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Agnihotra in Thailand

NEW ERA 66

JULY & AUGUST, 2009

Perform Agnihotra



Heal The Atmosphere

NEW ERA 66

JULY & AUGUST, 2009

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Cover: Agnihotra at the Sanpayong **Temple** in Lumphun, Thailand.

Ceremony for Shree Vasant

On December 30th, 2008 Shree Vasant Paranjpe, founder president of Fivefold Path, Inc. and founder and former editor of *Satsang* left the mortal coil. It was His wish that a portion of His ashes be taken to Madison, Virginia, home of Fivefold Path, Inc. On Friday, July 31st 2009 a small ceremony was held in honor of Shree Vasant. The program was conducted outdoors in a clearing near the Parama Dham Fire Temple. As Shree would have wished, people of different ages, races, religions and nationalities came together in unity for the occasion.

The ashes were brought to Madison by Sohan Fernandes, Shree Vasant's greatnephew, who is currently attending University of Maryland.

The program included Yajnya, readings from Shree Vasant's teachings, chanting of Mantras, devotional singing and Darshan of the Ash. Sohan delivered the following speech which was written by Sarvajit Paranjpe, grandson of Shree Vasant:

Today we have gathered here for the love towards SHREE and faith in Agnihotra and Homas and because of our mission to spread the message of Love. For some of us, HE was like GOD. But still I feel HE showed us that HE was a perfect example of a human whose life was disciplined and who achieved the Divinity within.

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HE was the change which HE wanted to see in this world. HE used to lead us by example. He showed us the practical methods of raising levels of awareness, gaining deeper wisdom, exploring the potential of the mind and slowly going above that.

HE showed us how to harmonize our inner feelings and our social interactions by following Fivefold Path, as this is that path whereby we can reduce friction between our outer actions and inner attitudes.

HE showed how we humans can achieve the highest stage in this very life with discipline, dedication and devotion. It was never that HE never made mistakes: at least HE showed me that HE was also making mistakes. Maybe that was a lesson for me to be learnt. HE was never disappointed with the failure and setbacks HE received in HIS life. But opposite to that, HE showed how HE experienced the failure and learned from that failure and turned every failure next time into an opportunity. HE never became victim but only witnessed the circumstances and acted. HE always put himself above any bodily comforts and pain. He mastered HIS body so much that even in pain HE used to constantly think how to save this humanity and serve HIS beloved MASTER. The above things which I told you were not to downsize HIM. But I think that was HIS greatest strength, as HE showed us how we can go beyond our limitations and serve.



Sohan Fernandes delivering the speech

Let us not forget that we are HIS army of Love. So let us discipline our minds and lives, dedicate them towards our mission, HIS mission, and devote our hearts to HIM. Let us arrange our actions accordingly that we can go beyond our limitations and serve. Let our actions be effective and accountable. Let us not waste a single moment in thinking ill of somebody. Let us fill our minds with the mantra. 'Constant mantra' SHREE used to say to us.

SHREE GAJANAN MAHARAJ, the DIVINE in human form, initiated the mission. It's very *difficult to explain the relationship between the GURU and DISCIPLE. The love between them* cannot be described. Tears used to come when SHREE used to talk about SHREE GAJANAN MAHARAJ; such was HIS love. HE changed the course of HIS life on HIS Guru's command; such was HIS obedience. HE served HIS whole life in spreading the message of HIS Guru, such was his dedication, and kept the faith that HIS message is going to save the humanity. SHREE was able to do this because of SHREE GAJANAN MAHARAJ'S grace. But we can see how HE used that grace and harnessed HIS powers and diverted them towards HIS Guru's wish. All of us had the same grace but it depends on us how to use it.

After this Ash Ceremony much more responsibility will come towards our Parvati and she will always be guiding us all the time. So please take care of your health, as we need you.

After this Ash Ceremony energy will pervade to the west, which is a great blessing and also a great opportunity for our liberation by serving in teaching Homa Therapy. Don't forget how much HE loved you all, that he chooses this place for HIS Ash. Along with this love also came more power to all of you ,and with more power comes more responsibility.

And at last I am sorry that in the Ash Ceremony many people can't be involved in carrying the Ash to the lake because of restrictions. Please do not feel sidelined or neglected as we people who do the ceremony are just the followers and those of us attending this ceremony do not prove that we are far better than you or SHREE loves us more, as to SHREE we all are the same. HE used to behave with HIS cook with the same love and respect as with HIS beloved devotees. Such was HIS greatness.

