



Purity

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The Leading Lights of Brahma Kumaris



Rajyogini Dadi Hirdaya Mohini
Addl. Chief of Brahma Kumaris



Rajyogini Dadi Janki
Chief of Brahma Kumaris



Rajyogini Dadi Ratan Mohini
Joint Chief of Brahma Kumaris

Knowing to Becoming

It is said knowledge is power and knowledge liberates us from suffering resulting from ignorance. Today, humans have vast amounts of knowledge about the material world and nature. But they still have not found the key to peace and happiness. We have connected the world digitally but we fail to connect to others' hearts. They know how to transcend the earth's gravity and conquer outer space, but they do not know how to transcend the barriers of mind—hatred, discrimination, selfishness and ego.

That is why we ask God to give eyes to the blind. When we receive God's wisdom, we know the truth about who am I, where I have come from, to whom do I belong. With the third eye of wisdom we begin to see everything clearly and experience true peace and happiness. Spiritually blind humans stumble around in search of happiness and peace. They often tread on different paths with the hope of seeking salvation. They hold on to false supports in the belief that they will lead them to truth and peace.

Knowledge is the accumulation of facts and information. Wisdom is the synthesis of knowledge and experiences into insights that deepen one's understanding of relationships and the meaning of life.

Wisdom is the ability to apply that knowledge to the greater scheme of life. It's also deeper; knowing the meaning or reason, about knowing why something is, and what it means to your life. Albert Einstein once said, 'Wisdom is not a product of schooling but of the lifelong attempt to acquire it.' Such a process is lengthy and arduous, which teaches the pursuer patience and humility.

Wisdom is an element of personal character

that enables one to distinguish the wise from the unwise. It is the ability to apply relevant knowledge in an insightful manner, especially to different situations from that in which the knowledge was gained. Wisdom is also the ability to apply spiritual truths and live by ethics, virtues and righteousness.

Despite having knowledge of what is right and wrong, humans are entangled more and more in the web of sin and suffering. There is a huge gap between intellectual knowledge and virtuous conduct. One may have very deep understanding of morality and spiritual laws but yet a weak soul will fall prey to vices and suffer from deep flaws in character. That is why we see very knowledgeable and educated people conducting themselves in an unrighteous and sinful manner.

It is the character of human beings that qualifies them as divine or devilish. We are devils or deities according to our nature. It is not that deities have a third eye on their forehead or that devils have horns on their head. When human beings were filled with all virtues they qualified as deities. When humans have no divine qualities they are like demons. Deities are always praised as completely virtuous, perfect and totally viceless.

If we look around, we find a dearth of good conduct in spite of high levels of knowledge. We see so-called civilised and educated people behaving in an arrogant manner with scant respect for fellow humans. It is shocking to see the callousness people have towards the plight of those who are less privileged and living in disadvantage. They explode with anger and hatred at the slightest of incidents. Even those who follow spiritual paths do so in a shallow manner. They acquire spiritual knowledge and

even preach it zealously, but when it comes to their daily lives they are intolerant, impatient, resentful and bitter about people and life.

What is the use of lofty knowledge if we can't get along with others; if we can't learn to love and live harmoniously with our fellow brethren? Knowledge without virtues can make a person egoistic and self-centred. If we sincerely imbibe spiritual knowledge, we will become humble, tolerant, more accepting and respectful towards others. All spiritual truths are aimed at purifying our hearts and minds, enabling us to connect with others with deep respect and pure feelings.

More than knowledge, what is required to heal the immense pain and suffering around us is empathy, tolerance, humility and kindness. These virtues come into action only when there is the power of love—sincere care for others. Love enables us to transcend barriers of right and wrong, opinions and prejudices, blame games and critical vision, hurts and grudges. Love gives us the courage to change and to engage with people empathetically. It helps us to embrace diversity and differences of personalities.

