

Chapter 25

The Exhilaration of Spiritual Wisdom

The affectionate devotees of Uganda gave Swamishri an emotional farewell. Swamishri and the sadhus arrived by train in Nakuru on the morning of Monday, 8 August 1955. After bathing and doing puja, Swamishri departed from Nakuru by car and arrived in Nairobi by 12:45 p.m. In the evening, Swamishri had the Bhaktachintamani read aloud in the spiritual assembly, and then said, “If we follow *niyams*, Maharaj will be pleased with us. There will be piles of ‘Lakshmi’ for she is the servant of God and the Sant. One should donate the 5% or 10% tithe to the mandir. Follow the command of *shloka 147* [of the Shikshapatri]. Nineteen parts for your worldly affairs, and one part in donation to God. If one fails to properly offer the tithe, that money will go up in smoke; if you run afoul of the king, he could take it, or vice

could chew it up. If you wish to experience peace and happiness in your worldly affairs, then you should offer the prescribed tithe.”

“When Swami was in Junagadh, one devotee said, ‘Swami, I am very poor.’ Swami replied, ‘When you come to the mandir, you should not come empty-handed.’ In the villages, people come with a handful of grain. Thus, we should take such a handful, that we may never run out. We should sponsor the meals, whereby we may forever receive food. We should offer blankets, ornaments, and the like for Thakorji so that we may not experience scarcity. And if one donates 10% of their income, they would never experience hardship in their worldly affairs.”

On the evening of 10 August 1955, Swamishri delivered discourses in the assembly and said, “If one has attained the realization of God’s form and true nature, how exhilarated would they be? How serene and tranquil would they remain? There was a Koli devotee. Swami placed his hand on his head. He was exhilarated. Henceforth, he never cut his hair.

A sadhu told him, ‘Hey, don’t you have a few pennies to cut your hair?’ He replied, ‘My hair has been touched by the hand of Gunatit. Why would I ever let it be cut?’

“Then, he lost interest in tasty foods. He would take some flour and grill *rotla* and drink *chhas*. Someone asked him, ‘What are you eating?’ He replied, ‘What need have I to eat?’ If anyone tried to give him rupees, he would say, ‘When the hand of Gunatit has blessed this head, would I ever want for money?’ And if anyone insisted that he take the money, he would have them place it under his bed, after which he would give it away. What spiritual exhilaration!

“If we can cultivate such spiritual strength, then no taint of *maya* would remain. To come into contact with the Satpurush is the fruit of this human birth.”

Then, in his distinctive style, Swamishri sang and explained the kirtans, “*Mānasno avatar mongho nahi male fari...*” (This valuable human birth will not be attainable

again) and “*Hāji bhalā sadhu...*”(Yes sir, good sadhu...)