



The All-Conquering Power

Blessed Atman! The secret of success in any field of endeavour is industry, application, and above all, perseverance. You take up something, apply yourself to it and don't stop until you reach the goal. Keep on; persevere. Continuous effort is the key to ultimate achievement. A man may have vast wealth but if he never invests his wealth, his wealth will not multiply. On the other hand, an entrepreneur goes on investing and continuously keep on working, becomes wealthier and wealthier; there is no end to his prosperity. He goes on progressing day after day. Why? Because he has put to use what he has. He has utilised, applied in a practical manner what he possesses. Similarly it is not that we do not possess. But if we do not apply, we remain where we are.

Perseverance means persevering till the end with calm, serene determination without giving up. Even if the goal is not attained at the end of such perseverance, one who has persevered has achieved success. Success is not in getting something. Success lies in perseverance till the end. That is the greatest achievement in life. Yoga is no exception to it. Nor *Bhakti*, nor the attempt to control the senses and the mind, nor the attempt to lead a good life to attain victory over negative habits, and cultivate and establish good habits is any exception to it. All yield to the mysterious power of persevering effort. It is all conquering force, because it is a direct application of Divine Mother's presence in us. Nothing can stand before it. Everything yields to it, provided we persevere with utmost regularity.

Each human individual has been given the ability to attain anything that he wants and the power for it. You have been endowed with this strength which is a manifestation of the supreme Cosmic Power. The only thing you should have is desire, aspiration and enthusiasm. Everything becomes possible; the power is with us. If we are not misers, if we apply or invest it by having a certain aspiration, by putting forth effort for an objective, by persevering in that objective with calm determination, with utmost regularity.

Gurudev used to say: "Do not despair; there is nothing impossible for you. If you keep on persevering, everything is possible. Do not yield. Do not give up. *Bhagiratha*, *Savitri*, *Dhruva* are illustrations to point out to us what is possible. Know that you have within yourself the power to attain whatever you aspire after."

May God Bless You All!

■ *Swami Chidananda*