

JOY, THE GOAL OF LIFE

GURURAJ: [Holding up a mirror] Look at yourself in this mirror. Do you see this mark there? [Pointing to a mark on the mirror] Every morning you look into the mirror try and clear this mark away, because this is the blot of your samskaric and karmic self. Clean it away. It's quite easy, you know. You don't need to use a hanky for it. [He rubs. Nothing happens.] [laughter] Oooo, I'm rubbing so hard and yet the mark is still there. So, what lesson do you learn from this? You got to keep on rubbing and rubbing and rubbing without destroying the true image of yourself. Don't use steel wool it might scratch the mirror. Good. What shall we (thank you very much) what shall we talk about today? Questions.

ROOPA: Beloved Guruji, I'm asking this question....

GURURAJ: I can't see your face. Come more this way. That's it.

ROOPA: My mother asked that this question be asked. So, for her I'm asking the question for Nirmala. It's a typical... never mind. If life was supposed to be the play of the Gods, why are so many people so miserable? When I am compassionate I can feel sorry for everyone, king or commoner, old or young, rich or poor. This world does not seem to be much of a playground for most people. What went wrong with God's plan, or where is that joy you speak of? Most people never experience it. Thank you.

GURURAJ: Thank you. Life is not the play of the gods, but you are playing with the gods. So on the soccer field or football field, or whatever you call it here, you mess around. Twenty two people or whatever you have in the, you know, on both sides or whatever, and you toss the ball around and you blame it on the gods. The gods have nothing to do with the ball of your life and neither your, uh... They only use one ball don't they? So, you are playing around with the gods, gods, the gods. Which means energies are not playing around with you. It depends, so much, on the energies that you use and how you use them. How you kick your balls... uh... the ball, that is important. You can always take vitamin B and vitamin E and C and, you know. It'll help you to kick the ball better. So, to repeat again, the gods are not playing around with you, you are playing around with the gods, the various energies that be.

Now, to play around can be made into great fun. It could be very, very pleasurable. But if you get into conflicts with these energies, you can be kicked where you should not be and you get taken off the field of life. Do you see? So, life is a game and it will always remain a play. It's a game that can be controlled by you. I've seen soccer players, for example,

that would take a ball, a soccer ball soccer, you call it soccer? and hit it ten, twenty, times without it allowing to fall. But the amateur might hit it once and the ball falls. Do you see?

So, one needs this expertise in having full control of the ball. I was taken once to a soccer match where the ball was in front, but there was the opposition coming. So what he did, he fell on his back and kicked the ball backward right into the goal. There are ways of doing things in life. Life is a play. We do know that as Shakespeare said, and which I said before Shakespeare. But play the game well, play the game joyfully. Even if you have to lie on your back, okay. But score the goal. And the goal of life is to bring the joy into your life.

Now, gods, as I said before, are nothing but energies. And it depends upon you, because of your free will, how to use those energies. And if rightly used they could become joyful, wrongly used they could become painful. Yet, the pleasure and the pain is in your mind. I would play a soccer game I can't anymore with these walking sticks I would play a soccer game for the sake of the play and not to score twenty goals. If my intention is in scoring more and more goals, I will lose the pleasure of the play itself.

So what is important? The importance lies in the play of life and when one plays life well. Throw the dice. Whatever numbers come up, so what? Have you got any control over it? You have control over throwing the dice, yes, but have you got any control on the numbers that turn up? You don't, unless your dice, dices, dice? dice, are loaded.

So don't load yourself with things which are totally unnecessary. The greatest problem man has in life is that they load themselves with things which are unnecessary. They load themselves with it. And when you throw your dice you expect number seven or number eleven or something, I don't know, you know. You expect it to come up. Why expect it to come up? Because you want to win. And what are you really winning? Nothing at all. Those few bucks you make means nothing in the game of life. Play for the sake of playing and be guided by what happens. Don't worry in which direction the ball turns, but go after it.

Now, what does that mean? It means your duty in life. Go after the ball and do not worry about the goal. But try and kick it hard enough so that the goal can be scored. So, this, of course in turn, would mean that life is a striving, and the harder you strive the better life could become. But people strive so much in wrong directions. If they should strive and put greater effort in the proper direction, towards those energies of the gods, then you will capture those energies. And by capturing those energies, you have the free will to use them in the proper direction which is required for your own personal happiness.

So, there are two factors here, as the questioner has asked. There are these gods and... there are no gods really, you are all gods as far as I'm concerned, but there are these energies. So, there are energies and there's the play of life. Now, the secret would be how to combine the energies with the play of life. And to form a perfect balance requires spiritual

practices where you capture those energies in the play of life. And the play of life captures in turn those energies, depending how you play. Do you see?