Sohan directed the group to stand and hold hands in a circle. He then gave the purport of the following Shanti mantra and said, "While



Parvati Rosen-Bizberg reads quotes from Shree Vasant's teachings.

chanting the mantra remember that we all are one, we will work together and we will not fight against each other." He then directed us to chant it together eleven times:

Om Saha Nawawatu, Saha Nau Bhunaktu Saha Weeryam Karwawahai Tejaswi Nawadheetamastu Ma Widwishawahai Om Shantih Shantih Shantih

Meaning - May He protect us both the teacher and the taught together by revealing knowledge. May He protect us both by assuring the results of knowledge. May we attain vigour together. Let what we study be invigorating. May we not raise petty objections at each other.

A similar program was held in Baltimore at the Resonance Point on July 27th, which was well attended by the Baltimore Homa Community.



Stuart Masill, left, leads the group in a bhajan.

Ashes to Yield: Organic Farming's New Mantra Ravish Tiwari

The following article appeared in **The Indian Express.**

Posted: Monday , Jul 27, 2009 at 0519 hrs New Delhi:

In the din of concerns expressed over agriculture in Parliament, a small — but interesting — detail on organic farming got drowned.

The government revealed that an organic farming research group working for over three years at the C S K Himachal Pradesh Agricultural University in Palampur has observed improved crop growth when the soil was treated with the by-products of homa, primarily ashes, along with organic manure.

In response to an unstarred question by the BJP's Shreegopal Vyas in the Rajya Sabha, Agriculture Minister Sharad Pawar also said that the research has shown crop diseases to have been treated by the chanting of mantras.

"Yes, we have observed better crop prospects when the *bhasmas* were integrated with other components of organic farming. At present, these are only observations from our experiments and not a scientific confirmation. But we hope to publish our controlled observations within a year and a scientific paper on it a few years later after proper scientific validation," Dr. Y.S. Paul, Head of the Department of Organic Agriculture at the university told *The Indian Express* over the phone.

Paul said researchers found that *bhasma** produced after *homa*, using cowdung cakes, *desi* ghee and unbroken rice at sunrise and sunset, appeared to have better nutrient composition in terms of nitrogen, potassium, magnesium and zinc as compared to by-products obtained otherwise. The *homas* are usually performed in specially designed pyramid shaped copper utensils.

Pawar told the Rajya Sabha that experiments on wild marigold and aloe vera, which were fed organic manures treated or mixed with *homa bhasma* and Him-Bio--a biofertilizer developed at Palampur that contains a *homa bhasma* treated with four different extracts of local fungi called trichoderma--produced a higher yield than when they were treated simply with organic manure. Paul said the organic research group had observed better yields in pea and maize too when treated with *homa bhasma* manure. The research, which began in April 2006 with

about Rs. 40 lakh from the National Centre of

Organic Farming, is aimed at scientific validation of this kind of organic that is being practised in many parts of the world, including Brazil and Germany, Paul said.

The 20-member research team working on the project is looking at the possible role of *mantras* and *homa bhasma* in purifyng the environment and consequently improving crop yield.

*Bhasma--special ash

Agnihotra in Thailand

"On 21st May 2009, Kantipong and Nisachon (a Thai couple from Bangkok) and I flew to Chiangmai, a tourist town in Thailand. We were met by Robert Bagnall, a U.S. citizen who has been residing in Chiangmai for more than ten years.

The four of us went to Sampayang Temple in Lumphun, about twenty minutes from Chiangmai, to introduce Agnihotra. We were met by Pra Kuba, the Chief Abbot of Sanpayong Temple. He managed to gather his disciples and devotees to listen to the Agnihotra talk given by Robert Bagnall.

After the talk, they were given a treat of Agnihotra ash. Some applied it to their hands and legs and some just ingested it. Everyone, including the monks, were very happy with us and they requested us to go back again the following week. So, Robert Bagnall has committed to teaching Agnihotra every Sunday in this temple.

Note: From **Light Towards Divine Path** by Vasant V. Paranjpe:

"Practice the Fivefold Path and you become a better member of your family or community. You will become a more righteous Christian, Jew, Buddhist, Muslim, Hindu, Zoroastrian, Sikh, Jain, whatever be your formal religious label. You may be an atheist or an agnostic, you will benefit by practicing th Fivefold Path.



From left to right in front row: Mr. Robert Bagnall, Chief Abbot Pra Kuba and Mr. Alan Yong after practicing Agnihotra with a group of monks.

The Fivefold Path sets up patterns based on biopsychological techniques given through Vedic knowledge. You need not carry the hypothesis of God to practice the Fivefold Path. You start the practice and knowledge will be unfolded to you from within. Believe only what you experience. This is the approach of a true scientist."

