

# Pearls of Wisdom



Live instances of  
*Sadguru Sri Nannagaru* preaching

## Only the strong, stable and firm desire will be fulfilled



A devotee had an intense desire to attain liberation. However her husband said: "You must become my wife even in the next birth." The devotee came along with her husband to Sri Nannagaru and asked: "Whose desire is going to be fulfilled?" Sri Nannagaru replied: "*One whose desire is strong, stable and firm, only their desire will be fulfilled.*"

**If you willingly perform the task allotted by God, you will get the result of doing Japa and Dhyana (Meditation)**

Once a lady approached Sri Nannagaru and said: "I don't know the reason but I was unable to



honour my husband from the very first day of my marriage. He is a good person I have been giving him food and coffee mechanically. But recently I happened to read the magazine 'Ramana Bhaskara'. It contained: '*Even though you may not like the task allotted to you by God, if you perform it willingly (putting aside your likes and dislikes)*



*as it is allotted by God, you will get the result of performing japa and dhyana through that work.'* Ever since I read this sentence, I started giving food and coffee to my husband willingly. By doing thus, I am feeling much happier than before. Even my husband seems to be happy." Sri Nannagaru said: "I was thinking to stop the publishing of Ramana Bhaskara. But after listening to you, I now realize the utility of publishing it. Now I will drop that idea."

**All the meritorious deeds and contemplation of God done in the middle age will prevent you in becoming bed ridden in your old age**



Once, Sri Nannagaru visited a very old lady. On seeing Sri Nannagaru, she said: "Nannagaru! Please bless me that I will die before becoming bed ridden. Sri Nannagaru replied: "You will die even before becoming bed ridden. However if you are destined to become bedridden, God will predetermine the people to serve you and



then only make you bedridden. After being bedridden, God will grant you death only after you have learnt all the required lessons. Even if you become bed ridden, aren't you giving an opportunity of earning merit to others?" Referring to this incident, Sri Nannagaru said: *"All the meritorious deeds and contemplation of God done in the middle age will prevent you in becoming bed ridden in your old age."*

**If you distribute your riches amongst your fellow beings, your pride will vanish**

Once a doctor came to Sri Nannagaru and said: "Nannagaru! These days my wealth has increased manifold. It is said that wealth begets pride. I feel it to be very much true. I can sense my pride though it is not yet



reflected in my words." Sri Nannagaru said: "Even if you attain any wealth as per your destiny, *if you distribute it amongst your fellow beings, your pride will vanish.*"

## God sends you trials only to test your patience and tolerance

A devotee said: "My son-in-law might lose his job. I feel very anxious when I think of it. Though I am trying my best to control my mind, I am unable to overcome my anxiety. However my daughter is very patient." Sri Nannagaru replied:



*"That patience and tolerance is only being examined now in this form. Spend more time in the remembrance and contemplation of God. All your anxiety will subside gradually."*



**None in this Universe has attained Self Knowledge till date without possessing dispassion**

A person said very happily: "Nannagaru! I don't have any dispassion but all my desires are getting fulfilled effortlessly. Now



I am very happy. I will get liberation also effortlessly." Sri Nannagaru did not get into any argument with that person but merely said: "You are much better than us". However after that person left, Sri Nannagaru said: "*None in this Universe has attained Self Knowledge till date without possessing dispassion.*"

## The false will never like the truth



Once, a devotee asked Sri Nannagaru: "Nannagaru! I whole-heartedly love everyone without any crookedness. I toil hard for their sake. I speak to them guilelessly. Still neither my parents nor my in-laws like me. Why is it so? Sri Nannagaru replied: "You are residing in Truth. *The false will never like the truth.* Therefore your people do not like you."

Forgetting is much more difficult than forgiving



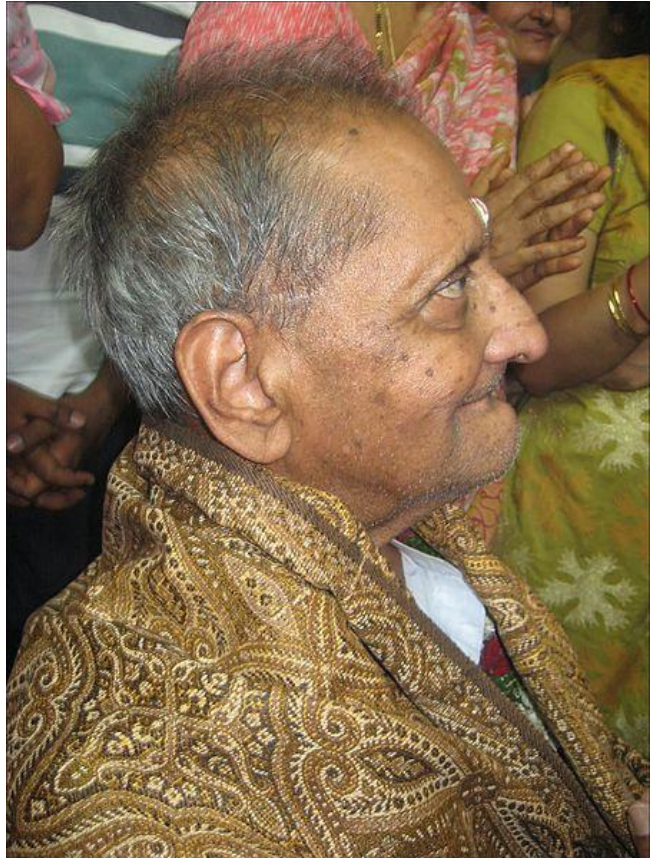
Once, an old lady doctor said: "Nannagaru! Though I had an opportunity of taking revenge against them who have tortured me, I never acted in an avenging manner. However I am unable to forget my sufferings. I am able to forgive them who caused me suffering but I am not able to forget them." Sri Nannagaru said: "*Forgetting is much more difficult than forgiving.*" Another devotee asked Sri



Nannagaru: "But how do we forget the suffering?" Sri Nannagaru replied: "Initially, we must stop speaking about that which needs to be forgotten. Though the thoughts pertaining to it may chase us for a while, we must have a strong determination to overcome them and surrender ourselves to the Almighty. We can then forget our suffering with His Grace. Even if we remember the suffering, it will not disturb us."

**When you possess the rajasic quality, it becomes very difficult to control the mind**

A daughter-in-law told Sri Nannagaru: "Nannagaru! Today while placing a mango in my mother-in-law's plate, I was reminded of the sufferings that she inflicted upon me in my initial days of



marriage. I immediately removed the mango from her plate." Referring to this incident, Sri Nannagaru said: "*When you are destined to experience the rajasic quality, it becomes very difficult to control the mind.* It becomes very difficult to forget."

**One should constantly contemplate upon their  
Personal God in order to attain Pure devotion**



A doctor called up Sri Nannagaru and asked: "Nannagaru! Please grant me pure devotion." Referring to him Sri Nannagaru said: "He has given the entire place within his heart to his children and grand children. He has not even given a share of 10 paise to us. Sri Ramakrishna



said: 'When you can't give me at least some place within your heart, how can I reform you?' In the Gita, the Lord said: 'Without purifying the mind, how can one attain pure devotion?' By constant contemplation upon God, the tendencies get melted. Only then devotion is attained. *Therefore one should constantly contemplate upon their Personal God in order to attain pure devotion."*

## You get back only when you give

A devotee told Sri Nannagaru: "We have distributed all the 30 acres of land amongst our daughters." Sri Nannagaru said: "You might have distributed the land but don't expect that they will look after your needs in your old age." She then



said: "If they will not look after my needs, God only will do the same." Then Sri Nannagaru said: "Did you ever give atleast an acre of land either to God or to the society or to any poor people? No. But you still expect God to look after you! *You get back only when you give.*"



## Jubilation emerges out of Rajasic quality



A devotee said: "Nannagaru! I am able to control my woe on being rebuked but I am not able to control my jubilation on being praised. What shall I do?" Sri Nannagaru replied: "*Such jubilation emerges out of Rajasic quality.* Until and unless the sattvic quality does not increase, the rajasic quality cannot be controlled. But



how can one increase their sattvic quality? One must view the indwelling God in everyone and carry on their work. One should speak in a humble and soft manner. One should take care that likes and dislikes will not enter their mind. Only then one can increase their sattvic quality."

**It is possible to give up your merit and demerit only when you maintain your equipoise**

A devotee asked Sri Nannagaru: "Lord Krishna said in the Gita: 'Give up your merit and demerit on this earth only and then die'. But how can I do that?"



Sri Nannagaru replied: "It is possible if you can *maintain your equipoise both in your favourable and unfavourable situations*. You must get neither elated nor depressed. If you thus lead a balanced life and maintain your composure till the very end, you can give up your merit and demerit very much on this earth and then face the death."

**As you desire to attain Bhagavan, even Bhagavan should think of revealing Himself to you**



A devotee approached Sri Nannagaru and said: "I have two goals in my life. One is to remain as a celibate throughout my life and secondly to attain Bhagavan. Now I am 60 years old. I have fulfilled my first desire by maintaining my celibacy till date. However I am left out with my



second desire of attaining Bhagavan." Sri Nannagaru replied: "*As you desire to attain Bhagavan, even Bhagavan should think of revealing Himself to you.* It is not sufficient if you alone think so. Two hands are required to clap. Isn't it? However don't stop desiring to attain Bhagavan. On some day or the other, Bhagavan will swallow the one who thinks so even without your knowledge. Then you will not have existence anymore. Then Bhagavan alone will exist. You will attain Self Realization. Don't have any doubt."

**It is the Divine law that God cannot remove your weaknesses without showing you**



A devotee said: "Nannagaru! These days I am becoming more and more self centered. After my marriage and after giving birth to a son, I feel that this has become much more intense. Nannagaru! I am very frightened when I think of this. These days I am not even donating as I used to donate previously. I used to consider

myself to be above money. Now I feel that it was entirely my false notion. So what shall I do? Having listened to her, Sri Nannagaru



said: "Basically you are not a self centered person. The impressions that exist within in the form of tendencies emerge out as thoughts. This is all the plan of God. He will show you all your weaknesses and remove them. *He cannot remove them without showing you. This is the Divine law.* Your nature is not money minded. Keep observing. Don't give up the chanting of God's name. Everything will be set right."

## Even suicide is committed only by the will of God



A devotee asked Sri Nannagaru: "My sister committed suicide and died. Did she die by the will of God? Can such a death be considered as part of her body's destiny?" Sri Nannagaru replied: "You have posed a very good question. *Yes, even suicide is committed only by the will of God.* It is a part of her body's destiny that she



should expire thus. Though we try to stop someone from committing suicide, they will not stop doing it. They will commit suicide due to the flaw in their thinking faculty. However they will get very filthy births on committing suicide. Unable to endure their hardships, they consider suicide as the only solution. They cannot think anything beyond it. But God ensures that they will face the same hardships in some other birth and will experience that sorrow. Therefore by contemplating upon God, if they endure the hardships patiently, any kind of hardship will get melted in the process of time. They must remember the slogan 'Even this will pass away.' Hardships must be utilized for our spiritual evolution."

