

Serving God in the Form of the Poor and Destitute

Sri Sri Ma's Special Kheyāla

A few days ago someone approached Mataji with the following question : "Ma, so many people are nowadays in dire need of food and clothes. What is the remedy? What can be done for them?"

Mataji replied : "Is this your problem? Look, the sublime has to be adopted and pleasure relinquished. The most sublime gift is complete dedication of oneself to God—after which the question of giving or not does not arise anymore. When one has started to serve, giving becomes more and more one's natural expression, until giving one's all, giving oneself—total self-dedication, comes about. The giver, the act of giving, and receiving, are they not all the one God—for those whose goal is the Supreme? God in the form of the poverty-stricken has to be served. If you like, you may forgo your evening meal once a month, once a fortnight or once a week, and with great reverence donate the equivalent in money to God, the needy."

Mataji sometimes says : "God Himself is the supreme father, supreme mother, supreme friend, beloved, lord. One should ever keep in mind that everyone without exception is the offspring of the Immortal." Mataji always speaks of "*Jan Janārdana*," God in the form of man. Thus it is our hope that all who come to know of it will gladly join in this fast in the service of God in the shape of man, contributing their share to this work of human welfare.

We sincerely trust that Mataji's devotees and Didima's disciples will one and all observe the above mentioned rule, wherever they may be. We further heartily request our brothers and sisters who come for Mataji's *daršana* and are therefore known to us, as well as those whom we have not yet met, to give their whole-hearted support to this good cause and on our behalf to invite everyone to join us in this work of love. We are all pilgrims on the path of Immortality. We shall be very happy to receive the good news of those who wish to join in this service.

In our Varanasi Ashram the fast was started on the auspicious date of the full moon in the month of Magh (February). We hope others may continue on the first Thursday of every month or of every fortnight or weekly, every Thursday.

Mataji has said that this fast is not meant for very small children, for the sick and the extremely aged. Water may be taken freely by everyone during the fast.

Our brothers and sisters who have decided to take part in the above mentioned work, are requested to very kindly send once in every four months the equivalent in money of the meals from which they have abstained, to either of the following addresses :

- (1) Sri Durga Singhji, Raja Saheb of Baghat,
P. O. Solan, H. P.
- (2) Sri Ram Panjwani, Birla Road,
P. O. Hardwar, U. P.

23rd Febr., 1971

Ma Anandamayi Ashram,
Bhadaini, Varanasi.

Gurupriya Devi (Didi)

CONTENTS

English Section

1. Mātri Vāni 49
2. Sad Vāni—'Bhaiji' 51
3. What Seers and Mystics Have Said—
M. M. Verma ... 61
4. Bhāgavata Culture and Indian Renaissance—
T. Krishnaji ... 64
5. An Incident from the Life of Sri Muktananda
Giriji Maharaj (Didima) ... 71
6. Sacred Places of Kashmir, Jammu & Ladhak—
A Devotee ... 76
7. Mātri Lila 85

