

AUSPICIOUS NEW YEAR MESSAGE FROM DADI JANKI



The loveliest and the dearest children of the Supreme Preceptor God Shiva, dear divine brothers and sisters,

Hearty congratulations on the auspicious occasion of the New Year 2013 and New World!

The arrival of New Year is manifesting the scenerio of the forthcoming New World of Joy, Peace and Prosperity.

These moments of Confluence, at the end of Kaliyuga and beginning of Satyuga, are very significant. The Lord of Innocents has reincarnated and has been bestowing the knowledge of the beginning, middle and end of the world. Through the treasure of knowledge, the soul becomes pure like a lotus flower, powerful, bondage-free and complete in divine virtues. The call of time is to 'become intense effort-maker'. For this, one needs to be attentive and ensure that 'The foundation of the New World is being laid now; the type and quality of thoughts will determine the creation of similar qualitative perfection in every field in the New World'.

Let us utilise Godly knowledge, virtues and powers in Godly service and turn impossible into possible. Through 'Power of One' and 'Faith in One', we should remain focused on our true religion of Purity, which is the mother of Peace and Happiness.

Let's concentrate on the sweet remembrance of Comforter of Hearts—God and, thus, liberate ourselves from all bad tendencies and *sanskars*. Let us have new zeal and enthusiasm in the New Year, and inculcate the new *sanskars*. Let's bid adieu to the negative and vicious matters. For the New Year, let's inherit from the most beloved and benevolent God Shiva, our birth-right of Health, Wealth, Happiness and Success at every step. Wish you all brothers and sisters again a very-very Happy New Year!

Your Divine Sister B.K. Janki

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MAY YOU BE JEWELS OF CONTENTMENT!

The Brahma Kumaris Divine Family, all over the world, feel very proud and touched by the kind, inspiring and powerful New Year message from the Highest-on-High, our spiritual Supreme Father, the ever-knowledgeful Supreme Teacher and most benevolent Satguru to become the very image of contentment as '*Jewels of Contentment*'. The power of positivity is to be multiplied on an individual level as well as collectively to solve all inner and societal problems.

As Supreme Healer, God treats the ailing humankind of its negativity at this climax of Kaliyug. Like any senior and wise physician, the Supreme Being touches the deep-rooted psychological, emotional, and physical issues by injecting powerful healing energies in the form of spiritual medication. When the human soul is **attuned to its original nature**

of inner peace and contentment on the basis of spiritual enlightenment and application of natural spiritual, moral and ethical values in daily life, that person enjoys a very peaceful, happy and contented life. Her or his behaviour with one's family members will then always be very loving, sweet and encouraging; dealings with the members of society remain very honest and free from selfishness, ego and anger. Further, such a person always tries to see the light of love in every human being and enjoys being **sources of service** all the time.

Spiritual education in Values and silent Meditation, when practised daily and naturally, brings about self-transformation of the highest level as mentioned in the Shrimad Bhagwad Gita, as well as other religious texts. People do receive brilliant

inspirations from religious teachings shared by spiritual leaders of different faiths, and would do wonders in spreading that vibration of spirituality, love and respect towards each other with regular study, reflection in meditation, and self-empowerment by connecting with the Supreme Spiritual Source.

The recent ghastly gang-rape and violent attack on one of the daughters of Bharat (named 'Nirbhaya', 'Amanat' by the media) on 16 December 2012 by savage-like beings, in a moving bus in Delhi, proves beyond doubt that we are passing through the climax of the irreligious era of Kaliyuga, as envisioned by those who declared the 'end of the Mayan Calendar' on 21 December 2012. The end can only come after the extremity of Kaliyuga passes through its final phase of the darkest night of irreligiousness... The example of 'Nirbhaya' has been highlighted extensively in the print and electronic media, and so has triggered off the uncovering of the plight of hundreds and thousands of other 'Daughters of India', and those in various parts of the world.

Many, many young, mature and old citizens have expressed their concern and wrath about the pathetic conditions of the present day systems, laws and action taken by the Governments, Police and Legal Departments, Hospitals and general public. The Supreme Court Chief Justice, the President and Prime Minister of India, and other politicians have shown their concern and are doing their best to reform the system to the best of their ability. However, the problem has festered for long; it relates to the vicious and violent mindsets, thoughts and actions of perpetrators who are blinded by their demonic behaviour. Harsh and suitable punishment to the culprits will definitely help in weakening this menace of violence against women and children but, after a while the bestial nature and behaviour tend to re-emerge again... Along with punitive action against the offenders, **there is an urgent need for public awareness through the Media to keep the collective conscience awakened and alert.**

A thought-provoking article by Prof Nagma Siddiqui, a

writer and member of the Centre of Peace and Spirituality International, and research scholar at Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi, that appeared on 3 January 2013 in the Speaking Tree section, Times of India, provides very practical and genuine ways to rehabilitate society (as this following excerpt illustrates):

“While demanding solutions of the government may lead to creating a legal infrastructure that is more severe and stringent, what is the *aam admi*’s role in all of this? Can’t we start the reparation process today, in our own little ways? It is instructive to recollect M K Gandhi’s favourite quote: “Be the change you wish to see in the world”.

“We have waited too long for others to change society, when the truth is: If we want to transform society we have to begin with ourselves...”

“At the social level, we need to know our limits, if we want to remain in the peaceful sphere. The way to go, is with a peaceful approach, by abjuring violence in any form and by avoiding any kind or coercion... One practical way to begin the process of

humanizing society is to make motivational education accessible to all. As a long-term plan we need to make efforts to teach value and peace education both at a formal level in schools and colleges and at an informal level through positive personality development programmes to foster responsible citizenship... The emphasis here is on inculcating ethics to create a duty-conscious society, instead of only a rights-conscious one.

“A rights-based society leads to social anarchy, whereas a duty-based society will lead to harmony, solidarity, peace and compassion. A rights-based society is based on the ‘we-they’ concept, in which we look at other members of society as ‘they’, not part of us. A duty-conscious society, on the other hand, is based on the ‘we-we’ concept in which all member of society are an extension of us...”

For a long-term, permanent solution, infusion of moral, ethical and value education from KG up to University levels can help mould and elevate the outlook and behaviour of the younger

generations. When divine sanskars are inculcated, the youth will be motivated to lead meaningful and viceless lives thereby bringing happiness to every household.

From what we see in most crimes, liquor consumption by the perpetrators blinds them completely and compels them to behave insanely and violently. Let the Central and State Governments amend the rules so that, like Gujarat, other states start to observe prohibition. **The clean and righteous character of our citizens should be preferred above earning of excise**

duty and other taxes from liquor. Consumption of liquor destroys the character of our youth and hampers peace at home. It also affects the education and grooming of young children and youth by creating so much chaos at home and within society, while multiplying the violent, senseless acts against innocent women and girl-children.

Let us realize again and again that the future of Bharat depends on 'Vivekananda-like' youth of today and tomorrow. Let us glorify Bharat through our personal examples of noble and pure

lives as spiritual children of One God, and create One World Divine Family of Satyuga through our thoughts and actions. Then only will it become '*Mera Bharat Mahan*' and '*Kohinoor-e-Jahan*'.

The Supreme Being is guiding us directly in improving our determination to live up to the need of the hour. The special message of New Year Blessings (Elevated Versions) is shared herewith to help our readers rise to the occasion:

ESSENCE OF ELEVATED VERSIONS OF 31 DECEMBER 2012

♦ *God is seeing His jewels of contentment every-where. The light of each one is sparkling very well because the power of contentment is most elevated. Other powers also come to where there is contentment. The power of contentment easily ends any type of problem. Where there is contentment, no other power is lacking. The power of contentment easily transforms any type of atmosphere or circumstance. Contentment transforms the*

upheaval of Maya (negativity) and matter. Each one should check the self to see: Am I able to transform the atmosphere by changing the situation of any human soul?

♦ *There is a need to make the atmosphere free from obstacles with the power of tolerance. Whether it is a service centre or your household, each place should be free from obstacles and filled with the power of contentment.*

♦ *Do you know what is the easiest way to become complete? Follow Father Brahma! From the beginning to the end, Father Brahma gained victory over every situation with the power of contentment.*

♦ *This year, become problem-proof and an embodiment of solutions.*

Wishing our invaluable and esteemed readers, and their families, a very, very Happy and Powerful New Year!

—B.K. Nirwair

|| From the mighty pen of Sanjay ||

BRAHMA BABA-AN ASSESSMENT IN RETROSPECT

“MEN” someone has said, “are chiselled by the master hand of social values, commanding the times.” But on the occasion of ascension day of Prajapita Brahma (Jan.18), in whose life a metamorphosis was brought about not by any social, physical or economic situation as in the case of Buddha nor by any saint as in the case of Vivekananda but by certain strange, subtle and divine events that took place in his personal life when he was about 60 and was known to the business community and to royal families of Nepal and the States of Udaipur, Bikaner etc. as Dada Lekhraj – a wealthy jewel merchant. These events were not the creation of a man or the society but were a work of God, who willed to mould Brahma in His own image so as to liberate the aspiring souls from the corruptive influences of the times and wanted to give world’s stream of thoughts a different direction. He was thus not a part of the national ethos of the time but a representative of a New Age.

Grave Situation of his times

The story of inner transformation of Dada Lekhraj is linked to the years 1936-37.

This was the time when the people of India were carrying on a vigorous struggle for political independence but there was absolutely no programme for liberating people from the moral evils which had taken them in their stranglehold. The people were fighting their political foes but everyone seemed to have compromised with or surrendered to the evils, called Sex-Lust, Anger, Greed, Attachment, Pride etc. Then vulgar customs and superstitions reigned supreme in the name of religion. An unprecedented wave of disregard for the ethical standards had set in all over the globe. Hatred and violence were finding expressions in the form of more powerful weapons and there were under-currents of preparation for a World War. The erosion of spiritual beliefs had started owing to the views of Karl Marx and Sigmund Freud. The prevalent tragedy of the crisis of character was compounded by the plethora of irrational and confusing concepts.