**Self confidence increases Self mindedness and ego increases body mindedness**

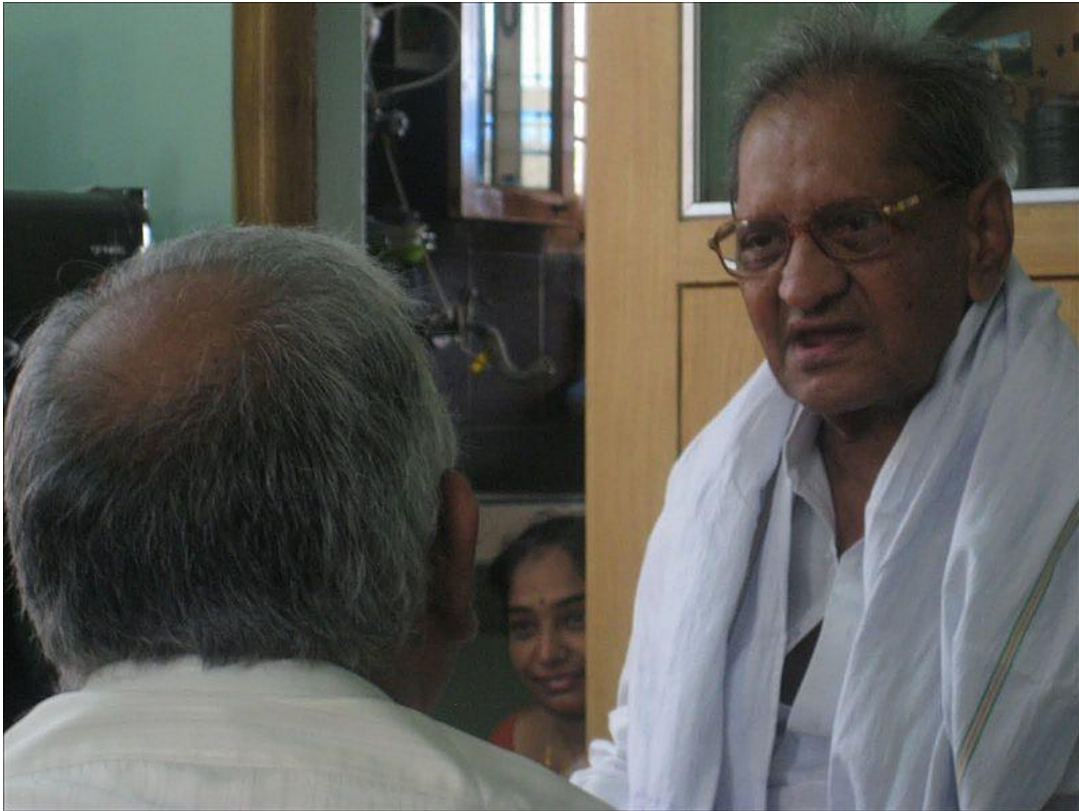


A devotee asked Sri Nannagaru the following two questions: " a) Initially I considered myself to be good. But now I feel I am very crooked. b) I am confused whether mine is self-confidence or ego. Please clarify." Sri Nannagaru replied:

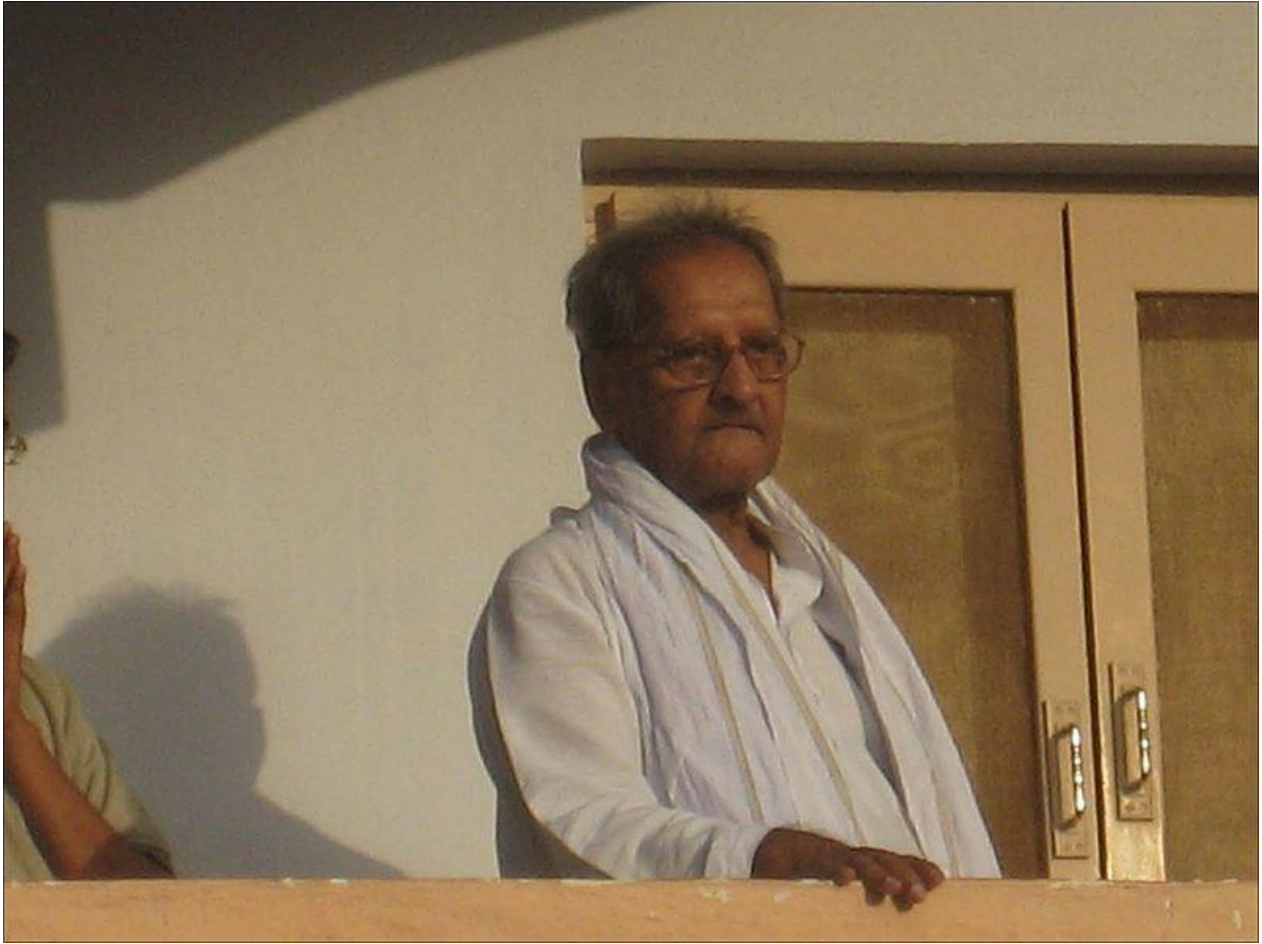
a) Both goodness and badness are part of your nature. When you get the sattvic quality, you must try to increase its duration. As and when the sattvic quality increases either through the Holy Company or by reading Holy books or by contemplating upon God, the rajasic and tamasic qualities get reduced automatically.

b) *Self confidence increases the Self mindedness whereas ego increases body mindedness.* Self confidence increases positive thinking whereas ego increases negative thinking. Self confidence increases the understanding and enhances the wealth of divine qualities whereas ego increases the demonic qualities and enhances illusion.

**The wealth of good qualities is much greater than the wealth of physical beauty**



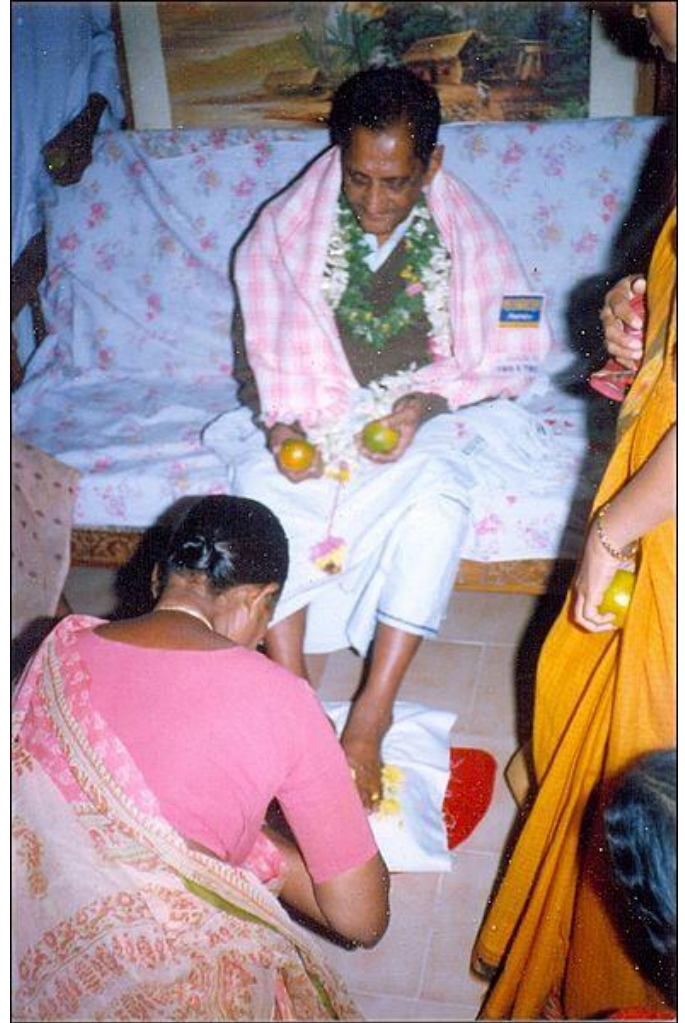
After Sri Nannagaru completed giving a sermon, a girl came to Sri Nannagaru and said: "Nannagaru! I have passed MCA with flying colours. I am also well settled in a good job currently. However as I look very black, the marriage parties are rejecting me."



Sri Nannagaru replied: "Only the unfortunate ones are going back. *You have the wealth of good qualities.* Only the fortunate ones will come forward to marry you." Later Sri Nannagaru was called and told that the girl's marriage got confirmed.

## Consider your fellow being's hardships as your own

A devotee called from U.S.A and said: "Nannagaru! My father-in-law and mother-in-law are diverting all our earnings (both mine as well as my husband's earning) to my sister-in-law in order to save her family. I feel like coming to India and asking them back our money." Sri



Nannagaru replied: "Do not come to India now. Consider your sister-in-law's body as your body. Consider her hardship as your own hardship. Meanwhile even her family will recover."

**Original Rama refers to the one who is the source of everything**



When Sri Nannagaru visited the temple in Palakollu, He saw the following written on the wall: "Sri Raghavendra Swami adored the original Rama." On reading this, Sri Nannagaru asked the priest in the temple: "What is meant by original Rama?" The priest replied: "Rama or Original Rama imply one and the same. The



word 'original Rama' has been taken from some book and inscribed on the wall of the temple." Later referring to this incident, Sri Nannagaru said: "The priest was not aware of the meaning for the word 'Original Rama'. *Original Rama refers to the one who is the source of everything.* It was this Original Rama whom Sri Raghavendra Swami adored."



