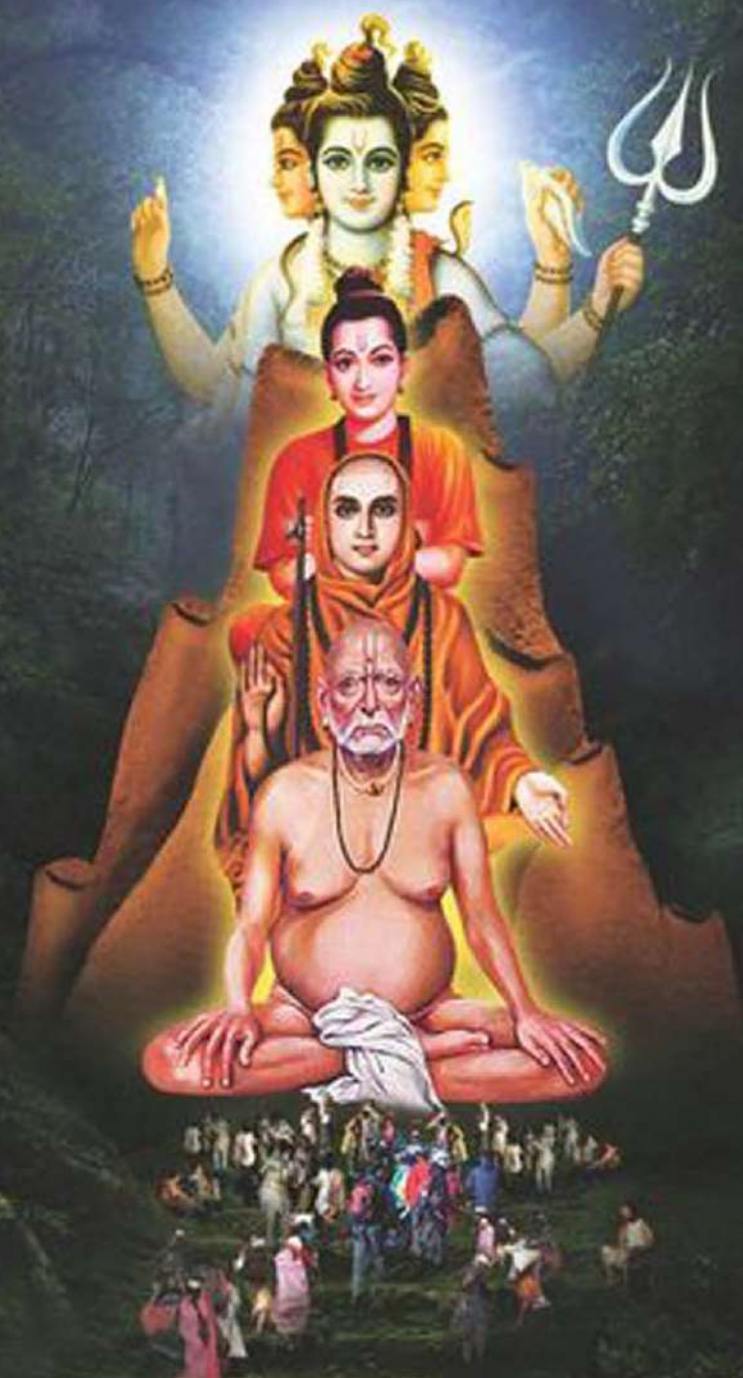


# REIKI

## VIDYA NIKETAN

"Fill your mind with me; love me; serve me; worship me always.

Seeking me in your heart, you will at last be united with me."







Mai, you taught us everything,  
but not how to live without you...

This was one of the darkest days in my life. My beloved Vandana (the world knew her as Mai) left us behind to go to her heavenly abode on the 14th of April leaving us behind in the ocean of sorrow. While the thing was getting sunk in my system, someone tucked me at my elbow to draw my attention. By the time I looked behind, a couple had pushed into my hands a small, cute photo frame with Mai's photograph on one side of the frame and the wonderful words which have gone as the title of this article. How apt were these words! In my partnership with her life as a husband for four decades, I learned a lot from her which was useful to me in my teachings to my small world of students. Together we went through various situations in life like any other couple with the ups and downs like an ECG wave showing the signs of a full life. That fateful day the Doctor at Pune hospital showed me the ECG with a flattened curve to declare in a sorrowful voice that "your wife is no more" The wave of life togetherness ceased at that moment. Suddenly the world around collapsed around me, my daughter Ashwini and many of our Sadhaks who fought nonchalantly and possibly unknowingly to give Mai all the support she needed to make her life comfortable. They were not Sadhaks, they were the divine angels coming from the 'other' world. Mai deserved all that adoration and love in her last days. She had given enough to the world in advance.