Alan Yong

First Rudra Yajnya in Uruguay Juan Ojeda S

Juan Ojeda San Martin

This past Sunday the 19th of July 2009, we carried out the First Rudra Yajnya in Uruguay It was organized by the main Satya Sai Baba group in a Sai Baba temple and in the presence of three of his disciples. A representative of the Sikh Religion and Catholic nuns actively participated. Rarely can we observe such an ecumenical meeting in all love.

The Yajnya was carried out forty-five minutes outside of Montevideo on a farm where the temple is located.

Homa fire is uniting all in love and in communion.



Homa Farming Success



(Translation from original Spanish)

Honorato Garcia Palacios Hualtaco II, Tambogrande San Lorenzo, Piura, Peru (Son of owner Benito Palermo Garcia)

"With the application of Homa Therapy I see my plants are now more beautiful--all my plants and flowers, mangoes, lemons, avocados. They are beautiful as if we had applied manure, but we don't give them anything but the treatment with Homa Therapy--that is Agnihotra fire at sunrise and sunset and four hours daily of Om Tryambakam Homa; full moon and new moon we do 24 hours of the Om Tryambakam fire. The whole family participates.

"In the lemon trees I have not seen any problem, neither with the white louse, nor with the "Acarus". In the previous years we have had many problems. All the plants are being regularly fumigated with the Agnihotraash-water-solution."

Healing with Homa Therapy

Liliana Henao Bogota, Colombia, South America

"In a massive practice of the Sacred Fire in the South of Bogotá, Colombia, one of the assistants asked whether or not an Agnihotri wanted to share some experience that would show the benefits of Agnihotra. I could not help but recall the time when my mother was declared a hopeless case with one of the most aggressive breast cancers in stage 4. And comparing this sad time with our current situation, I got up and talked about how Agnihotra and its ash effectively supported the healing of this illness. This cancer had claimed the lives of many women younger than my mother and who received the same medical treatment. My mother is 80 years old.

Additionally to that, I feel progressively a joy within, a beautiful state of peace that I like to convey to everyone, even though it has not been possible for me to practice Agnihotra every day due to my work."



Liliana Henao practicing Agnihotra. On Sundays she shares Agnihotra with others.

Laura, 11 years old daughter of Liliana Henao

Laura has the ability to talk to the "elements". During Agnihotra the Master of the Fire spoke to her:

"I was told we should do more Agnihotra fires for further purification on this area and to expand these healing energies from this central point in the city. Also, we can invoke angels and archangels like Michael and Raphael or even Jesus or Mother Mary. They will come and work through this powerful healing fire."



Laura's Agnihotra fires are always huge and with tremendous energy.

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Laura also shares her personal testimony with Agnihotra:

"The practice of Homa Therapy has changed my life. For example, at school, many of the children are aggressive and do not respect anything or anyone, assaulting physically and verbally their schoolmates. Since I practice the sacred Homa fire, my thoughts and my energy are lighter and thanks to that, my peaceful energy, I am not an object of this aggressiveness.

"Also, my perception on the subtle planes have improved thanks to the blessings of these healing Homa fires and the Masters. "

Problems: --Bronchial Allergies --Insomnia

"I heard of Homa Therapy in Piura through a German friend. I asked him to find out, where there was a clinic specializing in bronchial allergies in Germany. He told me that it was cheaper for me to go to the Homa Therapy healing sessions and learn those techniques.

"After five days of performing these healing fires, especially Agnihotra, I found a great improvement. I was catching colds continuously and I had a runny nose; along with that I could not sleep. Now with the Homa Therapy I do not have these problems any more."



Reynaldo Cornejo MZ "221" Lote 2 Zona industrial Piura, Peru

May My Mind Always Affirm the Holy

Commandment 4: May My Mind Always Affirm the Holy

Tan me manah shiva sankalpamastu -Shukla Yajurveda, Vajasaneya Samhita 34-1

Commentary on Commandment Four:

Although fettered by the strings of destiny man is blessed with the power of discrimination. The power of discrimination is the capacity to discern right from wrong. Man can use his free will to act up to the judgment given by his power of discrimination.

"God created man in his own image, in the image of God created He him." -Genesis 1:26

Only in the human species is this power manifest. Judicious use of this faculty of discrimination means exercising free will in the right direction. This delivers us from the bondage of Karma. It is essential therefore that the mind entertain thoughts that uplift. When this innate creative power is cognized one can command the weeds to wither and seeds blossom forth. Constant affirmation to do so is necessary to maintain awareness of the Spirit that resides within.

