

*Feb 26, 1994 at Old Vicarage with Siva Kali*

Swami Ambikananda, accompanied by Satchidananda and Siva Kali, who was staying with Swamiji, called at the Narains' house for a meal. With the Narains were Mahayogini, Rohan and their little daughter Phoebe. Nita and Sada Siva arrived later. Swamiji talked about his plans for Glen Lodge, the new place he was about to buy:

'All our plan is to look after these little ones. Even what we are buying now. Consider, one day these will grow up, they will inherit, they will have their children, their grandchildren. I seek to have good work for you so that your soul, wherever it is, will benefit, will be graced, will not be panting... Dharma tells you, first your family, your kith and kin, your own. When Hazra came to Dakshineswar leaving wife and family Ramakrishna took him to task, "Who will look after wife and children if you don't?"

*Mahalakshmi and Siva Kali began to talk about Mother Meera, the Indian mystic and saint currently living in Germany. She had recently been the subject of a TV documentary by Andrew Harvey, an academic and Fellow of All Souls.*

*Ambikananda: 'I like the Mother. I don't care for the man. He is a scholar, an intellectual, but he is only here to introduce you to the Mother. She is great. It is good to know such a being exists in Germany.'*

Jai Narain had just taken darshan from another saint, AmritanandaMayi (Ammachi) at Battersea Town Hall.

Jai Narain (to Siva Kali): 'Swamiji said she was an incarnation of Sarada Devi, didn't you, Swamiji?'

*Swamiji: 'I hear even she is Sarada Devi incarnate.'*

*Siva Kali: 'I heard from a Sai Baba devotee that she said to some of her devotees that she is an incarnation of Sarada Devi. And you can imagine it, she's like Sarada Devi, she's just an angel, that light is unbelievable, unparalleled. And that access is unparalleled too, I think...'*

*Ambikananda: 'Sarada Devi and these, they do come back again in different form to do what they didn't do. Different time, place, God keeps coming back. So you have to understand: different manifestations, different ways. There are many ways to come, according to time, place, environment and company. Company matters a lot. Where there is something within, He comes; He is observing everything, the witness consciousness. God walks among us and is not recognized. There is a state half-God, half-man, half-angel, walking now. It is heart in human form. For as long as the heart beats, that's it. If the heart stops, you've had it. But some people don't have love, don't have understanding, their hearts don't melt.'*

'God respects your free will, He doesn't interfere. He sees self-effort, the defrosting in the sun of love. God says, "Love Me," but He doesn't force you to love Him. He says, "Leave him alone, he is very happy with his toys, don't disturb him please." But when the toys are put aside, then it's "Ma, Ma, Ma," - that's your word<sup>1</sup> - then the Ma will leave the milk pudding, saying, "the child is calling me." You have read GSR, what you are talking? You are not a foreigner, but you got mixed in confusion with the world, with work, with house, with argument between devotees. So get unmixed, become undiluted, and dissolve these external layers of wax, because internally there is really flame of Self, undying flame. So put a light in the lantern when you move about, and you and your God don't get disturbed. Discrimination, dispassion...

'But we are the most lucky because we are really universal. Behind ourselves there is this Mary, and there is this Jesus, and there is Sri Ramakrishna, and even Sathya Sai if you want to include him. They

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<sup>1</sup> Ammachi used to whisper this word in the ear of the person receiving her darshan

are One God. Through us there is a link. You know what Shirdi Sai Baba said? "All the mahaprasad offered to Goddess Lakshmi has reached me!" So they are the same in different states. Take the name and form of the same One God.'

*There was more conversation, and then Nita and Sada Siva arrived unexpectedly. After seeing to their needs Ambikananda continued:*

... 'We see the Seven Sages, the Saptarishi of Vivekananda, where gods and goddesses have no power to exercise their authority. That's the luminous barrier.<sup>2</sup> These are the Sages that we joined last kirtan, singing, "Holy, holy, holy, Holy, holy, holy, Holy, holy, holy," seven times. These are the people brought down for us. If not there, then they have been selected here. Did you see this Phoebe, fabulously dancing, like a frog? Here it is voluntarily dancing, voluntarily singing. We are interlinked, underground, incognito. We don't advertise. You are lucky; if you come you come, you force your way. Sri Ramakrishna says someone who wants to come to kirtan need not ask, but don't take advantage of it. The Lord was there, and the next day also the Lord was there. The Lord was joined in eternal union with the Father in the infinite merit of Jesus Christ, joined with the Seven Sages.

Everyone is denying God, but we are the worshippers, we want God. We are joining in Earthplane, transcending Buva, Sva, Maha, Jana, Tapa, and Satya Loka. All this to join the Seven Sages with bowing to the flame, seven-flame bowing, "Holy, holy, holy, Holy, holy, holy, Holy, holy, holy, Holy, holy, holy..." this is the flame to cook our body and roast it with delight, and die in immortality. Soul cannot be burned, it is immortal. Upanishad says, "Fire cannot burn, water cannot wet, air cannot dry."

