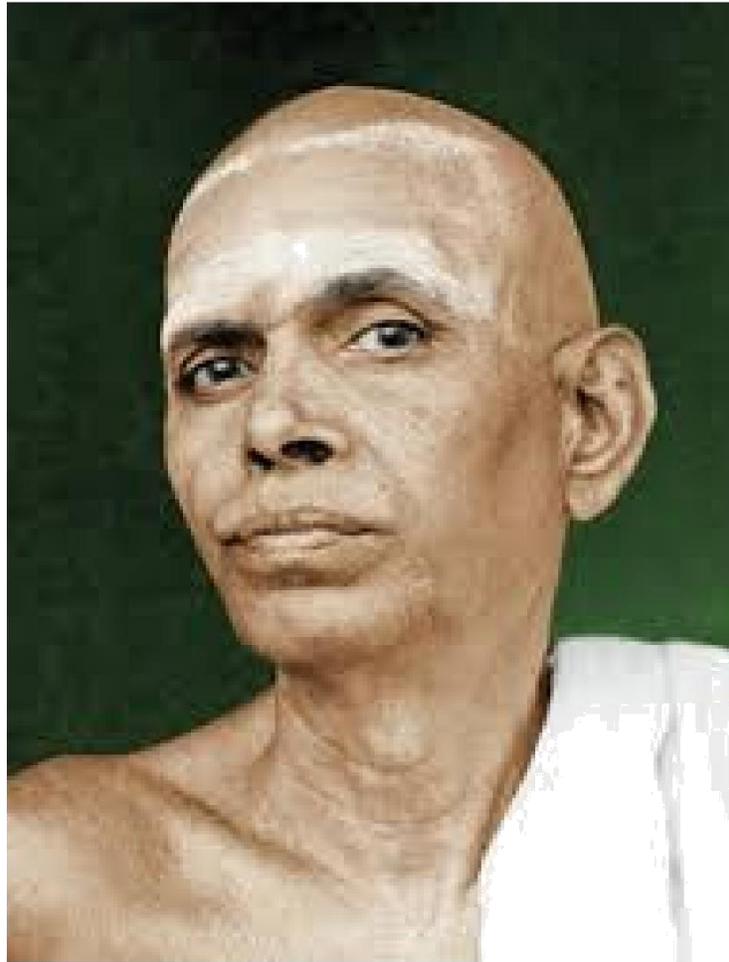


There is Hope.

Everything happens in its own time.





Once, a devotee asked Bhagavan Ramana: “Is there any hope? Bhagavan replied after a moment: “Yes, there is hope. There is hope.”

Do as thy wish

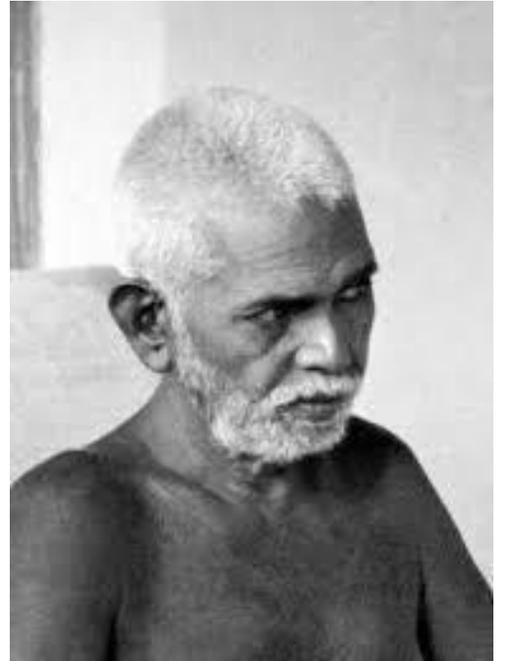


Trust God. Do not await in the thought: "When will I attain Self Knowledge?" Do not question God: "When will you liberate me?" Rather say: "Oh! God; It is your will whether you want to bestow me with Self Knowledge or not. It is your will whether you want to bestow me with liberation or not. Let thy will be done and not mine. I will not command you to act in a particular manner. Do as thy wish." Attain such a state of mind. God will then bless you with peace.



In the Marital garland of Letters, Bhagavan Ramana said: "If you desire something, God's Grace is restricted to that desire alone. If you don't desire anything, God fulfills your desire as well as blesses you with liberation."