Virtues come into action when there is introspection in the mirror of spiritual knowledge, constant learning and commitment to live by higher values. It takes discipline and perseverance to keep on checking the self and to learn from life experiences. Spiritual wisdom gives us the vision to align with our purest and highest nature and a loving relationship with God, which requires deep faith and surrender. It helps us to reflect virtues naturally. When we realise and live each moment in the consciousness of being the child of God, we become the embodiment of knowledge and virtues. ★

(Purity Bureau)

Dadi Prakashmani – Jewel of Light

BK Asha, New Delhi

Born in Hyderabad, Sindh to a devout family, Dadi Prakashmani was said by her astrologer father to be someone who would rise high in the field of spirituality. At the young age of 14 years, she entered the spiritual fold of Brahma Kumaris in 1937. It was in 1969 that she became the Chief of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya after Pitashri Brahma passed away. To this institution and to humankind, she gave 70 years of dedicated and love-filled service.

In such a short span of time, Dadiji touched a million hearts and transformed countless lives. She led the process of world transformation, the cause of the Brahma Kumaris, from its silver and golden to diamond and platinum jubilees, both in years and essence. As Congress leader Sonia Gandhi aptly described her: "Dadi Prakashmani represented the best spiritual traditions of our country."

She brought glory to India and to women by shaping a small family of sisters and brothers into a global spiritual force with more than a million members. Under her leadership, the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya grew from a small national entity to an international movement with 4,000 branches in 120 countries, spreading the message of God and divine values. Its service grew in leaps and bounds and spirituality broadened its scope through field-specific or group-wise application.

Under her leadership, apart from acquiring NGO status at the United Nations and then a consultative status in its organs of ECOSOC and UNICEF, the Brahma Kumaris also won UN recognition in the form of "The International Year of Peace Messenger Award (1987)" and participated in several UN peace initiatives.

She also brought glory to Rajasthan and to Mount Abu by putting it on the world map. A small hill station in Rajasthan, Mount Abu hosted several value education, peace and harmony conferences and spiritual retreats. The first annual Universal Peace Conference was held there in 1983 and many such events were held regularly later. From VIPs to heads of state and organizations, religious leaders, celebrities, thinkers and opinion makers from all walks of life, all benefited from talks under Dadiji's leadership. At that time, Ahmedabad, the closest big city to Mount Abu, did not even have an international airport. It is quite a miracle how at such a time national and



Dadi Prakashmani, former Chief of Brahma Kumaris (1922-2007)

Such was her charm that while leading a global organization like Brahma Kumaris, she was never tired and was always as light as a child.

international services were carried out.

Dadiji, during her lifetime, had perhaps the most unique of experiences. It is rare to find anyone like her today who has met such a large number of people from enormously varied backgrounds from all over the world in such a short span of time. While meeting them, she was untouched by the differences in their background of class, religion or status. Her association with them was purely spiritual.

Whoever met her for the first time felt as if she were family to him. The instant feeling

of belongingness that Dadiji gave to everyone sprung from the ever-gushing fountain of pure love and best wishes that flowed incessantly from her eyes and smile.

Such was her charm that while leading a global organization like Brahma Kumaris, spiritually satiating the quest of innumerable souls, she was never tired and was always as light as a child.

It is a sweet wonder how a simple Indian lady who was since a very young age brought up in a spiritual environment, away from the world, and who was known universally as a Dadi (Dadi means elder sister in Sindhi), led such a spiritual revolution. How did she, who had no political power, no coercive agency, build an organization with 9,00,000 members and nurture such a large family with such ease and lightness?

Spiritual values flow from spiritual power. Dadiji, who was called Rajyogini Prakashmani, was connected with the Supreme through Rajyoga. She performed her multiple roles as a trustee, an instrument of God's great plans. The directions of the Supreme father, and the love and support of a spiritual army of BK sisters and brothers helped her to mobilize this spiritual revolution.

