

July 21, 1985 Kirtan at Keyes Rd (Shiva Shakti and Gopal Christ)

The music at this kirtan was remarkable for two lovely bhajans from Sanjana, aged fourteen.

There was also fine flute playing from Raja Ram.

Tryambaka sang two Christian bhajans:

'Abide with me...'

and

'Be still and know that I am God'.

Next came Sada Siva's song to Sarada Devi:

'Mother is an ocean of mercy...'

Then Gayatri led devotees in Sai Baba bhajans, including:

'Sambhu Mahadeva...'

and

'Govinda, Gopala...'

Raja Ram and devotees sang :

'O Sarada, Ramakrishnaya...'

From Ambikananda's discourse:

'You have to plug in. If your plug is faulty you will only have *brrrrh* and whining. Feedback is bad, isn't it, bad echoes; but you must have a good echo-radio to listen to the music that they play, convert that music into Catholicism, into Hinduism, and sing it to Mother. You have to be not monotonous. Our Guru Dev [Sri Ramakrishna] was never monotonous. As Krishna he played in bliss... So many funny things are happening. God is manifesting all sorts of things, becoming live. It's funny, it's his *lila*. That's what happens when you get into Christianity and don't mix with Hinduism, and forget all your vocabulary.'

Devotee: 'You forget all your jokes!' [Laughter]...

Swamiji: '...The joker is a great prominent figure, isn't it, the only one who is like that in 62 states of Samadhi. Gods are living in their devotees, you understand? We are like a chalice. The body which receives the God privately or officially, these are chalices, the cup is cleaned, the cup is cleaned by [means of] revelation...

'You [can] see God directly thorough colour. Give me an example?'

Raja Ram: 'The colour of flower that Sri Ramakrishna saw. Two colours on one stem...?'

Swamiji: 'Yes, yes. But now you can find roses with a lot of colours, three colours in one rose. You know when Krishna was revealing his divinity, he said, "Look, Arjuna, the multifarious colours!" isn't it? Have you seen sunset and sunrise in Lincolnshire especially? It is like an amazing revelation, like a poem, philosophy. You don't need Bible, you don't need meditation. You see God in heaven, as it is! "Our Father, who art in Heaven, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." What you artist guys are trying to do is to bring this heaven to earthplane, isn't it?,, Devotees, artists, are painted by God's colours.¹ God himself created

¹ Swamiji often used to say that the only art was 'Thou art'.

artists... God commands the artist, God commands the musician. Whoever does the will of God, peace, supreme peace, is his.

[*Sings an old song from earliest days of UIA*]: 'To the land of peace and Shanti Shanti Shanti Om, To the hand of peace of Shanti Shanti Shanti Om...

'God manifests through painting, sculpture, isn't it? The picture leads you to God, God leads you to dispel darkness among brethren... Man gets his own bliss in the world, he forgets his creator, and he creates a second world. He can't create a world, but he uses the world of God, he uses the sun, the moon, the green, every particle and atom of creation, and makes a second world for himself. And sometimes he goes against God, denies Him. That's where man falls from God, and separates. That's why you guys cannot worship two gods. You cannot beat two drums. You cannot beat the drum both sides, You can just be Christianity or Hinduism.

'Well, I am not chained by religion. I invite Christianity through me, I have become a chalice for you, isn't it? Make you drunk, if you want, with the dregs. It's for your own sake we do that, so that you have been salved, something like that, through the chalice of Christianity, plus the grace of initiation through the Son...

'Krishna dwells in the heart, he takes his devotees by the hand. But Christianity puts the nail in the hand. Christ comes and nails the stigmatic, while Hinduism takes you by the hand: "*I move as Thou movest me.*" Hinduism is the cow and Krishna is the cowherd. But all religions give milk...

Raja Ram: What's the best religion, Swamiji?

Sw: 'The best religion was Christ, 2000 years ago. The best religion is the redemptive blood. Those who have been initiated into Christ, they don't have to go into Christ's issue, they have been kissed with the lips of Christ, stained by the blood. But what we say is not in the Bible, it belongs to the order of the crazy monk! 'All is a film, but the film is not revealed. God censors it. The actor know it is artificial, but the cinemagoer - my God!

'Every one of you is a light in heaven. Go back to your sky. Isn't the Jewish Star of David the same as the Hindu Him-Her double triangle? You call it Jewish star. I call it Him-Her...

'There is a Sun of knowledge, it's blue-petal love. In the sun, through the sun, behind the sun, there is a huge lotus. Behind that lotus is a state of Krishna, inside, through the hole of the Sun. ... I don't have to go to heaven to see these things. Heaven on earth, Thy will be done, Thy kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven. Why should I go to heaven? To Heaven I can go with astral body. Otherwise I go there if I die, if I deserve to go to heaven, I will. Otherwise it's purge catholique, Purgatory.