**Stop identifying the ego within the devotees**  
**and recognize your ego first**



A person came to Sri Nannagaru and said: 'Day by day, the ego of the devotees is increasing.' Sri Nannagaru replied: "It is your ego which is recognizing their ego. *Stop watching their ego and observe your ego first. You will then attain Self Realization.* You are going to gain nothing on identifying the ego of the devotees. You will



only be wasting your time and energy. If you try to observe and reduce your ego, you will get reformed. When you cannot reform yourself, how can you reform the world? The devotee's flaws do not constitute your obstacle but your weakness to point out the flaws in devotees becomes your hurdle in attaining Self Realization. "

## You can never compare yourselves with Lord Rama



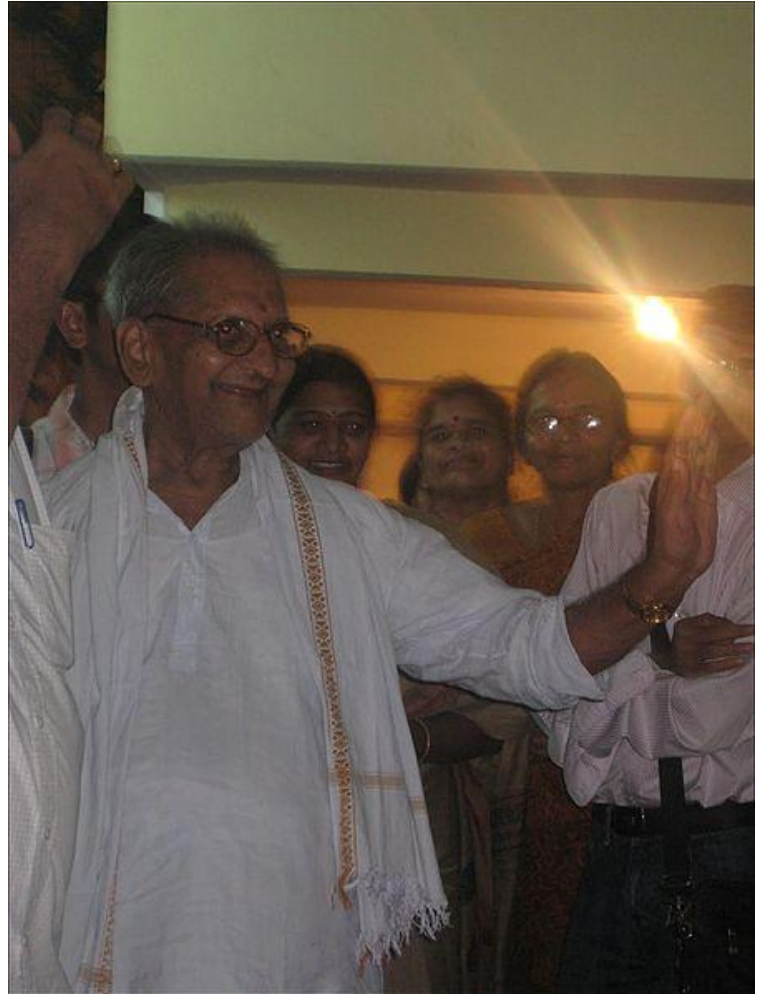
When Sri Nannagaru visited one of his relatives, the relative said: "I had experienced as many hardships as Lord Rama had experienced." Sri Nannagaru replied: "Did ever Lord Rama declare that he has undergone hardships? He happily left to the forests. All these are but your illusions." The relative said: "I don't like your



words." Sri Nannagaru said: "You do not like my words as you are unable to digest them. Even when Lord Rama left to the forests, he was very calm and peaceful. *And you are trying to compare yourself with Lord Rama!* Unlike Lord Rama you are experiencing all the luxuries at home. Just because your daughter-in-law does not listen to your words, you cannot compare yourselves with Lord Rama."

## Equanimity is equivalent to Yoga

A devotee's husband told Sri Nannagaru: "My brother's children have been staying with us for the sake of their studies. I have never seen my wife differentiating between our children and my brother's children since past 15 years." Sri Nannagaru



said: " Lord Krishna said in the Gita: 'Samatvam yogaha uchyate' ie *equanimity is equivalent to Yoga*. It purifies our mind."

## Education can be attained even through penance



Once, an engineer who normally did not move out from his house came to Sri Nannagaru. He said: "Nannagaru! It is not believable that a dacoit like Valmiki (who has killed several people) could write Ramayana. Someone else must have written Ramayana and declared Valmiki as its author." Sri Nannagaru said: "Why shall someone else write Ramayana and declare Valmiki as its author?" Later while addressing a



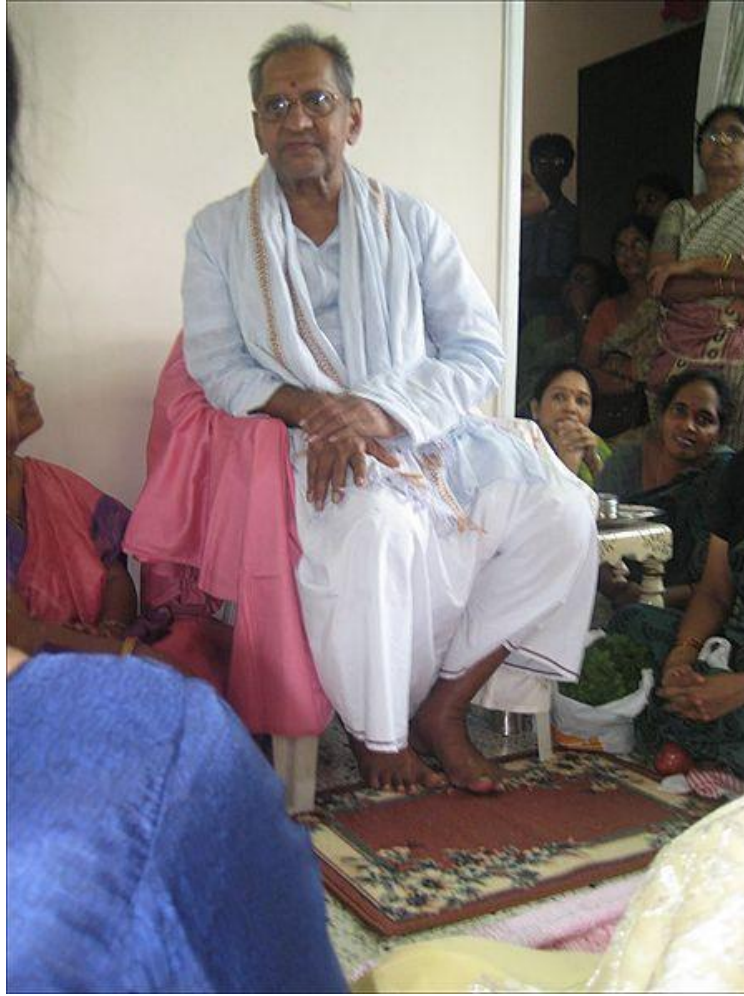
sermon, Sri Nannagaru said: "Valmiki has done a great penance. *Education can be attained even through penance.* Bhagavan studied only till 10th standard. Still he wrote poetry in Sanskrit, Tamil and Telugu. Sri Ramakrishna studied only till 3rd standard. Still he said: ' Not even a single sentence in the Gita can be amended as it came out directly from the mouth of God. If anyone criticizes any sentence in the Gita, it implies that they have not understood the same. Penance itself is education."

**Ahalya got back her original form only due to the touch of Lord Rama's feet**



Once, a devotee asked Sri Nannagaru: "In the Ramayana, Gautama Maharishi cursed his wife Ahalya to turn into a stone. However he also said that Ahalya would get back her original form at the touch of Lord Rama's feet. So how did Ahalya become free? Is it due to the boon of Gautama Maharishi or due to the touch of





Lord Rama's feet?" Sri Nannagaru replied: "Gautama Maharishi visualized the future and narrated the same. *Ahalya got back her original form only due to the touch of Lord Rama's feet.* When she got back her original form, Ahalya said: "Oh! Rama, irrespective of whether I will get a human birth or an animal birth, please ensure that I will never forsake your feet."

**Rather than repeatedly contemplating upon your sin, it is better to contemplate upon your personal God**



A devotee said: "Nannagaru! I possess all good habits except for the habit of playing cards." Sri Nannagaru replied: "It's alright. Don't keep on brooding over that weakness. Even if the weakness within your thinking faculty has



converted into the bad habit of playing cards, you cannot overcome the same by brooding over it again and again. Contemplate upon your personal God. It doesn't matter whether your personal God is Lord Rama or Lord Krishna or Lord Venkateshwara. When you commit a sin, *instead of repeatedly thinking of it, it is better to contemplate upon your personal God.* Only then you will be released from the result of committing that sin. Therefore contemplate upon your personal God at least for a year without thinking about your weakness. You can then transcend your weakness of playing cards."

**If you depend upon others for the sake of your basic needs, it will lead towards your slavery**

A devotee said: "Occasionally my Mother gives me 10000 Rs but she always wants me to concede to her wishes. It is alright even if she doesn't give me those 10000 Rs. But she expects me to sit, stand and walk as per her will. She gives me money



with some motive." Sri Nannagaru replied: " In the Gita, Lord Krishna said: *Do not depend upon others for the sake of your food and clothes. If you do so, it will lead to your slavery. Atleast earn to the extent that will suffice in fulfilling your basic needs like food and clothing.*"

## You must forget all your possessions to attain Self Realization



Sri Nannagaru asked a devotee: "What assets do you possess?" The devotee gave an account of her houses, bank balance, farmlands etc., Then Sri Nannagaru said: "*You must forget all these in order to attain Self Realization.*"

**We should not curse them who are habituated to bad habits but should pray for them**



A devotee's husband told Sri Nannagaru: "These days my wife attends your sermons very frequently. Our card game is proceeding without any interruption. My wife doesn't watch any films. But she would quarrel a lot if I get involved in playing cards. Previously we used to quarrel a lot but now as she attends



your sermons, we are finishing our card game by the time she returns back home. Nannagaru! A lot of people are thus getting benefitted from your sermons." Referring to the above dialogue, Sri Nannagaru said: "Everyone is concerned with their own world. The wife is fond of Holy Company and the husband is fond of playing cards. Both their wishes are being fulfilled. *We should not curse such people rather we should pray God to bestow them with good thinking faculty.*"

**700 verses in the Gita represent 700 different paths to attain Self Realization**



Sri Nannagaru asked a devotee: "What curries did you cook today?" While mentioning the curries that she has cooked, the devotee said: "I have cooked four curries today." Then Sri Nannagaru said: "Why do you need four curries? Isn't one curry enough?" The devotee replied: "Nannagaru! we are a joint family. If





we cook four different varieties of curries, the children will eat according to their liking." Then Sri Nannagaru said: "Yes. You are right. Even Lord Krishna mentioned 700 verses in the Gita so that the spiritual aspirants can perform spiritual practices according to their mental make-up. *700 verses represent 700 different paths to attain Self Realization.*"

**Sorrow is inevitable if you consider yourselves  
to be the cause of your action**



A bank employee worked very hard and brought about the advancement of the bank that employed him. He retired while holding a senior position in the bank. Later he came to Sri Nannagar and said with a great grief: "The current employees of the bank are ruining the



bank." Sri Nannagaru replied consolingly: "It's alright. Now that you have retired, what can you do about it? Presume it to be similar to your children ruining your hard earned money. Thinking thus, try to get rid of your anxiety." However, unable to get rid of his anxiety, the bank employee died of grief. Then Sri Nannagaru said: "The bank employee *considered himself to be the cause of his action.* He considered that the bank progressed only because of his efforts. He did not realize that it is God who is the cause of our actions. Therefore he became anxious and died of grief."

**When the destiny forcibly drives you forward,  
you cannot stop the same**

In spite of making her best efforts, a devotee could not escape from a particular hardship. When she was repenting for her failure, she happened to listen to an old cassette of Sri Nannagaru. Sri Nannagaru said: "If you are conversant with swimming, you can



swim across a lake or a river. But can you swim across an ocean? No. *When the destiny forcibly drives you forward, can you stop the same?* No." As soon as the devotee heard these words, her sorrow subsided instantly."



When the devotee narrated this to Sri Nannagaru, Sri Nannagaru said: "The old cassettes resemble the fresh milk found at the udder of the cow. They represent the Heaven's Ganges. They are not adulterated. Since the devotees are unable to digest it, currently we are mixing water in it in the form of stories and epics."

**When a human being does not have forgetfulness, how can God have the same?**



Once, Sri Nannagaru asked a devotee: "Did you forget the task that I wanted you to undertake?" The devotee replied: "No, Nannagaru. I did not forget it. I am waiting for the appropriate time." Referring to this, Sri Nannagaru said: "*When a human being does not have forgetfulness, how can God have the same?* God is waiting for the appropriate time to mature you and thereby bestow you with liberation."

