

GOLDEN MOMENTS WITH DADI NIRMAL SHANTA



– B.K. Rukmani, Shantivan

I am very lucky to have got a golden opportunity to be with Rajyogini Dadi Nirmal Shanta, who was not only the prime jewel of this yagya, but also *laukik* daughter of Prajapita Brahma who was the corporeal medium of Incorporeal God Shiva for establishing this spiritual organisation. She was a flawless and virtuous soul, with a wonderful personality. I got this great fortune to live and serve with her since 1964. Ever since Brahma Baba sent her from Mumbai to Kolkata for Godly service, I came in contact with this great soul.

From the beginning, I used to remain around Dadi. Despite having tough bondages from my family, I had a great respect for Baba and her. My mother too had a lot of love and respect for Dadi. I was just 11 when I went to Ranchi along with Dadi for Godly services. Thereafter, Godly services were started in Bihar, Orissa, Assam, Tamil Nadu and Nepal which were under the administrative control of Eastern Zone of the Brahma Kumaris organisation. Dadi also

spent some time on Godly services in Tamil Nadu. Under her guidance, the services in Eastern Zone flourished by leaps and bounds.

Despite being the in-charge of such a huge zone comprising many states (e.g., West Bengal, Assam, Bihar, Orissa etc.) as well as neighbouring countries Nepal and Bangladesh, she took care of the same as an instrument of the most beloved Bap Dada, i.e., Incorporeal God Shiva and perfect angle Brahma Baba.

Brahma Baba had assigned to her the responsibility of running the centre at such a critical time when the *yagya* didn't have enough funds. It was difficult to pay the monthly rent of Rs. 600 for the centre's premises. There were only a few students or spiritual aspirants who attended the centre. Such a small seed sown at that time has now taken the form of a gigantic tree with many branches. She along with Sister Rosy (Tamil Nadu) managed this huge zone. Due to poor health of Sister Rosy, Dadi took her responsibility,

along with other senior brothers and sisters of the zone. At that time Avyakt Bap Dada gave blessing to her, "You just remain seated there and the rest will be taken care of by Baba." When asked how she managed such a big zone, Dadi would always point towards Baba. She didn't have even the fraction of feeling of 'I' and 'mine'.

A Unique Spiritual Intoxication

Once, Avyakt Baba said that Dadi had a spiritual intoxication of being the daughter of three fathers. Then Dadi instantly said, "Why three fathers? I'm the daughter of four fathers." Then, Baba said, "How?" She told Baba that in *Satyuga* also, she would be the daughter of Brahma Baba (who will be Narayan as per Godly knowledge revealed by God Shiva through the medium of Prajapita Brahma)." Hearing these words, Baba too blessed her with this blessing.

Royal Tendencies

From the very beginning, Dadi had royal habits befitting the gods and goddesses of

Satyuga. I noticed in her, the tendencies of royalty of Golden Age as well as practical example of Godly code of conduct.

Inspirational and Wonderful Teacher

She possessed a magnetic personality. Her words were sweet and actions were perfect. Everyone who came in her contact was pulled by her and felt the desire to attain something valuable from her. Her way of teaching was also very simple but mesmerizing.

Regular and Punctual Spiritual Practitioner

We observed that Dadi was regular and punctual in daily spiritual routine such as doing meditation at 'Amrit Vela', maintaining and checking chart from morning till evening etc. Her daily routine during morning used to be – attending morning *murli* class, washing of clothes or cutting of vegetables etc. She missed no chance of teaching royal manners to the sisters whosoever came in her contact. I still remember how sometimes, when the sisters working in the kitchen got tired and the Dining Hall had got completely messy, Dadi would herself clean it or get it cleaned. Besides she would do many other chores in the kitchen.

Always saying 'Yes'.

Dadi always made the part of saying 'Yes' firm in us. She would always remind us Baba's *Shrimat*, i.e. Godly advice, "Never say 'No'; always say 'Yes'." Once, a very big programme was going to be held in Kolkata. In order to make all proper arrangements for the programme, Dadi would give us her valuable guidelines such as 'if anyone would ask for milk at night, never say no to him/her'. I was assigned the duty of making and serving tea. Once the same thing happened about which Dadi had taught us. A sister asked for milk at 1.30 a.m. Although that elder sister had asked for milk at an odd hour, I provided her milk because I had the teaching by Dadi that we should never say 'no' to anything; but have to be alert in service. We shouldn't even think of our tiredness.

Always Giving Sweet Teaching

Dadi ji would say that Brahma Kumari means the one having the attitude of renunciation. The intellect shouldn't go even fractionally towards worldly materials. Whatever articles we got from our family, Dadi would hand over the same to Santari Dadi. Then, she would check our mental state if we had any attachment with those articles

or not. When we'd go for Godly service, then, Dadi would give us as much money which was just sufficient to meet bus fares. Dadi would advise us that any Godly service, whether big or small, has to be done with great heart. There should be no pomposity in it.

