activities are weak in nature. As a result dharma is weak before adharma. The only way forward is to increase our strength through worship. Only then we can gain cooperation of time and do some strong dharmic activity. So remember this on this New Year day. Predictions and all are only indications to some extent. Worship is most important to grow in consciousness. Devotion, Knowledge, Yoga and Renunciation are most important for all aspirants.

-Swasthi