**Self Knowledge and Peace within heart keep on increasing as we distribute them**

A doctor visited Sri Nannagaru and while returning back, he extended his hands towards Sri Nannagaru to bid him good bye. Sri Nannagaru also extended his hands and said: 'This is called as shake hand.' The doctor walked up to the street end and again returned back. He said: "I am



experiencing indescribable Bliss after your shake hands. If you continue doing such shake hands with everyone, beware your peace may diminish." Sri Nannagaru replied: "*Self Knowledge and Peace within heart keep on increasing as we distribute them.* Therefore my peace will keep on increasing but will never diminish."

## Not only Self enquiry but Surrender also leads to Self Realization



Once, a devotee asked Sri Nannagaru: "Bhagavan has suggested the Path of Self enquiry in order to control the mind. But in spite of doing Self enquiry, my thoughts are not subsiding. They are increasing manifold." Sri Nannagaru replied: "You are trying to cling to a single sentence of Bhagavan and declaring that





you are unable to control your mind. Even Self enquiry facilitates in the destruction of the mind. However Lord Krishna narrated several means of destroying the mind in the Gita. Even if one possesses complete faith in the Lord or chants his name or performs japa or meditation, or *surrenders himself to the feet of Lord, the mind gets annihilated*. Adopt the method that suits you the best and try to annihilate your mind."

## Do not advertise your spiritual practices

Once, Sri Nannagaru said: *"You are all performing 5 paisa worth of spiritual practices and making 95 paisa worth of advertisement.* On doing so, you cannot attain Self Realization." Having listened to this, a minister told Sri Nannagaru: "I have become a minister only on doing 5 paisa worth of work and 95 paisa worth of advertisement." Sri Nannagaru replied: "You are talking about politics. Don't mix the politics in this context. When you adopt the above methodology, your sattvic quality will not increase in spite of doing any good work."



**God has already decided who has to take care of the orphans**



Once a lady visited Sri Nannagaru and said: "My son is physically handicapped as well as mentally retarded. He cannot get up from his bed. I have been looking after him till date. Now I am almost 70 years old. I am not saying that it is now difficult for me to look after him.

But I am anxious about who will take care of him after my death? I am unable to overcome that anxiety." Sri Nannagaru replied: "*God has already decided everything. It is bound to happen accordingly.* Do not become anxious unnecessarily." After that lady left, Sri Nannagaru turned towards one of the devotees seated there and said: ' That lady did not look after her in-laws in her previous birth in spite of being capable enough to do that. Therefore she has been forced to serve her son in this birth."



**One should not desire anything but permit the body's destiny to take its course**

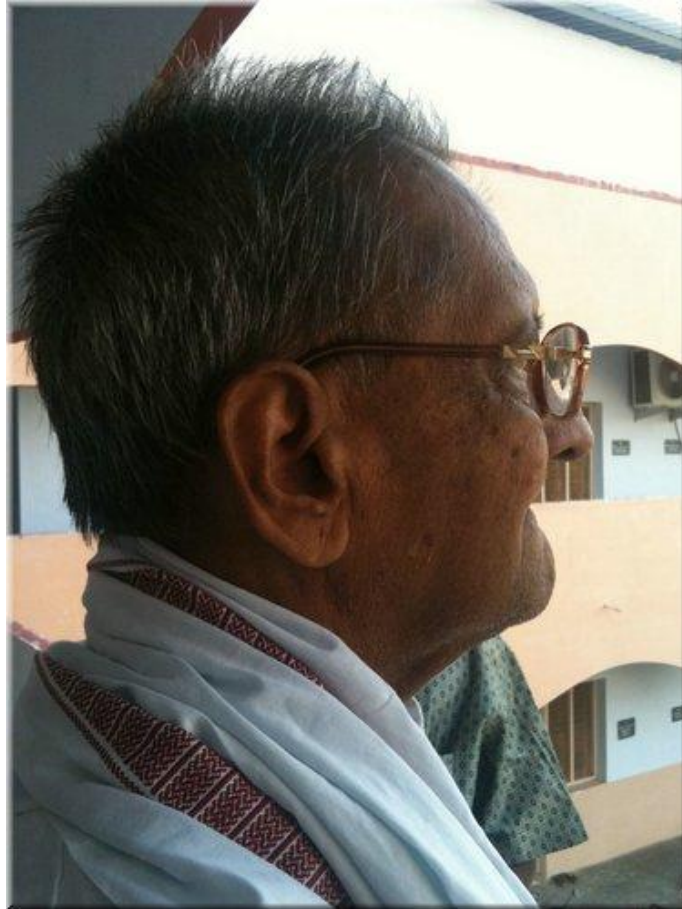


Once, an old lady said to Sri Nannagaru: "I have a problem with my husband. He does not take his food until I give it with my own hands. Even if daughters-in-law are ready to do, he wants

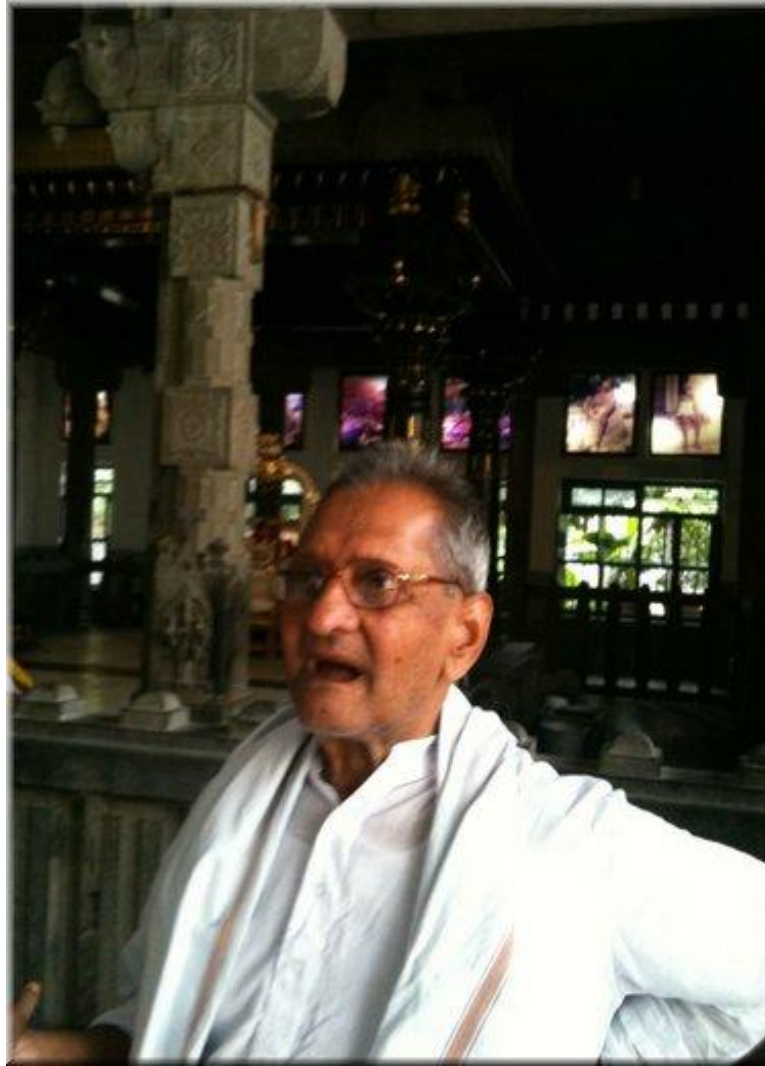
me alone to accomplish all his tasks. Now both of us have become old. If I die before him, he will have to strive a lot. Therefore it is better that he dies prior to me." After she left, Sri Nannagaru said: "Everything happens according to one's body's destiny. If not now, her desire will be fulfilled in some other birth. She will become a widow at a young age. *Therefore one should not desire anything but permit the body's destiny to take its course.*"



## Our Love must become Universal



On the death of his only son, a doctor said: "Nannagaru! I am no more interested in continuing with my medical practice. I will put an end to my earning. I will remove my name plate as a doctor." Sri Nannagaru replied: "Even I am like your son. Please continue with your

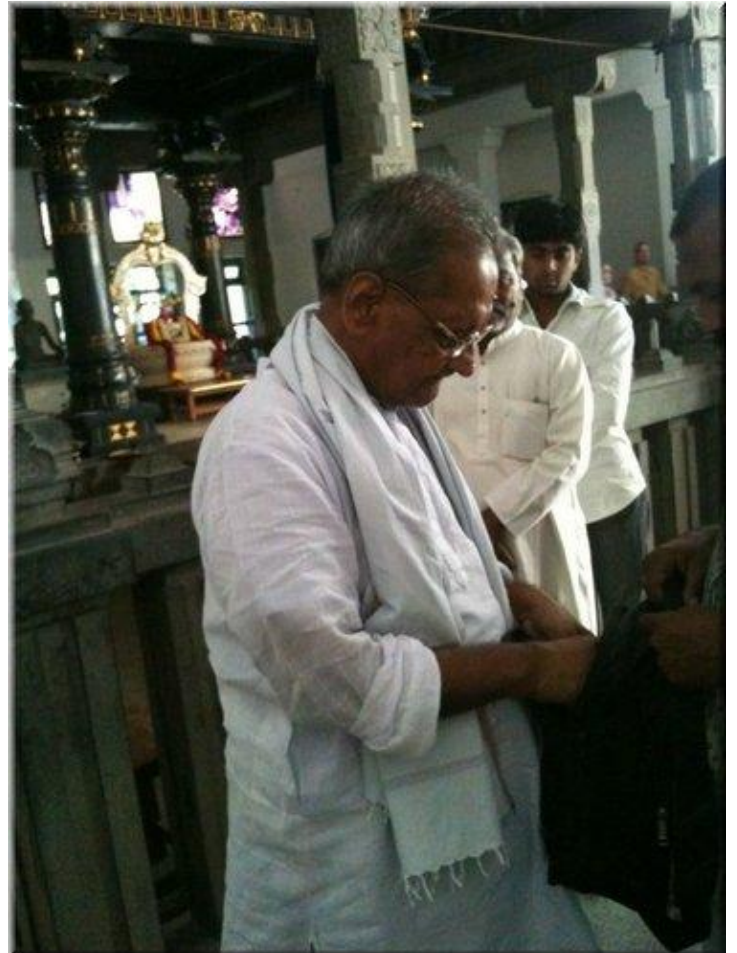


medical practice at least for my sake." The doctor then kept quiet and did not respond. Referring to him, Sri Nannagaru said: "The doctor's love is still limited. It has not become Universal yet. We must gradually try to extend the boundaries of our Love."