I never ever thought of a time when I had to write an

obituary for Mai. This delayed the newsletter for almost two months. The whole idea of writing an obituary on Mai made me numb in my head and my fingers were frozen. Mai has been a driving force in my mission. This was the mission of health, happiness, and harmony for humanity which was a dream seen together. We went into this dream hand in hand. But she left the hand abruptly to go to the higher levels of consciousness to help us achieve even higher pinnacles of sadhana. I am sure even after leaving the mortal body behind, she can't leave the mission. Now she will guide us from much higher levels after this transition. She was an evolved soul, not a mortal like most of us who came to this world to help me do whatever Swami gave me to work on. She never asked anything in life from me or from others in return for whatever she did for all of us. All that she asked me a number of times, was a transition before me. She never wanted a life without me. And she convinced the divine to grant her that one thing which she got from that compassionate God.

With love to you all

Ajit Sir  
June 4<sup>th</sup> 2022





SHIVA HEALS YOU...

# From Destiny to Destination

by Vivek Pandey

What is the road you choose to travel? What is your dream destination? Is it some geographical location? By the time you read this, you must have realized that heaven and hell are places not found on earth. Do you seek inner solace to transform your life? Do you hurry in reaching your destination or prefer enjoying the roads? Where exactly do you wish to reach? Ever wondered the moment you stop arriving, you already have reached a peaceful destination within you. Please do make an inquiry with your own being in the quietest hours of the day. I promise you won't regret it.

All journeys lead to some destination. Most people travel and reach their desired destination. However, some take paths and discover unknown destinations. Destinations that are meant to be a part of their destiny and not known to them consciously. Such unknown destinations are a wonder of life. They open up innumerable possibilities and put us on the path of exploring life.

What is destiny? Destiny is a preconceived path through which you are supposed to exhaust your life. Some say it is all pre-determined, while some opine that the path is set and the way the journey is carried out depends on the individual. This means destiny is like a grossly laid out plan. However, the detail in which the plan needs to be executed depends on the person. Also, the fact that how a plan would be executed depends on the person.

People have short-term and long-term goals in life. The destination is not always a physical place. It may be a near or far goal to be achieved. When one is able to accomplish or reach their

desired goals, they call it a success. When one is unable to do the same, people blame it on destiny. Destiny is a good word to give you solace when you are a failure. However, the word becomes apt when one has chosen a path completely different from one's natural inclinations. If the idea of your future is clear, there is no reason why one cannot attain their goal with the necessary amount of effort. Destiny should never be used as an excuse for failures. A good positive emotional state, a healthy mind, and a fit body accompanied with faith in life will help you attain almost every goal you set.

In Hinduism, they say that you are the maker of your own destiny. Your life is your Karma. At this juncture, one needs to understand the three types of Karmas and the aftermath. The first is called 'Prarabdha,' i.e., the deed has been done, and you are either enjoying its fruits or bearing the pain, depending on good or bad Karma. The second type is Sanchit Karma, Karma where the action has taken place, but the result of the action has not materialized. This can be understood with the example of students who have appeared for the exam but have not received their results yet. The third kind of Karma is referred to as "Karmani," which means you are about to act today. Karma has not yet happened. It is very much in your hands to decide how to go about your day. You have the right to manage your Karma and hence your life.

With the theory of Karma in our minds, one can look at life in three dimensions. The fruits of Karma that one is bearing now, the Karma brewing up, and finally, the Karma in your hands. Where you can't control the first and the second type of Karma, one must find ways to improve upon the daily Karma that is about to happen. You may not understand this with a long-term goal in your life. Nonetheless, you will understand Karma if you keep and observe a short-term goal.

Karma may lead to either success or failure. However, one who is aware of his destiny will always know that even failure is a way to your final destination.

# *Within and Without*

by Aruna Margam

I lost two of my mother's in a row, just within three weeks. One is my biological mother and the other is our Guruma Mayi. Whenever I called Guruji before reiki seminars, Mayi used to answer the call. Every time we bid bye from Devrukh, Mayi used to tell us to call once we reach our home. After my mother passing away, she even shared her experience with me about how Guruji guided the transition of Ashwini's grandfather.

Guruji recently in the zoom meeting on his 25th year of reiki teaching, he profusely thanked Mayi and Ashwini for supporting his mission. We sadhaks also know that Mayi's unconditional support helped us to learn reiki and grow in this spiritual path. So we all are very sure she is connected to all of us in energy level every moment.

Yesterday evening the day, she attained Swami lotus feet, I experienced something unique. Around 6.45 pm suddenly heavy downpour, wind chimes were ringing like temple bells, breeze, twilight time and felt like a celebration. Deeply I relived Guruji's words the five elements gone back to its original form. From gross to subtle. Universe was expressing joy and welcoming its beloved child back home. Like seminar day Guruji tells the sadhaks, we were not there when you were born, so today we are celebrating your birthday. It was one such moment for

me. Universal mother was rejoicing the home coming of the noble soul.