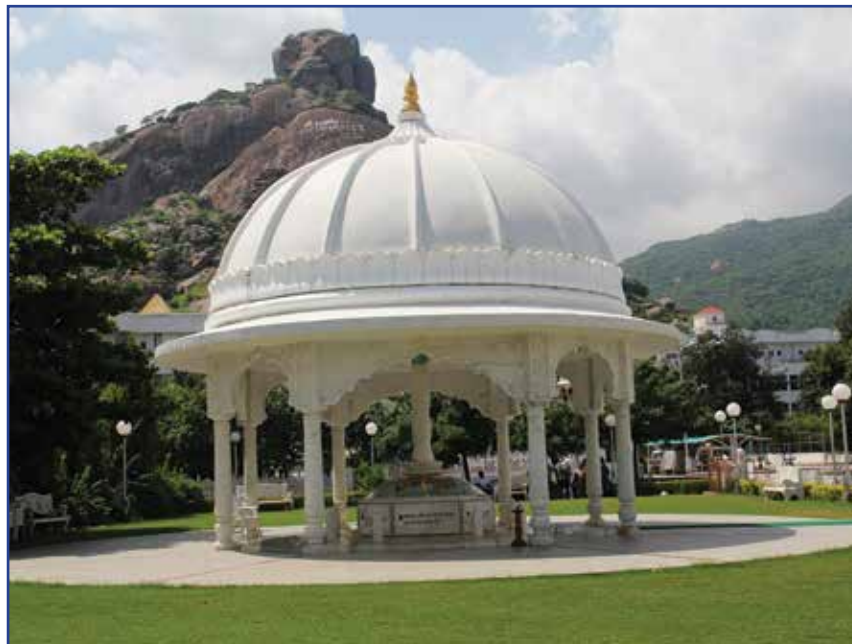
Dadiji left her mortal coil on the 25th of August, 2007. The work started under her leadership is a continuous process. It is a joint effort of which she was an exemplary leader. Following her illustrious example, the saplings nourished by her continue to grow and bear flowers and fruits. The spiritual revolution continues to gain momentum.*

Dadi Ji's Gems of Wisdom

- Watch everything in life as a detached observer. Life is like a game, watch it happily.
- Practise being in silence frequently throughout the day and you will become soul-conscious.
- To become worthy of God's love, give love to everyone, speak sweetly.
- Spread vibrations of good wishes to all.



Dadi Ji with BK Asha (Author) during her visit to Om Shanti Retreat Centre, Gurugram. (File Photo)



'Prakash Stambh' - Dadi Prakashmani Memorial at Shantivan Complex of Brahma Kumaris, Abu.

Experience of H H Sri Sai Krupakara Yogi Gopala Krishnananda Swamiji, Peetadhipathi

- Sri Dwarakamai Sai Baba Peetham, Hyderabad, Telangana State, India

I introduce Myself who belong to the 34th lineage of "Sripada Srivallabha", who is the 1st incarnation of "Lord Dattatreya". I established "Sri Dwarakamai Sai Baba Peetham" in April 2004 under the benign blessings of "Sri Shirdi Sai Baba". I am in the process of establishing Pancha Tatva Peethas (Pertaining to five elements) around the Globe to conserve Sanathana Dharma i.e., to create oneness in the mankind through "Sri Dwarakamai Sai Baba Peetham".

I would like to share my first-hand impressions and my rich experiences with Brahma Kumaris Organization with whom I came into contact for the first time in the year 2004.

I am very fortunate to have participated as a distinguished guest in two of their highly prestigious events viz., the organization's 80th year anniversary celebrations held in Shantivan, Mount Abu in 2017 and the Grand Convention of Saints and Scholars on "Exploring Truth in Bhagwad Gita" held in January 2018 in their Om Shanti Retreat Centre, near Delhi. Besides the above, I also participated in two national conferences of Brahma Kumaris on the subject of "Gita" and "Sab Ka Malik Ek" held in Hyderabad in the year 2016.

My experiences with Brahma Kumaris by participation in the above events are highly educative and memorable.

The institution of Brahma Kumaris is unique and stands in no comparison with any other organization be it religious or spiritual as their emphasis is purely on bringing the teachings into the day to day lives and not merely confined to propagating. Their teachings are essentially based on the ancient principles of spiritual wisdom through Rajyoga taught in Gita which

was also brought to the humanity by Sage Patanjali in Ashtanga Yoga Sutras long ago. But, in modern times, the term YOGA is being grossly misunderstood and merely confined to Asanas (body bending postures) and Pranayama (breathing exercises). I attended a few Rajyoga Meditation sessions in Abu as well as in ORC and I am thoroughly convinced that their teachings comprehensively covered the essence of teachings in Gita as well as all the 8 principles emphasized by Sage Patanjali and therefore they are able to connect to people easily and establish a large divine family