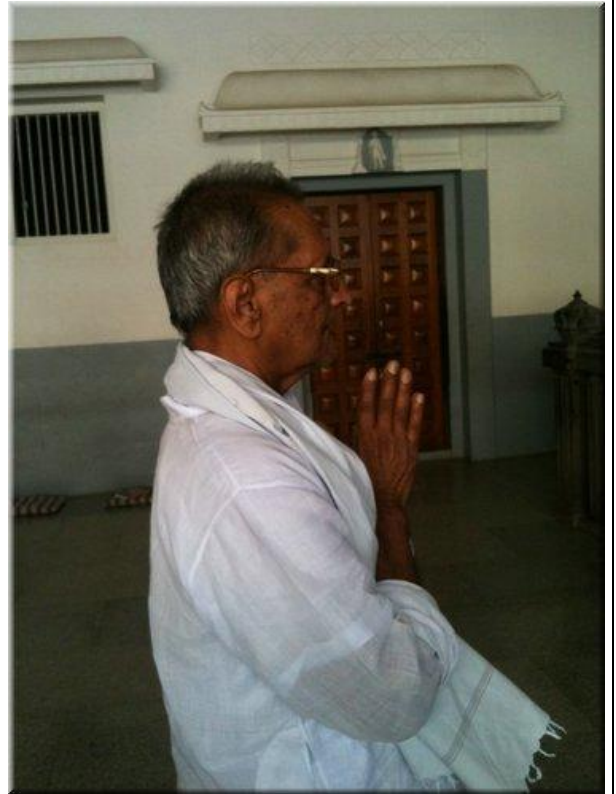
**When happiness is dependent upon external causes, it is bound to convert into sorrow**

Once, a person visited Sri Nannagaru. He made a great progress in his material life. He was being greatly honoured in the society. However he told Sri Nannagaru: "I am being adequately honoured but I am unable to transcend my



desire and anger. Moreover my sons, daughters-in-law, daughters and grand children are all well settled. Whenever I am reminded of it, I cannot stop from being happy. I am aware that I should not get elated but I cannot stop

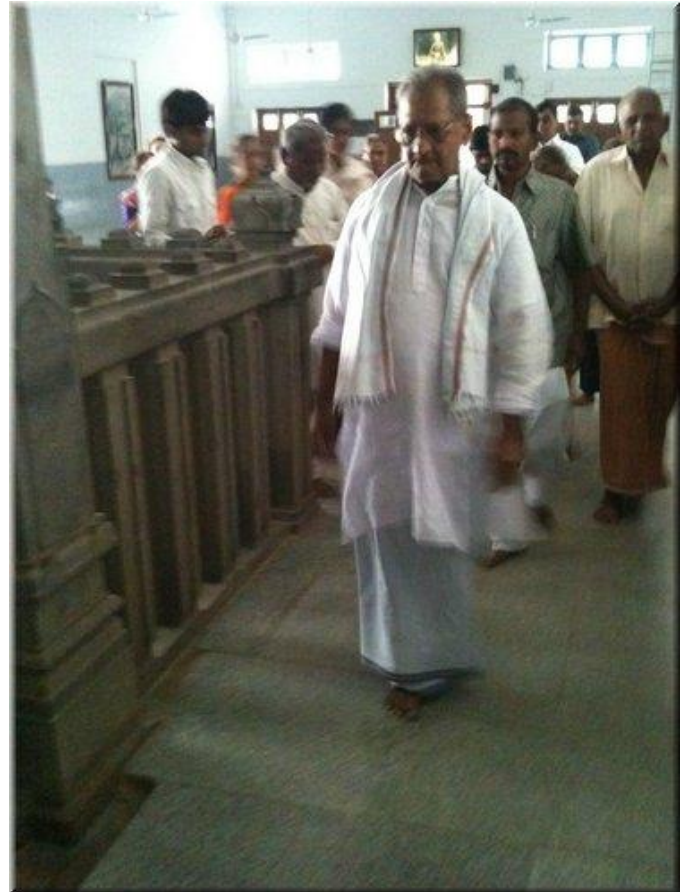
from being so. Today they are alright but tomorrow if they are going to face any kind of financial or social trouble; I am bound to become sorrowful. Isn't it true, Nannagaru?" Referring to that person, Sri Nannagaru said: "*When*



*happiness is dependent upon external causes, it is bound to convert into sorrow.* His happiness is dependent upon his children's happiness. Therefore it might convert into sorrow if his children become sorrowful." Sri Nannagaru indicated that both the happiness as well as sorrow are obstacles to attain Self Realization.

## One should desire neither an early death nor a long life

A devotee, who was more than 60 years old, came to Sri Nannagaru. He said: "My parents are very aged and don't have any more desire to live. When I informed them about my plan to visit you, they asked me to request you to lead them in the right



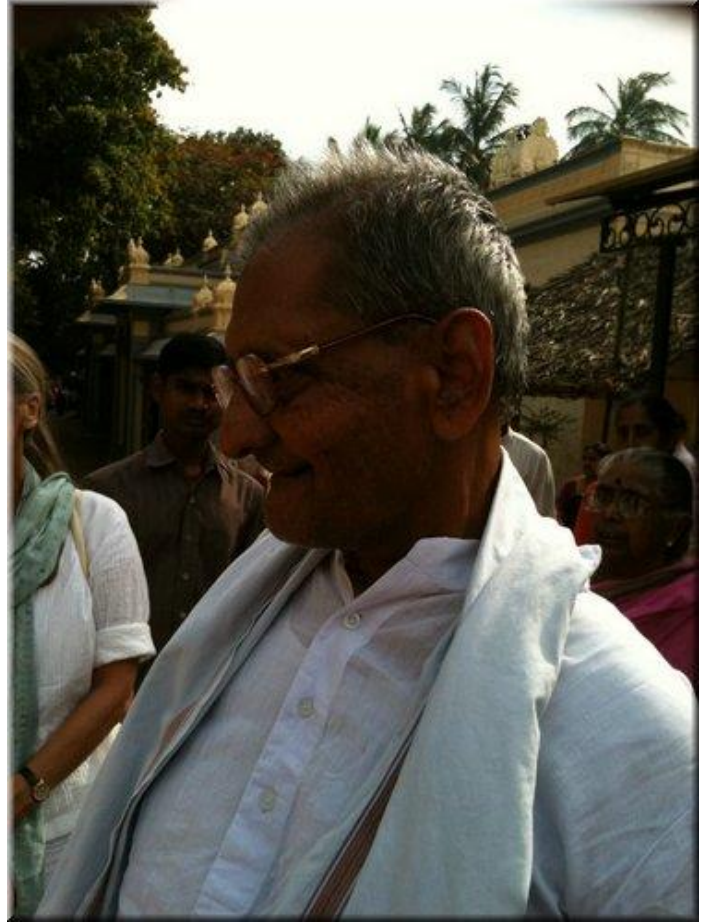
direction." Sri Nannagaru said: "Please tell them from my end that no one should ever think of the following two: a) I should die soon b) I should live for a long duration. Such thinking will lead towards our re-birth and thereby our bondage."

**If your donation causes you disturbance, it cannot be called as donation in a true sense**



Once, Sri Nannagaru was just beside the telephone. When the phone started ringing, Sri Nannagaru received the call. The person, who called, introduced himself and said that he wanted to speak to Sri Nannagaru. Sri Nannagaru handed over the phone to a nearby

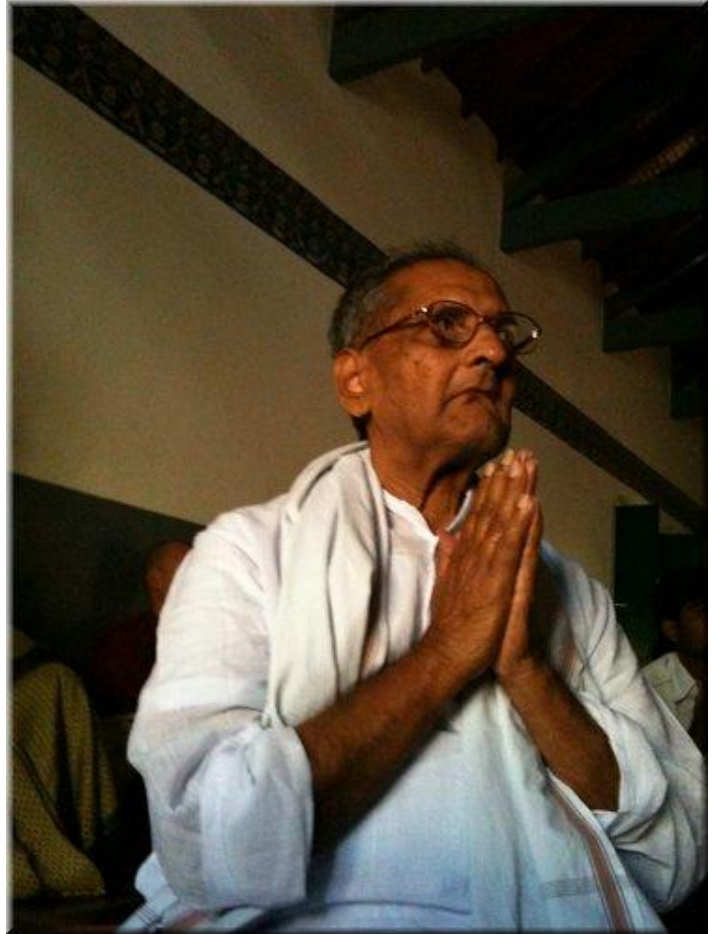
devotee and gestured him to lie that Sri Nannagaru was not at home. When the devotee put down the phone, Sri Nannagaru said: "The person who called me now has no other work. He is asking me for donation on a daily basis. Please



don't think otherwise for having asked you to utter lies. They are constantly asking me for political donations. I don't have any bad intention in uttering lies. Even he is not a bad man. *If our donation causes us disturbance, it cannot be called as donation in a true sense.* We must not donate to ineligible people."

**Excessive eating will lead you to sleep;**  
**Therefore eat moderately.**

Once, Sri Nannagaru asked a devotee: "What is wrong with your wife? Why doesn't she get up from the bed?" The devotee replied: "I took her to several doctors. All of them have insisted that her only disease is eating stomach full and sleeping to her heart's content. One is food and second is sleep. Nannagaru! You visited our house for several times. Did you ever see my wife working? When we eat stomach full, how can we prevent the sleep?"





Referring to the above dialogue, Sri Nannagru said: "Even while performing spiritual practices, excessive eating will lead us to sleep. *Therefore one should eat moderately and reduce their sleep in order to carry on their spiritual practices.*"

**Working skillfully, tolerantly and tactfully is called as Yoga**



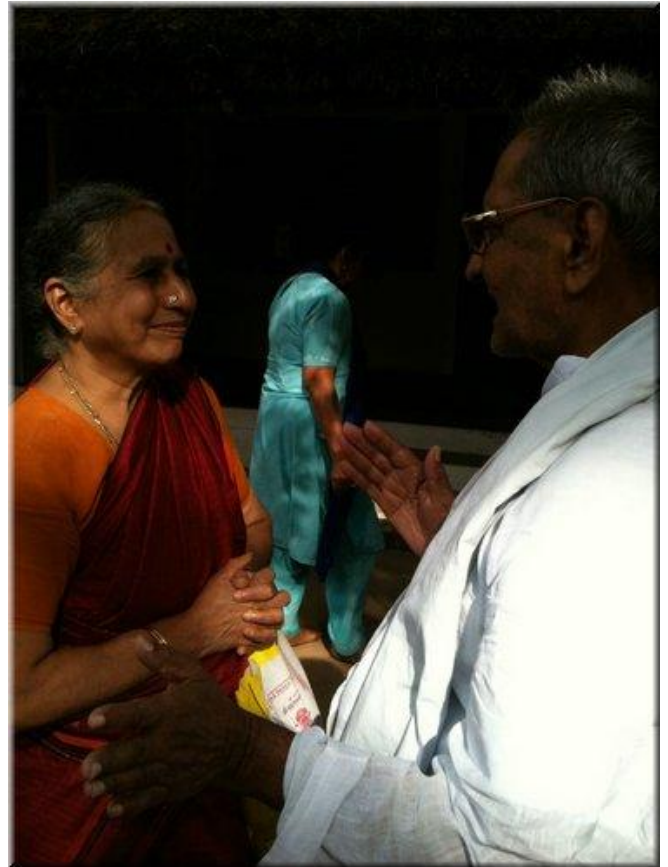
A doctor in Hyderabad conducted cataract operation to Sri Nannagaru's eyes. He told Sri Nannagaru: "I am doing this operation only for my satisfaction and not for the sake of money. Do you remember my message to permit me to



conduct the operation?" The doctor was trained in the famous Aurobindo hospital of Madhurai. He asked Sri Nannagaru to sleep on the bed. After 3 minutes he asked Sri Nannagaru to get up. The patient is normally given anesthesia before the commencement of the operation. So Sri Nannagaru was under the impression that he was being given anesthesia. Sri Nannagaru then asked the doctor: "What is this? Did you finish giving me anesthesia?" The doctor replied: "The anesthesia has been given as well as the operation has been done. Now you can get up from the bed." Referring to this, Sri Nannagaru said: "This is called as Yoga. *Working skillfully, tolerantly and tactfully is called as Yoga.* Working without any expectation of result is called as Yoga. Working without doer-ship is also called as Yoga."

