

Shri Shirdi Sai Baba

Guruji Shri C. B. Satpathy Message on the occasion of Guru Poornima

2010

I realize that everybody's life comes to a full cycle between birth and death. Life is a dynamic process consisting of multiple activities, physical, mental and spiritual. The spirit of life, which for our understanding at this stage may be defined as the Soul (Atma), is said to be the root cause of human birth. This soul force in each living being brings along with it impressions of past lives. When this soul force creates a living entity like a human being, it becomes a 'Jiva'. This jiva or human being is endowed with certain mental and physical instruments in the form of mental and physical 'indriyas' in order to carry-on its worldly activities (both physical and mental) in accordance with his desires, either created in this life or brought forward from the past lives. Using the various faculties of mind and body, he calculates and strives to achieve his desired objects. While doing so, at times, he succeeds and at time he fails to achieve. When he achieves, whatever he desires, he feels happy and when he fails to achieve his objectives, he feels unhappy. His life goes through a series of achievements and non-achievements till his death. Besides the inherent capabilities of the mind and the body, it is the circumstance in which he tries to achieve his goals which contributes immensely in bringing success or failure. Human beings do try to use the circumstantial advantages to their benefit and control the un-favourable circumstances to the extent it is possible for them to do so. However, no person, the mightiest and the lowliest alike, has ever been able to control the circumstances to the fullest extent in accordance with his desires. History indicates that some mighty rulers had miserable death.

The greatest limitation of the living beings is that they cannot control their circumstances beyond a certain point. When circumstances become favorable, sometimes, one achieves more than what he anticipates and when circumstances become unfavourable, he achieves less than his expectations. A saint or a wise man accepts such limitations, and therefore, lives happily, whereas others who fail to accept such a reality, suffer agony. Take for example a child who has genetic disorders as a result of which his physical organs are defective or his mental faculties are limited. In such a situation, who is to be blamed, if we try to blame someone else, including the parents, nature or God for this miserable state of things? Again for example, when many people perish due to landslide in a hill, then who is to be blamed? Can one get a solution by blaming the hills or the forces of nature? Even if one makes such factors responsible for his misery, does it bring a solution to his satisfaction? Blame the deities one worships or the non-manifested sovereign energy force called God? Many people do so but I do not know if this brings about a solution to their problems.

The Hindu vedic seers have explained such happenings through the theory of Karma. The theory of Karma, elucidated exhaustively in the Gita Mahapurana, simply states that "as you sow, so you reap". This reaping of the seed of Karma can be of this life or the earlier lives. According to the Karma Theory, visible reactions are not always commensurate with visible actions. The blueprint of the invisible action-reaction syndrome is carried forward by the human beings (Jivas) from their past lives. This seems to be a good spiritual solution, but, except for the highly evolved souls, an ordinary man is not capable of mentally accepting such a concept in its totality and holding on to a stoic attitude to life. In such an eventually who is to be blamed? Some human

beings have a tendency to blame others, which includes other human beings, society, circumstances and even God for all their miseries simply because they cannot accept the realities of life. They forget that God or nature has created human beings of widely different varieties and has given a right to each one to complete his lifecycle as ordained by destiny. Some of them often hold-on to their so-called moral standards and blame others for not coming up to their level. This is another type of self-created problem by the so-called good people. “If I am so good, they say, “Why should I suffer?” or that “Why should the bad people enjoy life?”

Therefore, it would be wise to avoid such an attitude of blaming others as no human being is even near perfection (spiritually speaking) on this earth. One needs to learn to accept certain realities, how-so-ever painful and make the best use of whatever is good and favorable to achieve reasonable standards of happiness and success in his life cycle.

May Shri Sai bless us all.

Shri C B Satpathy (New Delhi)