To get the world out of this grave crisis, a change in man’s outlook was urgently called for. Someone was required to

awaken the heirs of the deities and the sages of the old to realize the significance of their Godly patrimony. Disregard for spiritual truths could be checked only by giving to the world new, powerful, inspiring and rational spiritual concepts which had the potentiality of solving the problems of man and society and which required man to work both for individual and social good rather than to sit idly, depending upon fate or to run away into forests in pursuit of God. Someone was required to offer fresh and appealing concepts for a new World Order of moral purity, spiritual and political peace and economic prosperity where every individual had a place of honour and happiness without being disturbed by anyone. What was required to be established was a world which was not ruled by the doctrine of “Survival of the fittest” but where everyone was fit and was given love.

Who could do this?

Will Durant has said that the human mind aches at a little calculus; how shall then it be able to comprehend the mysteries of creation? So, the world needed the Creator

Himself to expound them and it needed a practical sage, like Brahma Baba, to demonstrate it and to be a living representative of the new ethos and the new culture.

So, in order to reveal new knowledge of the Creator and His Creation, and to start the process of establishing the Golden Age in place of the present Iron Age, God, the World's Mother, Father, Philosopher, Friend and Guide, gave to Dada Lekhraj, some super-physical perceptions and visions. He gave him a trans- vision of His own Self-luminous Orb-like form and of the form of Vishnu, the four-armed, thus enabling him to have a clear concept and knowledge of the Supreme God and of the goal of human life. He also showed him visions of a coming world catastrophe as a result of man's utter moral and spiritual degeneration and of the following Golden Age where man will be a veritable deity and where women will have equal rights with men and where there will be no crime and no sin. He then made Dada Lekhraj His human medium and began to reveal, in detail, the mysteries of the self and of the World Order in greater depth. These happenings brought about a tremendous change in the life of Dada Lekhraj whom the Incorporeal

God now gave the name 'Prajapita Brahma'. The revelations that God made opened new vistas unto Brahma Baba and unto others through him.

A man of high qualities

Shiv Baba had selected Dada to be His medium as Dada was a man of many parts. He had not only the business acumen but was a man who could offer constant love in ample measure to the new spiritual family he would be instrumental to create. He had an exemplary learning capacity, sense of discipline and a strong will to do a job in the face of many odds. He was not a dreamer but a sculptor. In his yester years, as businessman, he had been inventor and innovator of new designs into which diamond would be embellished, and now he could transfer his ability to the task of moulding the character of the human material, entrusted to him. Even at this advanced age, he had a youthful radiance that illumined his features. But what was notable was his youthful ethos. He had an untiring body and an indefatigable spirit and had a blend of the eastern and western tradition. In him, orthodox and modernity made a happy combination. He could spend as well as economize and give simplicity a touch of unique beauty. Now his many talents

found their use in the divine service of men and women. He now called human beings as 'gems' and 'diamonds' and valued them properly as he had earlier been giving value to his gems and had been placing them in excellent jewel boxes after these were chiseled to have a fine sparkle.

He had the potentiality of becoming a spiritual edition of Isaac Newton and Albert Einstein. In the spiritual realm, the cosmological concepts that have come through him are far more revolutionary than or at least as high as Einstein's are in the realm of physics. These concepts influence all branches of knowledge, without exception, and are, in impact and in ultimate effect, far more powerful than those of Einstein. If Einstein's theories had led to new understanding of Time and Space, the revelations made through Dada take one even beyond that and they add a new dimension to the view of the cosmos. **If the theories of the former led to the invention of atom bomb, the theories and practice enunciated through Brahma Baba led to the perfection of a new type of Atom Bomb. But this bomb is for reconstruction rather than for devastation and destruction. The spiritual weapon he has placed at the**

disposal of man is the real *Brahmastra* – the ultimate in spiritual armory.

Banner of Soul-Consciousness, Purity and Truth

Shiv Baba now gave a call for practical idealism and divine morality. He announced that whatever was believed by those who were *body-conscious* and were steeped in vices, were not worthy of being accepted for spiritual excellence. He explained in unequivocal terms and in a forceful style that body-consciousness and neglect are the root causes of all sufferings and he emphasized the necessity of Purity. He declared that body-consciousness was philosophically unjustifiable, morally indefensible, socially dangerous, economically exploitative, politically divisive, and, in every way, harmful, for it gave rise to casteism, racial discrimination, over-population, violent form of nationalism, licentious tendencies, crime and all its off-shoots.

He categorically condemned the caste system based on birth and exhorted people to uproot it as, in its present form, it had no spiritual or moral sanction. He championed the cause of women – their spiritually oriented education, and, above all, their right to Purity. He brought them out of confinement of the house and

inspired them to accept the responsibility of bringing about new awakening and the moral change in the society.

He called upon the priests and worshippers, who had continued to beat the drums of old rituals and of idol worship, to break their age-old shackles of blind faith and superstition and to take to life of Celibacy, Purity and Meditation on one Incorporeal God. He explained to them that there was only one Incorporeal God and that no human being (including Dada himself) could claim to be God or His incarnation nor could any man claim the title of '*Jagat Guru*', for God alone was the *Guru* or the Liberator of the whole world. He further explained that there were two kinds of religion – one was 'the sleeping pill religion' and the other 'the awakening religion'. It was the former type of religion that was called the 'opiate of the people'. He had now pledged to become an instrument for the re-establishment of awakening religion.

He also gave a call to the political leaders to work for their emancipation from hatred, anger, sex-lust and such other evils; for, a person who had evil tendencies, could not succeed in bringing lasting happiness to others.

In doing this, his object was

not to hurt anyone's susceptibilities or to injure anyone's feelings. On the other hand, his object was to awaken them and his aim was the well-being of mankind. His intention was to help them in the ascertainment of what is right and what is wrong and to enable them to accept the truth and to reject falsehood.

Fierce Opposition

Despite fierce opposition, he shared this spiritual wealth with others as he had practised philanthropy earlier when he was a businessman. He could have played platitudes to scholars and religious heads and there would have been no problem but he could not strangle his conscience and hide the Truth as he had understood it. Moreover, he could not escape this sacred duty even otherwise as it was God Shiva who, lording over his intellect, made all these pronouncements and commandments, using his organ of speech. But, the masses did not know God and His incognito descent on Baba as the Gita says that body-conscious people do not and cannot recognize God and His wondrous ways when He descends on a human form. So, the inevitable happened. A great storm was raised against Baba's teachings.

No great man has ever escaped censure by people of

his land because, in all lands there are some short-tempered fanatics who jump to their feet and commit violence or start agitations, feeling brave and righteous. There are also those who feel afraid of losing pecuniary benefits, prestige or power because of a change in the present belief and custom set-up. They always group together to offer resistance and to enact reprisals. Any number of instances can be summoned in support of this. Even so, Baba had to face trenchant criticism, blasphemy and grave persecution, for the vested interests formed into pickets of opposition and oppression. But Baba had magnificent tolerance and he exhorted all those who had rallied round him to keep their cool, for the Truth ultimately prevails. His mental calm finally set all the storms at rest.

Undisturbed and Undeterred

Undisturbed by all provocations and predicaments, Brahma Baba went on to do the divine task assigned to him by Shiv Baba whose vehicle and instrument he was. Shiv Baba through Brahma Baba not only explained the precepts to the faithful but they, as *Bap-Dada*, set to the task of perfecting a number of dedicated and sacrificing souls who would do real service to the world at large

as apostles of this renaissance and would be living examples unto others of the life of yoga, purity, simplicity, abnegation and self-control. This they ultimately achieved.

His concept of Dharma

The concept of *Dharma* which Bap-Dada gave was that *Dharma* meant *Dharna*, i.e., inculcation of sublime values. To him, the real religion was the religion of the soul, namely Purity and Peace, and not the religion based on one's birth to parents of a particular denomination.

One of Baba's guiding principles was the categorical emphasis on the betterment of the entire humanity without any limiting consideration. He was *Vishwa-Kalyankari-Atma* –World Benefactor – in the real meaning of the term. Not only those who were on the rolls of the Brahma Kumaris' institution could claim his love, care and guidance, but everyone, wherever he/she was living or to whichever colour or country they belonged, could have his services. It was a tremendous task he performed in making this self-generating and self-sustaining institution, and, obviously, small and closed minds could not undertake the correct implementation of Shiv Baba's universal programme. Those engaged in the task of world welfare of the creation

of a world order have to outgrow dwarfing influences. And this no one failed to find in Brahma Baba's corporeal life.

Baba attained the angelic stage

By virtue of his in-depth study of the knowledge imparted by Shiv Baba, by practising faithfully and ardently the Rajyoga taught by Him, by his scrupulous effort for inculcation of divine qualities in the self and by exemplary and unequalled service of mankind, Brahma Baba attained the highest spiritual excellence that a human soul can achieve.

Anyone who had earlier, thought that 'Love is God', 'Work is Worship' or 'God is Peaceful' were catchy phrases or were mere pandering to the modern fetish of religious groups, but now these were realized in daily life and by coming into contact with Shiva Baba, through Brahma Baba, that these are vital and vibrant truths. The way Brahma Baba lived and spoke was such that it was evident that only a person who felt the truths, enshrined in these words, could use them with such facility and so naturally.

Often, before an interview with him, one would balk at the idea of speaking with such a personage as it might be called, on equal terms, and to

put questions to him but such was his spiritual influence that one felt that he had obtained answer to his questions and such was his affability that no one felt awed or overawed in his company.

On 18th January, 1969, he attained his highest stage and, giving up his mortal coil, ascended to his angelic stage. And, in that form of existence, he has, in union with Shiv Baba, been giving spiritual guidance for carrying on the divine work of self-transformation and world-transformation.

The last discourse of Shiv Baba and Brahma Baba, when the latter was in corporeal form, has the echoes of many highest and noblest principles of all religions. His last testament recalls Buddha's parting words to Ananda, his closest disciple: "Be a lamp unto yourself", and also Christ's sermon to his disciples (in Luke 6:22) 'Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil. Bap-Dada said, in their typical style: 'Be a lamp unto yourself and also unto others' and 'take those as friends who talk ill of you.'

