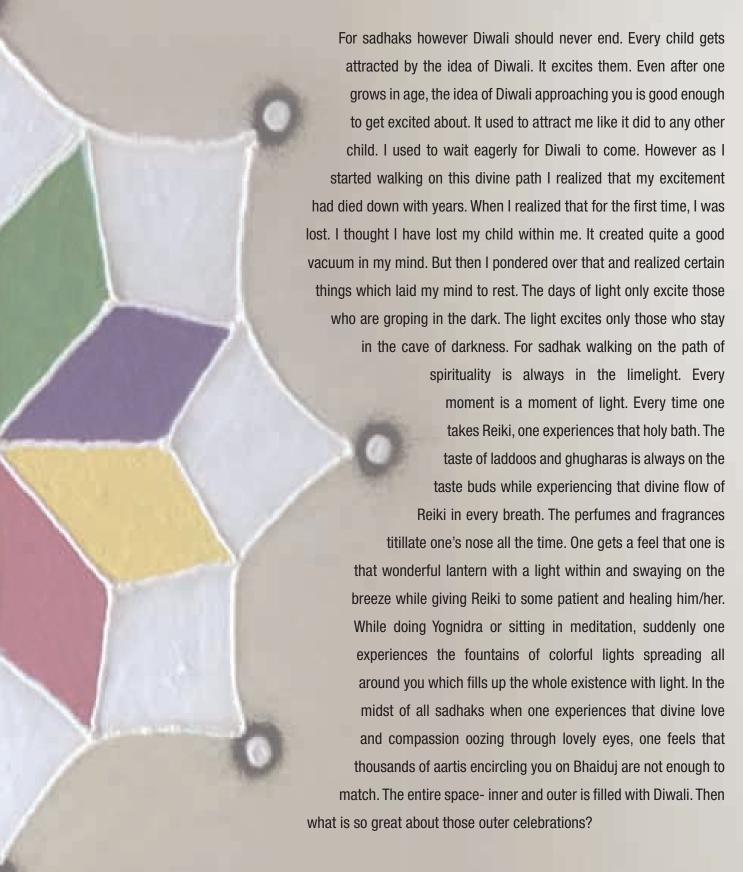


## THE DAILY Deepavali...

Deepavali is over by the time you receive this newsletter in your hands. By now all those heaps of delicious Diwali sweets must have diminished to much lesser heights. The garlands of lighting lamps around the door frame might have found their way to the storage rooms or the loft. The wonderful lanterns would be trying to accommodate themselves in some slot at home with an idea of being reused on next Diwali. The smoke and soot created by those Diwali crackers might have been cleared by now giving way to breath pure air now. Those wonderful greeting cards might have been disposed off by now going beyond the dust bins. For a common man Diwali is over till it comes back again next year.





I pray to my God to give you such a Diwali for ever in your life.





### Get Inspired: Finding Abiding Abundance

by Aruna M.

After years of searching, the seeker was told to go to a cave, where he would find a well. "Ask the well, 'What is truth?' And the well will reveal it to you, "Thus was he advised by a wizened old lady who, he surmised, was a seer. Struck by this tantalizing remark and full of curiosity, he looked for the cave and found it amidst a dark forested valley hidden by creepers. Water dripped from its walls and ran down to a hole which formed the well. Gathering up courage, though feeling a little silly at the same time, he asked the well the fundamental question.

Instantly came the answer from the depths, "Go to the village crossroads: there you shall find what you are seeking." The seeker was astonished at the stentorian reply and questioned the voice's origin. "Who are you?" he called out. But no reply came and none, even after several minutes elapsed. Realizing that the taciturn oracle did not waste words, the seeker proceeded to his next destination.

Full of hope and anticipation, he ran to the nearby crossroads only to find three rather uninteresting shops. One shop was selling pieces of metal, another sold wood, and thin wires were for sale in the third shop. Nothing and no one there seemed to have anything to do with the revelation of truth. He even spoke to the shopkeepers in a vain attempt to glean some clue to the oracle's meaning. But illumination lay beyond his reach. Stroking his chin in perplexity, he wondered — was he missing the point or had the oracle taken him for a ride?

Disappointed, the seeker returned to the well to demand an explanation. 'You will understand in the future,' came the terse reply. When the man protested against this clearly unhelpful response, all he obtained in return were the echoes of his own plaintive questions.