Simple Food in Godly Remembrance

While taking her food, she would not talk at all. She would offer first piece of Brahma Bhojan to some other person at the centre. Then only she would start the meals. She would never take food containing spices, chillies etc., nor would let any other sister take the same. And she would remind us the Godly versions that in *Satyuga* the deities would be simple and sweet. There will be no bitterness there; the same *sanskars* have to be instilled into us from the Confluence Age.

The Tendency to Teach

Once a brother started coming to our centre from his office, and would have tea and *toli* (sweet). He would donate some money every month at the centre for Baba's service. For quite some time, he didn't offer anything to the sisters at the centre, to see if Dadi would ask him for it or not. However, the behaviour of the sisters was the same as before; there was no

difference at all. When that brother admitted that he had not put anything in Baba's box (*Bhandari*), then Dadi immediately said, "Whom do you give? You give to Baba, not to us. Baba feeds us; you don't feed us." Hearing such an authoritative reply, the brother was amazed and began to think. We faced many such people checking our faith. That is how the tradition of donating the money into Baba's *Bhandari* only was started, according to which one was not required to give money in someone's hand. Moreover, if she would find any two sisters sleeping on the same bed at the centre, she would awaken them and would tell them that this was against the Godly code of conduct and ask them to sleep on different beds. Thus, she would teach Godly code of conduct in each and every aspect.

Her State of Detachment

In Dadi, I noticed the state of detachment from very proximity. Baba says in *Murlis* that this state is very high, deep and subtle. Once, her daughter Ratna had come to Kolkata. She had a complaint against her mother, i.e., Dadi Nirmal Shanta, that she did not love her as much as the sisters at the centre, which would sadden her mind at times. But Dadi didn't have attachment with Sister Ratna.

According to Dadi's younger sister Dadi Puttu, when they came from Pakistan to Abu, Dadi Nirmal Shanta's mother-in-law came to Mumbai to meet her. At that time, her mother-in-law had a box of ornaments in one hand (which Brahma Baba had given to her in her marriage) and had her daughter Ratna in another. She asked Dadi Nirmal Shanta, which of those two she would like to have. Dadi remained quiet. Her mother-in-law was good to her from the very beginning. She handed over the box of ornaments to Baba and told Baba that she would not hand over the girl, i.e., Sis. Ratna as she would herself take care of her. In other words, leaving a four-month old daughter is enough to prove the height of her detachment.

Ever-Cheerful Face

Even during physical illness, there was no trace of sorrow on Dadi's face. Once she kept repeating the words 'Shiv Baba' and 'Brahma Baba' throughout the day; saying no other word. Even when she was undergoing critical health problems, she would meet the doctor and talk to him with lot of love, feed *tohi* (sweet), singing Baba's songs; thus, keeping all the people spiritually entertained. And at the same time she would also remind them of Shiv Baba.

Whoever came to meet her was welcomed by her ever-cheerful face. There was no trace of pain on her face. She had an ever smiling, happy face like a blossomed flower. She would never elaborate her health problems. There was no feeling of ageing on her face.

The Secret of Longevity

Dadi possessed great will power. She wouldn't talk about anything except Shiv Baba as if she was living through her will power and Baba's power. Despite suffering from diseases such as diabetes, high blood pressure and eating disorders, she would keep smiling. There was no trace of sorrow, pain, or worry etc. Besides, she would speak economically, slowly and sweetly. No one ever noticed her talking ordinary words. She would even ask others to remain quiet and inspire them to remember Shiv Baba. That's why her words were accurate, apt and meaningful. She would make others happy through her sweet words.

The Last Days

During her last days, we noticed her getting more and more disinterested and detached. She would open her eyes and then close them, as if she was absorbed in the sceneries of Golden Age. If someone had come to meet her

and I asked her the name of the visitor, sometimes she would tell the name clearly, while on other occasions she would say that he/she was her brother/sister or would conclude by calling him/her soul. She had no feeling of 'self'; there was no body-consciousness. It was such a tension-free state.

Even though her health was not good for quite some time, yet her spiritual effort and state was wonderful. Her name Nirmal Shanta (Nirmal means pure, while Shanta means peaceful) truly reflected the immense purity and peace she had attained through Godly knowledge and remembrance, besides the power of tolerance, which was quite evident for last 5-6 months. The severe the disease, the stronger was her mental power. To add humour, she would advise the doctor, "Don't inject to frighten, but inject lovingly." Truly, it was evident that Baba would make her flawless and perfect in this last birth and take her directly to the Subtle World with no *karmic* account left unpaid.

