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Very dear ones,

It remains a challenge in embracing simplicity on occasions like weddings, birthdays and anniversaries. We seem to be getting carried away while forgetting the true meaning of such occasions.

When we joyously announced our son Marg's wedding with Apoorva, naturally it evoked enormous and overwhelming response from our sisters and brothers wishing to participate in the upcoming wedding ceremony. Our marriage ceremonies under the Sahaj Marg *paddhati* are simple and down to earth, where there are no demands, programs, hullabuloo and partying till you drop! A wedding is supposed to be sacred and for holy matrimony after all.

Beloved Master once told me while attending the wedding reception of one of his 'daughters', "You should move away from such initiatives as receptions and all unnecessary baggage. Let us get out of this place, I am having an excruciating headache." I immediately approached our host and we respectfully left the venue. Master had done what he had to do, which was to bless the couple and present some gifts.

Now, the question arises: should everyone embrace such a tradition? No. It is not expected from all, since the situations are different in every family. If it is needed to have a traditional wedding, so be it. If the other party demands a reception, so be it. We need to adjust and remain flexible. The core learning is that we should simplify all that which is within our limits.

We hope that our dear ones need not take so much trouble and attend in person, coming from all over the globe. The efforts, resources and time can be better utilized for nobler initiatives.

We sincerely wish that you will all join in this ceremony, with a prayer:

May the couple live a long and happy life together under the protective gaze of the Great Master. May the couple be graced with spiritual fulfilment. May they live an exemplary life, that of an ideal Sahaj Margi.

With love and respect,

Kamlesh D. Patel