For about 76 years now, the Brahma Kumaris institution, which they founded, has been the vanguard of the movement of spiritual liberation of

mankind and re-establishment of the Golden-Aged world order. Its emphasis is quite rightly on the concept of brotherhood of man and its work is based on the belief that, in the good of the individual lies the good of the community and in the welfare of the community lays the betterment of the individual. It is sincerely dedicated to bring about a world of complete Purity. This institution is their

He explained in unequivocal terms and in a forceful style that body-consciousness and neglect are the root-causes of all sufferings and he underscored the necessity of Purity. He declared that body-consciousness was philosophically unjustifiable, morally indefensible, socially dangerous, economically exploitative, politically divisive, and, in every way, harmful, for it gave rise to casteism, racial discrimination, over-population, violent form of nationalism, licentious tendencies, crime and all its off-shoots.

living legend and living monument and their present role in subtle, angelic form or through the corporeal medium of Brahma Kumari Hridaya Mohini is an unbroken and continuing experience that really enlivens, enlightens and elevates.

Validity of the belief of Shiv Baba's advent in Baba

The knowledge that Shiv

Baba gave through the oral organ of Prajapita Brahma was not known to him earlier. In fact, some of the concepts and precepts in which he believed earlier were diametrically opposed to those now revealed by Shiv Baba. Brahma Baba himself also heard them for the first time when these were first revealed. And, he appreciated them as others did. Nay, he was the happiest one to hear these, and the manner he appreciated showed clearly that these have been discoursed by a different Authority. However, he put these in practice and set a practical example unto them and explained these by his experience and filled in the gaps.

In fact, concepts revealed through Baba are not a mere permutation and combination of the system in vogue nor are these in the nature of mere amendments to the prevalent thought but, rather, these make, at many points, complete and bold departure from those so far known and yet form into a complete system with cogency and without inconsistency and, are quintessence of all branches of knowledge and, in their moral nature, these are far higher than the highest. So, these cannot have been given but by God.

BRAHMA BABA –

THE OUTSTANDING SPIRITUAL LEADER



– B.K. Surendran, Bangalore

Many people lament over the absence of any leader worth the name to create an impact on the people in general and the youth in particular. A Mahatma Gandhi could not produce another Mahatma Gandhi, a Vivekananda could not produce another Vivekananda, and a Shankaracharya could not produce another Shankaracharya. At present, there are no leaders who are endowed with the qualities and abilities, which are required to emulate and inspire the youths and others in the world. Some youths are complaining that when they look around, they do not find a single individual who has the qualifications to inspire and motivate them or whom they can follow. It is a fact that up to the half of the last century we had some great personalities whom we used to refer to whenever we speak of greatness and goodness. Now, many people say that there are only ordinary people in the world.

Hence, such people are not bothered to care about others, nor inclined to treat others with respect and regard. We all know that elders, seniors and those who adorn high positions of authority and possessing knowledge were treated with respect and regard in olden days. The situation has changed a lot now. In these days, children do not respect even parents, not to speak of elders, students do not respect their teachers; howsoever they are scholarly and learned.

Science and Leadership qualities

We all know that science and technology has provided us with a lot of physical comforts and conveniences. It is necessary, but, when we speak of leadership, science cannot create leaders. Science cannot create goodness. As Einstein said ‘Science can denature plutonium, but science cannot remove the evils in the heart of men’. Science cannot create love and distribute, science

cannot create peace and happiness and create good inter-human relationship, science cannot manage the conflict and confusion going on in the minds of the people and science cannot release the tension and stress of a human being. Science has not created any tools to transform a thief to an honest person and science cannot transform a dacoit into a pious and holy person. Leadership qualities are the goodness inherent in individual souls. Real leadership qualities go beyond the physical science based thought and culture. It is the spiritual qualities of truth, non-violence, integrity, sincerity, honesty, commitment, compassion, love, imaginative sympathy, empathy, creativity, zeal, enterprising nature, enthusiasm, sense of belongingness, firmness etc., when, put together, create a good leader. These qualities will empower the leader to deal human beings with humanly behaviour.

Emergence of a Spiritual leader – Prajapita Brahma

During first half of 20th century, Dada Lekhraj was spiritually reborn as Prajapita Brahma at the instance of Godfather Shiva with the power of spiritual knowledge. God, the Supreme, descended on him and made him His chariot for the

sacred and secret revelations about Himself and His Creation. Prajapita Brahma became the visible medium of God to translate the spiritual truth in practical terms to create an example for others to follow. Prajapita Brahma with his own spiritual efforts carved out himself as exactly as what the Lord wanted him to do. God created a spiritual leader in His own image and placed him before the world for one and all to follow. Even though God has guided and moulded Him, he, as a whole-hearted and willing participant and recipient to the teachings of the Lord, has successfully come out to the open world as a spiritual leader for everybody to follow him. He had all the qualities of a leader. Prajapita Brahma as a leader started creating spiritual leaders. Both men and women started drawing inspiration and guidance from his life. Each one of them has now inculcated higher and higher values of leadership qualities in themselves and are seen everywhere in the world. These spiritual leaders, guide, lead and empower people in all walks of life with no preconditions or returns. These leaders are dedicated, committed, honest, sincere, humble and simple. They do not expect anything except that

others should empower themselves and create goodness in their own lives, thus shaping themselves as leaders again.

The growth of the organisation

Since Prajapita Brahma created leaders, even after his ascension to the subtle region leaving his mortal coil, the organisation kept on growing more vigorously than ever before. One of the front line leaders Dadi Prakashmaniji, took over the mantle of administration from Him, guided the affairs of the organisation for more than 38 years after his ascension. She also left her body about five years back. Then, the next leader Dadi Janakiji, who is at her late 90s took over the leadership, has been successfully managing the affairs of the organisation. These events did not in any way slowed down the growth of the Institution. Now there are many self managed and self propelled leaders who need not be given orders but they themselves are able to successfully manage their inner human resources and also the human resources outside. When true leaders are created, there need not be somebody to supervise since these leaders know how to supervise themselves. This kind of leadership development

which empowers oneself to ably manage one's five sense organs and, mind-intellect-latencies combination is a self-sovereign in his/her own right. It is said that one who can manage himself can manage others. One who can control himself can control others. A true leader is one who has these capacities.

The making of the Kings of the future world

Prajapita Brahma's life was both kingly and saintly. As has been revealed by the Lord that when the life on earth comes to the bottom line and all the souls reach a point of commonplace stage, God descends to create New World of peace, plenty and prosperity. Hence, as part of the new creation, God is also creating leaders who are capable of ruling the entire world. The number one leader who is created by the Lord is Prajapita Brahma. Prajapita Brahma has set an example for others to follow him to become leaders. The world cannot be ruled with the force of physical power. It can be ruled only by spiritual power. These leaders possess 16 celestial arts, are completely vice-less, completely non-violent, totally virtuous and righteous. These qualities are the quintessence of spiritual power. At present, God, the Supreme is bestowing on

human souls the power of knowledge and the power of yoga. As the soul comes to possess greatness and goodness, such soul transmigrates into such human body which is most healthy, beautiful, and handsome. Thus, physical beauty combined with pristine character and spiritual powers enable these leaders to take over the mantle of the forthcoming golden-age. As we all know that emperors/kings were ruling this world at the beginning of the cycle of life 5000 years ago, who were portrayed as the Father and Mother of the subjects, since these emperors and kings were undisputable and universally acceptable leaders, as they possessed such qualities, which others did not possess at that point of time. Number one among these emperors was Sri Narayan and his dynasty who ruled for 8 generations – Narayan the 1st, the 2nd, the 3rd and so on. As Prajapita Brahma became the 1st spiritual leader of a high order, he is destined to be Narayan the 1st. Other leaders follow suit in the subsequent generations. This is a fact stranger than fiction. Democratic, autocratic, authoritarian and other ways of governance will crash on their own in the times to come. It is known to everyone that people can create a leader to become Prime Minister, or a Chief Minister or Minister, but people cannot make anybody as the King of a country or the world. This should be done by the Lord. Therefore, God is on earth to create Emperors/ Kings for the new cycle of life on earth. On 18th January, the Ascension Day of Prajapita Brahma, we remember him and pay floral tributes to him for his memorable guidance and great qualities which provide us a referral point to fulfil ourselves with the qualities that he possessed to become great spiritual leaders.

HAPPY NEW YEAR AND NEW WORLD

– BK Yogesh Kumar,
BK Colony, Shantivan

- Relinquishing all successes and failures
- Buried in history books as things of past
- Welcome New Year of Godly aspirations and hopes
- Mental vices to conquer, Maya to flabbergast
- Finish vicious, negative and waste
- Terrifying self-assassinating thoughts
- The Supreme Powerhouse and Coach
- Guiding us to hit virtuous shots
- He is Incorporeal, Benevolent and Ever-pure
- Most Auspicious, Ever Luminescent Soul
- Through the corporeal medium of Brahma
- Playing the Supreme Father, Teacher, Preceptor Role
- Sustaining us souls for 76 years so lovingly
- Paving the way for Golden Age meticulously
- Bid adieu to body-consciousness – call of time
- Sharing spiritual love with all –our duty prime
- God's selfless love fulfills joy of all relationships
- Receive God Fatherly birthright of liberation and fruition
- Now the last over by Maya is about to be bowled with full force
- To hook the same splendidly, take this divine course
- Wish you all an enlightening New Year for New World!
- Where everything will be pure, with beautiful singing fairies and bird!

PRECIOUS MOMENTS WITH BRAHMA BABA

—BK Prem Prakash, Noida



As the day of January 18 draws near, unforgettable moments spent with Brahma Baba appear on the screen of my mind just as scenes from a film. It was the day of ascension of Brahma Baba, when he left his mortal coil, after attaining perfection. On remembering the days spent by me with Brahma Baba, I become overwhelmed with loving emotions. Even ordinary words spoken by Baba during simple conversations with me had proved to be extraordinary and full of blessings in my life.

Some of my experiences with Baba are mentioned below:

Supporting stick for the spiritually blind

When I was studying in B. Sc in the year 1960, I joined the Brahma Kumaris institution, inspired by my elder brother B.K.R.S. Bhatnagar, Associate Editor of *The World Renewal*. After just two or three months, I gave this Godly message to some people and they seemed to be interested in Godly knowledge. I wrote my first letter to Brahma Baba, informing him about this Godly

service. Baba wrote back: “Received letter of Godly service news from *gyan* Prem Prakash. The child has done Godly service as a stick for the spiritually blind.”

Even today, whenever the phrase ‘stick for the blind’ is mentioned in Baba’s Murli (Sakar Murli – the words of knowledge spoken by Shiv Baba through Brahma Baba’s mouth), my mind goes back to that time, about 50 years ago, and I am filled with a lot of inspiration.