Life is a game, but for many it's such a shame. It's a shame because they do not play the game as it should be. They foul it up. I'm sure you know football where if you... well, I don't know it well any more, [those were years by?]. But if you go... what do you call it? You go forward behind the something, it's called a foul line, I don't know, and then you go...

VOICE: Offsides.

GURURAJ: Hm?

VOICE: Offsides.

GURURAJ: Offsides. Good. Thank you. Right. And then what do you get is a penalty kick. Right. And most people should really have that penalty kick on their backsides. I've got two sticks here, remember. [LAUGHTER] So, play the game of life well for your own happiness. Don't worry about the goal so much yet that am I going to score the goal or not? Don't worry about it. Play the game well and the goal will automatically be scored and you'll get the ball in the net. The one ball, of course, you know.

Life really is fun. It is really fun. But it's a pity that they got that word wrong. It should not be fun, f u n. It should be f u m, fum. Yes. The person that created the English language, pity I didn't meet him; because I would have turned the word "fun" and rhyme it with "bum." Most people... I mean, I don't mean our meditators, they're great. [blows nose] (I beg your pardon.) Most people are nothing else but bums, that's all. Because everything they do they bum around in life. And when you bum around in life, all the fum is gone. Do you see?

And to lose that God given quality, or the play of the gods... gods don't play, by the way, they only make a fool of you. That's what they do. Because if they were really playing, people would not be suffering in misery. They're fooling around with you, for you are the toys of those energies. And those energies, like the puppeteer, is pulling the strings of your life. But those strings can be severed. They can be cut away so that you become free and not remain a puppet, but you become a master of the puppeteer. Do you get the point?

And that is your destiny, to become the master of the energies, the puppeteers, and then you are in control of life. How many can honestly say that I am in full control of my life? Very few. In this whole room there's one only that can say that. And I suppose you know who? [LAUGHTER] Yes. To attain mastery of your life is not to remain the puppet any more.

But you become the puppeteer where you pull the strings of life and guide it and do with it whatever you want to do with it. And, therefore, the age old saying that man is a master of his own destiny.

Now, this explanation was given to you today, this morning, to show you that you can be a master of your destiny only if you try. Strive a bit. In the beginning the striving might seem a bit difficult, but later on it becomes totally natural. And when it becomes totally natural you are flowing with the energies of the gods, because energies are not allied from nature itself. For nature itself contains the gods, those energies. The indras and the agnis and the varunas and... those are Sanskrit terms for various energies. But so few people has understood that. They really regard agni and indra and varuna and all that blah, blah, blah, you know, to be real entities with physical form, but that is not true. They are abstract energies which concretizes themselves so that the world can function. It's a combination of these various energies which gives you the atomic or molecular structure that keeps the world together.

This wall you see here, these walls, how are they kept together? How do they stand as walls? You will say bricks and cement, or wood or whatever. But how is it kept together? Even the cement has those energies in it to keep the bricks together. Those are the gods one thinks about. I look at a face, I look at a brick, I look at a wall, I look at anything, and what do I observe? I observe only those gods, those energies that keeps everything together. Do you see?

Now, if the forces of nature or the energies can keep this wall together instead of letting it collapse, or to keep my walking cane together, then why you as a thinking human being are not together within yourself? Why? And yet all those energies are there in you: all those agnis and varunas and bullshitters, and I don't know what all. They are there to keep you together. Then why, I ask, is the fragmentation? The reason of fragmentation is just because of thought forces, which is also an energy. And that is what is meant in the scriptures as the Satan. Do you see? Because anything which fragments you is Satanic, Satanick? Satanic. Do you see?

So, get rid of it, for god's sake. And it's only for the sake of Divinity that you get rid of the satanic. Satanic? Yeh, right. And the satanic must be sunk like the Titanic. [LAUGHTER] Do you see? It is so very simple, really. It's just trying a little more, little more day after day. A little, little, little. You can't climb up these stairs... This building there might be, say, two flights of stairs. You can't jump up it from the bottom up, you do it step by step. So, it is a gradual process. And the higher you climb up the steps, the more joyous your life becomes. The art is in the climbing, even if you have to use a walking stick. I've got two sticks here. One is for walking and the other is for...

I think you guys would have to go for lunch, it's five past twelve. We started a bit late today. We did, didn't we? Good. Enjoy your lunch and have a.... Come on, woman. You see, woman must be ordered around. Yes. Ah, but there's one difference, you order the woman around with total love. And if they order you around, I can always lend you my cane. [LAUGHTER]

VOICE: Yeh. I got that one.

GURURAJ: Thank you, dear. Thank you, thank you, thank you. You know, flying around what happens, you know with the pressurized air in the plane, your feet tends to get swollen. And then, of course, it takes time. Did I take Lasix?

VIDYA: Due tomorrow.

GURURAJ: It's due tomorrow. Good. I've got wonderful secretaries. They're absolutely marvelous.

****END****