

Lucid Teachings of Bhagwan

Jinnuru, 30th December 2013



My dear soulmates,

According to the English calendar, today is Bhagwan's birthday. In the West, few devotees observe Ramana Jayanthi today. However, here in India we observe Bhagwan's birthday based on the Lunar calendar. Nevertheless, dwelling on the aspect of nature, we are celebrating a birthday for a person who has no birth day itself! In 1912, while Bhagwan was in Virupaksha, a few devotees sought consent to celebrate his birthday. He said "birthday is a day not to be celebrated with sweets and payasam (sweetened rice). It is a day to ponder over why we have come here?" However, the devotees insisted on celebrating his birthday, as they had come prepared with food for the celebration. Bhagwan relented and gave his permission. Beginning 1912, the birthday of Bhagwan is being celebrated. However, Bhagwan has neither a birthday nor a death day.

Ramana Bhagwan always stressed on the need to practice and think about the real absolute, which is within each of us. People used to call Bhagwan as Brahmaswami. However, due to divine grace, Ganapathy Sastry garu named him Ramana Maharishi. People who are not his devotees refer him as Ramana Maharishi. However, for his devotees he is always Ramana Bhagwan. Often Bhagwan would say "Okay you can address me the way you want, however there is only one truth. I did not learn anything new after coming to Arunachalam. What I was supposed to realise (the Absolute truth) was completed in Madurai itself."

Lord Shiva is known as Sundareshwara in Madurai. However, many devotees fail to remember this name and are constantly chanting mother Meenakshi's name. (Meenakshi Amman temple is famous in Madurai, Tamil Nadu). The entire divine play has been enacted by Lord Sundareshwara in Madurai. In Ramakrishna Math too, Mother Sarada Devi is more popular among devotees than Sri Ramakrishna or Swami Vivekananda. To garner respect while living depends on the attributes

acquired by the body from previous lives and actions. On the Southern entrance of the Madurai Meenakshi temple, there is a Ramana Mandiram. It is here that Ramana Swami gained the knowledge of conquering death. It was a very important incident in his life. He did not read any spiritual literature, take any spiritual initiation or read Bhagwad Gita. He had no knowledge about the grace of the Absolute truth. However, the knowledge about Absolute truth



engulfed/embraced him.

“I am That”. This is the correct definition of God. There is something, and it is not different but I am that (Absolute truth). You keep referring yourself as I, then who is this “I” Bhagwan asks. This question of “whom am I” arises as you are bound to this body and mind. You are unable to differentiate between the real and the unreal. As long as you attach yourself to the body, you will never realise the real truth. Ramana Swami realised the knowledge of the real truth, the knowledge of death while he was at his uncle’s (father’s younger brother) house at Madurai. How did he get this knowledge is the secret of God. While he experienced the state of the real truth, he realised that it requires no association with the mind and body. He realised how to

disassociate from the unreal such as body and mind. Many perform great spiritual practices to realise this real knowledge. However, this supreme truth was conferred on Ramana Swami in a few seconds mainly due to the grace of Lord Arunachala. He realised the real truth without any spiritual practises such as singing or listening to the praises of the lord. He practically experienced the real absolute which has no death while being in the body that has death. He realised that the body has no relation with the real absolute. He experienced this while he was just 16 years. He has conveyed his experience through small sentences in a sweet way to his numerous devotees. He gave no interviews, and he sat in silence throughout the day before devotees. Through silence, he conveyed what he learnt for 54 years.



Ramana Bhagwan's teachings about the real absolute are much clear than what is laid down in Upanishads and preached by sages. His teachings are straight forward and clear. Sages, have a different method of teaching. To drive home the point, they explain a lot before they come to the main point. However, Bhagwan directly addressed the point and did not burden us with more information. While explaining the point he will guide us so efficiently that one will have all the information in their hands. In small words, he has explained the subject very well and with much clarity. He has the power to explain as he has experienced the absolute truth. If you cannot follow his teachings, his grace will ensure you follow them. He is a form filled with divine grace.

He would say the desires and thoughts to achieve something in life are so strong, and these prevent one from understanding the teachings. To people who would complain that they are unable to follow his teachings, he would explain to them that their desires are strong and they are preventing them from understanding his teachings. Conquering these desires and thoughts are difficult. He will never ignore a person who cannot understand his teachings. Throughout your life Bhagwan will make efforts to elevate you to a higher state. Once Bhagwan said, "I have no work with you hence forth." Devotes questioned him, "what is the use of teachings when they are not required." Bhagwan uttered these words due to love and compassion for his devotees. What he meant was the teachings were a result of grace towards his devotees. For devotees to understand the grace there is no requirement of doing something outside the body. The silence would internally aid them to realise the supreme goal of life.

If you make truth your religion then the mankind will benefit from you. You may have power, money and knowledge. These are just pleasures, which are short lived.

