*Birth Anniversary of LALAJI MAHARAJ - 2 February 2010***Perceive Him in the Present**

Today we are celebrating the auspicious, holy, divine occasion of Lalaji's descent. Babuji Maharaj has said, "He came in response to the need of the time." It is an answer that Nature with a capital 'N' provided, what Babuji used to call, struggling humanity, to raise it from the morass of ignorance into the transmutable world where nothing prevails, and that nothing is what **must** prevail. From the world of everything to the world of nothingness is the journey of spirituality. [...]

Babuji Maharaj has said that the heart should not be cluttered up with all the acquisitions that this world provides. So, the heart has to be emptied first, and we find that on such occasions when we celebrate the birth anniversary of our Great Masters, they are here with us. In a very real sense, if people are willing to try it, they will experience that when you think of Him, He is with you. It is the only thing that is with you when you think. The presence of the Master is the only thing that can come when you think of Him. [...]

"Abide in me," as Jesus said, you see, "and I am with you always." This is the message that we get on these auspicious celebrations of the birth anniversaries of our great Masters. Why is so much emotion gen-

erated on these occasions? The role of the musician is to make us weep. But she weeps herself. Why? Because she is overpowered by the presence of Him



whom we call our Master, and that presence brings some sort of nostalgia into our hearts. I feel Him, He is here. But I cannot see Him. I cannot love Him as I used to love Him in the physical presence. I have seen tears in Babuji's eyes when He spoke of Lalaji Maharaj. I said, "Babuji, you too?" He said, "Yes, because Lalaji's physical presence was such that even I weep when I miss."

So, there is a role the physical presence plays, and that role is to inform us, to convince us, that He **is** here with us, and

then to cut that physical presence, to prove to us that he is still there, whether his physical presence is there or not. If we cannot transcend and overcome this barrier, that the physical presence is the only proof of His existence, then we are left here to eternally look for Him. If at that moment we can say, "I am with you, my Lord," we also lose our physical presence, and we are with Him in eternity.

I pray that this shall be the blessing that all of us will receive on such auspicious occasions, and go with Him wherever He goes. There is no wherever, there is no nowhere. There is only 'is'. As somebody said about the ancient saying, 'The past is history, the future is a mystery, the present is a gift; therefore it is called a present.' And, this gift that is a present must be used to overcome the fear of the past, the temptation of the future - the twin elements that are used by religions everywhere, all over the world, throughout the history of time. The fear of the past, the temptation of the future - both must go. Then we have the faith in the present that it shall always be present, and in this present, I am here and He is here with me. Thank you.

*A talk given by Shri Parthasarathi Rajagopalachari on 2nd February, 2004
at Ahmedabad, Gujarat*

Thus Speaks:**Lalaji**

• *Knowledge is no doubt light, but it is not an end in itself, but is merely a means to an end. We do not light a lamp at night for the sake of the lamp but to do some work by its light, which is the end or aim. So our knowledge also has some goal but it is not a goal in itself.*

• *Faith can be said to have strengthened when one's link with God is established so firmly that it is not separated even if one tries to do it. One should feel oneself helpless to do so. Effort should be made to develop such faith.*

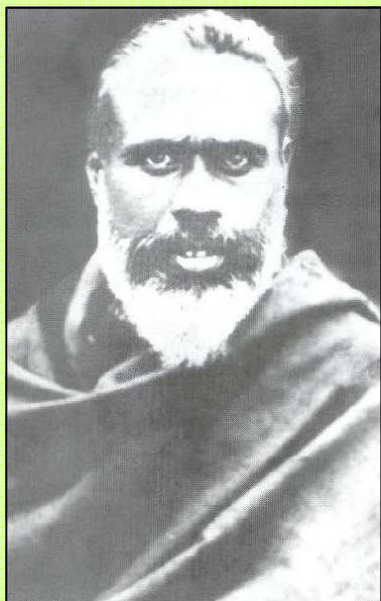
• *God has hidden himself inside your hearts and exposed you. Hide yourselves and expose God! This is the real sadhana (practice).*

In This Issue

Perceive Him in the Present	1
Thus speaks	1
Whispers	2
Lalaji: 1873-1931	2

Whispers from the Brighter World

Sunday, February 1, 2004 – 6:00 p.m.



You are our blessed son. Your heart calls for our blessings on this day when we especially take care of this Mission that we can see growing, and in which are placed the greatest hopes for future times.

“Presently, it is playing its role in the spiritual life of a certain number of brothers, scattered over various parts of the world. They have our attention, but you, our son, you attract all that which is deserved by your efforts to serve us with rare competence. All the hopes placed in you proved to be right, to our greater satisfaction. Your so much loved Master announced to you, in one of his messages, my arrival for this anniversary, celebrated in the Mission with unfailing fervour. With time, it is touching to note it, and even more, to see the amount of the efforts made by you to serve a spiritual ideal, which will fully benefit future times. “Our way is establishing itself slowly after having started on a small scale, thanks to the eagerness of a few who understood the truth, and the power of a teaching capable of helping them and leading them to the intended goal.

“Your action is great, and it is admired by all of us here. Your capacity for work is very often put to a severe test, but courageously, you recovered and you set out again, stronger than before. We all love you and we appreciate you. Therefore it is good, on such occasions, to express oneself in this way.

“Our scribe, today, is very much assailed by requests for good reasons. All those who serve with love, throughout the days, wherever they are in the world, all these brothers and sisters, devoted for the love of us have the very special blessings of our hearts united together to serve a great cause, ours, of which you are the headlight on this Earth.

“To you, the best,”

Lalaji

Shri Ram Chandra of Fatehgarh – Lalají... 1873-1931

Born on February 2, 1873, Shri Ram Chandra of Fatehgarh, affectionately known as Lalaji, was the first Master of the Shri Ram Chandra Mission. His father was a tax superintendent and his mother a devout woman who passed away when Lalaji was only seven years old, leaving upon him the imprint of her strong faith. From childhood Lalaji was inclined towards God and also displayed a deep love and aptitude for music. After his mother's death, he was brought up by

another lady with whom he shared a lifelong affection and regard.

Shortly after Lalaji's marriage, his father died. Within a brief span of time, he also lost his elder adopted brother and all that remained of his family's ancestral property. Accepting these misfortunes with grace and courage, he went on to work for one of his father's associates in Fatehgarh.

Lalaji's rediscovered and refined the an-

cient raja yoga method of pranahuti, whereby divine energy is transmitted by the Master into the heart of the aspirant in order to expedite his or her spiritual development. Thus the highest spiritual goal, previously reserved for ascetics and renunciates, was brought within the reach of all.

On August 14, 1931, Lalaji passed away, leaving Babuji to continue his work for the upliftment of humankind.

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