Service through newspapers

Baba often used to say in the Murli, “The relatives of those souls who leave their physical bodies get news of the death published in the obituary columns of newspapers. The bereaved families should be sent a letter explaining the true concept of heaven and hell.”

I prepared a draft of the letter and showed it to Brahma Baba when I met him for the first time in Madhuban. After carefully going through the draft and making a few corrections, Baba asked me to

send the letter to the relatives of deceased persons and motivated me to do this service regularly. Baba said to Didi Manmohini: “Child Prem Prakash has written a good letter”. Greatly inspired by Baba’s words, I regularly did this service, after returning to Delhi. Inspired by these letters, many of them came to the centre, learnt Rajyoga meditation and many completed one-week course of spiritual knowledge. This Godly service continued for a number of years.

Remain hurdle-free in Brahmin life

In 1962, Baba had come to Delhi and was staying in the official bungalow of Major Verma, who was following this spiritual knowledge. At that time the Indo-China war was going on and there were vacancies for short service commissioned officers in the army. Major Verma suggested me to apply for the post, assuring that he would take care of my selection. I filled up the

application form and consulted Baba on this issue. Baba, after remaining silent for a few moments, said to me: “Child, service in the army, when a war is going on, will be a life of turmoil for you. After some time there may be a war with Pakistan. You may be posted at the border during the war, and that may disturb your Godly life.” Major Verma and I readily agreed with Baba’s views and I abandoned the idea of joining the army. And truly, two wars later broke out with Pakistan, in 1965 and 1971, the latter one resulting in the creation of Bangladesh.

Though I had got a job in Life Insurance Corporation of India, after two or three years I was selected as a scientific officer in India Meteorological Department, and was asked to report for duty at the meteorological office near Amausi Airport in Lucknow. Amausi Airport is quite far from Lucknow city and those days there was no Brahma Kumaris centre there. When I informed Didi Manmohini, the in charge of B.K. centres in Delhi at that time, she immediately said ‘no’ stating that I didn’t know how to prepare food, and since the centre was far away, I might fall ill and there would be nobody to look after me. My mother

also didn’t want me to take up a job outside Delhi, and for this reason, I agreed with both of them. After a few months, I went to Madhuban and met Baba in his room. Didi Manmohini was also there. She told Baba how she didn’t allow me to take up a job in Lucknow. Immediately, Baba took me by the hand and led me to the kitchen, telling Didi that she would teach me how to prepare food. Baba showed me how to roll the chapatti (bread), and then he took me to a brother who was preparing a vegetable dish and taught me how to cook vegetables. Perhaps Baba wanted me to be self-dependent in cooking. This episode is about 45 years old. BapDada (Shiv Baba and Brahma Baba) knows the past, present and future of His children. May be BapDada had an inkling that at some point of time I might have to prepare food for myself.

Baba’s response to letters of service news

Once, when I was staying at the South Extension centre in Delhi, I took an appointment with Mr. Gulzari Lal Nanda, the then home minister of India, for inviting him to the South Extension centre. At the appointed time, he met us in a big room along with a group of people. After discussing with

him some tenets of Godly knowledge, I invited him to visit our centre. The same day, I wrote a letter to Baba informing him about our meeting with the Home Minister. I also mentioned in my letter that Mr. Nanda wanted to consult his astrologers before visiting our centre. The next day, in the morning Murli class, Baba mentioned that I had invited Mr. Gulzari Lal Nanda, but Baba was surprised to know that the minister wanted to consult his astrologers.

Conversation with Baba in the hut

When the first spiritual museum was in the making at Krishan Pole Bazar centre in Jaipur, some pictures and pictographs had to be displayed there. At that time I was in Gwalior in connection with a big spiritual exhibition. Didi Manmohini and Brother Jagdish were also there. When the pictures to be displayed outside the gallery of the Krishna Pole Bazar centre had been finalised, I was deputed to go to Madhuban and get final approval from Baba. On reaching Madhuban, Baba called me to his hut and, after discussion, finalised the pictures. On another occasion, I discussed with Baba in his hut

(...Contd. on page no. 25)

BABA BLESSED “CHILD’S DEDICATION IS WHOLE-HEARTED”

– **B.K. Vinod Jain**, Shantivan
(Manager, Global Hospital Trauma Centre, Talheti, Abu Road)



I was born and raised in a very religious family. At the age of 20 when I was studying in Indian School of Mines at Dhanbad, another student Brahma Kumar Mohan Singhal introduced me to Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya. As I was interested in Yoga, he told me that the Yoga commonly taught by Yoga teachers was good for one life only, but the Yoga taught by the Brahma Kumaris would benefit one for 21 births. This information generated in me great curiosity about Rajyoga.

As there was no Brahma Kumaris Centre at Dhanbad then, it was a matter of great joy for me to learn that they were going to open a centre there too. The centre started on 8th March, 1964 and on the very next day, I received an invitation to come to the centre. **I experienced a light of self-realisation shining in my forehead** as soon as I stepped into the centre. Because of this spiritual

experience, I accepted every piece of information given to me by sister B.K. Surender Didi (presently zone incharge Varanasi) without any note of disagreement.

BRAHMA BABA’S LOVING SUSTENANCE

From the day I became a Brahma Kumar, I had several occasions to meet with Brahma Baba and enjoyed his company, which always enlightened and refreshed me. These experiences I still treasure in my memory. Mohan Bhai and I decided to cook our own food in the hostel. One day some engineering students opened the door of our kitchen, ate our food and spoiled the utensils. When we informed Brahma Baba about the incidence, he at once directed the sister-in-charge of B.K. centre to provide us with food cooked at the centre. This arrangement continued for more than four years. This

shows how kind and considerate Brahma Baba was, particularly to the young and new students!

BRAHMA BABA—A REAL WELL-WISHER

I became so much intoxicated with the Godly versions which I listened to in the daily *Murlis* that at one point of time, I decided to discontinue my Engineering studies and devote my entire life to Godly service. When I told Baba about my decision, he forbade me from doing so and insisted on my completing the studies. After I finished the college, once again I decided to submit myself to Godly service instead of taking up a job. He said ‘No’ to my request. His exact words, which still echo in my ears, were “Child, your dedication is whole hearted. Physical dedication is not necessary; do some job at my command.” These incidents show how kind and considerate Brahma Baba was to the children, particularly

to young and new students.

CLEANSING MY PAST KARMIC ACCOUNT

The next incident I am going to relate made me free from the guilt of my past wrongs and instilled a spirit of self-trust in me. Baba often says in the *Murlis* that half of our past sins will be forgiven if we give a true account of them to Shiv Baba in writing. I noted down all the sins I had committed, in a notebook. After getting an appointment, I met Baba in his cottage and told him that I had brought with me the account of all my sins of the past 22 years of my life and that I wanted to be absolved of all of them as promised by Shiv Baba in His *Murlis*. Baba said, “Child, **Shiv Baba is not going to read what you have penned down; He wants to hear from your mouth**”. I lost no time in reading out all that I had written down. I took that as a golden opportunity to reveal everything that emerged in my consciousness at that time. I noticed that while I was reading from my note book, Baba’s right hand was moving as if I was being cleared of my sins one by one. I felt as if I was sitting in front of a MIRROR from which you cannot hide anything. That time I felt absolutely relaxed and relieved.

AUTOGRAPH OF THE INCORPOREAL BEING

As a young boy, I was very much interested in getting autographs of very important people whom I had a chance to meet. Once I approached Brahma Baba also and asked him for an autograph.

He directed me to see Ishu Dadi to whom I gave the autograph book for getting Baba’s signatures. Next day when I went to her to collect my autograph book with **Baba’s autograph**, she gave it back without the autograph saying “Baba is not a human being”. It was then that the realisation of the futility, and also of my folly, dawned upon me. I realised that I was asking for the autograph of someone who is our liberator and is giving us the knowledge about our past, present and the future.

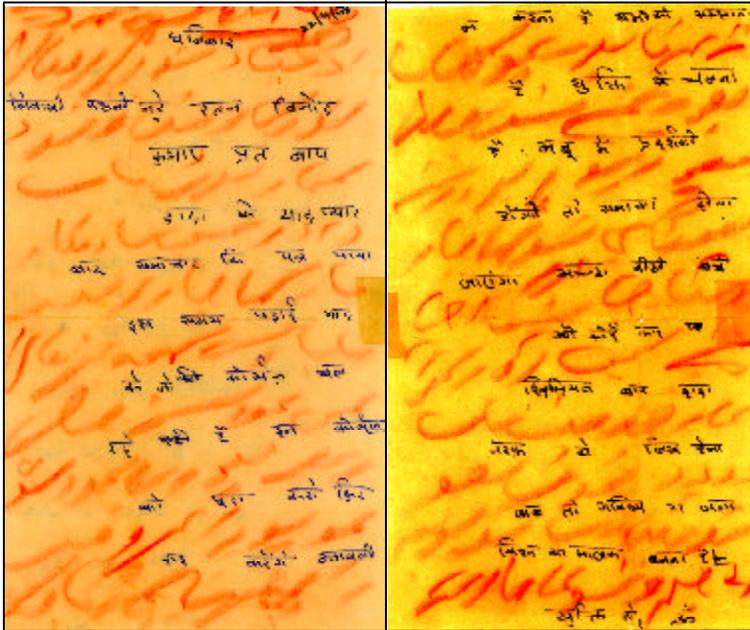
BABA TEACHES BY ACTIONS

Baba believed in teaching

the children by setting an example for them to follow



rather than teaching them by words of mouth. Once cart loads of bags of wheat purchased for Madhuban arrived there but nobody took notice of it as all were busy in doing their work. As the wheat was to be cleaned, Dadi informed Baba, though quite innocently, that the brothers and sisters were not coming forward for the job. Baba asked Dadi to open up the bags and fetch big plates. Baba then came and started the cleaning work himself. Within no time all the brothers and sisters who saw Baba doing the work came and joined him, with the



result that the whole of wheat was cleaned up in an hour or so.

THE ROLE OF FATHER AND MOTHER

After Mamma left her mortal coil, Brahma Baba took upon himself to render motherly love to us as well. Along with Lachchu Dadi he would visit rooms of all the children to ensure that they had enough cover to protect them from cold. Whenever he felt the need, he would instruct Dadi to provide the children with extra blankets. He made it a point to have the rooms sprayed to protect us from mosquitoes. He would enquire whether we had milk or not. He took care of our health and well-being, like a Mother.