When we get into the habit of affirming the holy the creative power of the mind tends to shape towards fulfillment. Sublimation of the outgoing tendencies of the mind correspond-

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from <u>Ten Commandments of Parama Sadguru</u> Commentary by Vasant Paranjpe

ingly alters our reactions to circumstances. Thoughts impinge on the atmosphere. When we have holy thoughts the process of upliftment is accentuated. Thus, man is the maker of his destiny. Thought can buffet circumstances or it can liberate us from the bondage of circumstances. Hence the commandment, "May my mind always affirm the holy."

Circumstances improve when we set into motion the factors that lead to inner purification. Constant affirmation of a loving mind alters the material conditions around us. We become better receptacles for the manifestation of Divine Grace. We get into the habit of always performing the right action. This is character building. This habit loosens the grip of desires that cloud the intellect. This is purification. This purification is functional, i.e. it enables us to reach higher states of evolution. One cannot truly improve conditions unless inner improvement takes place.

Right thought eliminates suffering. Affirmation of the holy consolidates the habit of performing right action under all circumstances. We can choose our thoughts despite circumstances. This is the thin end of the wedge which enables us to overcome the pangs of destiny.

"One chooses to become his own friend or his own foe." --Bagavat Geeta 6-5 The word MAN in English or MANAV in Sanskrit comes from the Sanskrit root MAN, meaning to think. Man can discern the Changeless among the changing, the one among the many. Human intellect is not able to grasp the ONE that pervades all manifestation. When, after purification, the intellect is transmuted into a higher state known as PRAJNYA we perceive Reality. Affirmation of the holy creates proper channels in the mind to intensify the process of purification.

It is good practice to spend some time daily over self introspection. We come to know that we are full to the brim with selfish desires that await gratification and evil thoughts that prey on others. When we become aware of these things we become less prone to find fault with others. The egotistical attitude wanes. The gates to the Kingdom of Heaven within us are unbolted. Holy affirmations on our part during the period of introspection help us consolidate the habit of right thinking. Then we think along the right lines not only during the introspection but all the time. Evil thoughts are then unable to make their way towards us. This is purification of the mind

"Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." -1 Cor. 10:12 "Lead me from illusion to Truth Lead me from darkness to Light Lead me from death to Immortality." -Vedic prayer

"And God doth advance in guidance those who seek guidance." -Holy Quran 19.76

Buddha stated that undesirable impressions on the mind cause TANHA, the attitude to cling to life. Jesus remarked: "Whosoever will save his life shall lose it." Luke 9:24

Non-attachment to material possessions or conditions removes the fear of death. The duality of attachment and aversion agitates the mind constantly and involves us in huge energy expenditure.

Ignorance of the Divinity within prevents us from manifesting Love. This gives rise to hatred and jealousy. We then react in an undesirable manner to the events that come about in life. This agitates the mind and disturbs tranquility. Purity of mind brings about tranquility and we get into the practice of always affirming the holy.

The purpose of human life is to unfold the Divine within us. Ethical life, where control

over sense organs is stressed, is the foundation for spiritual unfoldment. Mere foundation is not enough. The journey has to culminate into soul vision which is Bliss eternal.

Purity of body and mind comes first. The science of Yoga prescribes YAMA (prohibitions) and NIYAMA (observances) to achieve this. Purity comes under the latter category. One has to go through some discipline if one wants to establish himself into happiness that is not followed by unhappiness.

Purified mind is incapable of holding undesirable thoughts. Thinking, feeling and willing shall manifest purity. Replace an undesirable thought by its antidote. However, there is another way. Concentrate your mind on the image of a holy person of whom you know or you have seen or met. The undesirable thought will lose its potency. You will immediately start attracting similar thoughts to yourself and this leads to the purification of the subconscious. Even a little practice will bring the influx of spiritual forces which will loosen the grip of desires that harass you. Thus, undesirable elements will be washed off and the flitting tendency of the mind shall be curbed. This leads to one-pointedness and purification of the mind.

A gardener sows useful seeds and weeds out all other growth. If neglected, the lot of land

will bear useless weeds. Even so is the mind. When we observe the operation of free will that liberates us from the cycle of Karmic attachments we come to know the gateway to the Kingdom of Heaven. Our total identification with body consciousness is loosened and we transcend the bodily tabernacle to enter the subtler regions that lead us to the Spirit that resides within. Our consciousness is enlarged and deepened. The mind-conditioning is redeemed. Latent faculties become patent and the homeward journey is made smooth. For this process to operate it is necessary to cultivate the mind with seeds of virtuous thoughts and throw away the weeds that tilt us sensewards. The final illumination that dawns is not a process of accretion but is instantaneous. The process relates only to the removal of dross in the form of coiled up desires. Hence, "May my mind always affirm the holy."

