

1983.01.29

*Kirtan at Keyes Rd (ShivaShakti and Gopal Christ)*

*Dr Gopal Christ and Shiva Shakti, the ashram's head nun, had just moved from Ufton Rd in Hackney, together with Sanjana and Mrs Howard (Shiva Shakti's mother), to a larger place in North London. This was the first kirtan at their new house.*

*Also at this kirtan was Siva Kali, Ambikananda's companion for several years, who had left him at Kedarnath to visit Sathya Sai Baba at Puttaparthi. At this time she was a follower of Sathya Sai.*

Siva Kali sang the Sanskrit words of a prayer familiar to devotees:

*Asato ma sat gamaya,/Tamaso ma jyoti gamaya,/Mrtyo ma amritam gamaya.*

[From unreality lead us to reality, /from darkness lead us to light,/from death lead us to immortality.]

*Ambikananda asked devotees to meditate on light, to overcome the senses, not to be affected by the world.*

*'We are dedicating this to Lord Ganesh as it is a new house. May those who move here benefit. May this bliss stay here and not move out. May all feel it.*

*'Jesus said: "Forgive them father for they know not what they do." '*

*Devotees chanted AUM to taped music background.*

*Mentioning a psychic meeting he had had with Raja Ram's father at the time of Mr Rothfield's death nine months before, Ambikananda said:*

*'Raja Ram's father bowed to our kirtan when we had a meeting upstairs [i.e. above earthplane]. He bowed twice. And there are other devotees besides you to come....there are two young girls.'*

*He then conducted an impromptu ceremony to bless the new house and its occupants. Babaji was summoned to offer a coconut.*

*Ambikananda: 'The language of light...communicates to the pure mind. Out of darkness to light...Lord, lead me to the light...The truth shall I speak. From light I come, to light I go...'*

*Babaji and devotees were then called on to repeat slokas from the Rig Veda:*

*'...The right will I speak. The truth will I speak. May Brahman protect me. May Brahman protect the preceptor. May Brahman protect me. May Brahman protect the preceptor. Om Peace, Peace, Peace. May my limbs, speech, breath, eye, ear, strength and all senses become perfected. Everything is the Brahman proclaimed in the Upanishads. May I never deny Brahman. May Brahman never reject me. May there be no denial at all. May there be no denial at all at least from me. May I, who am devoted to the Atman, be endowed with all the virtues taught in the Upanishads. Om Peace, Peace, Peace*

*May there be peace in heaven. May there be peace in the sky. May there be peace on earth. May there be peace in the water. May there be peace in the plants. May there be peace in the trees. May there be peace in the Gods. May there be peace in Brahman. May there be peace in all. May that peace, real peace, be mine.... May I never again forget my immortal nature ....*

*'O Lord, Thou art beyond the sea of relative existence. Thou art also in the midst of it; I bow to Thee. Thou enablest one to go beyond sin by means of holy chants. Thou takest one beyond the cycle of births and deaths through knowledge; I bow to Thee. Thou art present in the sacred flowing streams as well as on the coast; I bow to Thee; thou art in the tender grass, on the sea-shore as well as in the foaming waves; I bow to Thee...*

*.'Whatever sins have been committed by me, by thought, word or deed, may the supreme Lord, the source of strength, wisdom and purity, forgive me and cleanse me of them all. Being free from sins and impurities, bondages and evils, may I soar up to the highest heavens; may I attain to the same abode as the almighty Brahman.... May we go beyond the touch of sin, our great enemy...*

*'May Brahman be realized by us. May the highest bliss be realized by us. May Brahman, who is the highest bliss, be realized by us....*

*'May my body become pure. May I be free from impurity and sin. May I realize myself as the light divine. May my mind become pure. May I be free from impurity and sin May I realize myself as the light divine. May my Self become pure. May I be free from impurity and sin. May I realize myself as the light divine.*

‘Salutations to Brahman. Salutations to the God in the fire. Salutations to the God in the earth. Salutations to the God in the plants. Salutations to the God in speech. Salutations to the Lord of speech. I offer my salutations to the supreme Being, the all-pervading Spirit’<sup>1</sup>

*This was followed by arati with conch, gong, etc. Ambikananda now conducted a ceremony of joining or spiritual union for Mahayogini and her partner Rohan.*

*In conclusion Ambikananda profusely thanked Gopal Christ and Shiva Shakti ‘for giving first kirtan here... He explained to the devotees ‘the three aspects of Radha:: playful Radha, romantic Radha, eternal Radha. The Eternal Radha is the virgin Kumari...*

*Parvati came to tell us she is now on seventh plane of Govinda, behind the Sun, which is very hard to find...’<sup>2</sup>*

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<sup>1</sup> Rig Veda X,121 (from *Universal Prayers*)

<sup>2</sup> Parvati was a beloved devotee who passed away in 1974 at about this time