



Be Thou A Yogi

Radiant immortal Atman! Worshipful presence Gurudev! Thou art our light and guide in life. Thou hast repeated this call again and again: “*Tasmad Yogi BhavArjuna* – Come, come. Become a yogi. [Gita 6.46] Why do you weep and wail? Why do you unnecessarily prolong the bondage? Attain Self-realisation in this very life”. On the sacred *Punyatithi Aradhana* anniversary, the supplication at thy feet of all the seeking souls, who have gathered in your presence drawn by your Guru-Kripa, grace is, “Keep sounding in our hearts that call again and again”.

Gurudev has given us the superstructure of “*seva, bhakti, dhyana* and *atma-jnana*” upon the foundation of *ahimsa, satyam* and *brahmacharya*. But his unique bestowal to us is that he has given us a new identity. He said: “You are not here merely to wander about like a wayfarer to get ditched somewhere, waylaid and stripped of everything by the dacoit of the five senses. Rather, you are here to attain union with the Supreme Being”. This is the innermost meaning of life. It is a journey to put an end to the separation and once again attain union with the Divine. Then alone sorrow gives place to joy.

He gave us an identity: “You are yogis. Life is Yoga. Life is a process of regaining that oneness, that inner connection, that lost link with the Divine Source of your being. Therefore, live as yogis. Practise Yoga-Sadhana. More than anything else, be a sadhaka. No matter what you are, do real sadhana, my dear children. Do real sadhana. Let the day and all its activities be in-filled with the spirit of sadhana. “*Yadyat Karma Karomi Tat Tad Akhila Shambho Tavaaraadhanam* – whatever work I do, O Lord, I offer unto Thee as worship”. [Siva manas puja.4]

You are a sadhaka, a *yogi*. That is the new birth he gave to you. That is the new identity he imparted to you. Taking away the wrong identity, ‘I am So-and-So’ he gave the identity ‘I am a yogi wanting to attain union with the Divine, I am sadhaka. My life should be in-filled with sadhana’. He gave us a new identity of a sadhaka, *yogi, bhakta, propakari, dhyani* and a *vedantin*. “Be a *vedantin!* Roar Om, Om, Om, Come. Come out of this cage of flesh and bones”. He gave us a new consciousness, a new awareness a new identity purely in relation to God, connected with Brahman directly.

With this sharing, let us offer our worshipful adorations at the feet of *Guru Bhagwan* and offer out loving homage.

May God Bless You All!

■ *Swami Chidananda*