Guruji has told the first ten days the energy of the soul gets distributed amongst the family members. Same way yesterday felt like I was in seminar space. I was filled with energy. The whole day and even the following day I am feeling it. This is one experience reassuring that wherever we are we are connected like a one big family. She shared her energy with all of us. Guruji and Mayi are always like our parents or even more. Thank you Mayi and Guruji for sharing this love and compassion unconditionally with all of us.

Guruji speaks about three 'I's Impermanence, Ignorance and Illusion of life. Yesterday to today we all are shocked with Mayi leaving us we experienced impermanence of life. This also help us to come out of ignorance that we are this body. We all are pulsating with Mayi's subtle energy even now. Finally our so many plans for the future towards our success also become an illusion. This also reminds the small audio of Guruji on Living without destination.

Mayi has been a mother to many of us, guiding force, a healer by listening to us, nurturing us never failed to correct when needed. Mayi has started living in all our hearts. Mayi we love you.



A background image featuring a close-up of pink and white flowers, likely lilies, with soft lighting and a gentle gradient. The flowers are in various stages of bloom, with some showing vibrant pink petals and others in white.

## *Tribute to Mai*

Jai Gurudev

Dear guruji,

My heartfelt condolences to you and Ashu for your tremendous loss. It's a sudden shocking event and has taken us by surprise....she has gone too soon.

I didn't write to you immediately as i didn't know what to say in consolation. I know you are aware of the deeper drama of life and the inevitable hand of destiny. Yet, it is only natural for one to grieve the loss of a partner and miss their presence. More so when the partner has been a solid support in every aspect of day to day living.

Now, she has become a sweet, shining presence in the Universe beaming her energy on all our spiritual endeavours, in a free, limitless blessing.

Grateful to her beautiful soul, for her presence on earth as a spiritual mother

Sending loads of love to you and Ashu.

Sharing my message to fellow sadhaks today... Shraddhanjali to Mai.

**- Shashi**

## **Maa.....ai the Eternal Lamp**

That cheerful face with a beautiful smile  
Those deep dark eyes that were so agile  
To read the emotions of the tough or the fragile  
The balm that she would put, would in life go miles and miles.  
She is the lamp that in our hearts would reside

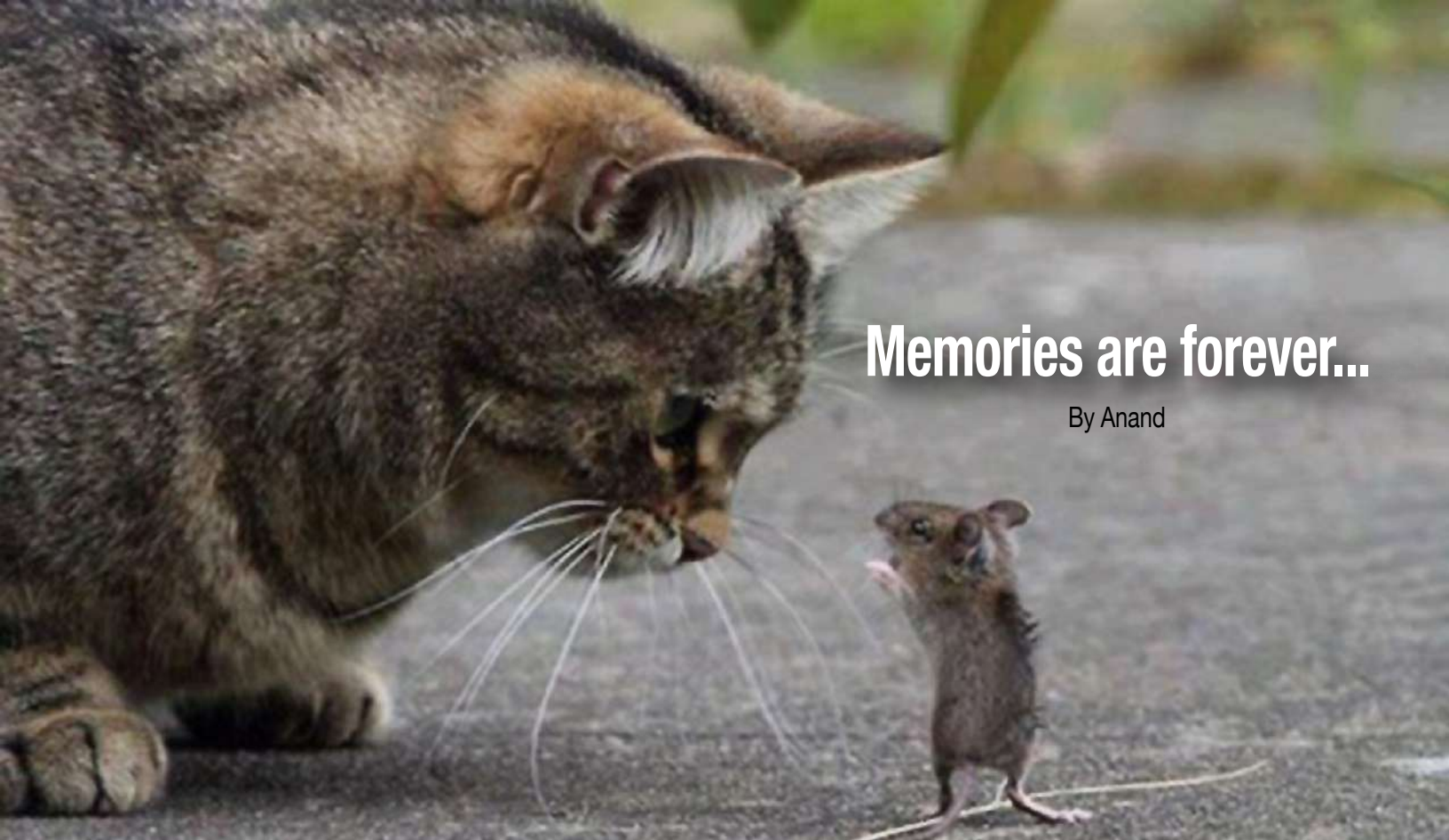
She was a shadow of Guruji who would not leave him for a while  
A driving force for him to accomplish his endeavours all his life  
An epitome of sacrifice , for who but all of us to be wise  
Neither the Sun nor the dark night ,  
Neither the harsh winter nor the thunderous rains  
Would cease her from leaving Guruji's hands.