Indignant at having been made a fool of, the seeker left the cave in a huff, and continued his wanderings in search of truth. As years went by, the memory of his baffling experience at the well gradually faded away...

Until one night. A luscious moonlit night, when a gentle breeze wafted the soothing sounds of a sitar in the dark and brought the footsteps of the wayfarer to a halt. Somebody was playing a soulful composition with brilliance and inspiration.

Profoundly moved, the seeker felt drawn towards the sitar player. He beheld the fingers dancing nimbly over the strings. He then became aware of the sitar itself. And then, suddenly, he exploded in a cry of joyous recognition: the sitar was made of wires and pieces of metal and wood just like those he had once seen in the three shops years ago, thinking them to be of no significance.

At last, the message of the well dawned unto him, loud and clear: God has already provided us with everything we need. But we ignorantly perceive lack and disunity when God has created abundance and unity. In fact, His creation is Divine,

Perfect and Blissful. If only we had the eyes to see it, and perceive it in the right manner. Bhagavan Baba always says that most often the mistake lies with our *drusthi* (vision) and not *srushti* (creation). Creation is a sublime symphony of unity, purity and divinity, and when we have the right vision we can live in a state of perennial serenity and peace.

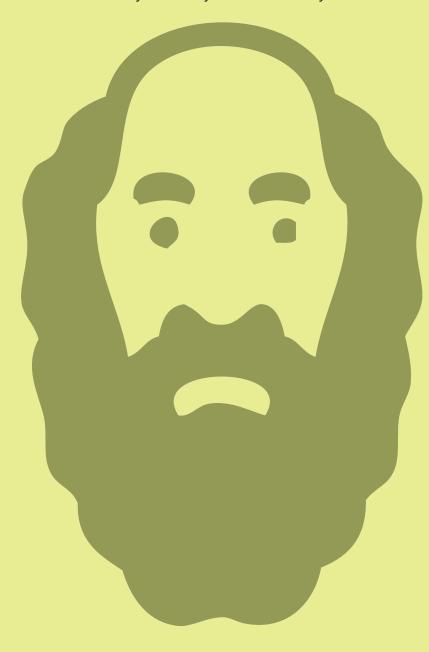
Nothing is meaningful so long as we perceive only separate fragments. But as soon as the fragments come together into a synthesis, a new entity emerges, whose nature we could not have

foreseen by considering the fragments alone. We have already been given everything we need. Our task is to assemble and use it in the appropriate way...

On one occasion, Baba said, "Liberation comes through the intellectual awareness of the Unity that underlies diversity. The One is known by many names, and is pictured in many forms, but there is only one Truth. People discern one fact at a time. Their vision is too limited to see the whole."

# The Secret of SUCCESS

Story shared by Dr Ramnathan Iyer



A young man asked Socrates the secret to success. Socrates told the young man to meet him near the river the next morning. They met. Socrates asked the young man to walk with him towards the river. When the water got up to their neck, Socrates took the young man by surprise and ducked him into the water.

The boy struggled to get out but Socrates was strong and kept him there until the boy started turning blue. Socrates pulled his head out of the water and the first thing the young man did was to gasp and take a deep breath of air.

Socrates asked,

'What did you want the most when you were there?"

The boy replied, "Air."

Socrates said,

"That is the secret to success. When you want success as badly as you wanted the air, then you will get it."

Power Story - Secret of success...



It was dark, cold rainy night. Dr. Subroto with his wife Sushmita and a friend was travelling. Something went wrong and his car crashed on a tree at midnight. All of them were badly hurt. He managed to get out and tried for help but nobody stopped till daybreak despite seeing the smashed car. After five hours of difficult struggle a milkman in bullock cart helped them to get admitted in the nearest hospital. This traumatic experience had changed his entire life.

The 'Lifeline Foundation' was formed with a thought that others do not die on the highway for want of timely help. Subroto says 'in India more people (1 Lack) die in road accident every year than the AIDS. If the person gets medical support in the very first hour after the accident the chances of survival are very high. He decided that his NGO would do everything for that and also free of charges. He started thinking about possibilities and did research. He realized that Rather than duplicating infrastructure and reinventing processes, he converted existing programs and brought them into harmonious collaboration. Instead of putting ambulances on the highway, he created a network of ambulances, fire brigade, cranes, and other services.

