

Perseverance Pays

[The Following is an English rendering of the last satsang prawachan (discourse) given by Maharshi Santsewi Paramhans jee Mahaaraaj, just one day before he departed this world. This public discourse was given by him on Sunday, the 3rd June 2007 in the Satsang Hall of Maharshi Mehi Ashram, Kuppaghat, Bhagalpur, Bihar, India on the occasion of the weekly afternoon satsang. -translated by: Pravesh K. Singh]

Respected Gentlemen, Honourable Motherly Ladies, and Full-of-Devotion Sisters!

There were two friends. One of them was scholarly, while the other was rich. The one who was learned was very poor. One day he went to his rich friend and said, “I need to borrow some money. If you could lend me ten thousand Rupees (Indian currency), I wish to migrate to another town. I shall return your money after I have made some earnings. The rich man said: “That is OK. I shall give you the money you have asked for, but in lieu of your debt I require that I keep some of your valuable possessions with me as a security deposit. When you repay the debt, I, too, will give your deposit back to you.” To this the erudite person replied, “I don’t have anything worth depositing with you. Yes, I can do one thing – I will write something on a piece of paper which you could keep with you as security deposit.” He wrote the following on a piece of paper:

“Dheeraj Dharay to Kaaraj Saray.

Jaldi karay to Kaaraj Bigare”

[Patience & Perseverance pays, while haste makes waste.]

He put his signature below these lines and handed over the piece of paper to his rich friend saying, “Please keep this carefully with you and return it to me when I repay the debt.” He received ten thousand Rupees and moved from the area and set about making some money.

The rich man came to his house and pasted the piece of paper on the door of his safe.

As time passed, by the quirk of fate, the rich man turned very poor and left his town to change his fortune. He did so without telling anyone, not even to his pregnant wife. After a few months his wife gave birth to a son. Years passed away, but the rich man did not have any communication with his family. He returned home after about 18 years having earned enough money. By the time he came to his house, it was late in the night. He knocked at the door, but got no response. After repeated knocking and

shouting, his wife woke up, recognised his voice and opened the door for him. On entering into the house, he found a young man asleep on the cot. Doubt crept up in his mind. He began to think that his wife had fallen in love with this youth, and probably it is why she took so long to open the door. His wife had gone to the kitchen to cook something for him, but this man burning with rage, was raving to retaliate to her infidelity. Mad with anger, he pulled out his sword and was just about to slay the young chap when he caught a glance of the piece of paper pasted outside his safe wherein it was written, "Perseverance pays, but haste makes waste". He began to think that these lines had been penned by his wise friend, so why not keep patience. He put his sword back and embraced patience.

When the food became ready, his wife affectionately served it to him. But this man was dying to know who this young fellow was and what was he doing in this house. At last, when he could not hold his patience he fired the question to his wife, "who is this man sleeping?" She replied: "It is your own son. Who else? He was born after you had left. You never gave us any clue about your whereabouts. So, how could have I informed you? He is now eighteen years old!"

Shortly after his return the learned man also came back, having made enough monetary gains, to redeem his pledge. He came to his friend and said, "I have borrowed ten thousand Rupees from you. Please accept your money back and give me the piece of paper I had left with you as security." The friend replied, "In the first place, I am not going to give that piece of paper back to you. And subsequently, I will not accept the money from you either, for the repayment has already been made." Bewildered, the learned man asked, "I don't understand you. How could the repayment have been made?" The (rich) friend then narrated the whole story as to how his piece of paper had saved him, in the nick of time, from committing the heinous crime of killing his own son. (*Note: Chant from the audience "Shri Sadguru Maharaj kee jay!" meaning "Hail Our Master/ Teacher!"*)

The moral of the story is that one should work with patience, be perseverant. Everything gets accomplished at the right time. You see, this is the season of mangoes (*Note: In India June is the peak season for the supply of ripened mango fruits*). Mangoes can be seen ripening. But, if it is not the proper season, however much you go on watering the mango tree; it will not bear mango fruits.

***"Kaaraj dheere hot hai, kaahe hot adheer.
Samay paay taruwar falay, ketak seencho neer."***

[Any work takes its own due time, why do you forsake patience? Trees come to fruition only at the right time, however hard you may try and water them!]

We sit in meditation, fail to concentrate, and get upset or fed up. A pessimistic thinking sets in as to whether or not I would be able to do it. No, we should not get nervous, or anxious. Nor should we nurture any doubts in our minds. We must go on trying, with persistence and perseverance. Jagjeevan Saahab has said,

“Saadho sumiran bhajan karo.

Man manh duvidhaa aanahu naahi, sahajahi dhyaan dharo.

Dheeraj dhari sanshay nahi raakhahu, naam bharose raho.

Jagjeevan satguru ko bheto, bhavjal paar karo.”

[O nice people! Do meditation.

Have no doubts in your minds, do meditation in a natural, unforced, simple state of mind.

Have patience, give no room to any sort of apprehensions, and have full faith in the Divine sound.

(For this) meet a true Guru, says Jagjeevan, and (learning the right art/method of meditation) swim across the ocean of existence or the cycle of births & deaths]

Whatever little is possible, do meditation everyday. ***But never ever give up or discontinue meditation.*** You will definitely meet with success. Gurudev (Maharshi Mehi Paramhans jee Mahaaraaj) used to say, “If it so happens that you don’t get one of three meal any day, not much harm is done; not as much harm or loss as is incurred if you skip a single-time of meditation on any day.” If the situation is such that a meal has to be skipped in a day, let it be so, no big deal; but never ever skip meditation. All of you please keep on practising meditation regularly, everyday. Gurudev will bestow you with success!