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Sri Vikari Ugadi New Year – 06th April 2019
Message for the year by Master K. Parvathi Kumar

My greetings to the brotherhood on the occasion of this new year day which is called “Ugadi”. The word “Ugadi” has emerged from the word “Yugadi”. Yugadi indicates the day of beginning of a Yuga (a larger time cycle). It is said to have begun on the 1st moon phase of month of Aries as per the lunar calendar. That is why we have the tradition of celebrating this day every year as New year day. On this day, every year, we try to understand the nature of time to some extent so that we gain its cooperation for the rest of the year. Every year we have the Panchanga Sravanam (Astrological Prediction for the year). Generally, it is done in the morning but Master EK has started doing the same in the evenings so that it would be convenient for everyone to attend. So, this day we celebrate the New year and we pray to the Lord that all the beings should have a good year.

Apart from the detailed aspects and nature of time that will be discussed today, we should make it a habit to relate to time every morning after prayer by recollecting the moon phase, day and lunar mansion in which the moon is presiding for the day. There are other finer aspects of time as well which one can relate to but these are most important. Relating to time is important because all our deeds in the past which had consequences are recorded and brought to us in present by the time principle. So, anything can happen at any time without prior intimation or knowledge. Therefore, time has strong effect in the lives of everyone who are bonded by karma. By respecting and relating to time, one can gain the grace and cooperation of time. I told how we can relate to time on a daily basis. How can we respect time? It is by following a schedule and rhythm in our lives. If we are late to the airport, the aircraft will not wait for us. If we are late to a railway station, the train will not wait for us. If we are late in doing something which we promised, the overall result of that work gets affected. So, having the discipline of strictly adhering to time is very important. One of the reasons why Master CVV instructed us to do prayers at 6 am and 6 pm specifically is that we get into a required discipline. Not only in Master CVV's path, in every Grand Masters ashram, all the disciples are instructed to conduct worship or prayer at sunrise and sunset hours at a specific time on a daily basis. The sunrise and sunset hours are most important for orientation because of the chemistry that happens in us during those hours. During sunrise, prayer enables a poised descent into the objective world to perform the activities for the day. During sunset, prayer enables a poised ascent into the subjective worlds as we gradually close for the day.

Remember that our activities happen very easily when we are in tune with the flow of time. If we remain ignorant of time, we might be swimming against the flow which makes things very difficult for us. There are many ways given in which we can follow this flow of time. We can divide the day into 6 or 8 or 12 parts and stick to a rhythm based on that division. Depending on one's interest, one can take up and follow any rhythm. This rhythm not only makes our activity very easy with the cooperation of time, it also enables expansion of our awareness. We gradually

know things which were beyond our comprehension until then. The expansion can be so wide that we may be knowing things which are happening even beyond this planet and may be even beyond this solar system. There is no limit to the knowledge and awareness that can be gained as one orients in the right manner. We can even tune our activities based on the energies that are received through the Sun and moon as they revolve around the different sun signs and lunar mansions in the ecliptic. All the intelligences and Great Seers work in that manner. They are ever in tune with the time principle and its workings. Then there is also the effect of different planets moving into different sun signs. We can also develop an awareness of such aspects and tune our lives to them. The effect is not only at a personal level but also at a societal level and even national level. The planetary principles of Jupiter and Saturn have the most significant effect in our lives. So being aware of their movements is very important. Even Rahu (Node) and Ketu (Anti-node) also have significant effect on us. Their effect can be deep but tuning to them will enable bringing our deeper aspects into light. The smaller planets generally bring us superficial karma while the deeper karma is brought to us by Jupiter, Saturn, Rahu and Ketu. By being aware of their workings, we can even work with our karma conveniently. The effect can be neutralized to certain extent. It is like getting information that the train or flight we have to catch is late, so we can delay our arrival at the station or airport accordingly. If not, we have to face the inconvenience of long waiting time. The same can be done with karma. By being informed, we can work with it and neutralize its effect to certain extent.

Firstly, we should know the presence of the Sun, moon and ascendant at the time of our birth. In which sun sign are they present? This should be our basic awareness. All our past is embedded into the moon principle and it comes out through the mind. The ascendant tells you doing what would be good for the present life. It can indicate the primary purpose of your present life. Therefore, we can tune our lives accordingly. These are very preliminary aspects in astrology which one can be aware of. In Sanskrit astrology is called “Jyothirvidya” and Jyothi means light which means astrology can show us light in darkness. Darkness is because we are ignorant of our past and we do not know what will happen in the future. In such darkness, awareness of astrology can act as a guiding light.

For example, tomorrow is Sunday, the presiding star is Bharani and it is the 2nd moon phase. How these 3 aspects affect us is what we can question and try to know. Then we can align our lives and activities accordingly. Then the experience of life becomes most splendid. That is what the Seers in the past have experienced and have passed on the information to us so that we too can gain the knowledge and then the related experience. So, this kind of awareness and knowledge of astrology can be gradually developed. The more we are aware of things, the deeper is the experience that we have. This is true with regard to anything. Even with divine worship, we are asked to develop certain awareness of the Divine principle so that we can experience it more and more. Blind worship cannot take you closer to Divine experience. A great devotee and composer named Tyagaraja wrote “Telisi Rama chintana cheyave manasa” which means one should know Rama before worshipping him. If you know who Rama is, what he stood for, what Rama as a principle in this creation means and so on, then your worship of Rama gives you a different level of experience which would be so blissful.

Developing awareness of objective things is one aspect while developing awareness of subjective things is another aspect which is even more important. Our awareness should be developed in both directions. We should inculcate the eagerness to know. This can be your new year resolution “to know something more on a daily basis”. So that is the message for this day.

On the occasion of Spring Equinox (as per solar calendar) some books were released in Kodanadu where many groups gathered for prayers. I will be releasing the same books again today for the benefit of those who could not come to Kodanadu. One book is “Geethopanishad” - a Telugu commentary on one of chapters of Bhagawadgita. Another is English book “Teachings of Madam HPB” which is collection of articles published in the Vaisakh Newsletter.

-Swasthi