Once Dadi was in hospital and according to that day's *murli*, there was a point that the eight jewels would go to the Incorporeal World directly without being subjected to any punishment, whereas those in the rosary of 108 would be

subjected to little bit punishment for their *karmic* account. Then I asked her, "Dadi, in which rosary would you come?" Then, she instantly replied, "I will become one of the eight jewels." She continued that when she became daughter of the soul of Krishna, i.e., Brahma in the last birth, then it is for sure that she would be the daughter of Shri Narayan too. So, she had always this divine intoxication, which reflected from her eyes. Her conduct and behaviour were royal. Even she didn't have this subtle ego that she was the daughter of Brahma because if someone called her by that name she would silence him/her by saying, "Aren't you the son/daughter of Brahma?" Thus, by telling such things, she would infuse zeal and enthusiasm into one and all. And if someone would say "Namaste" to her, she would reply, "Namaste; *sada raho hanste*" (i.e. by reciprocating the Namaste, she would give him/her the blessing to remain ever-happy.) This was the great *mantra* she bestowed on one and all without distinction.

Her Brief Life Story

Dadi Nirmal Shanta was born on 25th October, 1916 in Hyderabad (Sind), now in Pakistan. She was the third of the seven children of Dada Lekhraj and Jasoda Mata. She

was named Parvati; however, Baba would lovingly call her 'Paloo'. She was married in a very rich Kriplani family. At the age of 60, Dada had a divine vision of the destruction of old world as well as the creation of a new Golden Age. Whoever went to him saw Shri Krishna or Shri Narayan in him. Earlier, Dadi didn't like these unprecedented things, but later she automatically got firm faith in God's divine knowledge and had great love for Shiv Baba who had made Dada Lekhraj as His corporeal medium for the transformation of this old vicious world into new heavenly world. She gave birth to a baby girl named Ratna. But due to immense faith in God and Godly knowledge, she left her in her in-laws' home and became a liberated soul.

In this Godly *yagya*, created by Incorporeal God Shiva through the medium of Prajapita Brahma, where all disciples had to live along with Brahma Baba and Mateshwari Saraswati (i.e. the first administrative head of the organisation, who due to her deep inculcation and meditative power was called Mateshwari Jagdamba Saraswati), Dadi Nirmal Shanta was taught by Brahma Baba everything from stitching a slipper to driving car etc. She passed every test in the *yagya* successfully, which came in the form of health
(Contd. on page no. 34)

Gayatri who was not a lady but it is the name given to the sacred knowledge, 'sung' by Brahma. Further, the fact that Saraswati is herself regarded as Jagdamba – the World Mother – bears testimony to the truth that it was she who delivered Godly knowledge to human souls and gave them spiritual birth. In other words, God Shiva, the Knowledgeful, who gave that Knowledge to her through Brahma, was her spiritual Mother-Father.

THE PERIOD ASSOCIATED WITH SARASWATI'S DIVINE ACTS

Now the question is: 'With which period of history are life and acts of Saraswati associated?'

Since Saraswati and Brahma do the divine work of spiritual creation, their acts must be related to the ending phase of *Kaliyuga*, when divine Knowledge is required for soul-purification and to restore stability in soul-consciousness. So, Prajapita Brahma and Jagdamba Saraswati imparted teachings in these subjects at the fag-end of *Kaliyuga* which is the period of extreme degeneration. Moreover, human population of the world goes on increasing from *Satyuga* – the first Age – right up to the last

phase of *Kaliyuga* which is the right time to deliver Godly Knowledge because everyone will have a chance to have this Godly gift of divine knowledge.

THE FRUITION OF GODLY KNOWLEDGE

It has often been said in Indian sacred tradition that, by means of knowledge, a man becomes god like Shri Narayan and a woman attains the spiritual status of the goddess Shri Lakshmi. In fact, Lakshmi originates from the Sanskrit word '*Lakshya*' or '*Lakshma*' which means 'goal' or 'aim of life'. Therefore, Lakshmi, by semantic implications, is the goddess who is the goal of human life. As a Sanskrit verse says, she signifies the culmination of Godly knowledge and is symbolic of final attainment of health, wealth and happiness and is, thus, the goal for all. Naturally, therefore, Saraswati must have attained the status of Shri Lakshmi.

We have realized this truth by our practical experience because we have seen Jagdamba Saraswati in our own lifetime. We have seen the white-clad mother, whose life is a source of deep

spiritual inspiration to us. We have listened to her banjo of knowledge. We have had her motherly love and care. She practically helped and guided us to remove obstacles from the path of our spiritual endeavour. ●

(Contd. from on page no. 31)

hazards as well as other tests taken by Brahma Baba to verify her faith in God.

In the year 2006, Avyakt Bap Dada asked Dadi to remain in Madhuban; consequently, I also stayed with her.

After remaining quite unwell for few months, she left her mortal coil on 15th March 2013 and ascended to the advanced party to play her new role for the forthcoming Golden Age. Her last rites were performed at Mount Abu on 16th March, 2013 in the presence of thousands of B.K. brothers and sisters. Thousands of B.K. family members, who got to meet her, are still mesmerized by their divine experiences with her. The pearls of words spoken by her are still transmitting the vibrations of zeal and enthusiasm to them. She will always remain in our memory through the indelible marks of her divine deeds. Multimillion salutations to such a divine soul!

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