July 21, 1984 Wales

Kirtan in Wales (Gayatri and Sarasvati)

Ambikananda directed devotees to worship of Sarada Devi (Holy Mother) for much of this kirtan, with extensive readings from Nikhilananda's biography of Sri Ramakrishna's consort.

Swamiji's discourse included::

'Everyone is "meditating", but their minds are jumping from one branch of nonsense to another. You can't see God with an impure mind. The world is like a huge factory where everyone comes to work their karma. So, Lord Krishna has said, practise dual consciousness. Karma yoga. But first you must be struck by the lightning of God's love. God's lightning can visit devotees suddenly and cause a swoon. "In love's lighting flash..." This lightning has no time to wait, no time to knock. It strikes the devotee through his room. That swoon makes a person realize the grandeur, the divinity, the power, the holiness. When light has dawned, the darkness of the body and mind can be washed away, it doesn't take 1000 years.

'God has power to breathe among his people. Devotees are his people, devotees who are not in the dark. God can be felt just like the sun, only more strongly.... God and the devotees are one. But you do not know. When knowledge of God has awakened – Listening removes the obstacles of the ego, it lessens the burden, cleans the soul, washes the heart. ...But if a man really has the light of God he doesn't see you at all. The man in the screen of earthplane is false, is imagination, temporal. Man is really gold, is God.

'Karma is a help, a means, but it's not the full, full, terrific, approved goal. ... You have to have dual consciousness, but you must be struck by God's love first. Do you have faith in what we are saying? Do you believe that God is looking and hiding at the same time? Do you? I had no plan even to come here, but as Gayatri has given a kirtan, you are very welcome to do your programme. We don't want to bore you... only if you are really interested...'

Devotees beg Swamiji to continue.

Ambikananda: '... What is the mirror mind? The mind which reflects Om Bhu – earth plane – Om buva, Om Swaha – reflection of the Sun God, reflected in the mirror of the mind. "May *That* direct and illumine our mind." That is the mind, the mind that reflects, that thinks. The pure mind is not affected by holiness or unholiness, purity or impurity, right or left, up or down...

'You will always suffer as long as you keep yourself like a caterpillar in a cocoon, attached to your mind, your body, your work... Just for a minute don't think you are the body, you are not this, we are not here even. One day, you know very well, we have all to go, sooner or later. And when you are there you will be longing to come back here. Even in your meritorious place with Ramakrishna, with God, with Shiva, $Sayujai^2$ and all this – with your time expiring, "I haven't done my duty, my share, I have to come back." You will be crying and pitiful, sorrowful. Therefore break the cocoon now, here. God can be seen, if you want to. Where there's a want - but there must be will and power...

"...As long as you have not realized the word, the name of God — the word has a link, it causes swoon: "As I repeat my Mother Kali's name it so intoxicates my mind that people take me to be drunk." With this word, God holds the devotees with his right hand. And you guys, you devotees, are you holding God beautifully, without denial, in the open air, with your left hand? Isn't it so?

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¹ Gayatri mantra

² Sayuja means merging in God's impersonal effulgence

'You and I exist as long as the word is not manifested, But when God is seen the devotee disappears in the twinkle of an eye, then and there. The power of light is in the bulb. As soon as you have pressed the switch, the dark fortnight disappears in the twinkle of an eye. With the fire of knowledge, sin is burned into ashes...God can play with you in pain elixir. Pain is a boon, a manifestation of God... But don't harrass God – "Give me this, give me that." Don't even ask for realization if you can, have patience to grow old in it. God will see that his devotees don't go without food and so on.'

Sati: 'But Swamiji, thousands and thousands of people are actually starving to death - 70,00 a day in Africa; some of those must be God's devotees. '

Swamiji: 'Do you see anyone here starving at all?.

Sati: 'No, we're not, but some of those people -'

Swami: 'Non-stop I eat and talk of God! Hahahahaha!'

Sati: 'But you said God won't let his devotees starve.'

Swami: The seed has to die a few times. They are starving, yet you have so much food you can't eat it all. [God says], "I place everyone in different womb." Suffering is God himself manifesting. They are suffering, starving, they will die. [But] You don't know even their present condition, never mind the past- that's where the karma comes. At one time it was good to go and help these ... But now suppose you feed all these people continuously. At the most you will have done a little bit of good work. What has that got to do with the purpose of your being here? If God wants to feed He can feed these people. You waste your time too much pondering about others' troubles, this is not your headache... You can always feed all of us here, if we come and you are very rich. Can you feed our soul? Can you take us from the body to the other world?...