Clad in the Indian attire, she was as graceful as a swan  
She was a child for a child , a companion, a mother for the sadhaks  
Her subtle humour would leave one smilingly awestruck  
Her searching eyes gathered the minutest thing in seminars or on any occasion .  
Her love and pouring compassion could be read from her loving actions

She was Maai the universal MAAI  
Yes ,her presence was of a mother coming ....MAA...AAI  
She was so dear to everyone , even to the almighty  
That He plucked her from our garden of RVN in a jiffy  
Left us only with her fragrance of calmness , forbearance, benevolence and modesty.  
She was a a lamp that glowed then  
And she is the lamp that will eternally spread her brightness hence .....

Miss you Maa...ai!

**- Preeti Khanna**



# Memories are forever...

By Anand

If we have to describe our lives in a single word, we could say it's nothing but just a pool of gigantic memories. These memories don't die on its own. They transmit along with us birth after birth. We experience them time to time. It's not possible that we could have every experience of the world in this one birth but somehow, we could feel that we knew certain things from earlier without learning them and we have no idea how? We have fear or joy of certain things like water, fire, height or speed. I remember, my five years old son would make me cross the road even if a truck is parked 500 meters away. It could be anything, not necessary that we have to face it in this birth only. The joy, fear, knowledge could be from some past birth imprints on our mind and that memory would just pop up when we have similar situation in this life. For example, someone who is a great musician in the past birth would enjoy listening or performing good music easily even as a baby. Someone who had a horrifying Tsunami death in some previous birth would never stand by water because as soon as s/he comes closer to water, the fearful memories and sudden chill would pop up.

We always have our reactions in certain and also in similar fashion again and again when we encounter same situations in life over and over again. I've seen even older women in eighties reacting same way while they were young when it comes to the topic of 'mother-in-law'. Same memories would pop up and make them react similarly every time. That's a reason master say that we have to let go of certain things otherwise every time we