'These are states, my friend, not to be forgotten, not because you have become Catholic for a few days, a couple of months, and you have completely forgotten Hinduism. Ramakrishna ki jai ho! The samadhi of Ramakrishna is a state not to be forgotten. The first day Christna Das saw me², I was in a cave in the Himalaya' He looked at me, and he said, "I would like to have a mantra." First I told him, "Jesus and Shiva is the same." He said, "What?" So I said, "Alright, I'll give you a mantra, but we'd better make sure." We went to a great monk who

² Christna Das, Ambikananda's first devotee, met him at Rishikwsh, India, in 1967.

was there, and after a little while he said, "you want a mantra?" The monk looked at him, and gave him the same mantra I had just given him.³ Mantra and all this make you cry to God.

‘...All men and women are made in the image of God. You are not this body, this mind, you are the beauty of God, *Sivam Sundaram*, you are part and parcel of His beauty. And God is very beautiful. Hallucination? Of course there are a lot of hallucinations - Vivekananda thought Ramakrishna was having hallucinations until he was convinced. But these are personal things.... A lot of us do not have the grace of God. We seek God but we lack His grace. Grace is another word of love, grace is full of love, it's penetrating in the hand, it's between the scripture, between the lines, it is revelation...

‘Some people see God in you. When God is seen you disappear - flesh, all these things. At the most when we see you in revelation it's like we are looking at a film, where I see you as star. But after the film I see you as you are, without the star. This is two-state analogy, but the third state is deeply your reality, *That thou art*. Thou art not this actor, thou art not this impostor, thou art He. I am He. Third state of *Om namah Shivaya*, revealed to us by Christ, when He said, "I and my Father are one."

‘But you don't know that God has become you. Therefore you need God to tell you that through a messenger, an initiate, a preceptor, a good friend; you need somebody, if you haven't seen it. Therefore you need a human birth to have that knowledge. then when you've got that knowledge you can find Krishna, you don't have to go to Heaven to find God. The kingdom of heaven is here.

‘When I was composing 'The Marriage of Shiva' I got two swoons composing that song, I couldn't bear it so I put it into song, it was so moving and touching - see now my mind goes funny - boom! boom! I passed out for a few seconds, two visits I had, beyond doubt. This name and love of Sankari, aspect of Sankara... So when you see God you go funny, start becoming funny, your breath stops, your hair stands, your leg jellies, your mind wheels, you are dead. An ordinary person cannot stand. They have experience for one or two days and never come back. But fiddlers are great, and still fiddling with death and grace and God. Fiddlers put God in abeyance... Lord Krishna said, "I am the slave of my devotees."

‘God is the bearing mother for the fiddling devotees.⁴ How much God still loves us, how much he brings us into the company. And yet how much we are not paying attention to God. We should be very grateful we are in the company of God.

‘If your heart is clean and pure, then there is illumination. You can see a light, different colours, you can enjoy this variety of the multiplicity of God, from Brahma to a blade of grass. You can enjoy God in the scripture, [and] you can put the scripture out and enjoy God in matter, in spirit, [even] in [your] enemy, without being affected... Every look, every door, every painting, every man - we are haunted, it's not possible even to try to forget, if you have affair with Reality. God works through [many] channel. When man becomes perfect from bric-a-brac, from bind, struggle and free, God becomes magnetic, the man's mind is attracted whether he meditates or doesn't meditate.

³ See Christna Das's diary

⁴ Swamiji is referring to himself as the fiddler.

"I am close to My devotee [He says]. But my devotee may not necessarily be close to Me. The devotee may not love Me, but I love -"
God is the Mother and Father of love, compassion and bearing....

‘...Samadhi has got different volumes: high samadhi, mediocre samadhi, fibre samadhi, idea samadhi, thought samadhi, and immovable samadhi. They are stages. In the highest one you cannot do anything. In the semiconscious one you can enter a bit and transmit, transfer, blissful enjoyment, you can share a little bit. In the other you can only see a mummified man in samadhi, I don't know what it is. but that doesn't mean the man is a log, he is dead to the consciousness of the surroundings and environment as it is.

Reads from GSR: "Once at Sithore I fed the cowherd boys ... I saw that these boys were actually the cowherd boys of Brindaban, and I partook of the sweetmeats from their hands"...'

‘So many people have been fed by ourselves. But we don't imitate - there's no way to imitate the Master. Whatever we do comes out of his boundless grace and love, that these others also should be blissful, prosperous. You need prosperity first; but we are detached from all these: a little place, a morsel of food, some transport so far as it goes...

