

Oct 6, 1984

Kirtan at Quintessence (Raja Ram and Sita Devi)

Devotees' kirtan continued gloriously for more than one hour. Especially uplifting was Mahayogini's 'Narayana' song, with devotees singing and dancing ecstatically.

There was also powerful electronic contribution from Raja Ram's synthesizer as he played:

'There is nothing greater than the Guru...'

and Sambhu's song to Ramakrishna:

"I was sitting and pondering the wonders of the universe..."

This was followed by excellent bhajans from Sita Dev, Marian, and Mahayogini.

Ambikananda briefly read a passage from the GSR describing the ecstasy of a kirtan attended by Sri Ramakrishna. He then gave a discourse:

'You haven't seen God, but you have taken the name of God. The name of God creates an invisible shadow. To see a shadow means there must be someone there - you sit and meditate, chant OM profoundly, then you feel a shadow, sometimes you see the shadow... Now they might want to tell you who they are. Ah! Now you have to be very good - "That is not Krishna but Radha." So you have to be very still. Christian God says, " *Be still and know that I am God.* "

'God is lighter than light, subtler than the subtle. When you have really been searching for Him for half a decade nonstop, He [too] is nonstop searching just the same, there is no doubt about it. He lives like a shadow, but more - light's shadow. Wherever He moves, that is a sanctified place - table, kitchen, even the block where I am cutting the meat. He becomes Her, Her is He, there is no difference. Therefore one can really love a woman without any back thought. When you have practised this - perfect love.

'... You must have this kind of compassionate, unknown, undeclared love. Make that your instrument. Feel free like a child, don't tie yourself in meditation - this can make a bigger burden in your head so that you can't relax, there is pain and all this. First relax in your mind and be harmoniously together. If we're not in harmony we can't play! First there must be this harmony. Then bread, butter, tea. One holy man comes with his teapot and all - fancy that, instead of scripture he comes with teapot!

'That's how my spiritual life has built up. I was very strict when I didn't know you, I was fasting in cave, I was aloof, I didn't know anyone, I had nobody to support me on my search. I was only about 12, 13, about 35-40 years ago. I am not going to ask you to bring 35 years into a day. But when we get together we have to bomb and explode, go up and up and up. We meet to be life beyond death...

'Love is the key that dispels this darkness of search. Remember this. And you are so lucky that our God is a god of love. All are gods of love, of course, but this one, at this particular time, became incarnate [as Sri Ramakrishna] to show the path through love and devotion. What need have I of knowledge and all this?

'See Ramakrishna there [pointing to picture]: exactly as this picture is, *he* is. You haven't seen Ramakrishna, a lot of people haven't seen Guru Dev exactly as he is. He is in his devotee, put it that way, exactly like that. They took the picture because he was like that.. But this is a special grace picture which he himself said, "Many people will worship that in course of time," and that is the way he used to stand and initiate and liberate a lot of people. He used to stand, and go in trance, and put his foot on the -, and mentally we go and put our head to his lotus feet and take the dust of his feet .

'So if you don't see him in picture, then this [pointing to his heart] is also a place where God dwells, but more luminous, a light always emanating light, a variety of light, fireworks in the heart, but what a kind of fireworks! A real fire but a fire that doesn't burn, that illumines, that burns sin if you want, that warms, keeps, enlightens - we are just a spark of that as it is. He is the main, main, main, and we are just a spark., and this is in the heart. He is in the heart.'

Later on, Swamiji talked with devotees in a friendly way after a wonderful kirtan. He says some of the devotees are ready to be 'born into light'.

Raja Ram: 'How soon?'

Sw: 'I am telling you now. Drop the body and become somebody. Why drop the body and become the same? What's the point?'

'...Tonight is the darkest night, the real night..."Whoever has taken the name of Ramakrishna even once is saved," so says Sarada Devi. If that is true, think what lies in that power? Tonight is the last, darkest, night. If anything has to happen, it has to explode tonight. There is a great decision being taken in the universe – *nucleaire*, destroyer of God's creation. Men are destroying men. This kind of knowledge is corrupt, says the Lord. Man is going too far against God's law.

'So be very careful and gentle...Let's busy our mind with just that line of love, OM namah Shivaya, and if war comes we all have to wear our iron cap once again... The name of God is always very powerful. Hariakhan¹ Baba says the only mantra that saves from nuclear is *OM namah Shivaya*, and that mantra comes from sage Agastya. It's to counteract that bomb. Tonight is a dark night, the worst night of the world. But good people's power of thought will counteract bad²...

'...Those who have no visit of God have visit of fairies³. One fairy comes, says, "All right." "Are you sure?" "Yes." "But I am very poor, I work in hospital." "All right, you will have money." Then that fairy goes and tells another fairy. They come again. "You are just a monk?" Then the fairy disappears and brings another fairy, more intellectual, more pride, but no room in the heart.

'So when God doesn't visit there are fairies, real fairies like children see them. All exist, good, bad. If you cannot see God, [there is] medium who doesn't attain, become medium⁴. They get message from spirit world.

'Everything rests in the yogi's mind: you, me, everyone here. Why? Because that mind rests in the Master's mind. Good, bad, entanglement, all this - you have to go much beyond. Expose your neck, give your life, like giving a beautiful flower to God. If you save too much - saving, accumulation, means darkness...'

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¹ Haidakhan Baba 1970-1984

² Swamiji appeared to believe that at that moment the world was in potentially fatal crisis, and that the apparent reappearance of the Mahavatar Babaji as Haidakhan Baba was designed to avert this, especially with the mantra *OM Nama Shivaya*. Haidakhan Baba's mahasamadhi occurred on 14 February 1984, At Ramakrishna Loka. Swamiji had been venerating him in the body of a swan.

³ Spirits from the Buva realm, *pitri* sphere

⁴ Ambikananda was at one time (probably 1968) involved with the Spiritualists' Association based in Belgrave Square