Once, Bhagavan Ramana told a devotee: "You cannot behave as you wish. Act according to His (God's) will. Only then it can be called as spiritual practice." Spiritual practice implies: 'Understanding, Maturity, Realization, Light & Knowledge,



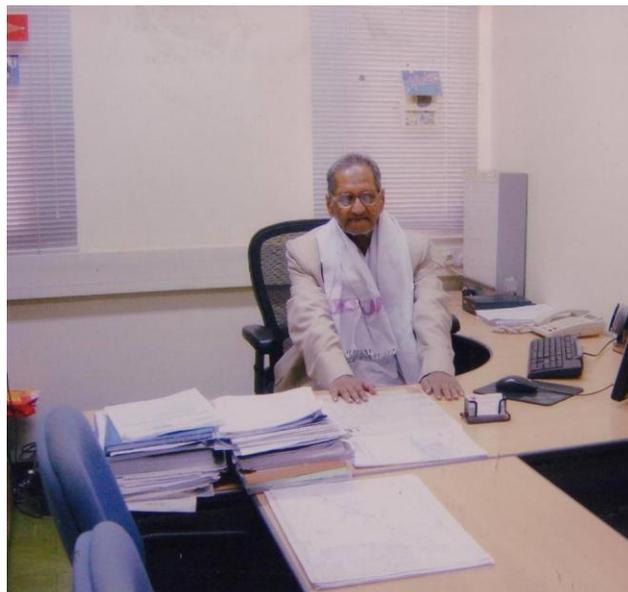
Peace & Happiness.' It doesn't imply sitting down with a running nose. Devotion doesn't imply leading the life with irrational beliefs or foolishness. True devotion begets Strength. Don't ever command God to act according to your wish. Act according to God's wish. It is God who bestows you with His very nature. You will not be liberated till He blesses you with the same.

Love for the sake of Love and not for the sake of Self Knowledge

Many people ask God to bestow them with devotion, Knowledge and dispassion. It is good. Even the priests in a temple bless the devotees stating: "May God bless you with the prosperity and all the riches of the world." But they would never say: "May God bless you with devotion, Knowledge and dispassion." I have been visiting Arunachala since a very long



period of time. But I have not asked Arunachala at least to bestow me with Self Knowledge. Why is it so? It is due to un-restrainable liking for Arunachala. It is good to ask for Self-

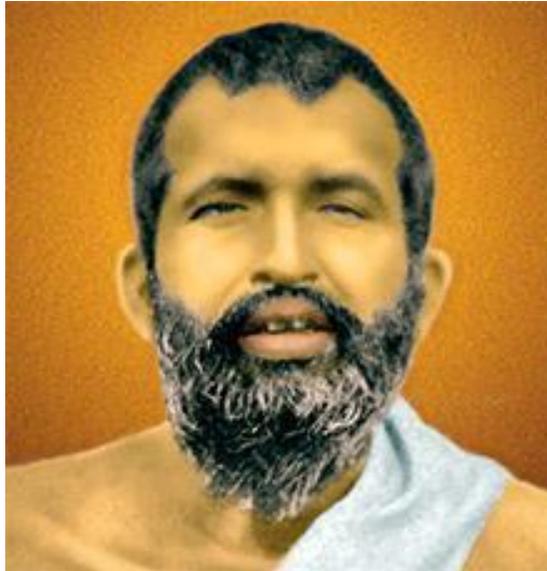


Knowledge. But I did not even ask for Self Knowledge. One may ask me why I visit Arunachala? I love Arunachala not for the sake of Self-Knowledge but only for the sake of Love. This is what you need to grasp: "***Love for the sake of Love and not for the sake of Self Knowledge.***" Leave alone the ordinary things, I did not even ask Arunachala for Self Knowledge till now. Now there are big buildings for our accommodation in Arunachala. However previously we used to sleep on mats in Ramana ashram. There used to be a Gentleman guest



house in Ramana ashram. We used to sleep on the mats provided by the Ramana ashram people in that guest house. If there was no vacancy, we used to sleep in Chalam garu's house. Atleast 10 people were accomodated in a very small room in Chalam garu's house. Even though it was very congested, I never thought of constructing any building in Arunachala. I have been visiting Arunachala only for the sake of Love and not for the sake of Self Knowledge.