The biggest issue that prevents people from stopping to help accident victims is the fear of police. Lifeline **Foundation** guaranteed hospitals and others for payment in case accident victims can't pay. A unified number, 108 for emergency medical service was launched, for which his NGO provided the state government with technical expertise. Accident victims have to rely on untrained passers by and villagers for care so he trained schoolchildren in the villages along highways in primary first-aid and transportation, making methods of saving lives an integral part of their syllabus. He organized training for doctors in the emergency-room procedures and medical aspects of trauma. He worked with police, firefighters, ambulance owners, and their drivers to ensure that they can save lives without losing money or falling into jurisdictional disputes. He mapped the highways in detail, set up a 24-hour helpline, erected hundreds of road signs, and taken inventory of the personnel, facilities, and policies of every hospital, clinic. and blood bank near the highways. Even worse, rural ambulances are multi-use vehicles, ferrying supplies, vegetables, and the families of hospital staff as well as patients. They are often ill equipped, without trained personnel or hygienic preparation Ambulance drivers in

India are overworked and underpaid. They were provided safeguards, modest equipment and paramedical training. Subroto brought the drivers into his network; building their self-esteem by drawing attention to the vital role they play in the life-saving operations of emergency rescue. He launched the Ambulance Association of India to improve and standardize ambulance services throughout the country. His next step was to sensitize the police to their role in the burgeoning highway rescue system. He initiated training programs on the handling of trauma victims and disseminated information on state laws and jurisdictions. Subroto also worked to raise awareness levels among the medical community and in hospitals on laws and techniques relating to emergency care. He is working to standardize trauma protocol in hospitals all over the country. Subroto's team developed a program by which the control room can pinpoint the location of an accident site on a digital map down to the nearest 200 meters without using even GPS.

Dr Das is determined that he will not take the government's money. All the contributions come from donors like Asian Paints IOC, Birla Tyres, TATA Motors, Hutch, etc. Lifeline Foundation started this important work in Gujarat, now expanding it to cover the entire nation.

The Highway Rescue Project has saved 1,258 accident victims with life threatening injuries and 1,070 with moderate injuries within first 39 months. Subroto has implemented his programs along a 1325 KM stretch in Gujarat. Ultimately, he plans for his systems of emergency care to reach the length and breadth of the country. Subroto Das is awarded with Padmashri as gratitude towards his enormous work. His dream is to see Indian highways become safer place to travel.





Indian culture had many saints who were born gifted and always helping the society to keep faith focused at the right belief system. Saint Kabir is one of them.

When Kabir was nine years old he was walking to the temple. He saw a Sadhu doing preparations for a homa. Curiously he sat there watching him. He asked sadhu what was he doing? Sadhu looked at him and said I'm doing this for all my dead ancestors. Please go in village and get me some milk so I could make sweets for them. Kabir asked him would they eat sweets? Sadhu proudly said off course they will... There were three hungry kids begging for food. Sadhu angrily pushed them away. Kabir felt very sad. He also shouted at Kabir, and said how could I let them have it before my ancestors? Go and get the milk.

Kabir dejectedly walked towards the village. He saw a dead cow on the way. He cut some green grass and kept near her mouth and sat beside her. After long time when Kabir didn't return the Sadhu went searching for him. He saw the dead cow and Kabir watching her. He said what are you doing here? Where is the milk? Kabir said Sir, I'm waiting for cow to eat this grass and then she will give us milk. Sadhu was very annoyed. He said you stupid fellow; can't you see the cow is dead? How will she eat this grass? Kabir smiled calmly and asked Maharaj the cow is dead yesterday and if she can't eat the grass now then how could your ancestors died 100 years back could eat food you are serving them today? Sadhu realized his mistake and worth of Kabir immediately. He shared all the food to beggars and became Kabir's disciple from the moment.