FEEDING CHILDREN WITH LOVE

One day after the morning *Murli*, Baba went to the orchard near his cottage and took me along with him. As he was very tall, he plucked a grape from the overhanging vine and putting it into my mouth, asked me, “How does it taste?” I thought and asked myself, “Can there be anything sweeter than the grape offered to me by God Himself? My immediate reply to Baba’s query naturally was “Baba, it is very sweet.”

A RARE PHOTOGRAPH WITH BABA

On another occasion, I requested Baba for a photograph with me. At first he

declined but a little later he asked Dada Chandrahas to click the camera for a photograph of Baba with me and sister Surender from Varanasi and a brother from Thailand.

There was a cowshed in Madhuban which had ten or so healthy and beautiful cows whom Baba had named after Gopis. One day when we were unloading straw meant for the cows, some of the straw accidentally fell over me causing great irritation in my throat. Baba was all this time watching us at work with powerful ‘drishti’ outside the History Hall. When I told him of my problem he fed some “Gur” (Jaggery) to me with his own hands which cured me of my throat problem altogether. I really saw the Supreme Surgeon in Baba.

BABA DEPUTED ME AS A WATCHMAN

It was a matter of immense joy and pride for me when Baba gave me the responsibility of the security of Pandav Bhavan. Baba would also ask me to make *chapatis* (bread) and chop vegetables for the kitchen which I enjoyed a lot. We ourselves cooked the food for our return journey. Baba would visit the ‘Bhandara’ at 6’o clock sharp. He was so punctual and

accurate that we would set our watches accordingly.

Baba always gave preference to his children over himself. Once, the son of a Governor of a city in Thailand, who was studying in Banaras University, came to visit Madhuban. After the *BRAHMA BHOJAN*, he wanted to have a snap of Baba with his camera. Baba asked him to take the photos of the spiritual children first.

BABA'S SENSE OF HUMOUR

Baba had great sense of humour. It was a routine with us to call meetings in the History Hall to discuss important matters or some plan of action. Once we also invited Baba to attend a meeting. 'Sandalis' (seats) of three types had been kept there—one for Baba, the other for Mamma and the third for ourselves. On entering the hall, Baba occupied the seat meant for us. When Baba saw subdued smiles on our faces, he said that he had come to attend the meeting in the capacity of a child and not as the Father.

Baba would often assign the duty of distributing the 'Toli' only to the one who claimed that he/she had not told a lie for at least two years. It was a means for Baba not only to make us serviceable but also to make us turn ourselves inwards while doing any service. His approach in teaching the children was psychological. First he would start with praising our qualities and then would say, "You are gold, but, if you amend yourself, you will glitter more brightly."

MY LIFE IS A GIFT OF BABA

I have always considered this life of mine as a gift from God. Once before leaving Madhuban, I went to say good-bye to Baba. Baba kept standing at the gate waving his handkerchief until the taxi in which I was travelling disappeared from his sight. It so happened that immediately afterwards, the rear wheel of the taxi broke away but quite strangely, it got entangled with the axis and thus a very serious and fatal accident was avoided. After this incident, I considered this life as a gift from God and have, therefore, dedicated it to His service.

(Translated by **B.K. Rajbala Singh**, Powai, Mah.)

BABA'S MAGIC WORKS WONDERS!

– **B.K. Neena**, Delhi

The all-pervading gloom enveloping me
Shrouding my very being

The latent fears looming large
But Baba's magic enthused me to go
tall
Giving goodwill, happiness to one and
all!

This belittles my agony, my anguish
Baba's oasis in the desert of desolate
life
Guiding me to spring and bloom
Though hapless Karmic bonds push me
down
But Baba's hand pulls me out and on!

Beckoning me, to gallop to the flying
stage
Further bypass the mirage and the maze
My turbulent mind holds my sway
Baba says, "Beware, Time is ticking
away!"

"Wake up my child from Maya's
slumber
In spiritual efforts, take one number"!
The luring scenes of life beguile,
Smite me and offer enchanting bribes
But I am unfazed, with Baba by my side!

Battling with the vagaries of *Maya*
With the aplomb and grit of a woman
Denounce and detest all its Omens!
Baba's Blessings remove the murk
Enabling me to follow *Shrimat*
Indeed, must be His magic at work...!

(Contd. from December 2012)



GURU AND GOVIND



– **Anand M. Hans**, Paschim Vihar, Dlehi

Throughout these changes and developments, and up till now, man has not come any nearer to God, not to speak of knowing Him as and what He is. The man had pinned his hopes on the founders of religions and their leaders whom he considered as gurus and who he thought would be his guides and mentors in his search for God. But alas! All of them have failed him. With the present day gurus and god-men also leading him up the garden path, man has practically given up hope and also his desire to meet God and, instead, he clamours for love and peace as conditions in the world have come to such a pass that the man finds his very existence in danger.

The founders of religions came here to the earth with the sole purpose of establishing their religions. Neither were they able to lead us to God nor did they take us back home, the soul world, where souls live with the Father, the Supreme Soul. Since no human being knew the true identity of God, or our home and

when and how we can get there, and since no human being is equal to the task, the role of revealing Him and taking us back home has been taken over, in the scheme of things, by God Himself.

A soul needs a body to act his part. Being a soul too albeit the Supreme Soul, God is no exception to this eternal rule. He descends upon the earth and has to take loan of the body of an old, experienced man by the name of Dada Lekhraj of Sindh province (now in Pakistan). God names this old man as Prajapita Brahma – the same Brahma who is known to lakhs of Hindus as Guru Brahma for his wisdom. Brahma is thus the very first creation of God after He descends upon the earth. And along with Brahma, God also adopts a number of souls who put their faith in Him, listen to and act upon whatever He tells them. As these children are adopted through Brahma, they become known as Brahmins who are the luckiest souls

because they not only recognize God but also enjoy the privilege of meeting Him.

Brahma is also known by many other names such as Adam, Adi Pita, Purushottam, Brahmputra, Bhagyashali Rath, Bhagirath, Nandigan etc. He is also considered as the mother of Brahmins, as the act of adoption of Brahmins is done by God through Brahma by the word of mouth. That is why God is remembered in India as Maat-Pita (Mother-Father) whereas in the rest of the world the relationship between God and souls is viewed as that of the Father and child.

Every nation or country has its own festivals representing its cultural heritage and history. There are some festivals or occasions which are celebrated all over the world like Christmas, Labour Day, and Id etc. There is, however, only one festival which, though it concerns the entire world, is celebrated only in our country. We call it Shivratri. Though the Hindus who celebrate this festival every year are familiar with its name, they are not aware of the real significance of Shivratri.

Shivratri is the occasion which marks the coming of the Divine on the world stage. That Shivratri is celebrated here is an ample proof that the divine birth of God takes place in Bharat.

The birth of a mortal being, though he or she may be born at the dead of night, is called birth-day but the birth of Shiva is called Shivratri (Shiv-ratri) or the birth-night. Why so? Have we ever pondered over this question? Without knowing the answer, we cannot know what Shivratri really is. It is so called because it describes the very act of descending of God upon the earth to transform the darkness of the night (*Kaliyuga*) into the light of the day of love, peace and happiness (Satyuga).

While God is the father of all souls, Prajapita Brahma is the father of all humanity. We come to know only through Brahma that God has a separate entity of His own and He has a name (Shiva), a form (point of light), a permanent residence (Paramdham or Parlok), a country of birth (Bharat), time of birth (the Confluence Age) and a specific task (converting the world in general and Bharat in particular into Heaven). We also know through Brahma that God plays three principal roles on the world stage – the role of the Supreme Father (He gives us immense love and the inheritance of Heaven), the role of the Supreme Teacher (He teaches us the way to become pure and holy as *devis and*

devtas who inhabited the Heaven) and the role of the Satguru (He liberates and guides us to our home).

Another very crucial piece of information revealed through Brahma is that it is in fact Shiv Baba, who has given the knowledge in Shrimat Bhagwat Gita (song of God's wisdom sung by Him), the holy scripture held in high esteem by the Hindus all over the world. Gita is regarded as the fountain-head and, therefore, the essence of all the scriptures. The knowledge of Gita is not directed at a single person (Arjun) but it is for the benefit of all the human beings, irrespective of their caste, creed, race, gender or religion, to motivate them to turn over a new leaf.

The role of Brahma is very important – and unique. He is not only the mouthpiece of God but also a role model and living example for the Brahmins to follow the directions of God. Since God comes to meet His children after a very long time, and as expected of a father, He creates Heaven on the earth through Brahma and bequeaths this Heaven to His children as their inheritance.

When I first came to know about Brahma in 1981 (I heard Brahma being addressed as

Brahma Baba and God as Shiv Baba), I was instantly drawn towards him although I had never met him during his lifetime. Some voice inside me whispered that here was the guru of the Kabir's couplet who would surely unite me with Govind. I felt like a long-lost child who finally comes home to his parents and the rest of the family. At the same time, I was also sad because I considered myself to be unlucky not to have a chance of meeting Brahma Baba and, through him, Shiv Baba in person. This feeling was, however, short-lived when I learnt that though Brahma Baba had left his mortal coil and had achieved angelic stage, both Brahma Baba and Shiv Baba were still very much active in the service of their children and will continue to be doing so till the objective of creating heaven on the earth is achieved and the children are ready to leave for home before coming back to inhabit that heaven. In fact, Brahma Baba, like Shiv Baba, has become free from the limits of time and distance and has been doing greater service to the mankind than ever before.

Together, Brahma Baba and Shiv Baba are addressed as Baap-Dada. The title beautifully describes the loving relationship

between both of them on the one hand and between them and the Brahmins on the other. Brahma is our Dada (elder brother) as he is also a soul like us all. If we relate to Brahma as our father (Prajapita) then God would be our grandfather (Dada) as Brahma is also a child of God as we are. Our relationship with God as Grandfather is sweeter because grandsons are always lovelier and also are the rightful inheritors of grandfather's property.