‘...The holy man moves by the will of God. It's nothing to do with him. Whenever he feels something he quickly kindles, quickly he confines himself to that happening, and he puts everything there: that minute, that second, consecrated to that little dedication...

‘Why do people have faith? Because in God things happen, things manifest, things move beyond understanding. God is beyond man, beyond understanding. God *is* understanding. It is God that makes man understand. But man cannot understand all the ways of God... You must have such adamant faith. You must not be fickle. Come life or death. Because God talks to His devotee, just like I am talking to you - but not word by word. It is in a flash, all is understood at once. One look... ‘

‘Man is a psychological reproduction of his past, present and future. A reproduction of what he was. But minimizing all this a true man can see directly God and the penance. Man is a penance in the balance and scale of suffering and hope. Suffering, hope, forgetfulness, and repentance. That man, day to day, [says] "I will", but does he do it? "When I go home, I will!". Next day it dies out and the day after, it minimizes and minimizes. You must have iron will, iron determination, a divine vow. Therefore people become Catholic, Christian, keep their vows of, of poverty and, and - Macanamee? [*Laughter*]⁵

. ‘...We are not orthodox, you know. I will tell you something: trance and death are very similar - because a fiddler of God doesn't die! Birth and death depend on God, and the fiddler cannot die, he has gone beyond death, and God keeps him for his brethren, his sisters.⁶ And to enjoy the company even of people from the heavenly sphere, people from the heavenly sphere come down here. If one could see, feel, be in touch with them, if you are *en rapport* in

⁵ Fr MacNamee of OM, Quex Rd, who converted us to Catholicism on Pentecost, 1985. He came to one kirtan (at Radhani's house in Exeter Rd) but Swamiji didn't seem to encourage a close link with the local Catholic community.

⁶ Swamiji claimed several occasions of apparent near-death or actual-death experience in the course of trance/meditation, e.g. at Rose Cottage, etc.

conjunction to the happening, then you will know. Otherwise - all trees look like trees, all leaves look green, flowers are flowers...

‘...A man of God will discriminate. that's why he can forgive and live with his enemy. What he sees happening is ignorance, maya predominating. Therefore the man of God hates the sin but not the sinner. Love your enemy. Christianity said it, but it could be Hinduism. It doesn't matter to me. borrow from them, from Catholic, from Hindu. But make sure you are becoming what you have heard. You haven't got it, but you have heard it. So become. Become what you are trying to be, even a little bit. Make one step and I will make the rest!

‘...The name of God can be very boring if you haven't got this God element in you. It is God that receives God. It is God that enjoys God. Light goes with light, milk with milk, oil with oil. But what must not be confused is that God's word has a more dynamic, atomic effect in our atma and subconscious, that's the only thing that can awaken knowledge, cleanse and purify, work all kinds of things, impossible become possible. Other things get boring, tedious, tangled, but God disentangles. that's the beneficial side of it. You have always benefit with God if you can bear Him and if you can love Him. It depends on your “if” now. And you must be truthful, be detached; and be a child. Only a child can be free with God. An adult will respect, will have a duty, an obligation, but all this goes against the heart. A child doesn't fiddle about. If he says 'I want this' he wants it. Truth is there.

‘...God is blissful, beyond pain and pleasure, and his nature is bliss...But men suffer a lot. The pain is there, you cannot say you are free from it. The pain is there, the desire is there. The expectation. That's why suffering comes - want this want that, all this is desire. And greed is the root. ...As soon as God releases the man from his glorious throne, darkness envelops darkness. Through desire, lust, avarice, jealousy, greed, possessiveness, hate, violence. Man is buried. He only has a promise for his family and wife.

‘...A lot do not come back, only those with a special mission. The mission is for others in case these brethren and sisters doubted Hinduism. The cup and the saucer and the chalice of Christianity – these have been secured through the Hindu seeker.’

‘...The eclipse comes when the sun of Knowledge and the moon of Love meet. Men on earthplane are perturbed, they don't know it's the marriage of knowledge and love. so when the two eyes join in the vision of Shiva and the devotees blend into unison in the harmony of religion, they must not snap.

‘So today though it has been blissful there will still be doubt, because there is suffering. Suffering is a black sheep of God, the black sheep has to suffer. Those who are away from the shepherd are subject to the ravaging wolves. Therefore these people are suffering, there will be this doubt, it will come again. There will be criticism, there will be worse, “and yet you promised us Hinduism, you promised us Christianity, and see what has happened. No doubt I got a little bit, I got an ounce, but I want whole...”

‘In earthplane Ramakrishna had cancer, Jesus Christ was crucified, for Mary it was so so painful from birth [*laughs*]. So yours is quite blissful in a way. We want to eliminate all this, only that you make a good home for your children, grandchildren...

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