From The Orion Transmissions

received by Parvati Rosen-Bizberg Wysoka, Poland

May 21, 2009 on the Art of Forgiveness

Yes, yes. It is truly in practicing the art of Forgiveness that one comes to a place of clarity and peace in one's heart. We would say that this state of awareness is quite attainable for many beings on this planet, especially with the new energies being sent to your planet. It is the matter of actually taking time out of your busy schedules to reassess your lives and find where there are hurts to be forgiven, where there are resentments brewing, disturbing the flow of life within you.

When one practices the Art of Forgiving, one's heart is cleared. One moves into a new dimension of thought, word and deed which better mirrors the Higher Realms. One is capable of understanding the whys and wherefores of one's life. Indeed, it is powerful work one can do on oneself to release what binds one.

Indeed, we find that when the humans on this planet shift their awareness from 'bread and butter' to Light and Love, there will be a greater movement toward the unfoldment of Divine principles and wisdom on this planet.

June 1, 2009 On Striving for Unity

Yes, yes. We are aware of dissension amongst Light Workers. This is the work of dark forces, which would be happy to see disharmony amongst those of the same tribes, if you will. Yes, tribes. Those of you who walk on paths of Light belong to various tribes. This explains why there are many different Gurus or Spiritual Teachers, Masters. The path of Light has many walkways, many directions to move in. Certainly, the mistake many make is to see their path as the 'only way' to Salvation. There is never only one way. Divine has many ways to call His children home.

Within the tribes, that is one's spiritual families, one must always strive for UNITY. One should not emphasize the differences as much as celebrate the oneness which binds you together. Then, there can be understanding and again, the tribe moves in sync toward the Light, guided by the Voice of the Master.

For more information, visit: http://www.oriontransmissions.com

One, We Are One

Barry Rathner, Ph.D. Bhrugu Aranya, Poland

Why, we might have wondered, were so many of Shree Vasant's first messages received by Parvati following His leaving the Body centered around the concept of UNITY?

Surely, those of us filled with gratitude and humility borne of the gift of Agnihotra and Homa Therapy we had received would continue to fulfill the obligation or inclination many of us all felt to "spread the good news" or, at a minimum, be examples of it.

At the very least, we might have hoped, we would have banded together in our mutual love and respect for Shree and each other And just as He looked constantly upon us without judgment and with unconditional love, though infinitely less perfect, we too would look toward developing and evolving with those traits as among our primary goals.

Alas, as life's exigencies (or the Dark Forces, as some may prefer to describe) day by day intrude on our serenity, we are tempted to fall into "I-ness," or ,"It's all about me-ness," and we find ourselves spending more time in front of the mirror of life admiring ourselves, worrying about ourselves, creating our world vision around ourselves.

Paradoxically, some of us look in the same mirror and dwell on negative self-perceptions, but that is a subject for a different time. Unity: "the state of being one."

"Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates his brother, is still in the darkness. Whoever loves his brother, lives in the light and there is nothing in him to make him stumble." -- 1 John 2:9,10 NIV

So it is. The judgments, recriminations, looking for differences instead of celebrating our commonalities and similarities are all elements of the illusion, the *maya* of life.

Choosing sides, avoiding truth as we know it, burying our heads in the sands of delusion, all serve to separate, not unite. If it is true that there is strength in numbers, surely we would be silly to retreat into small groups when all reading this have access to a power undreamed of by us at one time and now experienced at least twice daily (sunrise and sunset) and accessible always.

We can stream our power live online or offline without interruption. But if we hate our brother or, one might say, even not love him enough, we introduce a virus into our surfing of Higher Power.

Better to install the anti-virus of Mantra and focus on Him. All stand to benefit.

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FIVEFOLD PATH for Happy Living

1. Perform **AGNIHOTRA** for purification of the atmosphere which leads to automatic purification of mind.

2. Practice **DAAN** (sharing of assets in a spirit of humility to reduce attachment to worldly possessions).

3. Practice **TAPA** (becoming better managers of our energy expenditure by training the body and mind to react to all circumstances in life with Total Love).

4. Perform **KARMA** (every action for self purification only and thus no expectations which bind us to the material world).

5. Practice **SWADHYAYA** (Self-study) for liberation. Who am I? Why am I here? My work on this planet is to learn to react with total LOVE with each opportunity given to me.

This is the Fivefold Path for happy living on the planet. By practicing the Fivefold Path you become better members of your society, group, religion, community, etc.