Brahma Baba serves as the real guru as contemplated by Kabir in his couplet. He introduces us to Govind or, let us say, Govind introduces Himself to us through the medium of Brahma Baba. Both the guru (Brahma) and the Govind (God), to all intents and purposes, are combined and inseparables. God cannot play His role without Brahma as His medium and Brahma would have been nothing without God taking the loan of his body. Although so close to Shiv Baba, Brahma never claimed to be God but always said that he was only a servant of the children and of God who had chosen him to spread His message of Gita to the humanity at large. Brahmins love them both. Therefore, there is no such problem or predicament with them, which Kabir referred to in the couplet quoted above, because paying respect to the one is as good as paying respect to the other. No question, therefore, of touching the feet of either because the guru says that he is only an instrument of Govind, and whatever he does is at His bidding, and Govind, being incorporeal, says He has no feet.

(Concluded)

FATHER GOD OR GODFATHERS

(Through online competition)

–Abha Mittal, Noida, U.P.

Each new terrorist attack
Sends chill down my spine
“When He created these innocent creatures”, I
ask myself,
“Was it really the Almighty's design?”

God created this beautiful planet in all its
majestic beauty,
And sent us creatures here to perform some
sacred duty
Over time, we outgrew our simple ways
And some Satanic instincts took a sway.

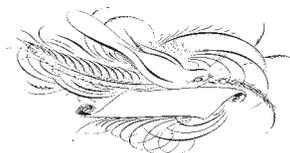
It bred in us a hunger for power, women and
possessions,
And we started fighting for our racial, regional
and linguistic divisions.
This hunger for power and riches grew more and
more
And our brothers' welfare we started to ignore'.

For keeping us on the right path, a number of
religions were derived
To one heavenly abode, however, all of them
arrived
This struggle for power maligned these too,
And in the name of religion we started dividing
our indivisible Father too.

In recent times a new breed of these power-
hungry populace with them entwined,
And in the name of holy wars, they indoctrinate
tender innocent minds.
They brainwash them and of the consequences
they make them blind,
And goad them into brutality of such heinous
kind.

My dear brethren, let's stay together,
And not let them divide Our Father,
How can He be so unfair?
As to be kind to one child and cruel to the other?

MOOD MANAGEMENT



'It's Time©' by Aruna Ladva,
B.K. Publications, London

Moods play a major role in our lives. They govern our feelings and actions and if not managed well, they can create havoc and chaos in our minds leading to depression and other mental illnesses. Do you find that something as simple as the weather or the morning headlines can alter your mood?

Moods are basic psychological states that can occur as a reaction to an event or can surface for no apparent external cause. A mood is an internal, subjective state. It is also a relatively long lasting emotional state. Moods differ from emotions in that they are less specific, less intense and less likely to be triggered by a particular stimulus. People speak of being in a good mood or a bad mood and this often lasts for days and not hours as in the case of a feeling or an emotion. Moods also differ from temperament or personality traits which are long lasting.

Moods can manipulate how individuals interpret and translate the world around them, and can also direct their behaviour. A research done by Niedenthal and Setterlund

(1994) showed that individuals are tuned to perceive things that are congruent with their current mood. Both the pessimist and optimist will prove themselves right as they manifest what they have interpreted through the lens of their mood!

According to psychologist Robert Thayer, mood is a product of two dimensions: energy and tension. A person can be energetic or tired while also being tense or calm. According to Thayer, people feel best when they are in a calm-energy mood, and worst when in a tense-tired state. The low energy arousal coupled with tension, as experienced in a bad mood, can be counteracted by walking. Thayer suggests walking as a means to enhanced happiness. (*Wikipedia*, 2011)

Research has shown that, contrary to the stereotype of the suffering artist, creativity is enhanced most by positive moods and happy thoughts.

People have often used food to regulate mood. Take for example chocolates, yes that dark gold bar of pure happiness! The benefits of dark chocolate come from

resveratrol, an antioxidant and immune system booster. It also has the ability to boost brain levels of endorphins as well as serotonin, a mood-altering chemical on which many antidepressants act. The recommended dose, however, is only one ounce per day, so remember not to overindulge. Wine has been used for eons to create a romantic mood.

German researchers studying garlic's effect on cholesterol discovered that participants being treated with garlic experience an elevation in mood. Now this does not necessarily mean good mood; it also implies that one can become e-motional – 'energy is in motion' and perhaps not one in control! Pilots are advised not to eat garlic up to 72 hours before flying as it slows down concentration and doubles or triples reaction time. Knowing what to eat is an important part of *food-mood management!*

Music can also alter moods. Niedenthal and Setterlund used music to induce positive and negative moods. Sad music was used as a stimulus to induce negative moods, and participants labelled other things as also negative. This proves that people's current moods tend to affect their judgment and perception in all areas of their lives. Surround yourself with music that will uplift your spirits and not one that will strip

the light of your aura.

People who tend to be moody are less predictable and difficult to work with. They are needy, stropky, self-centered, procrastinators and susceptible to sulking. People are less inclined to want to work with them as the other party is not always sure of how they may react and so they hesitate to even ask them for favours. People who have a stable and consistent mood make the best leaders. They have a focus and consistently keep their vision well oiled.

The difference between a response and a reaction is that a 're-s-ponse' is thought out or pondered over whereas a reaction is to re-enact something that has taken place previously. For example... you begin your day with an argument with your spouse. As you drive to work, you mull over this incident in your mind. By the time you get to work, the receptionist greets you with a big bright smile (as she is trained to) and at that moment you ask her in an irritated tone, what has she got to smile about! The anger built up from an earlier incident is brought forward to the present incident; you have brought forward the anger. Part of learning to manage moods is to be able to segregate incidents in our mind and not to let them overlap.

Sickness and ill health can also

make a person short fused and less tolerant. We become vulnerable and susceptible – knee jerk reactions. When the body is sick, we have to ensure the mind is not! And so for times like this, we need to be sure that we have acquired enough power through meditation that will assist us at a time of need. The healing process will be faster if we maintain the right attitude!

Hormones also play a major part in understanding why certain moods erupt at certain times. Coupled with modern day stress, it creates anarchy in the soul. Learning to understand the workings of the mind and body is the key to prevention.

The atmosphere of a place

can also induce certain moods. Walk into a church or hospital, funeral parlour or shopping mall and you certainly won't be feeling the same way inside.

Know what you want and surround yourself with healthy and positive people and be selective about the places you frequent.

It's time... to take responsibility and not allow external factors to affect your mood. As a master of your mind and body, take time to understand what triggers your moods. Play some light music every day to soothe your soul. Eat your meals in a mindful state. And slow down before you end up in a mood ditch that is hard to get out of!

(...Contd. from page no. 16)

the possibility of foreigners' coming to Madhuban for spiritual enlightenment, though there was no Brahma Kumaris centre outside India at that time. Baba often used to say in Murlis that foreigners would receive Godly knowledge and would come to India in large numbers. Today this has come true and one can see foreigner brothers and sisters in large numbers in Pandav Bhawan, Gyan Sarovar and Shantivan. Now, when I go to Baba's hut, the old, sweet memories of conversations with Baba become fresh in my mind and I am overwhelmed with spiritual ecstasy. I really feel myself very fortunate for the divine love Baba has showered on me.

In this long spiritual journey of more than 50 years, I came across many hurdles and storms in my Brahmin life, but when I remembered the precious moments spent with Brahma Baba, those hurdles seemed insignificant. The valuable teachings and guidance from Baba have supported me like a rock in my spiritual life.

SPECIALITIES OF BRAHMA BABA

– B.K. Shiv Kumar,
Pandav Bhawan, Delhi

Brahma Baba had great power of discrimination. He used to advance each child on the basis of his/her qualities. He used to say that the inner qualities are our greatest asset. He used to see each child with spiritual vision transcending caste, religion, colour of skin and language and address the children with the sweet words like—“Sweet Children”, “Spiritual Children” “long-lost, and now-found (“sikkiladhe”) children”. These words used to touch the depth of our heart. People in this world say “today’s children are tomorrows’ leaders”, but Baba used to say “children would be deities in the new world.”

Once a recluse (*Sanyasi*) nurturing many misconceptions about the Brahma Kumaris institution came to meet Baba. Baba addressed him sweetly saying “come sweet child” and offered his seat to him. He was wonderstruck with Baba’s behaviour. Baba said: “Child, you have sustained this Creation with the power of purity; you are a great soul”. This sweet talk of Baba bent his frame of mind

favourably.

It is well known that Baba always gave an elevated place to virgins and mothers. Brahma Baba would bless the disappointed souls, saying “Success is your birth right”. When someone explained difficulties on the path of achieving positive results, Baba used to say “*Kaaran batana mana swayamko Karagar main band Karna*” (i.e. giving reasons for not doing is like shutting the self in a prison). Baba used to highlight that the person who brings excuses with the word “*lekin*” (but) can not progress in life. He used to say that the word ‘No’ is not found in Baba’s dictionary. Baba used to teach to say “Hanji” (Yes Sir). Baba wanted to make every child an ‘all-rounder’ in the field of service. Divine virtues like purity, truthfulness, humility and patience bring success in service. If the child does not know a particular job, he should request Baba to teach him how to do that work. Brahma Baba always used to keep complete faith in Shiva Baba’s powers.