Everything happens in its own time.



After the death of his father, Swami Vivekananda suffered from acute poverty. It was 10 O'Clock in the morning. A devotee approached Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa and said: " Naren (pre-monastic name of Swami Vivekananda) a great intellectual, very good at heart, an enticing personality, a great devotee, an embodiment of wisdom, whose both the eyes are enchanting, whose face is filled with

great radiance, is suffering from acute poverty." Sri Ramakrishna replied: "The dusk has not yet arrived. It is still 10'O

Clock in the morning and not 6'O Clock in the evening. You have to wait for 8 more hours for it to be 6 in the evening."

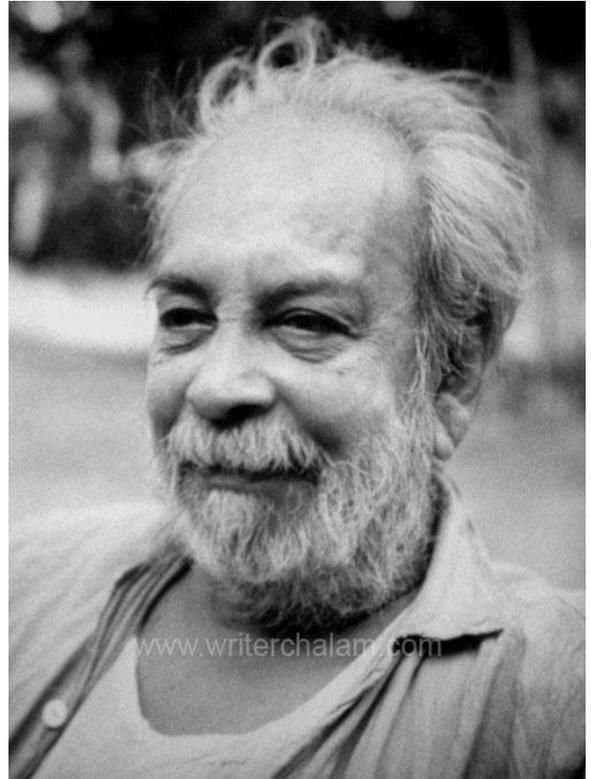
Sri Ramakrishna implied: The good days for Naren are yet to come ie the day when Naren will get enlightened has not yet

come. One day Naren will become a great orator and attain world-wide fame. His words will enlighten the entire mankind. Even his poverty will vanish away. But the time has not yet come. ***Everything happens in its own time.***



The death approaches us only on the arrival of appropriate time. The same is the case even with Self Knowledge. Suppose you don't like a particular person and desire for their death, they will not die due to

your desire. They die only on the arrival of appropriate time. Suppose you have bedridden old people at home. Don't desire for their death. They will not die until the arrival of appropriate



time. It is the same even with Self Knowledge. Chalam garu used to quote some proverbs like: "You can't even shit on being tensed; How can you attain Self Knowledge on being tensed?"

Everything happens in its own time. Suppose

you sow a seed today; how can you expect to get a tree by tomorrow? It takes time for the seed to grow into a tree. Similarly one needs to become matured in order to attain Self Knowledge. It doesn't mean that there is no benefit of visiting Arunachala for several times. Let's take the instance of a coconut. Suppose we keep beating it on the ground and the coconut breaks only on the tenth beat, does it imply that all the prior 9

beats were useless? The coconut broke not merely due to the tenth beat but all the prior 9 beats



contributed towards the breaking of the coconut. Similarly even if you visit Arunachala and attain Self Knowledge in a single day, it is not the result of that single day. It is the result

of the effort of several births and the Love for Arunachala. No one will go back empty handed from here