'Though we are close to Him, any minute He can make us lose our balance. So the best attitude is, "O my Father, O my Mother, do not mislead me or misguide me. I have taken refuge in Thee, I have no one else."

'The Lord says, "it is very hard to know My will." These people may suffer for one life, and you too may suffer a bit, but you will not suffer forever. Your nature is not suffering. God has said, "I am in the form of hunger, I am in the form of thirst, I am in the form of so many things." So I am telling you guys, make hay! When the soul departs you will be looking and asking, "Where is my blanket of meditation, where is my concentration, where are my friends? What have good deeds done for me? At the most I will just come back and have good houses, plenty food, all this." But what has that got to do with the purpose of God's creation, of your being on earth plane?

'I am sharing a step to heaven with you, my dear friends. You can go and feed the poor. Blessed are the poor, you can say, for God loves them. But the poor do not always have the word of God; the mind is on money, clothes, beauty, and your wealth – they desire what you have got. They are still with attachment though they have nothing. And you have so much. But you are like the poor with your [lack of] detachment. Yes or no?...

'Everyone has to work their karma. Everyone has to realize for himself. And karma itself will not let you go. There they are hungry, but here we want to make you starving! Starving for your Beloved; panting, starved, and be filled with God when He comes. ...

'No one can suffer for ever. They may suffer for one life; you may suffer a little bit but you will not suffer forever. Your nature is not suffering. This is the gospel of evil, the gospel of malpractice, of greed, of false prophets....

- '. One sun is going soon down and you will be cold.... For whose sake are you living, are you working, are you doing all this? Be sincere. Where is the dedication, the purification? First your mind is impure, your work is impure, nothing is to your liking. You are just complaining nonstop...You know how heavy is the journey after death? What do you take with you? A lot! Carloads full of karma. The more attachment, the more karma. And you won't be able to fly even in your mind, or your astral body...You want to feed the starving? Get lost in My womb first! Find out who are starving for me. And you come as a hungry soul. Let me create appetite. Let me preach you the gospel of Reality....
- 'Didn't we say this is a test, this kirtan? A challenge? Those who want to cross the ocean of this world will cross it, if not now then later on. They will renounce, like Buddha. He didn't lack anything, he eloped with God, the Beloved...Can you realize the love of God? You want to realize God. Do you realize the path of devotion, bhaktiyoga, how quick God is at hand? Ask and it shall be given. Knock and it shall be opened. Seek and you will find, then and there. But be determined. Now we have to eat our prasad. Om namah Shivaya. From darkness lead us to Light. From the unreal to the Real...'

. . .

- 'Meditation is nothing but a trickle of consecrated positive thought from one vessel to another until the thought becomes energy; the energy becomes a cell; the cell goes quicker to the mind; the mind purifies, and decarbonizes the impurity; plus the mantra, plus the Name of God. The mantra becomes very alive, and flashes. If you're very pure, Ramakrishna says...What happens then? You see flashes of light, I don't have to describe it.
- 'But for the weak mind there's danger if you have too much light. The weak mind goes empty so quick, when the burden of the world comes, the person cannot hold himself, so he lacks balance and falls. The man goes to bits, he may go a bit loco. So he has to have a guide, one who is treading the path, who says: "Don't burn the candle at five ends. Light it only now and then when you meditate, light it and think God as that light the size of a thumb, and identify that light with a huge light, a huge august light....
- 'Only when you're positive in that will your meditation be fully blossoming. ...

 Now give me your heart, I'll place it in front of the Master for you. Someone here is doing it, someone has done it here, with honesty, I have received one heart, two hearts. I have received someone's mind, and I am receiving more from here. A lot of secrets are done in darkness. I receive them, my load is now quite heavy, I tell you, and your burden that was heavy is taken out. And we take it into our heart and place it there, where He dwells perhaps. God dwells in the hearts of his devotees. Many will be saved, all those I like and love. They don't have to meditate much, my love is their meditation.
- 'I see them, I dream of them, I love their ways and worldliness. Wherever God is born, he always saves a few worldly people. Did you know that? It's out of my love, to show that it's not only the devotees who are saved, but also whoever the Lord wants.

If a deed is truly done, it's love.

Twameva Mata...

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