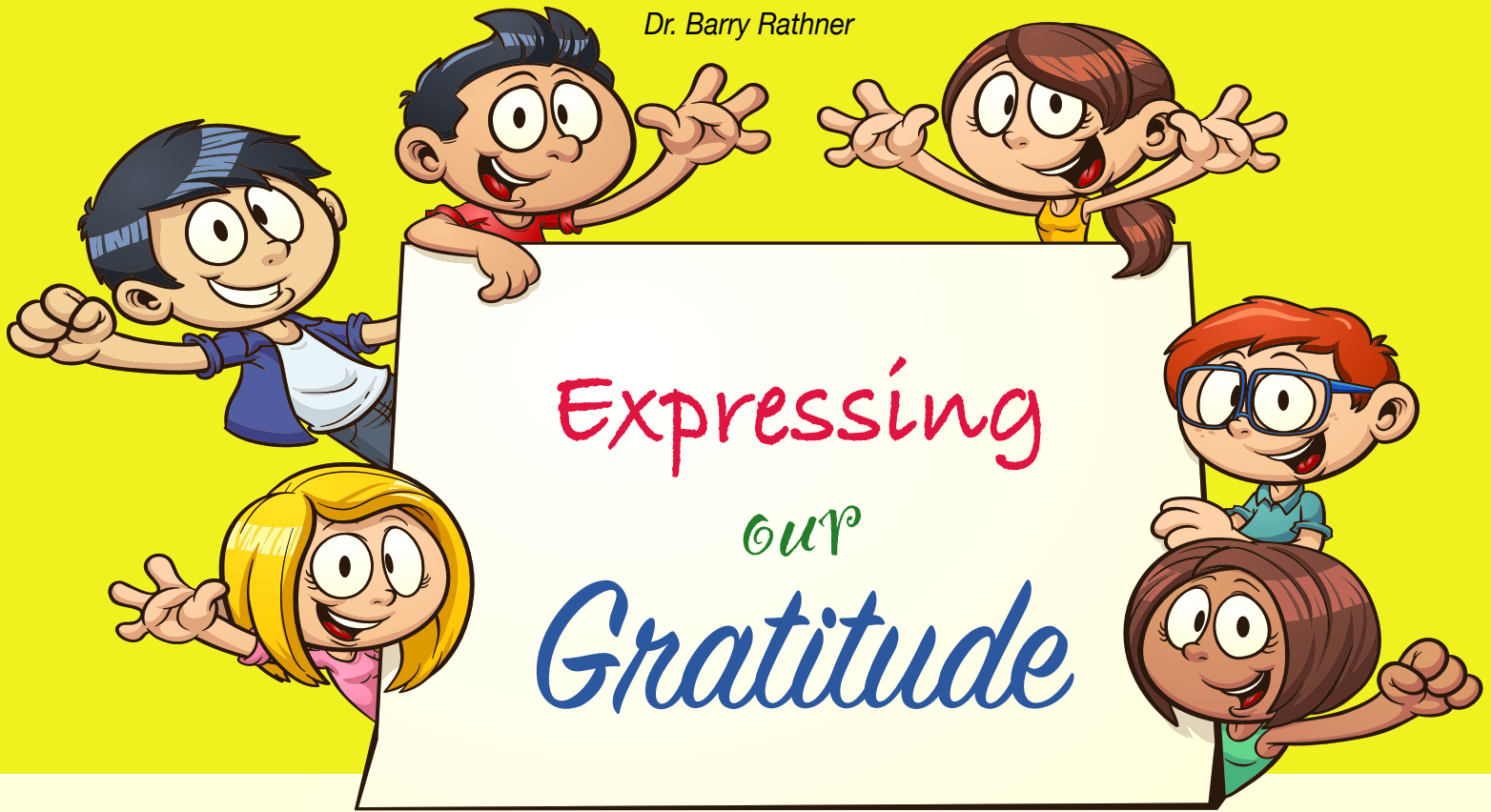
react, we create a fresh set of memories. They say toxic memories must die sooner. It's not a joke, it's a really very big truth that each of the memory has its own life force (prana) and in any situation it wakes up and takes control of our mind and therefore we react the way that memory forces us to do. Some meditations have techniques where a person is taught to remove these unwanted thoughts from the enormous thought pool. A latest study claims that the average person encounters over 60-80 thousand thoughts every day. Just imagine, days in this birth and number of births before. The collection of thoughts is gigantic.

Why it is really important that we should never fight, hurt anybody or gossip, we must see good things, read good books, have good friends, eat sattvic food, never participate in any wrong doing, all our actions and our words must match. The bad memories really follow us through thoughts, for example, if we keep thinking about the illness again and again, the disease would really come and make us suffer. The bad, fighting behavior will make sure that the person would have bad relationships, in contrary soft and sweet spoken person would create easy and delightful vibrations and those will have great memories and lasting relationships and a happy life.

**There are three things we can't recover in life, the moment... after it's missed, the word... after it's said, and the life... once it's wasted.** All it does is create set of memories for us.



Dr. Barry Rathner



Learning to live a life in gratitude is probably one of the best gifts you can give yourself. Instead of focusing on what we lack, we begin to look at all the blessings in our lives. There is a saying: “Count your blessings.” I find it to be one of the most helpful practices in my life—writing a gratitude list every day.

What we learned was to write minimum 10 things which we are grateful for in our lives. They can be qualities in ourselves, specific people in our lives, Nature, health, hope, our abilities, etc. It helps one to think positively and engenders humility in one’s soul.

I write my gratitude list every morning, following prayer time. This helps my focus to be clear and steeped in a sense of thankfulness all day.

Children live in such uncertain times. They do not know what dreams they have will be able to be fulfilled. They carry the angst of our society and are often troubled during these difficult times. When they’re encouraged to write a gratitude list, they have to stop and think of what they are blessed with and to focus on the positive. It alleviates the tendency toward depression and the feeling of lack and want.

Some children will take to writing gratitude lists quite easily, even start a journal in which they can write their gratitude, their ideas, feelings, poems, dreams. Other children will be less likely to want to write, so there is another option in this case.

You can sit with your child and share the things you are grateful for in your life. You can take turns expressing these thankful thoughts. Of course, have no judgement. If a child can only say, “I’m grateful for air, water...” OK. Whatever they express is what they can say in that moment. If you continue this tradition they will open up and gradually go deeper.