### **OBSCURE DESTINATIONS...**

by Vivek Pandye

Whatever life may be, nonetheless it is a journey. Everybody travels either physically or on the mental plane. We all seek some destinations, unclear to all of us. To say the least, in simple terms, we all seek happiness at all points of time. In many cases the goal is missing and in most cases there is this unnerving dilemma of finding out our cause of existence. Whatever may be the reason, we all have found ourselves amidst a plethora of choices. Talking about choices which we make, are the result of a clouded mind, unsettled emotional state and vagueness of the intellect, misery and disease are bound to happen. Again the question arises as to what is really one's destination which ultimately leads to fulfillment of one's own destiny. We better be clear about this, otherwise the rest of our lives may just continue to remain the way it has been till now.

Take the case of a toddler. To say the least, they are happy most of the times. Or to describe it more aptly they do not keep a check on their minds. They are a complete flow for the simple reason that the faculty of mind is yet to arrive. If they feel like playing they play, if they get hurt they cry, if they pick a toy they drop the previous one with utmost ease. There is no holding back, they emote almost spontaneously. There is no reasoning due to lack of experience. The only vision they hold is the thing which is obvious to them. The emotions are bubbling with pure energy and unknowingly they know they have the freedom to make mistakes. No wonder, they are the happiest and the most attractive lot amongst the different age group in our species.

Take another case of a teenager. The two words "I know" are fundamental to this age group. They are a bundle of energy with upspring of a very high hormonal activities. They bring charm and light to a household. They have this faculty called mind (which arrives by this age) which keeps a check on them. They kind of become absolutely clear about the basic norms of the world relating to marriages, earning money, struggling and surviving. The frustration part begins when they realize their bodies are willing to express themselves and the mind conscious of the society suppresses their feelings. They emote but only in a closed group amongst their friends. Their state of mind fluctuates from the happiest to the most depressive and frustrated ones. They kind of have discovered the outside life, but are unable to solve the mystery within them. However if clarity is rendered by some mature conversations they may do wonders with their life.

Next to come is the age group of 25 to 40, when a person

becomes relatively settled. We become a lot more organized by this time around (not everyone). Earning money and carrying out the responsibilities of the household (backed by a lot of love) serves as a tranquillizer to the mind. Being and appearing busy is symbolic of this age. Mind is preoccupied with duties and an anticipation of the future. Strategic decisions are taken during supper and emotions are tickled by the bedtime.

Arrive 40 and we face something called mid-life crisis. We know we are neither young nor old. Some old age symptoms start appearing and hence we become conscious of our food habits. By this time most people are settled and they kind of look forward to once again experience the frivolities of youth by mingling with their children or people of their age group. The yearning to become young one more time seems to be on a high by this time. The intellect is well furnished with experience and the mind knows exactly what it wants and how to get it. Emotions are mostly avoided by this age group and a calm mind backed with a sharp intellect becomes the operating system.

Last comes the age when the death nail is about to strike at any point of time. We are overridden with the thoughts of what will happen once we lose this life. Children and grand children overpower us easily in many ways. The light and shine within the aura disappears. However if one has led his life appropriately, one may still command a lot of respect and obedience from the family. The mind is preoccupied with thoughts of taking care and plodding around with a wish to elongate the timeline. We also fear the loss of people with whom we have identified all our life.

Nothing new, we all know these phases of life. The point is to be very clear as to what you are and where you want to be. The only formula to happiness is either knowing nothing or knowing it all. We may split our life into short term and long term goals. We need to be clear about defining ways and tasks which give us happiness. Whatever may be the age, we need to live accordingly, accept and move on without brooding about the same. We need to understand and accept the same about people around us. But the most fundamental thing we need to do is, "FIND A CAUSE", without which the whole process of celebrating life goes for a toss. The goalposts keep on changing and the end result is suffering. Please "FIND A CAUSE", something you are absolutely passionate about. I promise you the rest of the things will automatically fit into the circle. Jaigurudev.

## Jenny's Necklace Shared by Aruna M

Jenny was a bright-eyed, pretty five-year-old girl. One day when she and her mother were checking out at the grocery store, Jenny saw a plastic pearl necklace priced at \$2.50. How she wanted that necklace, and when she asked her mother if she would buy it for her, her mother said, "Well, it is a pretty necklace, but it costs an awful lot of money. I'll tell you what. I'll buy you the necklace, and when we get home we can make up a list of chores that you can do to pay for the necklace. And don't forget that for your birthday Grandma might just give you a whole dollar bill too. Okay?"