'... Brahmacharya means to control your outgoing vasanas, desires. All this is false celibacy, it causes wreck, breakage, evil gets in your body and destroys your future birth. If you are to marry then marry and have children, but do not go for these, it's temptation, it ruins your vital energy. An ordinary being has to go through all these squares. A householder has to go through all the squares. But in the long run it's temptation, it's a mixture. Is it lust, is it love? ... Lust is a lower kind of love, it is a human love, you can get mixed if you're not very pure and controlled. You need purity if you want spiritual progress quick. But now is such a mixed up time. Every desire is multiplied by three, so eliminate attachment. It's not easy. Use self control. Think of purity before you think of God, because God is very "control in human form"... The mind of an ordinary being, according to GSR, dwells in the three lower planes: eat - drink - be merry. When spirituality is mixed with worldliness, you get a mixed-type result. You are tempted by black-and-white, but it's grey, neither black nor white. Evil has polluted this world. Now it is very difficult to command even a child. As for yourself, the conquest of the self is the greatest conquest of all.

'...I am not saying you will control yourself - you may go mad! Holy men convert that passion into love, it's called *ojas*. They raise it to here [*indicates the head chakra*], and they experience live samadhi instead of that drip to the navel which is the fire of lust. They burn it, separate it, and go in bliss. So Sri Ramakrishna has explained; but hearing, reading and so on, is one thing - it is practising that is all-important. Spiritual life is not Sunday teaching, or meditation for a minute. It's your daily breath. It's your thought, your sight, your hearing, it's you in bed with your paramour! Cleanse the temple of the body first. Cleanliness is next to [godliness]. Take the word morally, clean, and you will have power to face Me in summer. Can you face that word, can you face yourself, can you face the Man? If anyone wants to be like Jesus, wants to be like Sai Baba, wants to be likened to God? What did Jesus say: "Be ye holy as your father is in heaven." "So don't be too materialist. There is much more in what I said. You will know the beauty of the heavenly body. Purity is heavenly law, purity is heaven on earth. What did Vivekananda say: "With the power of purity you can attain whatever you want." One day Vivekananda was tempted by lust, you know what he did?

Jai Narain: He sat on a brazier.

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<sup>2</sup> Described by Sri Ramakrishna in GSR in a vision of the Divine Child (himself) calling one of the *Saptarishi* to follow him to Earthplane. NB Tryambaka's song, "On a path of light...".

Swamiji: Yes, he took delight in burning himself. Do you think God couldn't make man have babies without intimacy? But now it's Kali Age. You and I have to go through these, not just by discussing. You give allowance, then you finish with it. I don't say you will be born perfect and will not be tempted. In your dream - all is a dream. Wet dream. The dream concubine embraces you more than in physical state, and the temptation of the yogi is even greater because they are tempted by celestial beings, even the gandharvas themselves put these little snags, the demigods put obstacles for you to climb. This is Hinduism, it gives you the in and out, so don't think you are Vivekananda, and as soon as temptation comes you are going to look for a blazing fire.

‘Disco is kirtan nowadays; three o'clock, four o'clock - that is the worst time!’<sup>3</sup> And all the smoke of the holy man, the drugs, some go to prison even, some devotees may go to prison.<sup>4</sup> Not only do they drag themselves down, they drag their wives and children. They think, "I am safe, I am all right," and they destroy not only them - you see what lust does, and greed, and drugs and all these things? Now what would you prefer, to have drugs and be in samadhi, or naturally just say the word of *Rama* and be in a bhava state, or mahabhava, natural product? It's natural state. Purity can get anywhere, anywhere it's beautiful, purity gets access anywhere. In death it is much wanted.

‘You will see now that what you are talking, you are adding your birth; what you are belching, you are only adding your past lives from your birth up to this day, what you have realized, and what you have accepted, what you cannot reject. So I said in that case a few more marriages, a few more husbands and different wives, if you still have these desires, this is the law - every desire, you know. You go through all these squares until you are satiated. How much can you eat? One slice, two slices, three slices - you got a tummy like a pregnant woman! five slices - no more! Not a grain! I wish I could, but I am satiated. All these are satiated, but when will you come to the unsatiated state, to hunger and thirst after Me? This is the advanced birth which people nowadays need many births to attain. But with bhava, with love, you transcend all this in one birth. Ammachi is making you eliminate, not illuminate, your births. Ammachi is saying, "No more births, my darling." she didn't tell you, but I am telling you as an outsider.

‘It may not happen now, but "*the world shall pass, but my words shall not*," which means Jesus Christ established it in this pattern, this paten.’<sup>5</sup> The minute the priest says, "Lamb of God who takest away..." this bread becomes the body of Christ because He has said it. The bread is not affected by the purity or impurity of the priest. The minute you say that it becomes the Holy Host.

‘And fancy, a non-Catholic<sup>6</sup> has taken a particle of that! A non-Catholic, an outsider lover of the paten has taken it, has believed in it, and said, "How can I be a fraud after taking this blessed sacrament with my heart, the body of Christ?" Does the sacrament which you believe is the body of Christ speak to you when you are lusty, rusty? Think of the difference! but it's not a rite and ritual to be observed; you have to live in the sacrament. Let the sacrament talk to you. ‘

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<sup>3</sup> the 'three a.m. meditation' was said to be the best time, the most effective, and highly recommended to devotees in the earlier years of the ashram.

<sup>4</sup> It may have been at about this time that Raja Ram was arrested during his winter sojourn at Goa and kept in prison for a few hours for possession of cannabis.

<sup>5</sup> ‘Paten’ is the word for the communion plate.

<sup>6</sup> i.e. Swamiji.