**If you accept the insult patiently, your depths of tolerance will increase. It will in turn introvert your mind**

A devotee asked Sri Nannagaru: " You have said: 'Bear Injury and bear insult; even that is a part of sadhana (spiritual practice). But practically, it (bearing insult) is not as easy as it is said.'" Sri Nannagaru replied: " The scriptures declare: 'Bear



insult; even that is a part of sadhana (spiritual practices).' It is because Guru's Grace showers more upon them who patiently forbear the insult when compared to those who react back instantly. *If you accept the insult patiently, your depths of tolerance will increase. It will in turn*

*introvert your mind.* This disgrace did not fall upon you without the knowledge of God. If you think that God has blessed you with this disgrace only to teach you some lesson or to rectify some flaw within your thinking faculty, you will be able to endure the insult patiently. You must realize that you could have insulted someone in the same manner in one of your previous births. Hence you are reaping the fruit according to the seed that you have sown. Only then you will be able to forbear the insult. If you insult anyone, do remember that you will be cleansing them from their impurity, dirt and sins. That dirt, impurity and sins will settle down in your mind and an equivalent amount of your merit will be transferred to them."

## Don't ever expect that your children will look after you

An old man showed a letter written by his son to Sri Nannagaru. The son got married 4 years back. In the letter, the son asked the old man: "When are you going to vacate the room?" It implied that the son was asking his father when he was going to

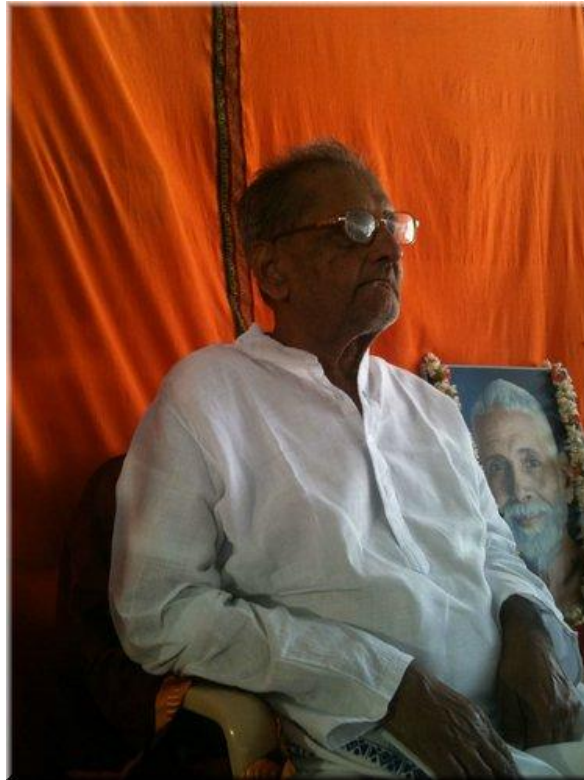


die. Referring to this, Sri Nannagaru said: "How can the room get vacated without the death of the old man? The life span is gifted by God. What can the old man do about it? *Don't ever expect that your children will look after you.* This is the dark-age. Body mindedness and



Ignorance is rampant in this age. Practice dispassion by constantly contemplating that 'One belongs to no-one'. Not that all the children will behave thus. But you should not have any expectation. If you possess expectation, you are bound to get disappointment."

**Grace is unseen and unheard. It is automatic  
Divine action**



A devotee said to Sri Nannagaru: "Previously, I first questioned you and then carried back your Grace in the form of your answers. Now I will not ask you any further. I will accept whatever you will grant me graciously." Then Sri Nannagaru replied: "*Grace is unseen and unheard. It is automatic Divine action.*"

**The bad people in the society increase the goodness and tolerance of the good people**



A 25 year old girl posed a question to Sri Nannagaru in writing. She asked:" Why do bad people exist in this world? Why do they subject the good people to suffering? How should the good people tolerate them? Please direct me towards the path of reducing the sorrow." Sri Nannagaru replied: "Both the good people as

well as the bad people are needed in this society. Both the mouth as well as anus is equally important in a human body. If the mouth consumes the food and grants energy to the body, anus excretes the filth within the body and protects its health. Similarly *the bad people in the society increase the goodness and tolerance of the good people*. These good people very soon turn out to be Mahatmas. As the Mahatmas tolerate the ill deeds of the bad people, their very existence makes the society very healthy. The very sight, touch, preaching and existence of the Mahatmas help in establishing the Universal Peace. The Mahatmas take birth in order to direct several Jivas from ignorance towards Self Knowledge. Therefore enduring the ill-deeds of bad people will increase our purity and introvert our mind."



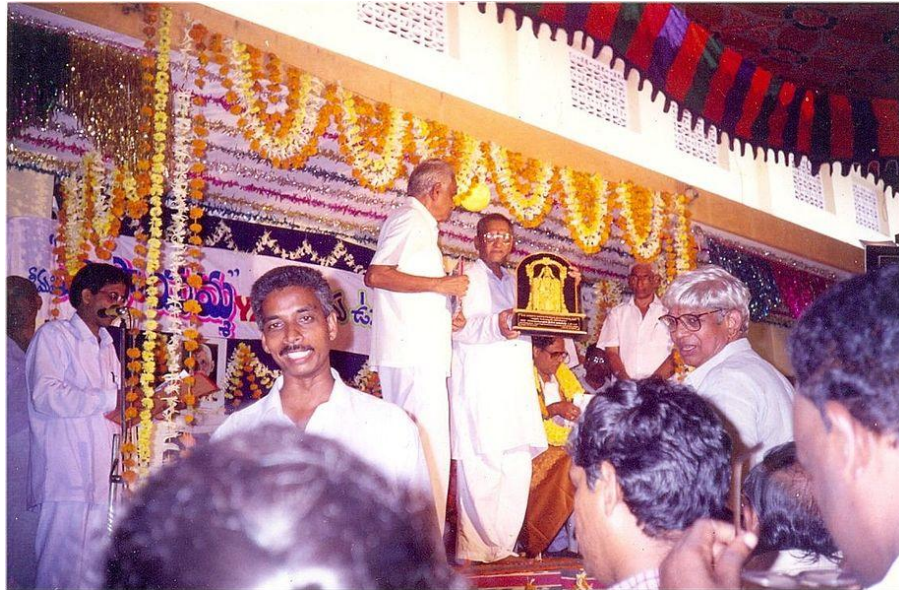
## Make effort and reduce your anger

A devotee asked Sri Nannagaru very sincerely: "These days my anger has increased a lot. I am getting angry over my family members even for petty things. Though I want to control my anger, I am unable to do so." Sri Nannagaru



replied: "You are getting angry only due to your haughtiness. If you don't reduce it by making effort, God will create circumstances and press you in the nook of the door by which you will vomit out your weaknesses. *Make effort and reduce your anger.* Guru's Grace exists forever."

**You must possess neither too much nor too less of money**



A Collector's wife said to Sri Nannagaru:" My husband has a great honour in the society but he has not saved much money." Sri Nannagaru replied: "Don't you have sufficient savings? What will you do by earning more money? Your daughter's marriage is already completed. They are already employees of a bank. Even you will get pension on retiring from your job. Though you don't have surplus money, the



money you possess is sufficient. If you have excess money, you will be constantly afraid of the Income tax raids. Also excess money will slowly pollute your mind. Possessing money is equivalent to wearing slippers. The slippers should be neither too small nor too big. If they are too small, you will get prickled by the thorns. If they are too big, you may slip down. Similarly *you must possess neither too much nor too less of money.*"

**Keep your 'i' intact but make it as servant of God.**

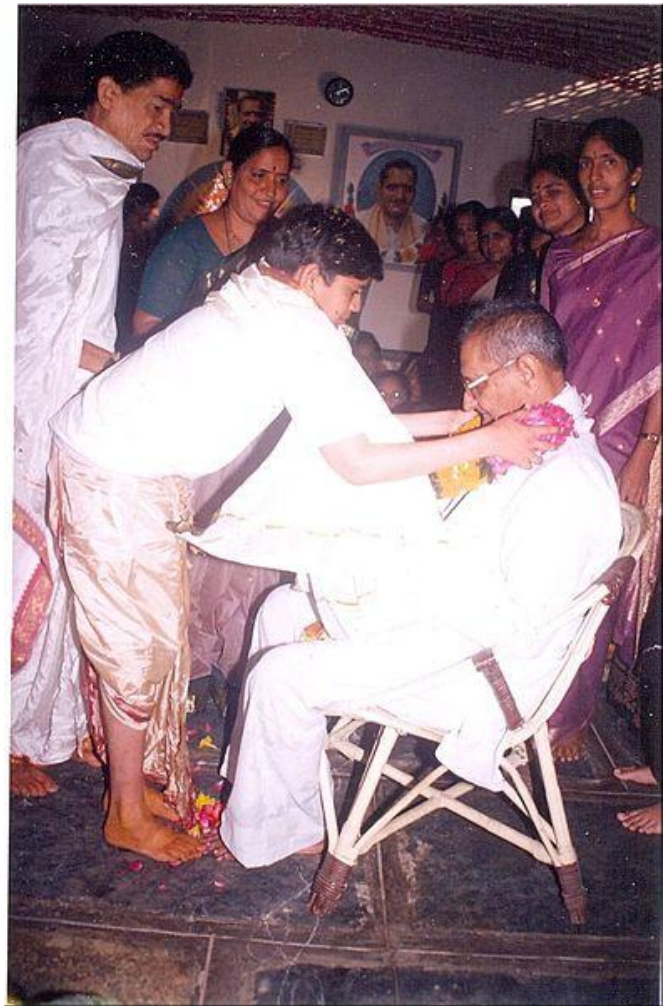


A devotee said: "Nannagaru! These days I am being subject to fear. However, Bhagavan had asked us to get rid of 'i'(ego). I am habituated to chant the name of Ramana. But whenever I chant his name, I am reminded that Bhagavan

had asked us to get rid of the 'i' ie ego. Once I am reminded of that, I am being subject to fear. I am afraid what will happen to me once I lose the 'i'?" Sri Nannagaru replied: "Don't lose anything. *Keep your 'i' intact and make it as servant of God.* Whatever has to happen will happen. As Hanuman always stayed at the feet of Lord Rama, even you place your 'i' at the feet of Lord Rama. Hanuman used to carry out the task assigned to him. Again He used to return back to the feet of Lord Rama. Similarly, even you carry out your task and put back your 'i' at the feet of God." The devotee said: "Nannagaru! Your reply has been very satisfactory. I will act according to your instruction." Sri Nannagaru said: "Now, you will not be subject to fear anymore."

**All your sorrow will be converted into Bliss**  
**when you experience that everything happens**  
**as per God's will**

A devotee asked Sri Nannagaru: "Nannagaru! It is said that everything is happening as per God's will. It is alright as long as we read it or hear it. But when the situation demands, we are unable to digest it." Sri Nannagaru replied:



"Even after performing spiritual practices for 100 births, you may or may not understand the above sentence. *If you are able to bring it into experience, even a heap of sorrow will get converted into a heap of Bliss.*"

**You resemble the fish caught in a net if you are happy due to external circumstances**



Once, Sri Nannagaru asked a college principal: "How are you?" The principal replied: "I am alright. All my sons, daughters, daughters-in-law and grand children are all alright. All of them are doing well. I am doing well only because they are doing well." Referring to this principal, Sri Nannagaru said: "*All of you*

*resemble the fish caught in a fisherman's net.* The Master of the net has thrown the net into water. All of you are caught in that net. When the master of the net arrives and pulls out the net from water, unable to find water, you will become breathless and then die.



