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A matriarch of spiritual tranquility

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By By Rabia Ali

Karachi

Dadi Janki walks steadily without any support. At 94, the world-renowned spiritual leader and Administrative Head of Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University, is as fit as women half her age. Draped in a white sari, (her hair colour being the same), she is led to the stage by her followers. Once there, she sits like a queen in the arm chair, her feet resting on the cushion, and eyes fixed on the anxious crowd waiting for her to break her silence. Some moments go by and finally she speaks.

"I am not only sitting here in silence but in immense happiness," she converses in Hindi.

It is Dadi's first trip in 60 years to the country where she was born. On Tuesday evening, she had a heart-to-heart talk with her devotees on the theme of 'time is NOW' at the Beach Luxury Hotel.

In these times where morals and values have eroded, nature has given up, and the global economy has deteriorated, Dadi believes that the time has now come for people to do good to themselves and to others.

"Time is running out I believe. I am happy that by the blessings of God, I have come here to spread messages of peace, love, and happiness to all His creations."

Spending her childhood in Hyderabad, and later Karachi, Dadi says that it was the metropolis where she started to ponder over the depth of one's inner self and thinks that to delve into oneself is important in order to become a good human being.

"I have seen gigantic malls, even inaugurated one back in India, but could anyone tell me where one would find a place to attain happiness, peace and love? A person can find them within his heart and when he has found them, only then can he share it with others."

She then addresses the crowd and asks them if there is anyone whose heart is free of worries, sorrow, and fear. No one replies in the affirmative. She then continues, "The time has now come for the darkness in our lives to go away and the light to come in. There is light in our eyes but we wear dark glasses to cover them. We should bring out the light through which we are able to know who we are"

The secret to the light and energy which has kept her going all these years are three things; courage, faith and honesty.

"A person has become hollow, devoid of love and peace, and as such, sensitive to sorrow. He should delve deep inside himself and discover these three inside him."

Although she also has a hearing problem, Dadi is content with herself. She feels there is no need to hear as a smile of a person says it all while emphasising every word that is said. "a word can tear you apart as well as make you up again. Therefore, words are to be used and spoken carefully."

She is happy to be back in Karachi but finds it polluted and cramped with vehicles. "There were no cars when I was here. Now people feel useless when they don't own a car."

Dadi calls herself illiterate, saying that she attended school for only three years. Nevertheless the happiness and peace she has attained through spirituality is all she has to give others and is extremely happy. She warns others to stay away from four things which might corrupt the soul. "Never lie. Always speak the truth. I have never lied in my life and I am at peace. Secondly, never steal anything from anyone, not even a single penny. Thirdly, stay away from hypocrisy, and fourthly, never talk bad about anything. Keep good intentions and feelings in your heart and you will attain peace and love."

After her moving talk came to an end, a meditation exercise was performed. The listeners closed their eyes as her companion in a soothing voice talked about discovering the light within oneself.

The event came to a close with the launch of an Urdu translation of Dadi's book titled, "Companions of God" in English. The book was translated into English in just 21 days by Adeel Abbass, something which was described as a miracle by the author, a miracle which takes place when one touches the heart.