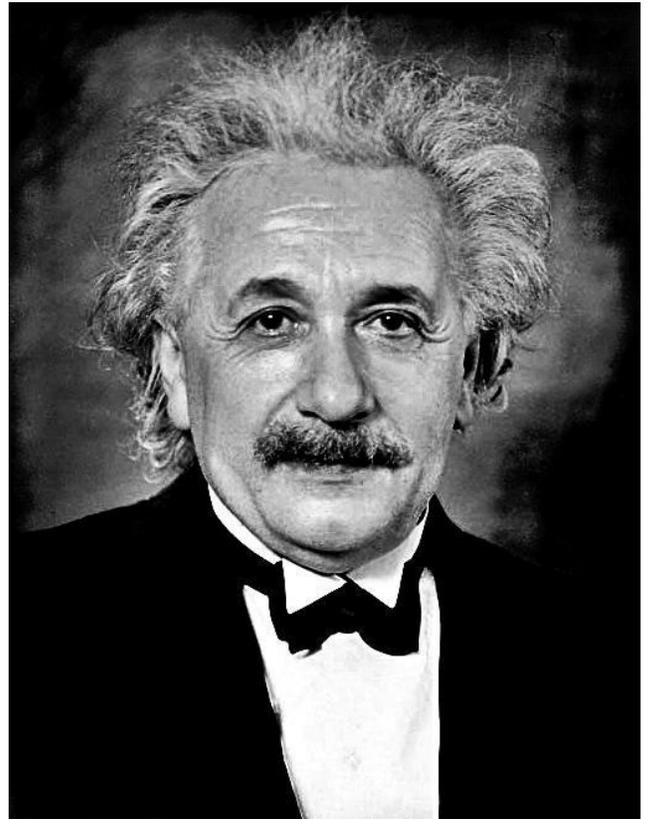
(Arunachala). The atheists become theists, the theists turn out to be devotees and the devotees become Jnanis. A Jnani alone attains the very nature of God. Your hand gets burnt whether you touch the fire knowingly or unknowingly. You need not ask: "Oh! fire, Please burn me upon touching you." The fire does its work irrespective of being asked. It is the same even with Lord Arunachala. Whether we ask Him or not, He performs His work.

God is omniscient, the ever witnessing one and the greatest intellect.

God exists. He exists as the Indweller. When you become fit enough and get qualified for His Grace, He blesses you with His very nature. It happens only in your last birth. Therefore don't claim: "I have devotion & Knowledge. I am constructing temples, digging wells and worshipping God and hence God has to listen to me." Learn to abide by God's will. It is only called as Self Knowledge. Mend your life according to His will. It is only called as Self Knowledge. Don't act hastily. If you really possess devotion and surrender towards God, God blesses you with everything in appropriate time. God knows what is best for you. You think that God doesn't know about you. Your ego has gone to such an extent that it presumes that

God doesn't know anything. ***God is omniscient, the ever witnessing one and the greatest intellect.*** Einstein said: "God is not an objective reality ie., not visible to

your eyes." Don't presume that God doesn't exist since He is invisible,. All that is visible is not true. If God is also visible, how can He become true? Then what is the purpose of toiling hard for several births



and attaining that which is untrue? Why should you crave for that (nose) which will be lost on a mere sneeze? God is the absolute truth. God is one and only one. You are unable to view Him alone in all this diversity.

God decides in advance when and where to bless you.

God decides what has to be done as well as when and where it needs to be done. He decides when and where you have to be blessed with Self Knowledge. Recently a devotee said: "Nannagaru, God first blessed me with good thinking faculty and then with



money. Had he blessed me with the money first and then with the good thinking faculty, I would have been totally ruined by losing it in a card game. I would have become hopeless both in this world and the worlds beyond."

Therefore God decides in advance when and where to bless you.

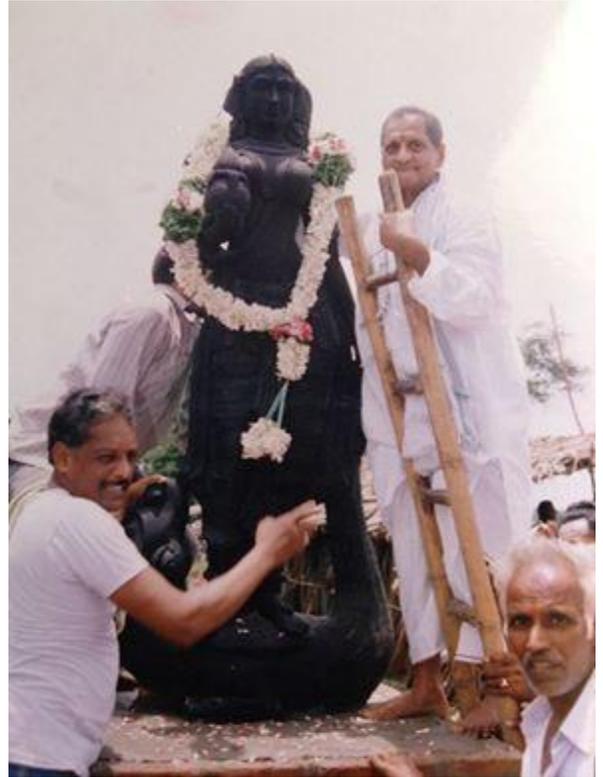
God waits so that you will not get ruined