Gurugram, Haryana : Swami Gopala Krishnananda Ji receiving blessings from Dadi Janki Ji, Chief of Brahma Kumaris during Bhagavad Gita conference at Om Shanti Retreat Centre.

which comprises of more than 10 lakh families across the world transcending successfully the sectarian tendencies primarily caused by caste, creed and religious barriers. Gita is well known as "Sarwa Shastra Mayi Shiromani" which means mother and most elevated of all religious scriptures and the singular omission of clubbing the same with others hindu religious scriptures and referring it as part of "shastras" is responsible for the dilution of Gita teachings and consequent downfall in moral and



ethical values which we witness in the present-day society.

Brahma Kumaris are now propagating to the humanity the true teachings of Gita which are universal in character through their various conventions and conferences. The 'divine family' as Brahma Kumaris refer frequently, attracted Me as they lead a simple, honest and truthful life. They speak only about spirituality but never about religions which we see are dividing the humanity and doing more harm than any benefit.

The following are My observations after My visit to their above referred two campuses. (a) A heaven like atmosphere prevails in their campuses. The concepts of "universal brotherhood" and "if character is lost, everything is lost" are only heard by the humanity so far, but they are practically reflected in every member's behavior. A sense of camaraderie prevails and the whole atmosphere is charged with positive vibes of peace, love and bliss. (b) They will focus only on looking to divine virtues in others but never on negativities. (c) They are always found to be energetic, loving, cheerful and above all are thoroughly contented. (d) Another unique observation is that in any organization, one cannot meet and interact with the head or even the senior members just like that. But in Brahma Kumaris the administrative head and other additional / joint heads referred lovingly as "Dadijis" are easily accessible to everyone. There are no protocols to meet them. The senior most brothers and sisters who are dedicated for more than 50-60 years are also easily available to the members as well as outsiders. All of them are found to be egoless and willingly spare their valuable time and energies to convey their greetings and blessings to new souls visiting the campuses. (e) One cannot observe even traces of negativities like jealousy, hatred, anger, ego, animosity amongst the members. One need to visit their campuses at least once in their life time to see for themselves the truth in My above observations.

I was particularly impressed by the way in which positive vibrations of love and peace is spread by the Brahma Kumaris everywhere.

I take this opportunity to convey My whole hearted thanks to Brahma Kumaris Organization for providing an opportunity for Me to visit their global HQs and the Delhi campus which has given a sense of positive direction which elevated Me. I have decided to dedicate the rest of My life to spread the spiritual truths and wisdom contained in Gita. I shall also associate Myself actively with the Brahma Kumaris Organization in their important activities to propagate oneness in mankind in the years to come. *

*Om Nama Sivaya - Om Sri Sai
Nathaya Namaha.*



Butwal, Nepal: Group photo after greetings and felicitations of Hon'ble Chief Minister Shankar Pokhrale and Hon'ble Ministers Leela Giri, Aarti Podal, Sunita Shakya, BK Kamla, BK Narayan Daju, Mayor Shivraj Subedi and other eminent personalities.



Moscow, Russia : BK Sudha, Director Brahma Kumaris Moscow, with participants after giving a talk on 'Power of Words' at the XII Scientific Conference organised by Committee on Nationality Issues, Russian Federal Assembly.



Mount Abu : The 8th Edition of annual half marathon being flagged off from Polo ground by BK Shashi Behn, Vice Chairperson of Sports Wing and Dr. Pratap Midha, MS of Global Hospital & Research Centre, in the presence of DFO, SDM, Municipal Chairman and others.



London, UK : BK Maureen Goodman, Programme Director of the Brahma Kumaris, giving reflections on 'Compassion in Action'. 60 women from many cultures and faiths came together to share on the theme.



Junagadh, Gujarat : Lighting candles at 'Wah Zindagi Wah' programme are BK Damyanti Didi, BK Sister Shivani (Main speaker), Cine Actor Suresh Oberoi and others.



2018 European Stone Stacking Championships won by Pedra Duran from Spain.