If you ever visit Ramana Ashram, please read the book “Be As You Are”. Pingali Surya Sundaram garu has translated this book into Telugu. The book contains all the teachings of Bhagwan. Bhagwan Ramana realised the Absolute Truth when he was just 16 years old. “If the body dies, I have to die....then what is this I am still there? I see no relation with this body and me.” He merged with the real absolute. He became immortal. He realised that he is there even without a body. The body and the real entity have no connection. He realised and gained knowledge about the real entity, which has no death. Hence, he is a rishi.



The grace of a Gyaani will enter a devotee's heart silently. Their vibrations work silently. All mahatmas work slowly, steadily and silently. They will test your maturity levels. There is no fixed time for the Lord to shower his grace. That is why it is important to keep the company of the holy. The vibrations of holy people will work on you. The power of discrimination is required to understand another person's level of understanding. The company of the Mahatmas and Maharishis is beneficial, as they promote methods to improve your spiritual progress. They will not pamper you by giving you money and asking you to buy clothes. Mahatmas will buy the cloth, get it stitched and ensure you wear them. Hence, they are called Mahatmas. They are always ready to serve you food, which is ready to eat. And if necessity arises, they will even feed you with morsels of food. Your work is to just swallow the food. That is the love they have.

It is important to keep the company of the holy to realise the ultimate goal of life. This body and world around is an illusion. Your heart is the seat of the Supreme Knowledge. The company of holy people or those who are in a higher state will aid you in your progress to realise this Supreme Knowledge. One cannot notice the work of holy people as they work in silence. For example, look at a top that is spinning at high speed. We feel the top is not spinning at all. This is because the eyes cannot match the speed of the top. This is similar to the work of a Gyaani. Their work cannot be measured with your senses or intellect.

God has bestowed only the humans, among all living things, with intellect. God forgives animals for their mistakes; however, humans are given punishment for committing mistakes. Therefore, we have to be aware of all our actions. The biggest mistake is considering the present body as real. This body is mine and “I” are the stumbling blocks in realising the truth. For the love of our



body, we commit mistakes. The scale of punishment depends on God's grace. The Lord in the form of punishment ensures that the same mistake is not repeated again.

When death is approaching, we believe that we are going to die. This feeling is due to the attachment to the body. At the time of death, we are frightened that we are no more on this earth. When the body dies, it is the soul that is attached to the body that suffers. Ramana Bhagwan urges us to merge this soul with the real absolute in the heart. He asks us to lose the dream identity and learn to associate with the real absolute.

Silence has more strength than words. Holy people do not talk much but their work is done through silence. Whether you are in Palakollu, America or in any other place, develop a mental contact with Bhagwan. In reality, there is no distance and time. These are the delusions of the mind. The real point here is to establish a mental contact with your favourite deity such as Rama, Krishna or gurus like Ramana Bhagwan, maharishis and holy people. Just as the engine pulls the coaches of a train, a mental contact with Bhagwan will pull you through the journey of life. All grace must come from Bhagwan.

Association with the physical form of a guru is not important always. When Bhagwan had cancer, devotees prayed, saying that the disease would limit his life and they would still remain here even after his body dies. Ramana Bhagwan said, this body is not conferring any grace on you. It is the real entity in the heart that is showering its grace. After Bhagwan left the body, many came into the fold of Bhagwan. So, there is no link between the body and the real entity. Since we have the feeling that this body is mine, we also see him as the person in a body. Hence, the physical form

of the guru is not important. Even after the physical form dies, the contact is still there. After the physical form of the guru falls down, the contact with guru still continues.

The present body depending on the fruits of actions assumes new form in various lives. The guru will keep a watch on you will aid you until you realise the goal of life or come out of the circle of life and death. He will follow in you were ever you are. Guru does not mean the physical form. A guru is more than the physical form that our eyes see. The body is not the truth. The body comes; it grows old, gets afflicted with diseases and dies. The physical body of the guru will never confer grace. Establish a contact mentally with the guru. One must be attentive and careful to understand his grace. If we are vigilant we can grasp his grace. The words of the guru come from the heart. They are not just words, but compassion flowing out from the guru to his devotees. One who understands the compassion of the guru is lucky, as it becomes easy to grasp what the guru is trying to convey. Continuous virtuous deeds will also cleanse the mind, and therefore good work is a part of spiritual practice.

According to Vedas, the real truth cannot be grasped by words or by mind. Both the mind and words ran in search of the truth. Unable to locate the truth, they slowly started their return journey. During the journey, the mind became subdued and the words stopped to follow, a feeling enveloped that this body is not the real me, then the real truth inside revealed itself. This truth is not bound by time, body, mind and region. It is universal.



The person who has realised the Supreme truth is Satpurusha (holy people). We are swimming in the world of ignorance. Satpurushas will aid in removing the delusion that this body is real. Satpurushas are filled with grace. Bhagwan stresses the importance of associating with such people. He says search for such people and associate with them. For a mind, the inward journey is difficult. It is the company of Satpurushas that will aid the mind in its inward journey. Without your knowledge, the mind will be tamed and slowly will cease to exist. And when this happens, it is the last life and you will be free from the cycle of life and death.

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