When the death itself accompanies you as a shadow forever, why doesn't God accompany you? If you ask God for something and He doesn't bless you with the same, don't think otherwise. God will certainly bless you. He waits so that you will not get ruined on

attaining it immediately. God is ready to bless you with liberation here and now. But are you ready to bear the same? You cannot restrain yourself on being lucky or

getting some money or winning an election. You ask your acquaintance: 'Who are you?' You ask your relatives: "From which place do you hail? I remember seeing you somewhere." Then how



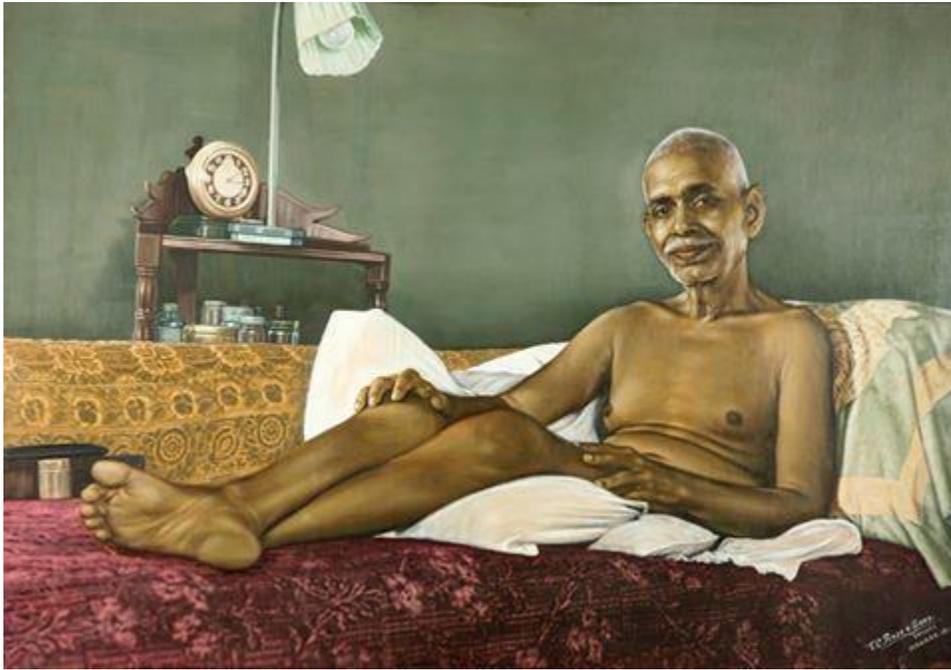
can you bear liberation? Therefore don't be in a hurry. If you pray God for something, he decides an epoch as to when, where and how to bless you with the same. If God feels that you will get ruined, He will delay in showering His blessing. He will look after your everything.

Don't Worry. Place your burdens upon God.



Don't worry about anything. Get rid of worry and learn devotion. The fire burns only the dead whereas worry burns a person all alive. Hence don't worry. Learn to put your burdens upon God. God can bear any amount of burden. When God is bearing the burden of this entire Universe, can't he bear your burden?

There is hope. Don't ever give up hope.



Once, a devotee came to Bhagavan Ramana and said: "Bhagavan I have lost everything. How should I live?" Bhagavan replied: "Do you still have the hope to live?" The devotee replied: "Yes". Bhagavan said: "That is enough to bring you back everything." Don't ever give up hope. It will even bring you liberation. Don't give up the hope of attaining Self Realization. Don't give up hope even on losing everything. Don't



get worried if you don't possess devotion. Try to attain the same. Devotion begets liberation. Live with hope. Learn devotion rather than getting worried. There is hope. One may live even without food but not without hope. Live in the hope that you will see God one day. Live in the hope that God will bless you with Self Knowledge.