Jenny agreed and her mother bought the pearl necklace for her. Jenny worked on her chores very hard every day, and sure enough, her Grandma gave her a brand new dollar bill for her birthday. Soon Jenny had paid off the necklace.

How Jenny loved those pearls! She wore them everywhere - to kindergarten, bed, and even when she went out with her mother to run errands. The only time she didn't wear them was in the shower - her mother had told her that they would turn her neck green.

Now Jenny had a very loving daddy. When Jenny went to bed, he would get up from his favorite chair every night and read Jenny her favorite story. One night when he finished the story, he said, "Jenny, do you love me?"

with it and braid it and everything. You can have Ribbons if you want her, daddy."

"No, that's okay," her father said and brushed her cheek again with a kiss. "God bless you, little one. Sweet dreams."

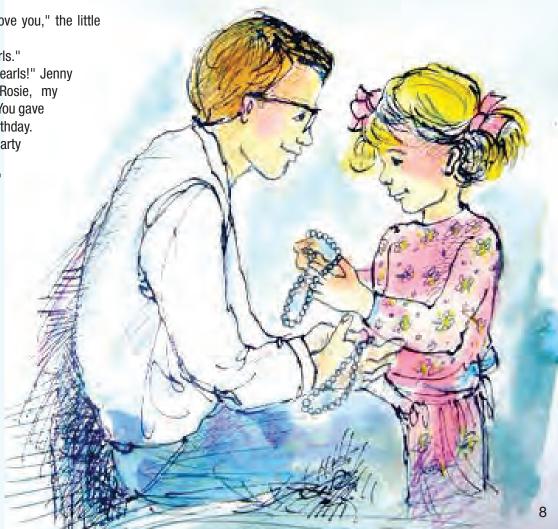
Several days later, when Jenny's father came in to read her a story, Jenny was sitting on her bed and her lips were trembling. "Here, daddy," she said, and held out her hand. She opened it and her beloved pearl necklace was inside. She let it slip into her father's hand. With one hand her father held the plastic pearls and with the other he pulled out of his pocket a blue velvet box.

Inside the box were real, genuine, beautiful pearls.

He had them all along. He was waiting for Jenny to give up the cheap stuff so he could give her the real thing.

So it is with our Heavenly Father. He is waiting for us to give up the cheap things in our lives so that he can give us His beautiful treasure.

We may ask ourselves, are we holding onto things which God wants us to let go of? Are we holding onto harmful or unnecessary relationships, habits and activities which we have become so attached to that it seems impossible to let go?



love me?" "Oh yes daddy! You know I love you," the little girl said. "Well, then, give me your pearls." "Oh, daddy! Please, not my pearls!" Jenny said. "But you can have Rosie, my favorite doll. Remember her? You gave her to me last year for my birthday. And you can have her tea party outfit, too. Okay?" "Oh no, darling, that's okay." Her father brushed her cheek with a kiss. "Good night, little one." A week later, her father once again asked Jenny after her story, "Do you love me?" "Oh yes, daddy! You know I love you." "Well, then give me your pearls." "Oh, daddy, not my pearls! But you can have Ribbons, my toy horse. Do you remember her? She's my

favorite. Her hair is so soft, and you can play



## The holistic viewpoint of life...

By Ashwini Telang

## "Everything in life is all about understanding, assimilating and retrieving the concept of our own self."

After reading the above line, one would wonder if it is that simple at all. Or is it just another way of making things seems easier than they actually are? Or else is it yet another way to make us realize that life is beyond facts that we see?

But truly speaking, today's quantum physics states that "everything is made of waves and particles" - this everything refers to matter as well. This suggests that in reality, nothing exists. The question here is "If nothing exists, how can we (as humans) see things as they are?" Could that mean, it is just our perception?

The answer to the above-mentioned question is "YES," it's all our perception because we too are "Concepts." Let us understand how and in what way we are mere concepts.

It is said that Human existence consists of seven components viz; Body (Deha), Mind (Mana), Intellect (Buddhi), Emotions (Feelings/ Antahkarana) Memories (Bhoot/ Past), Ego and Soul. If any of these seem to be missing we cease to exist as humans. But amongst all these seven, the only component we are grossly aware of is "the Body". Rest, all six can be felt but not seen as they are subtle, unseen realities of our life's existence.