Until the arrival of the death god, enjoy that blissful ignorance. Bhagavan has called it as learned ignorance. There is nothing worthwhile of being proud in this entire Universe. What is man's life when compared to eternity?"



## When you possess money, you must be able to contain the same by being more humble

Once a couple, who were highly qualified and earned a very high salary visited Sri Nannagar. When Sri Nannagar asked them to sit on a chair, they refused to sit. Pointing towards them, one of the devotees asked Sri



Nannagar: "How do they look?" Sri Nannagar replied: "They seem to be very simple." Then the devotee said: "Both of them are highly qualified doctors and have a very good medical practice in a nearby village. They own an entire street in their village." Referring to them, Sri Nannagar said: "*When you possess money,*



*you must be able to contain the same by being more humble.* Else it will distance you from the Self. You will get money, education, fame and power only if you are destined to get them. Even if people try to obstruct them out of jealousy, they cannot do it."

**Being completely devoid of tendencies is much more difficult than attaining Self Knowledge**



A devotee asked Sri Nannagaru: "Some people state that until all the tendencies are annihilated, Self Knowledge cannot be attained. However some people state that it is easy to attain Self Knowledge but it is very difficult to become completely devoid of tendencies. Is it true that tendencies exist even after attaining Self Knowledge?" Sri Nannagaru replied: "We can infer that sometimes tendencies do exist

even after attaining Self Knowledge. For instance, in spite of attaining Self Knowledge, Sage Vishwamitra built the Trishanku heaven and got ruined. To take another instance, in order to test Vyasa Maharishi, Mother Annapoorna ensured that he did not get food for 4 days. Then in a great rage Vyasa Maharishi became ready to curse the city of Kashi. Instantly Mother Annapoorna appeared before him and said: "You have become ready to curse the city of Kashi! I will not curse you but will order you to live in the outskirts of Kashi. Therefore Vyasa Maharishi lived in the Vyasa Kashi and continued with his writings. Thus it is possible that one may get ruined in spite of attaining Self Knowledge. Hence *being completely devoid of tendencies is much more difficult than attaining Self Knowledge.*"

**You will attain Self Knowledge only on being eligible**

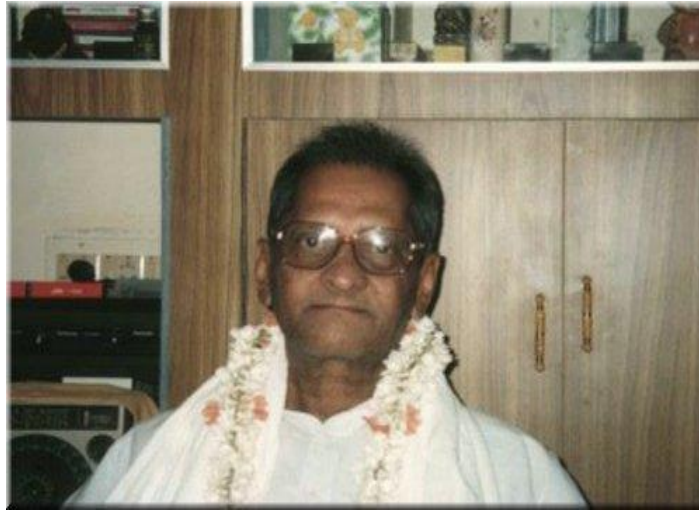


A devotee asked Sri Nannagaru in Arunachala: "Nannagaru! Please grant me Self Knowledge." Sri Nannagaru replied: "If you have the required eligibility, you need not ask. If you don't have the eligibility, you will not get it even if you ask. A dispute arose amongst family members in matter of property sharing. Both the parties in the dispute argued to a great extent. Then one



of the parties calmed down and told the other party: 'Take whatever you want.' The other party said: 'Do we look like beggars to accept the same?' Stating thus they started disputing again. Self Knowledge is not something that can be granted on being asked. To ask is another form of ego. Therefore *you will attain Self Knowledge only on getting the required eligibility."*

**You need not give up chanting the name of Lord in the name of Self enquiry**



Sri Nannagaru asked a devotee: "Which God's name are you chanting?" The devotee replied: "I am chanting neither Rama's name nor Krishna's name nor Shiva's name. I am doing the self enquiry as prescribed by Bhagavan." Referring to her Sri Nannagaru said: "She got a good hold over Bhagavan's preaching. Hence self enquiry is enough for her. But *we need not give up chanting the name of Lord taking her as an ideal.*"

## Swami Vivekananda came onto this earth to awaken the sleeping India

Once, a devotee asked Sri Nannagaru in Arunachala: "Why didn't Swami Vivekananda preach the Upanishads?" Sri Nannagaru replied:



"The very purpose of Swamiji's birth is different. How can He preach the Upanishads? *He was born to awaken the nation.* He was not a school master to preach the Upanishads. *He came onto this earth to awaken the sleeping India.* Once his work got finished, He left his body. He preached a lot for the sake of the nation."



**There is no relationship between the spoken language and grammar**



Once, a devotee who was a doctorate in the English language asked Sri Nannagaru: "Nannagaru! You had visited England twice. In which language did you speak in England?" Sri Nannagaru replied: "I spoke in English only. English people don't speak the same English that they have learnt in a class room. Even I



have spoken in the same manner. Did all the Americans go to school and learn English? Are all the Telugu people aware of the Telugu grammar? As you are well versed with grammar, you are thinking thus. However *there is no relationship between the spoken language and grammar*. Even Americans commit a lot of grammatical mistakes in their speech."

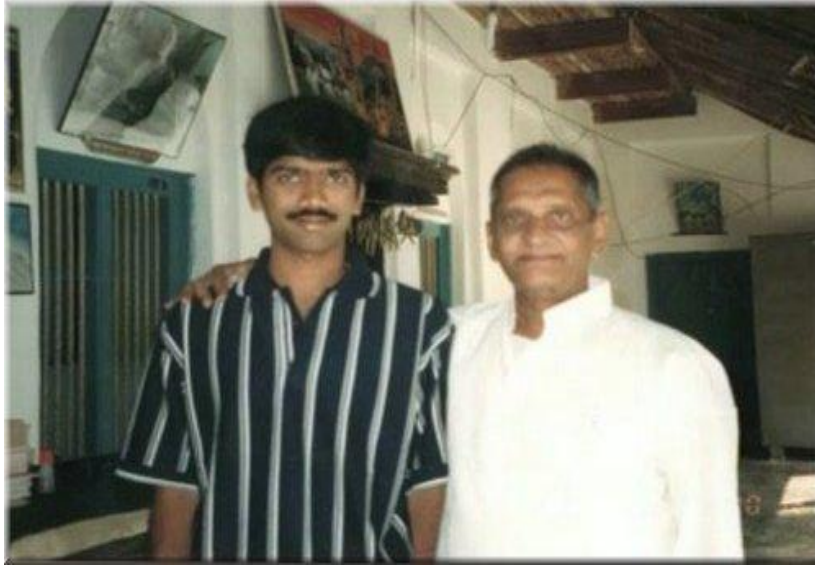
**Your doer-ship alone is the cause of your sorrow**



A devotee came to Sri Nannagaru and said: "I have been doing medical practice along with my son-in-law. But recently we had a dispute. I had a slip of my tongue and said to him: ' It is all due to our hard work that today you and your wife are able to roam in a car.' My son-in-law became very angry and replied: ' Now we will

not use that car anymore.' He did not stop there. He further said: ' We will leave this place and set up our own medical practice.' Nannagaru! This is subjecting me to an intense grief and anxiety." Sri Nannagaru replied: "Why should you become so anxious? Let him set up his own medical practice. Till now he has been dependent. Now he will become independent." Then the devotee said: "Their departure is not making me sorrowful. But I am subject to sorrow when I remember that they are leaving only because of me." Sri Nannagaru said: "It is only called as doer-ship. Why do you consider yourselves responsible for their departure? It happened thus as God has ordained the same. *Your doer-ship alone is the cause of your sorrow. Until the doer-ship is annihilated, sorrow becomes inevitable.*"

## Adopt the harmonizing path



A devotee narrated the following to Sri Nannagaru: " Someone asked me: ' Which path is prescribed by your Guru? Is it the path of Karma or Bhakti or Dhyana or that of Jnana?' I couldnot give him an apt answer." Sri Nannagaru replied: " Tell them: 'My Guru prescribes the path that harmonizes all the above paths.' Not only now but if you are asked the same question anytime in future, tell them: '*My Guru's path is the Harmonizing path*'."

**Joy is different from Enjoy. That which emanates from God is Joy**

Sri Nannagaru asked a devotee: ' How are you?' The devotee replied: ' I am alright. I am killing my time in some form or the other.' Sri Nannagaru



felt: "In spite of being a very rich man, he has spoken thus. It may be due to an unknown sorrow and un-fulfillment. As long as one enjoys the worldly things, they are bound to become sorrowful. *Joy is different from Enjoy. That which emanates from God is Joy.* It will gradually lead them to the sorrow less state through constant remembrance of God and performance of spiritual practices."

## To see wrong in others is one's own wrong



Sri Nannagaru said to one of the devotees: "Gandhiji and Kanchi Paramacharya have mentioned several things regarding 'What life has taught me.' Narrate to me any lessons that you have learnt from your life." The devotee said: "One should stop finding faults with others; rather one should find one's own faults." Sri Nannagaru replied: "Bhagavan has

mentioned this more wonderfully. He said: '*To see wrong in others is one's own wrong.*' Whatever flaw you see in others exists even within you. If you are not able to see any flaw in others, it implies that you are completely flawless. If you are flawless, you cannot see any flaw in others though they may possess a particular flaw." Then the devotee again said: "I have realized that the wealth of Divine Qualities is the true wealth." Sri Nannagaru said: "Divine Qualities refer to those qualities which lead us towards the Divine. If you possess at least one good quality amongst those Divine qualities, you will be decorated with the other divine qualities automatically."



## Be very careful in choosing your friends



Sri Nannagaru asked a devotee: "You were an average student until 7th Standard. How did you become so intelligent all of a sudden? How are you able to pursue such higher studies in U.S.A?" The devotee replied: "Nannagaru! While studying 8th Standard, a Governor's son happened to become my friend. He was very fond of Science and Mathematics. Even I



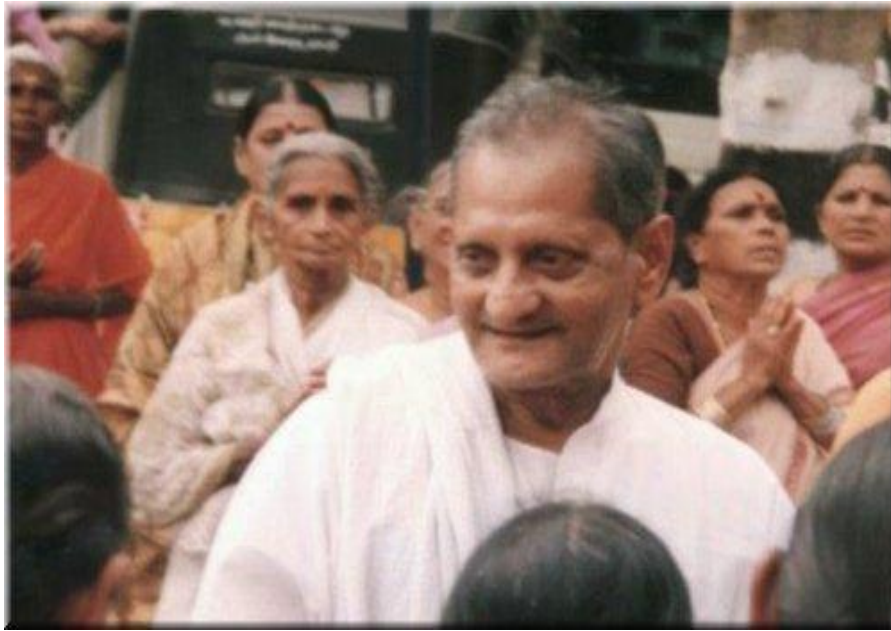
developed a great interest in those subjects due to his companionship. Thus today I have reached this position." Referring to the above devotee, Sri Nannagaru said: "The boy did not reveal all this on his own. He narrated this only on being asked. There are people who got reformed due to good companionship and there are people who got ruined due to bad companionship. Therefore *one should be very careful in choosing their friends.*"

