

Jayaguru  
Nilachala Saraswata Sangha  
Branch: America Saraswata Sangha  
Program for Young Aspirants' Session

**Date: March 7, 2010**

**Time:** 11:15am-11:40am (**Eastern**)/10:15am-10:40am (**Central**)/08:15am-08:40am (**Pacific**)/  
3:15pm - 3:40pm (**GMT**)

Phone Number - 1-218-936-1100 Access Code – 62719#,  
Backup Number – 1-218-936-1200 Access Code: 52924878

	Topic		Time
1	Pranam and opening of the curtain (Bhaba Bandhana...)	All	11:15 – 11:16
2	Shri Guru Pranam - Short Stotra Bandana	All	11:16 – 11:18
3	Introduction	Bijoy Bhai	11:18 – 11:20
4	Reading – Acts of Thakura Nigamananda	Devangi	11:20 – 11:30
5	Discussion and Q & A	Gyan Bhai	11:30 – 11:35
6	Song	Jeni	11:35 – 11:40
7	Bhaba Binimaya	Rini	11:40 – 11:41
8	Invitation for the next session – 03-21-10	Shreya	11:41 – 11:42
9	Truti Bichyuti (Forgiveness for any mistakes)	Rini	11:42 – 11:43
10	Last Song (Dayamaya Shricharane)	Shreya	11:43 – 11:44
11	Pranam, Jayaguru Nama Kirtan and closing of Curtain	All	11:44 – 11:45

**Beginning Prarthana:**

Bhaba Bandhana Mochana Pujiyabaram  
Gunahinamasesha Gunadhipatim  
Bhaba-bhirujane Satatam Baradam  
Pranamami Gurum Siva Kalpatarum

**Shri Guru Pranam:**

Om Brahmanandam parama sukhadam kevalam jnanamurtim  
Dvandatitam gagana sadrisam tattvamasyadi laksyam  
Ekam nityam vimalamachalam sarvadhi saksibhutam  
Bhavatitam trigunarahitam sadgurum tam namami.

**Invitation:**

Jayaguru. I invite Shri Shri Thakura, all the young aspirants, their parents and other members of America Saraswat Sangha to our next session to be held on Sunday, March 21, 2010 at 11:15 eastern time.

**Truti Bichyuti:**

Jayaguru. On behalf of all the young aspirants of America Saraswat Sangha, I beg for forgiveness from Shri Shri Thakur for any mistakes that we might have made.

## **Acts of Thakur Nigamananda**

### 10. Departed wife of Sudheeranjan Ray

Sudheeranjan Ray, one of the famous devotees of Sri Sri Thakur, used to live in Belgharia, Kolkata. Sudheer bhai was the third son and the fourth child of his parents. His first wife, Bela Ray, passed away around 1928. For some reason, Sri Sri Thakur used to call Bela maa Shanti. After his wife's death, when Sudheer bhai met Sri Sri Thakur, he requested Thakur to show him his wife once. After repeated requests, Sri Sri Thakur reluctantly replied, "Ok, you will see her when the time comes. But, you would rather not."

Several days later Sudheer bhai visited his wife's uncle in Allahabad. His mother and sister also went with him. One day, he was performing his daily "japa" in one of the rooms and suddenly saw Sri Sri Thakur sitting in front of him and his wife was sitting on Sri Sri Thakur's lap. Sudheer bhai felt as if Sri Sri Thakur gestured to him that Bela maa was not able to recognize him. Sudheer bhai, seeing this unbelievable sight, became scared and screamed. Hearing the noise, his relatives ran to him. When Sudheer bhai narrated the incident to them, they commented that it was his fantasy. Sudheer bhai did not want to argue and just kept quiet. However, after a few days, he received a letter from Sri Sri Thakur. In that letter Thakur had written, "You have seen me and Shanti at such and such time on such and such day. Hope you have realized now that she is living in a state that is beyond all worldly attractions. So, you should also try to get over your attachment toward her."

Seeing the letter, Sudheer bhai's mother, sister, and his wife's uncle understood how powerful a saint Sri Sri Thakur was.

(Source: Neelachale Thakur Nigamananda, Part One)

### 11. Display of Power at a Temple in Bengal

Sri Sri Thakur, after receiving instructions from his guru, was going around India as a paribrajaka (a wandering monk). He had received sannyasa by then. He was very young and slim. With a shaved head, wearing saffron clothes, and carrying Danda and Kamandalu, he was travelling around the length and breadth of India. With tranquility and joy, he was visiting one holy place after another while contemplating on the mahavakya (the great and holy sentence) of "Aham Brahmasmi". After several weeks, he reached Bengal, the state where he was born. While travelling through the state, he reached near the house of a landlord in the district of Rangpur (currently in Bangladesh). There was a beautiful temple just outside the house of the landlord where a *shalgram shila* (a stone accepted as the manifestation of Lord Vishnu) was being worshiped. It was told that the shalgram shila was full of life and generous in fulfilling the wishes of its worshipers. Therefore, it was highly revered by people in the surrounding areas.

When the paribrajaka walked by the temple and did not even bother to do pranam, the landlord, who witnessed the incident, was terribly shocked. He thought, "What kind of a monk he is who does not even do pranam to deities!"

In a rude voice the landlord asked, "Oh monk! What kind of holy person you are! Don't you know that the shalagram shila that is worshipped in this temple is lively? Not only you did not do pranam, you even showed your arrogance by ignoring our deity. What would general people like us learn from your attitude? One does not become a holy man just by wearing saffron clothes. One has to show his greatness through his deeds."

The paribrajaka sannyasi patiently listened to the distressed landlord and then replied calmly, "You would not understand the reason I did not do pranam at this temple. Do you want to hear it? I am no less powerful than your "lively" shalagram shila. Rather, my power is probably more. Thinking of the power equation, I did not do pranam."

The landlord was outraged to hear the reply of the sannyasi. Fumingly he retorted, "Such arrogance! You will have to prove your words right here, right now."

By that time people have gathered around the scene. They also sided with the landlord and demanded to see some act as proof. No matter how much the paribrajaka asked the landlord to not force him to prove it, the landlord remained unwavering in his decision. Finding no other way, the hesitant sannyasi bent down and touched his head on the shila. Instantaneously, the shila shattered into pieces. Everyone was stunned. It was something that was neither seen nor heard of before. Fearing that the anger of such a powerful saint, owing to their unkind and offensive behavior, could result in trouble for them and their families, the landlord and his people fell on the feet of the sannyasi and begged for his forgiveness. Indeed the sannyasi accepted their apology.

(Source: Shatarupe Aparupa Nigamananda, Part Six)

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