The Consciousness (Soul/Atma) is a concept by itself as we are unable to experience it through our five senses yet surely we know that everyone has it. Now, the question is how do we know that? Let us use a simple example to explain that. Suppose there are two men lying down beside each other. One of them is dead while the other one is alive. Now, what is that thing, which is missing in one but not in the other?

If you observe them, both have Organs (like eyes, nose, ears, heart) blood, tissues, etc. But still, one is dead while the other one is alive. The only thing that seems to be missing is the flow (flow of blood,

the flow of air which we call breath). This flow itself gets stagnated when the concept (i.e. the consciousness / Soul) that is operating behind it is missing.

It is this consciousness which makes us experience the life. This clearly means the consciousness (soul) is manifesting itself into other six components of our existence - Just like Water, which manifests itself into 3 states: Solid, liquid and gaseous. It is the change in frequency that makes the water, change its molecular structure. Similarly, the change in the frequency of our consciousness, we experience not only the emotions and thoughts differently but also the environment is uniquely experienced.

Many-a-times we misinterpret our environment due to the dip in the normal frequency of our consciousness. This dip is caused by our own actions of the past (a.k.a. Sanskaras). Since we are most of the time unaware of this distortion on the level of frequency, it misleads us to understand who we really are and some times deviates our path to understanding who we are. We then start wandering in a totally different direction, generating a huge gap between who we actually are and who we perceive ourselves to be which in turn creates stress, tension, and so on. By merely understanding this and rectifying our present actions (a.k.a. Karmani or Kriyaman) we can revert back towards understanding our own real self -Thus, creating a beautiful and bright future for the mankind. To understand the game of sanskaras, we need to equip ourselves with some kind of spiritual practices like meditations, Reiki, Agnihotra etc. regular practice of these can also help us perform and learn better from our own past situations and experiences like meditations, Reiki, Agnihotra etc. the regular practice of these can also help us perform and learn better from our own past situations and experiences.

#### **Ashram Events**

#### **Guruji's Lecture on Youth Motivation at Navsari**

Guruji delivered a lecture on "Unleashing the hidden potentials-Moving from Losers to Winners" at Navsari Agricultural University on 7th October 2017. More than 50 students who are students of the university attended this two hours' lecture which was well received. The event was presided by the Vice Chancellor of Navsari Agriculture University.



#### **Guruji's training program on Life Enrichment and Inner Celebrations**



Navsari Management Association (NMA) invited Guruji to deliver a lecture on the subject "Life Enrichment and Inner Celebrations" which was attended by 27 participants at NMA's hall in Navsari.

#### Guruji's Lecture on Holistic Parenting at Sayajir Vaibhav Public Library at Navsari

Shri Sayaji Vaibhav Library in Navsari organized an interaction with the authors of Holistic Parenting book on 7th October evening. This is one of the oldest libraries in India and is widely used by Navsari residents. Guruji spoke to a packed crowd of book lovers and explained the philosophy behind the book. He also answered questions from the audience.



#### Agnihotra event at Balaji Temple, Navi Mumbai

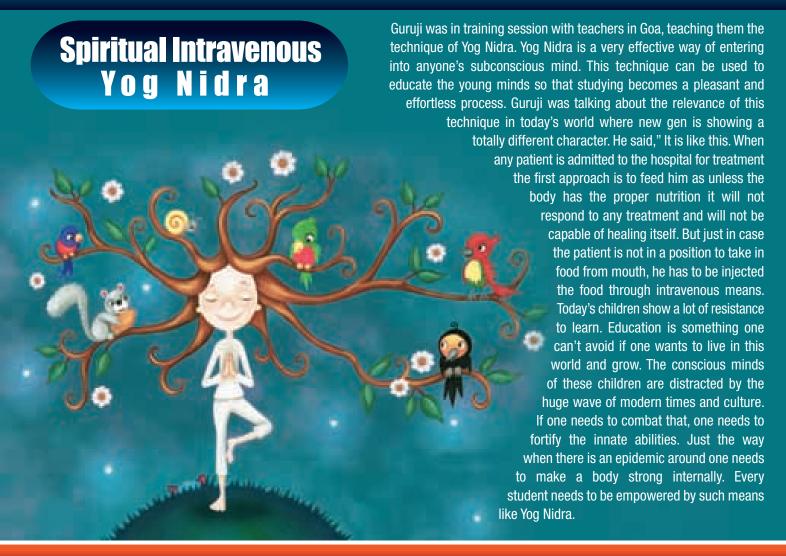
RVN sadhaks from Airoli centre in Navi Mumbai have successfully completed Agnihotra demo at Balaji Temple on 1st October 2017 at Airoli for ISCON Hare Krishna Sadhaks. It was managed by RVN sadhaks Anil Jamdar, hiraj Patil, Ajay Pusegaonkar, Aditi Pusegaonkar, Dinesh Advani and others.