Another aspect of writing a gratitude list is that you share what you wrote with another person. Can be a different person each time or the same person. Sharing what you are grateful for spreads the love and inspires both, you and the recipient of your sharing. There is so much to be grateful for, but we can easily forget it in today’s world. Taking time to express thanks tends to set the stage for the whole day, actually the whole life. It’s like a simple prayer, just saying thank you.



Today I am grateful for the possibility to cultivate inner peace.

I am grateful for the healing energies of Agnihotra fire.

I am grateful for Hope.

I am grateful for a loving heart and in maintaining it.

I am grateful for dear friends who keep me surrounded by love.

I am grateful for children, our hope for the future.

I am grateful for the sun shining today, lighting up the winter sky, melting the snow and our hearts as well.

I am grateful for Time. Time to heal.

Time to love. Time to evolve.

I am grateful for every breath.

I am grateful for kindness I see all around me, in welcoming refugees into this country and  
for the opening of hearts on such a large scale, giving love free reign to heal.

- *Parvati Rosenberg*



**“Once you inculcate the attitude of  
TOTAL SURRENDER, no other  
special discipline is necessary  
as this attitude itself is the culmination  
of all religious practice.”**

*-Shree Gajanan Maharaj; 1986 in Akkalkot, India.*



The word surrender is on the lips and minds of more of us, more often these days. This is especially true where I sit at Ecovillage BhuruguAranya in POLAND, about a two-hour drive from the Ukrainian border.

For years, adherents or followers of Fivefold Path read and meditated on the concept of TOTAL SURRENDER, which recently morphed into RADICAL SURRENDER.

Our free will being a form of baggage or blessing—depending on how we look at it-- on first glance, surrender seems counterintuitive to free will. Which is it, wave a white flag or fight on or be complicit or just what?

The dictionary defines surrender in several ways. The one I think is most relevant here is: "to give (oneself) over to something (such as an influence)." May I suggest that spiritual seekers, Light Workers, and those conscious of being children of God, are, in essence, surrendering their "stinking egos"—as Shree Vasant called them in the 1970s-- to the influence of Higher Self, Higher Power, God. So as in a war, one side SURRENDERS totally or radically thus giving up aspects of freedom in exchange for cessation of hostilities. From freedom of outgoing mind tendencies, to relief from luring hormonal influences, to more of a semblance of balance among (lower) emotions and spirit, between right brain and the other side, between right and wrong, between evil behaviour of some of our brothers and sisters and world leaders with integrity and conscience-- and others seemingly at the mercy of their debased minds and spirit, I want the freedom to return to my Father in heaven while still loving and respecting my mother on earth, to quash or at least greatly calm my less than optimal behaviour, to be an instrument of the Divine which is infinitely different than being a slave to my mundane thoughts, feelings, actions and ego. In short, I want peace and serenity, In return, I

shall attempt SURRENDER —radically and totally.

Fortunately, we have been given some tools with which we may make inroads--improve--on our quest to surrender,

In short, each of the five steps of the Fivefold Path provides great opportunities to make progress towards "Love thy neighbour as thyself," surely an important aspect of surrender.

Step 1--YAJNYA, the purification fires we do--sunrise/sunset Agnihotra being the core fire--help not only the environment but as well, we humans whose minds need assistance (especially in today's world) to react with Love in all circumstances.

Step 2--DAAN, sharing our assets in a spirit of humility. Doing so greatly helps reducing our attachment to objects--including the land of neighbouring countries.

Step 3--TAPA, self-discipline done with the cooperation of our minds to help us reduce impediments to our goal including, anger, greed, jealousy, lust, pride and greed. Hmmm....

Step 4--KARMA, an inviolable law of the universe--what goes around, comes around--that if followed by world leaders as well as those they lead, would yield peace, love and harmony--hardly the stuff of today's headlines.

Step 5--SWADHYAYA, self-study or self-development which, among other things, would help us love 'thyself.'

Despite or notwithstanding past karmic attachments and old impressions on the mind (samskaras), we can start from this moment to improve. What else can we do? What else is there to do?



# live again

by Anand



When I grew older

I learnt new everyday

When I forgive I heal,

When I let go, I grow...

I shined after pain

And realized that

There is no option to

Love, Honesty, Truth

And Respect in life...

When I grew older

I learnt to live again...



# Ashtavakra Geeta

## Chapter XI

### Verse 1

Ashtavakra says

भावाभावविकारश्च स्वभावादिति निश्चयी ।  
निर्विकारो गतक्लेशः सुखेनैवोपशम्यति ॥ १॥

**Meaning:** Ashtavakra is saying here that the one who knows that the root of all feelings or a lack of feelings lies in the basic nature and the traits of a person, such a person perfectly experiences the state of peace without any sufferings and miseries.