Baba inspired me a lot

I was only twelve years old when I came to Madhuban. First of all, Baba made me responsible for service in Baba’s room. He instructed Lachchu Dadi to teach me about the jobs to be done in Baba’s room. Baba blessed me with the words: ‘This child will never say ‘no’ to service. This child is tireless in service.’ Even then I did not have capacity or experience to do anything, but Baba knew my future. He taught me everything with great love. Every day, he filled me with spiritual gaze (*Ruhani Drishti*), spiritual and Godly powers, hope, enthusiasm and blessings. Baba’s selfless love, sweet words and spiritual personality used to attract me naturally towards him as if I was being dragged by a magnet. It will not be a high talk to say – “He was like a touchstone (*Paras*) that transformed everything that came in contact with a touchstone”. He used to address everyone as “sweet child”, see only their qualities and specialties and promote them based on these. Many times, Baba used to say that even if there are no worldly specialties and the child has recognised God and accepted Him as his father. This itself is the greatest specialty. This luck

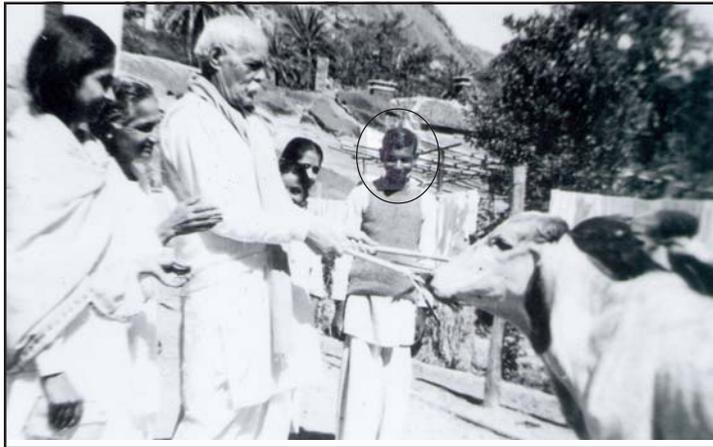
is available only to one in multimillions. Sometimes Baba used to say: “This child also will be master of the universe” and this enhanced my enthusiasm and hope. Being a small child, I got opportunity to serve in the rooms of Pitashri Brahma and Mateshwari Jagadamba Saraswati. Because of this, I enjoyed the luck of receiving Baba’s *drishiti* (gaze) and *toli* (sweets), snacks, fruits etc., every day from Baba’s lotus hands. Many times, Baba used to feed me into my mouth. This supreme luck has kept me away from attractions of this world, and on the lap of one Baba in the corporeal form.

Baba had got some new rooms constructed in Madhuban. These rooms were not having electricity. Baba taught me how to clean the glass of lantern by cleaning it with his own hands. I was given the responsibility of lighting lanterns and placing them in every room every night. Sometimes, the glass got broken while cleaning. Baba, the ocean of love, used to say: “Be careful next time” with much love. Even after this, when I broke the glass, there was no dearth of love in Baba, and he used to explain with much more love.

When Baba established a cowshed in Madhuban with

about two dozen cows, he called me, put his lotus hands on my head with great love and asked me sweetly: “*Bachchu, Gaushalaki Zimmewari Uthaoge?*” (“Sweet child, will you take responsibility of the cowshed?”). Even though, I did not have any experience, I said “Yes Baba”. Merely by saying “Yes”, I felt as if Baba had filled me with power and capability for doing everything. Baba used to visit the cowshed daily and enquire about my welfare and give necessary instructions.

Many times Baba used to feed green grass to the cows.



He used to say “There will be first class cows with Shri Krishna also. In the picture above, I am standing along with Baba who was feeding green leaves of sugarcane to cows. This picture is a wonder and eternal memorial of my spiritual life. Baba used to refuse to take

his photo usually. That day Baba himself asked Late Dada Chandrahas to take photo. This photo kindles sweet memories of Baba’s company in my spiritual life. This also reminds me of the song: “*Bachpanke din bhulanadena...*”. (Don’t forget the days of childhood).

Baba himself taught me to make roti/chapati with his own hands. Baba used to say that food should be prepared in the sweet remembrance of Shiva Baba and should be consumed in His remembrance and remind others to do the same.

The Art of Service with Money

Once Baba told me: “Child, you are doing service with body and mind, but you can do service with money also. It means saving *yagya*’s material from spoilage and wasting. He gave another example: “if you look

after cows well and they produce milk worth one and half rupees by consuming feed worth one rupee, then the saving of fifty paise will be credited to your account”.

Brahma Baba conquered Sleep

Brahma Baba used to get up at 2 a.m. and sit in meditation. Seeing this, once a child asked Baba why he woke up so early. Baba said: “When this Baba was a jeweller in Calcutta, steamers used to come late in the night and used to have good customers who gave him good earning. When there was good income, sleep was automatically lost. Now this Baba is a merchant of jewels of knowledge and has lent his body to Shiva Baba for service. The whole day Shiva Baba does spiritual service through this body.” Hence Brahma Baba had to make his efforts during the night. Pitashri used to conduct early morning (*amritvela*) Yoga at 4 a.m. During the day, he used to take rest for hardly an hour. During this period also, he could not take rest as he used to see off children who left Madhuban—near the banyan tree adjacent to Kamal Kunj Bhawan.

Baba used to tell Manmohini Didi that she should inform Baba if any child wanted to meet Baba, even if it was his resting time. No child should be deprived of opportunity to meet Baba. Baba always had the intention to touch the depth of the heart of spiritual children and awaken their dormant powers. He wished that every child should progress towards the higher destination by transcending low thoughts. During his last year in the physical form, Baba was very near his “*Karmateet Stage*” (beyond the effects of actions). I observed Baba sitting in deep contemplation on Shiva Baba in Bodiless stage. He used to urge the children to practise remembrance of Shiva Baba on the terrace of buildings in Madhuban. Baba used to quote Raja Janak’s soul being ruler of the subtle organs of the soul-mind and intellect and as an example of being “*Videhi*” or bodiless. Pitashri Brahma used to stand outside the History Hall after *Amritvela* Meditation and give *drishti* making children to experience subtle stage (*Avyakt Sthithi*).

THE INSPIRERS

(STUDENT - Through online Competition)

– Dhvani, Chennai

Getting inspired isn't a task so arduous,
For, inspiration, my friend, is all around us.
It isn't something only great minds find,
It is rejoiced by every observant mind.

High up, the golden sun I see —
So distinct, despite the distance, stands he.
A little lower are the clouds so lovely
That teach me to change with time, happily.

A little below, are the birds yellow and red
Flying hurriedly home, carrying bread.
Further down, are the trees dense and tall,
Loving the birds and homing them all.

A few feet below, is a kid smiling broad,
Asking me to be cheerful even if times are odd.
Oh, how inspiring is the world around me!
Every element here teaches me how to be.

MY EXPERIENCE WITH HAPPINESS

— Dr. Bibhash Sarma, Guwahati

During 1988-89, I was a final year student of engineering. The information that was coming to the students of engineering was very disturbing. Two or three batches of passed out engineering students were sitting idle for lack of jobs throughout the country. The scenario was completely different and job market was booming when we enrolled as engineering students. Now the students, particularly from the engineering stream, were very upset. As I come from a lower middle class family, I could not think of starting business of my own.

Fortunately, immediately after passing, I got a job in a reputed multi-national company with handsome salary and perks. After joining, I found that in my job there was not much application of the knowledge that I had gained during my engineering student life with very hard work and dedication. I used to remain frustrated. I started to think that I would be happy only if I got a job where I could apply my technical knowledge. I started applying

for different jobs and within a few months, I got a job as faculty in a Regional Engineering College (now, National Institute of Technology).

Teaching had always been my passion. During my student life, while staying in hostel, I had been teaching higher secondary students with pleasure, for my pocket money. Nevertheless, within one year of joining the new job, I started feeling depressed as there was

To change one's attitude is not easy. It requires a constant flow of positive energy. I found answers to all my questions in Rajyoga Meditation, which brings contentment in life and is the most effective method of self-empowerment.

little scope to deal with real life technical problems. My marriage and new friends occupied me for a few years, but the very thought of not getting job satisfaction was pinching me constantly. Though, apparently nothing could be guessed from outside, I was

not at all happy from within. I started applying for new jobs and soon joined another reputed post graduate level technical institute at a place better connected geo-graphically, and also known for its consultancy services. There I found that all my senior colleagues were highly qualified and almost all of them had Ph.D. degree. The 'comparison' made me unhappy again.

To get rid of my unhappiness, I decided to register for Ph.D. in an IIT. After completing all the formalities and clearing the selection process, I joined the IIT as research scholar. Three hectic years with 15 to 17 hours of work passed before I completed my PhD. Then I returned to my parent institute. But new demands were coming. I was expecting promotion in my job; I was also not happy with my two-wheeler and was thinking of having a car, whereas my wife was pressing me for a flat. I was passing those unhappy years of life fulfilling my demands, one after another. I had started thinking about financial security of my daughters. I was always running after some goal and when the goal was achieved or was about to be achieved, I would set another goal.

Then by chance I participated in a workshop organized by Prajapita Brahma

Kumaris, meant for professors, **The contents of the workshop were not entirely new to me but I was very much impressed and surprised by B.K. sisters, who were very simple, frank and most of all, happy.** I started thinking: what makes them so happy and content. To get my answer, I visited the local centre of the BKs. I attended the seven-day course offered by them at my convenient time. The course changed my attitude towards life.

Since childhood I had been following some basic rules/principles of life taught by my grandfather, who was an Ayurvedic medicine practitioner (Kabiraj) and my father. In the morning, I used to pray to God to seek His blessings and plan for the day's work. I would avoid harsh language and control my anger as much as possible. I also tried to help others. I believed that there is no shortcut to success, which comes only by hard work. Success does not mean degrading others, but to elevate oneself. At night, on bed, I analysed the day's performance and thanked God for everything. Now I think that these basic rules/principles may establish a person as per his capability in the society, but they don't guarantee happiness.

During my professional life, I suffered from two diseases: **'comparison'** and **'not enjoying life as a journey'**. Sometimes a person himself becomes a victim of comparison; or he may be instigated by the remarks of other people. For me, it was both. Then, I thought that 'happiness' is conditional: If I get this or that, then I would be happy. But the greed or desire would never stop. By the time a person fulfils one desire, another desire comes to his mind. Now I have understood that happiness is a state of mind. A happy person is happy, not because everything is right in his life. **HE IS HAPPY BECAUSE HIS ATTITUDE TOWARDS EVERYTHING IN HIS LIFE IS RIGHT.** To change one's attitude is not easy. It requires a constant flow of positive energy. **I found answers to all my questions in Rajyoga Meditation, which brings contentment in life and is the most effective method of self-empowerment.**

BABA'S GARDEN OF BLISS

– Prof. (Retd.) Amril Lal Madaan,
Kaithal

Come, Come, Come
Let's be the glow-worms
Of Baba's Garden of Bliss
Glowing with joy each moment and each
movement
Hopping from star to star

Come, Come, Come
Let's be the dew-drops
Of Baba's Garden of Bliss
Reflecting the purity of golden light
Through piece-full, peaceful array of
mirrors
Come, Come, Come
Let's be the butterflies
Of Baba's Garden of Bliss
Fluttering, flapping our untiring wings
Over purity of buds and flowers

Come, Come, Come
Let's be the draughts of wet whispering
wind
Of Baba's Garden of Bliss
Wafting through thirsty space
Just before the first summer shower

Come, Come, Come
Let's be the soft flakes of mountain mist
Of Baba's garden of Bliss
Enveloping, embracing each blade of
grass
With a loving compassionate kiss

Come, Come, Come
Let's be the clapping leaves
Of Baba's Garden of Bliss
Cheering every breath of life
What if rooted in deep mother earth

Come, come now one and all
Let's be the Baba's Garden itself
Unmarked, unbound, without "I"-self
Reflecting Him through deeds and
words
To the world, being awakening bell.