This has initiated 12 people on this path who started performing regular Agnihotra.

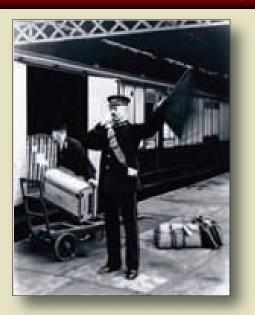
We are also working on proposal to have similar program at Juhu ISCON temple in month of November



#### **Ashram Wisdom**



This is a wonderful experience written by one of the Indian wives who are living in UK.



## Find your own flag

We shifted to England in 2004 because of my husband, Yogesh's UK employment. We were living in Sheffield. We were getting used to the culture slowly. One day we had to go for a party to celebrate (his boss) Pat's 40th Birthday. First time I had seen this kind of a joy for being 40. I was 26 years old and actually getting afraid of aging. Eric, Pat's partner was a very jovial fellow. He was enjoying every moment of life. That day he taught us so much. I loved this couple.

While chatting I asked him 'what profession he was into'? He said I show flag to trains on the railway station. We were shocked because Pat was on very high position in Yogesh's office. Yogesh was quiet but my curiosity was making me impatient, I asked him if he was doing it for long? Yogesh was angry with me but Eric was so happy with my question. His enthusiasm was overflowing. He said no 'I was a software engineer

and Vice President in a large corporation. Since 20 upto 40 years I did lot of work and earned lots of money. At one point I decided to live my dream. When I was kid, I use to come with mom on the railway station and this signalman with two flags in hand use to be my role model. He could stop or let go any train. I could see him in my dreams also. When I grew, this dream left behind and I became an executive in a large corporation. At the age of 40, I decided it's enough big Eric will now complete the dream of small Eric. And I joined as a signalman. Now I get immense pleasure every moment.

We were in love with Eric. Guru Eric inspired all of us. We all have those flags from childhood lost while growing. I had to learn music, Yogesh wanted to learn some musical instrument but we could never do it until now. In fact all of us need to find our own flags some time in life and learn to live.

#### **Reiki Schedule for November 2017 INDIA**

Date	Teacher	Venue	Level
4th & 5th Nov	Solanki	Bengaluru	1st
11th & 12th Nov	Vishal	Mumbai	1st
18th & 19th Nov	Vishal	Nashik	1st
18th & 19th Nov	Solanki	Chennai	1st
18th & 19th Nov	Seema	Rajkot	1st
20th & 21st Nov	Ajit Sir/ Bhartiben	Ahmedabad	2nd
25th & 26th Nov	Kalpita	Devrukh	1st

#### **Other Programs INDIA**

Date	Event	Venue	Venue
19th November	Empowerment of Parents & Teachers	Ahmedabad	Faculty
22nd November	One Day Reiki Swachetana Shibir	Ahmedabad	Ajit Sir
23rd November	Principals' Conference	Ahmedabad	Reiki Masters
1st to 3rd December	Datta Jayanti Celebrations	Devrukh Ashram	Ajit Sir/Krupa/Ashwini

### **Program Schedule for USA**

28th -29th Oct. 1st & 2nd degree at Chicago by Ajit Sir & Krupa

4th - 5th Nov. 1st &2nd degree at Moline by Ajitsir & Krupa

11th - 12th Nov. 1st degree at Naperville by Ajitsir & Krupa

#### Other programs USA

- 1. Teaching Sri Rudram at Chicago from 30th to 2nd Nov.
  by Ajitsir/Krupa/Ashwini
  - 2. Lectures on Bhaja Govindam at Chicago from 30th to 2nd Nov. by Ajit sir