Here Ashtavakra is very clear about the process of life. He says that the fallouts coming out of feelings and emotions are the root cause of all our miseries. These kinds of things will never give the peace. For him the life is an effortless living. He does not have to stretch his limits to live. The life comes to him and envelopes him in the streams of life. He just flows with the nature.

### Verse 2

ईश्वरः सर्वनिर्माता नेहान्य इति निश्चयी ।  
अन्तर्गलितसर्वाशः शान्तः क्वापि न सज्जते ॥२॥

**Meaning:** The one who strongly believes that God is the only creator of all things and no one else experiences the Peace. The person, who has lost all his desires from the root, can never get entangled in anything (desires) anywhere.

Generally the moment you realize the root of any of your sufferings, you are freed from the miseries. This is due to every situation occurs in one's life for learning. Knowing the root cause and the origin of one's miseries make life an amazing turnaround. We are here on this planet to learn and go. Every situation-good or bad- is there for us to learn. Knowing the root cause leads to a good learning and then the idea of suffering is gone along with the suffering.

### Verse 3:

आपदः सम्पदः काले दैवादेवेति निश्चयी ।  
तृप्तः स्वस्थेन्द्रियो नित्यं न वान्छति न शोचति ॥ ३॥

**Meaning:** The one who strongly believes in the fact that one experiences the catastrophes and the wealth due to the destiny at a designed time by the will of the



*God is always happy and stable. As his senses are settled he does not have any desires left nor has he to be sorrowful.*

A realized soul knows that everything happening and not happening in this world is due to the almighty. The good and bad things manifest because of God's will. Not even a single leaf of the tree can even move without HIS divine will. The moment one knows that every single thing in this life is only a part of the design of the God, one becomes a powerful witness as the veil of ignorance about the doing-ness and ego as a driving force behind this ignorance just vanishes. He is perennially happy thereafter and does not need to depend on the fulfilment of his desires.

#### Verse 4:

सुखदुःखे जन्ममृत्यु दैवादेवेति निश्चयी ।  
साध्यादर्शी निरायासः कुर्वन्नपि न लिप्यते ॥ ४ ॥

**Meaning:** *The one who has known for sure that happiness and sorrow, the birth and the death are all the manifestation of his destiny, does his regular karmas as a witness and effortlessly. While performing such actions he is not bonded by these actions.*

This verse intensifies the same feelings but more deeply as the earlier verse. The moment you realize that you are a powerful tool in the hands of God the idea of

ownership held wrongly by the ego for all these years just vanish. Then what remains is the domain of that infinite, vast and unlimited self.

#### Verse 5:

चिन्तया जायते दुःखं नान्यथेहेति निश्चयी ।  
तया हीनः सुखी शान्तः सर्वत्र गलितस्पृहः ॥ ५ ॥

**Meaning:** *The one who has realized that the sorrow is created only by the worries and nothing else is always quiet and peaceful. His desires are quietened and he is free from all worries.*

If there are no worries, there is no sorrow. Worry is a manifestation of your disconnection with the divine. This state will always create a doubt about your infinite and complete nature and one starts demanding from life many things to fulfil oneself. The problem here is that you are already fulfilled and are not even aware about that. That is the veil of Ignorance, the adhyatma knows as the Vikshepa. When the veil is removed, you stand in front of your own self and experience your own beautiful nature. Then you realize your completeness, fullness. Which desires then can fulfil something which is already fulfilled. The ignorance then is all gone. What remains is your vast, infinite, limitless nature of the self.

### Verse 6:

नाहं देहो न मे देहो बोधोऽहमिति निश्चयी ।  
कैवल्यमिव संप्राप्तो न स्मरत्यकृतं कृतम् ॥६॥

**Meaning:** The one who knows that I am not a body neither the body belongs to me and I am a complete manifestation of the energy only can attain the liberation state and does not think about actions performed or not performed.

Ashtavakra says here that the realized person knows that he is neither a body nor the physical body belongs to him. He is recognized more as a soul rather than a body. He also knows that he does not belong to a body. The body is no right over him and vice versa. He does not have an idea of ownership over his body. Obviously, he believes that whatever actions performed by the body and actions created by thoughts in the limitedness of a mind are not connected to his soul nature. He knows that and does not get unduly worried. He does not even remember such performed or unperformed actions.

### Verse 7:

आब्रह्मस्तंभपर्यंतमहमेवेति निश्चयी ।  
निर्विकल्पः शुचिः शान्तः प्राप्ताप्राप्तविनिवृत्तः ॥७॥

**Meaning:** The one who knows that I am

*the one who is from the minutest blade of grass to infinite Brahma, is always free of any impressions, peaceful, pure and retired from the gains and losses.*

The one who has realized, experiences that he is the universe and the Universe means me. He knows that he is the only entity in his universe. There is no one in my world and I am all alone (and complete). He knows that he has brought his universe with him when he was born and he stays in that world which ultimately he will take back when he departs. I have created illusion and reflections of myself all around. Hence this world is only an illusion in the real sense. Everything is nothing but my reflection. I am complete in nature and hence does not need anything to gain.