**What else can be the purpose of money apart from providing us with the basic needs like food, clothing, shelter and medicines?**



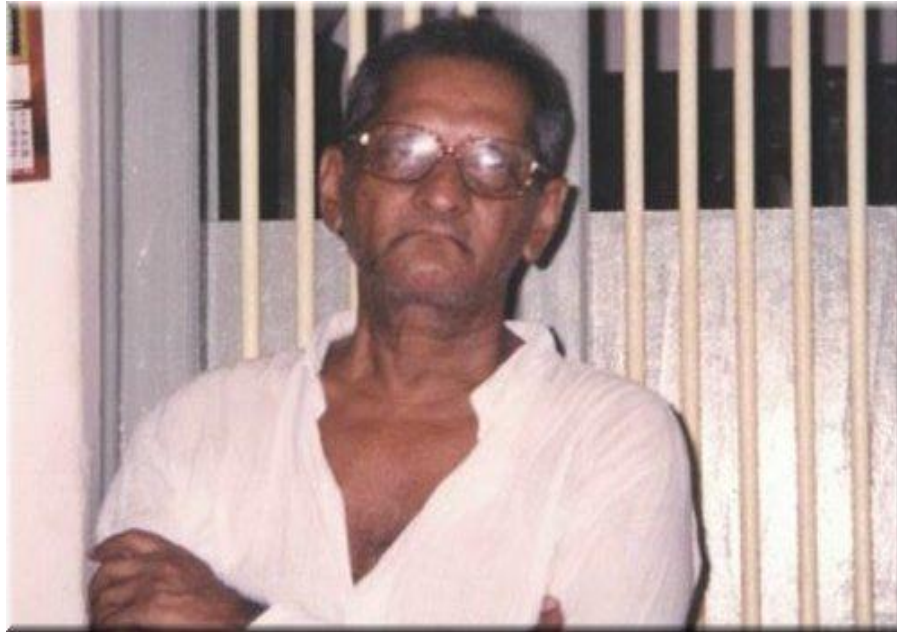
A devotee and his wife settled down in U.S.A. Both of them were employed and being paid very high salaries. The devotee's wife was the only daughter of a very rich man in India. She was unable to stay in U.S.A without her parents. She said to Sri Nannagar:

"Nannagaru! *What else can be the purpose of money apart from providing us with the basic needs like food, clothing, shelter and medicines (when we fall sick)?* What shall we do with the surplus money after fulfilling these needs? Why do we need so much money? Why should we settle down only in U.S.A and not in India?" Sri Nannagaru replied: "Your husband will not expect your salary even in his dream. Therefore visit India 4 times in a year. Purchase the flight tickets out of your salary. Come to India, spend some time with your parents and go back to U.S.A. However you settle down in U.S.A only. It is because the materials required for your husband's research are available in U.S.A only. They will not be available in India. Therefore your husband has to settle down in U.S.A only. His research will be useful to the entire world.



Therefore keep visiting India to see your parents but settle down in U.S.A only." Sri Nannagaru initially did not understand how to respond back. But Sri Nannagaru said that He went into a deep sleep that night after having listened to that question: ' *Why do we need so much money?*'

**If you don't grasp the words, you will be taught with required cuffs and thrashing**



Once a rich man came to Sri Nannagaru and said: "I have read the entire Valmiki Ramayana. I have understood that Rama is not God." Sri Nannagaru did not argue with him. After the death of his wife, the rich man was very well being looked after by his son and daughter-in-law. Even the son was earning a lot of money. However the rich man said to his son: "You are looking after me only with the desire of

inheriting my big house." The son replied: "It is alright. I will look after you even if you don't give me that house." The son told Sri Nannagaru: "Having heard my father's words, I feel like moving into another house." Sri Nannagaru replied: "Don't do that. Your father is an elderly person. He may say something. Don't get offended by his words." Sri Nannagaru was aware that the son was a very good person. Referring to the rich man, Sri Nannagaru said: "When he cannot understand the people at home, how can he understand Sage Valmiki? Had he narrated the same in front of Bhagavan, Bhagavan would have said: Leave Him. Will he understand on merely being told? *He has to experience the required cuffs and thrashing. Only then he will remember Lord Rama.*"

**When you perform any task without any desire, you will attain the desire less state**



A poor girl got medical seat in 'B' category. As she was not in a position to pay her fees, Sri Nannagaru donated her entire fees. However in the second counseling, she got 'A' category seat. Therefore she came to Sri Nannagaru in order to return back the fees. However Sri Nannagaru refused to accept. Sri Nannagaru said: "You purchase good clothes and the expensive books using that money and lead the



life of a normal student." Referring to that girl, Sri Nannagaru said: "She wanted to return back the money. But if I accept it, it will be wrong on my behalf. *When we perform any task without any desire, we will attain the desire less state.* Then the Self within is revealed as 'I'. It is called as Karma Yoga. However if it has to be narrated in the words of Bhagavan, Bhagavan would ask us: Who has given you the money? The entire money belongs to God. If the sweet in the left hand is placed in the right hand, can anyone call it as a donation? All the Wealth belongs to God. He is the Supreme Master. The giver is God and the recipient is also God. Therefore if you say that 'I have donated', who is this 'i' you are referring to? You cannot attain Self Knowledge without the annihilation of that 'i'."

## Chanting the name of Lord Rama helps us better in maintaining our equipoise

A young devotee asked Sri Nannagaru: "Nannagaru! While chanting the name of Lord, my mind starts wandering. I am unable to constantly



chant the name of Lord." Sri Nannagaru replied: "It happens with anyone who is in the initial stage of performing their spiritual practices. As and when you recognize that the chanting has stopped, you must restart chanting the Lord's name." Sri Nannagaru further asked him: "Which name of the Lord do you chant?" The devotee replied: "I chant the name of Lord Rama." Then Sri Nannagaru said: "There is no other name of the Lord greater than that of

Lord Rama's. Whenever your mind is disturbed, if you chant the name of Rama, your disturbance will subside automatically. It is only the name of Rama which keeps the mind balanced. I have chanted the names of all Lords. Of all the names, I felt that *the name of Lord Rama helps us better in maintaining our equipoise*. Lord Rama endured all the possible hardships that a man may be subjected to. However He maintained His equipoise in all the situations. Lord Rama transcended the world while living in the world. Therefore chanting the name of Lord Rama will be very useful in purifying our mind." The devotee then asked Sri Nannagaru: "Nannagaru! Bless me with the power to chant the name of Lord Rama constantly." Sri Nannagaru looked at him graciously and smiled as if giving His consent.

**Rather than sitting at a place Buddha walked only to preach others**

A devotee was very fond of Bhagavan Ramana. He said: "Buddha walked unnecessarily whereas Bhagavan remained in the same place." Sri



Nannagaru said: "*Buddha walked only to preach others.*" Then the devotee said: "Our Bhagavan has none apart from Him." Then Sri Nannagaru asked him: "Your Bhagavan sat on a sofa but did He teach or not?" The devotee replied: "Yes, He did teaching." Then Sri Nannagaru said: "If Bhagavan had none apart from Him, then whom did He teach?" The devotee could not speak any further.

## You are being tormented by your qualities and God is in no way related with them

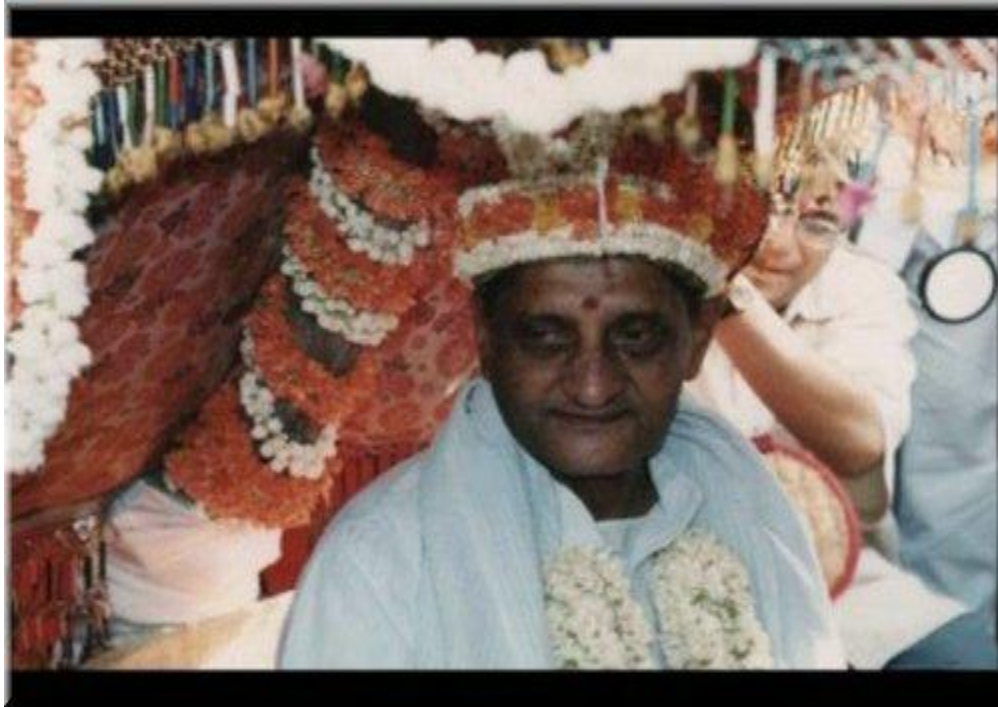
A devotee asked Sri Nannagaru: "Some people possess good qualities whereas some other people possess bad qualities. Why do different



possess different qualities? Is God partial in this aspect?" Sri Nannagaru replied: "There is no relationship between God and the qualities. Please do not drag God into this affair. He is living happily and Let Him live so. Won't you allow God to sit quietly? *The qualities that are tormenting you have not been bestowed by God. God is in no way related to them.* It is only out of ignorance that you got habituated to these qualities in the other worlds and other

bodies in the past under the illusion that they will subject you to happiness. However they are currently subjecting you to sorrow. As they are making you sorrowful, you are trying to get rid of them. You must remember that the qualities that you are trying to transcend currently are something that you have habituated yourselves very willingly in the past births. You are coming out of a pit but falling back into another! What does it mean? You are sacrificing a quality presuming that it begets sorrow but at the same time you are clinging to another quality. But even that quality brings you sorrow. Except for Brahman, everything else will beget sorrow alone. The false always begets sorrow. Is there anything in the nature that is not subject to a change? When they keep changing on a daily basis, how can they be presumed to be true? Will the Truth ever change? No."

## Buddha abandoned His family only to make His Love Universal



A devotee asked Sri Nannagaru: " Buddha told his father Shuddodhana: 'In spite of residing in the kingdom, I never felt that the kingdom belonged to Me. Therefore I am able to beg now. I never thought that I have sacrificed the kingdom. (as the thinker doesn't exist anymore).' It implies that Buddha's ego got

annihilated even before he gave up his family. However it is said that it took Him 6 long years of penance to attain Enlightenment. Why



did it take Him 6 long years?" Sri Nannagaru replied: "Even the charioteer posed the same question to Buddha after taking him into the forests. He asked: 'You are abandoning your father, mother, wife and 6 months old child. Is it right on your part?' Buddha then replied: 'I don't want to restrict my Love only to my family members or to the people in my kingdom. I am going away only to widen my Love. *I want to make my Love Universal.*' This is the answer to your question too."