A WORKSHOP ON WOMAN EMPOWERMENT-

SHAKTI NIKETAN

– Mansi Taneja, Indore

Prajapita Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University has been active in the field of value education for a long time. It has also been working in many other areas, including woman-empowerment. One of the many initiatives it has taken in Empowering Women is establishment of Shakti Niketan, a hostel for girl students at Indore, in Madhya Pradesh State of India.

The girls from all over the country come and reside here not merely for studies but also for making a bright career combined with equally wonderful character. The hostel is a beautiful bouquet of fragrant flowers from different states of

India, with the inmates' distinct identity imbued with the feeling of being the proud citizens of a great country. The diversity of religion, culture and language yet unity of spirit are a proof of the parents' faith and the residents' adventurous spirit and firm determination in value-system.

The inmates lead a highly disciplined life, which they themselves have chosen, willingly and happily. This freedom of choice comes from their conscience and it goes a long way in making their minds broad, benevolent and brilliant. The self-respect and self-worth of the girls find expression in all fields of their activity. Thus,

this spiritual and inner discipline seems favourable to them and it helps them flourish their talents and capabilities. While residing in Shakti Niketan, the girl inmates carry out all the duties themselves. This self-dependence prepares them very well for future lives and never allows them to be a burden on others.

The resident girls get up early in the morning at 3.30 A.M. to practise meditation, and listening to devotional music and spiritual discourses. Most of them observe silence up to 8 A.M., which goes a long way for their inner empowerment. They learn to be punctual and regular as a result of which most of them excel in studies. Being careful, simple, clean and clear, they experience affinity of God while performing daily chores and study. The hostel has proper arrangement to train them in various skills and arts of life—computers, cooking, painting, dancing, vocal and instrumental music, acting, oratory, writing, dramatics, writing poems, participating in debates, interior decoration, and hospitality etc. They also learn to be humble and cheerful in life.

At Shakti Niketan, the inmates also learn the basic principles of spiritual life, which provide them training to lead a happy, pure, peaceful and



meaningful life. They learn the lessons of spirituality under the guidance of senior B.K. sisters and brothers and also get opportunity to inter-act with and learn from various Rajyogi souls who occasionally visit this eminent temple of learning. The girls observe noble code of conduct and discipline which is a matter of pride for Shakti Niketan. The hostel is the result of visionary zeal, enthusiasm and guidance of Brahma Kumar Rajyogi Bro.Om Prakash ji, who founded this hostel about 31 years ago. Due to his constant inspiration, the hostel has been progressing by leaps and bounds.

Presently, total 150 girls students from Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa, Haryana, Punjab, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Assam, Karnataka, Tamilnadu, Chhattisgarh, M.P., Manipur, Nepal and Dubai are residing here. These students not only prepare their own food but also observe purity of food and never consume food prepared in the market.

The inmates are not allowed to keep mobile phones with themselves. Management of Shakti Niketan is divided in 43 small and big departments which are managed by the girls themselves. Definitely Brahmakumaris' Shakti Niketan is a pleasant surprise in the present times of moral crisis. New entrants may contact for admission between January and April for admission in the Hostel. The admission process has already started this month. For more information, contact at the following address:-

– **BK Karuna**–

Shakti Niketan, Om Shanti Bhawan

Gyan Shikhar, Gate No. 2, 33/4, New Plasiya
Indore, (MP) 452001, PH: 0731-2531631
Mobile- 09425316843, Fax: 07312430444

*Don't compare yourself with anyone
in this world.*

*If you compare, you are insulting
yourself.*

*Life laughs at you when you are
unhappy...*

*Life smiles at you when you are
happy...*

*Life salutes you when you make
others happy.*

*Every successful person has a painful
story.*

*Every painful story has a successful
ending.*

*Accept the pain and get ready for
success.*

*Easy is to judge the mistakes of others
Difficult is to recognize our own
mistakes*

*It is easier to protect your feet with
slippers*

than to cover the earth with carpet.

*If a problem can be solved, no need
to worry about it.*

*If a problem cannot be solved what
is the use of worrying?*

*Mistakes are painful when they
happen*

*But collection of mistakes, years later,
is called experience, which lead to
success.*

CREATIVE ONLINE POETRY CONTEST-2012

– A Report by Dhvani, Chennai

Poetry is a talent possessed by observant and creative minds. An important aspect of literature, poetry can soothe, heal, inspire, and arise so many positive and elevating feelings in the readers. It was with the view of getting more people into this art, that we organized a poetry competition which we called “Creative Online Poetry Contest 2012” under the aegis of The World Renewal. We used Facebook as our main medium to connect with the contestants. The contest was also popularized through B.K. Centres and other B.K. media, coordinated by **B.K. Bro. Santosh** of The World Renewal.

We had initially targeted only contestants from India. Later, we were overwhelmed to have participation from other countries like USA, England, U.K., Serbia and Nigeria. The contest was supervised and guided by **B.K. Ranjit Fuliya**, Associate Editor of *The World Renewal*. **B.K. Yogesh Kumar**, Copy Editor at HT Media Ltd., and I, **Dhwani**,

had put the pieces together in order to put up a successful event. The competition was announced on November 8, 2012 and the enthusiastic contestants started sending in entries the same day. Their enthusiasm boosted up ours. The deadline was November 30, 2012. Total 54 entries were received from all over India and the countries mentioned earlier. **There were four categories for contestants to pick from:**

1. Inspiration,
2. Creativity—the Music of Life
3. Inter-Religious Harmony,
4. Woman as Homemaker

The topic “Inspiration” received the maximum number of entries.

The entries were judged by a Jury panel consisting of eminent litterateurs: **Prof. (Retd.) A.L. Madaan, Dr. Jyoti Taneja** (pen name Manasi) and **Mrs. Neelam Kulshreshth**.

Prof. (Retd.) A. L. Madaan is an eminent litterateur and a scholar of

Hindi and English. He retired as H.O.D. (English) from R.K.S.D. College, Kaithal and then worked as Principal of Jat College, Kaithal. His works include novels, plays, poetry, translation of an epic and some literary works. Deeply spiritual, he has real concern for values in society and all his works are imbued by this milieu. Prof. Madaan has penned thirty books. His latest work ‘*Doosra Arun*’ is a novel for children. He is a playwright of national eminence and his plays have been broadcast on A.I.R and Doordarshan. He has been awarded by many literary organisations including *Sahitya Kala Parishad*, Delhi, *Haryana Sahitya Akadami* and Hindi Writers Organisation, Mauritius. Prof. Madaan occasionally writes for *The World Renewal*.

Dr. Jyoti Taneja (pen name ‘Manasi’) is M.A. in English and PhD from Barkatullah University, Bhopal. With teaching experience of 22 years, presently she is Assistant Professor of English, Government Arts and Commerce College, Indore, Madhya Pradesh. She has published various research papers in journals and anthologies, short stories, articles, poems in various

magazines. Also an eminent blogger on spirituality, she occasionally writes for The World Renewal.

Ms. Neelam Kulshreshth has been teaching English in New Delhi for over thirty years. She is also an eminent writer and remains associated with academic and literary activities.

We must say a big “Thank You” to the jury, for putting up with this amateur endeavour. Despite small delays and hurdles in the process due to technical reasons, the jury quite professionally pronounced its judgment on time. We immensely thank the jury for its meticulous and unbiased evaluation.

The results announced on 10th December 2012 are as follows:

JUNIORS (UNDER 18)

- First:** Dhvani, Chennai
Second: Aiswarya T. Anis, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
Third: Kavya Mohan, Bhartiya Vidya Bhawan, Malappuram, Kerala
Fourth: Aadishree Diwakar, R N. S. World School, Jhansi, U.P.
Fifth: Shruthi Venkat, Silver Oaks School, Hyderabad
Sixth: Vibha Patel, R.N.S.

- World School, Jhansi
Seventh: Gayatri Giri, Air Force School, Delhi
Eighth: Harsh Tiwari, R N S World School, Jhansi
Ninth: Anagha T, Bhartiya Vidya Bhawan, Malappuram, Kerala
Tenth: Purnendu Mahesh, Bhartiya Vidya Bhawan, Malappuram, Kerala

SENIORS

- First:** Abha Mittal, NOIDA, U.P., India
Second: Sunil Kotla, Hyderabad, India
Third: B.K. Luis Alberto Riveros, U.S.A
Fourth: (I) Jacobs Adewale, Nigeria
Fourth: (II) B.K. Anand Mohan Hans, Delhi, India
Fifth: B.K. Puja Budhani, Nainital, India
Sixth: B.K. Rajbala Singh, Mumbai, India
Seventh: B.K. Manoj Mirchandani, Pune, India
Eighth: (I) Saanj Thimmayya, Bangalore, India
Eighth: (II) B.K. Vithal Pingali, Vishakhapatnam, India
Ninth: Gunjan Pai, Mumbai, India
Tenth: B.K. Neena Sharma, Delhi, India

WE HEARTILY CONGRATULATE ALL THE WINNERS.

The winners will avail prizes as follows: Top 5 contestants in both Junior and Senior category will receive books and other inspirational material worth: Rs. 1000 – first prize, Rs. 750 – second prize, Rs. 500 – third prize, Rs. 400 – fourth prize, Rs. 400 – fifth prize

All participants based in India will receive one year’s free subscription of The World Renewal. Overseas contestants will receive the magazine through e-mail every month.

On behalf of all the contestants, I would like to thank respected **B.K. Nirwair**, Chief Editor and **B.K. Atam Prakash**, Editor of The World Renewal for providing us this platform and for their constant inspiration. We also aspire to conduct such competitions in the near future.

Organizing the competition was truly a lovely experience, with the blessings of God Father Shiv Baba and the support of the spiritual family, worldwide.

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