### Verse 8

नानाश्चर्यमिदं विश्वं किञ्चिदिती निश्चयी ।  
निर्वासनः स्फूर्तिमात्रो न किञ्चिदिव शाम्यति ॥८॥

**Meaning:** The one who is enlightened knows strongly that the universe which seems to be full of miracles is an illusion can only experience the peace, as if nothing else exists.

The one, who is fully realized about the eternal nature of self, never gets entangled in the insignificant and interim desires. The one who has experienced the ultimate peace of his self in advaita can never get engulfed in garbage of joy and sorrow. All desires are too small in front of the bliss of the soul. They are without any essence (of life).



# Ashram Events

*Devrukh ashram was reeling under the shock of losing Mai, our Shakti behind everything since the inception of the ashram way back in 2000. The ashram in a true sense was not in a mood to celebrate anything since the mid of April. The spirit that Mai left behind however, would not allow the sadhaks to deviate from their mission of health, happiness and harmony that Mai was strongly backing hand in hand and shoulder to shoulder with Guruji for over 25 years. Ashram rose to keep its commitments and backed up DSPPL's Pathway To Wisdom programs in May which were already announced few months ago.*

## PTW Phase I

Pathway To Wisdom phase one started on May 1st and ended on 10th May. It comprised of 3 separate programs viz. SOFT 2 from 1st to 10th May, SOFT 5 between May 1st and May 7th and SOFT 4 between 4th and 10th May with more than 35 students joining the camp altogether.



## PTW Phase 2



The second phase of PTW training was held between 23rd May and 30th May. With Middle Path 1, Middle Path 2 and SOFT 3 levels held at the same time, the ashram was packed to the brim. The capacity of the ashram was tested to the extreme with a group of 74 vying for a place in the ashram to stay. No wonder the whole environment of the ashram was experiencing the high levels of energy for the entire duration. It was like a Yagnya of Wisdom.





# Ashram Events



## The installation of flag pole

Another important thing that happened at the ashram site was the installation of a flagpole at the entrance of the ashram.

The ashram took some special permission from the governing authorities to lay the flagpole for hoisting the tricolor. The flagpole will hoist the Indian flag proudly on the independence and republic days. On the other days, the same pole has already started spreading a message of peace and harmony by fluttering the saffron flag.



## The unique Oath was given to the students and faculties by Guruji



DSPPL retreat ended on a very unusual and revolutionary note. Developing a strong Natural and National character in a new generation has always been the major goal of the DSPPL efforts in all their activities. Guruji this time decided to take initiative to hoist the Indian tricolor on the last day of the retreat with due permission from the governing authorities and asked the students and faculties of the program to come near the flagpole and take an oath that “I while touching this flag that I love, take an oath that I will never get involved in any corrupt practices and will not allow others to do such corrupt practices. I

will also never act against the interest of my nation neither I will allow others to do so. Jai Hind”. When more than 75 students and faculties came together and pronounced this oath the whole atmosphere was charged with patriotic fervour. The salute to the divine land of India echoed in every direction of the ashram and possibly has set a new wave in this country.

Kindly click on the link below to see the whole ceremony on you tube channel.

<https://youtu.be/KmqDxesQO90>





मेरे सद्गुरुके चरण,  
लावण्यकी परिसीमा ।  
यज्ञ धुएमे दिखता,  
बालरविका रक्तीमा ॥

19

## The lotus feet of my Master, the ultimate beauty...

These are the words from a poem written by Mr G. D. Madgulkar, one of the most prominent and legendary writer in Marathi literature and the one who is considered to be a modern sage in the same league as Maharshi Valmiki and Vedvyasa. These words were expressed by the great poet the moment he landed in Akkalkot Temple – the abode of Shree Swami Samarth.

The lotus feet of a Guru or a Master have a great value in the Indian spirituality which is based on the Master-disciple tradition. For the devotee, it is entire world concised in the form of the feet. Here the poet says that my Guru's lotus feet are the ultimate in the parameters of beauty. There is nothing more beautiful than these feet. It is an apex point of beauty that human can sense and

appreciate. These feet look like the twirling fumes coming out of the holy fires of Yagnya. These fumes are mysterious and mischievous. But they have something for the world. Some message coming from the divine! For a disciple, the message is decoded and the clarion call from the Master can be heard.

Swami's feet were like that. The Master emerges from the nothingness here. The Master's feet are the first manifestation of the divine which otherwise is unseen, unexpressed, invisible. This is a place where a realized one can see the interface of an unseen and seen. Guru's feet are sadhak's first glimpse of that nether world. No wonder it is believed that all the pilgrimages merge at these lotus feet.