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Cover: Parama Dham.

Please see the article on page 14.

Frequently Asked Questions On Agnihotra

Ed.

During a meeting of Fivefold Path teachers from all over the world in Maheshwar, India in February, 2009, a number of frequently asked questions were discussed. Below is a summary of suggested responses for teachers.

What if I can't do Agnihotra every day?

Whenever Agnihotra is done correctly, it will have effects. Encourage the person to do it whenever they can. Of course, for maximum effect one should do it every day, twice a day, but if they do Agnihotra even once, it's better than never doing it at all. If a person tries Agnihotra and has a good experience, he/she may be motivated to find ways to do it more often. A person may believe that they can't do Agnihotra regularly due to their circumstance, but they don't know the future; their circumstances may change in time to allow them to practice Agnihotra more regularly. Agnihotra changes a person's Karma.

Will Agnihotra cure my sickness?

We cannot promise or make claims that Agnihotra will cure a particular person's illness, but we can say that thousands of people around the world have been healed by Agnihotra and Homa Therapy. We can share Homa Therapy information--Agnihotra ash medicines, etc.

When giving talks, it is good if persons from that country/area can give testimonies about

their healing experiences with Agnihotra.

Is Agnihotra a religion?

Agnihotra is ancient knowledge that anyone, of any religion or no religion, can practice for his/her benefit.

Where does Agnihotra come from?

Agnihotra comes from Vedas, the most ancient body of knowledge known to man. This knowledge belongs to all mankind. In ancient days, this knowledge was all over the planet. Virtually all ancient civilizations had some practices of purification through fire. Archeological digs from around the world have found remains of fire altars, etc. In the course of time, the science behind Yajnya was lost, and today, in view of our polluted conditions, the science of atmospheric purification through Yajnya is being revived.

How does Agnihotra work? There is an ancient science given in the Vedas which talks of subtle energies. On a phenomenological level, we have documented that Agnihotra supports plant life, has healing effects on humans and animals, but we don't know why. Modern science still has to understand and explain how those results come about.

About the timings-How late is too late?

We can only encourage the person to allow enough time to set up for Agnihotra, and to

count down the seconds until Agnihotra time, to do it exactly on time.

When this question was asked of Shree Vasant in July, 2008, the following email reply was received: "The fire is ablaze and your clock or watch is with you. Supposing you know that sunset is at six hours-ten minutes-25 seconds. Your rice with ghee is in your hand or on a plate. When it comes to 06-10-25 according to your watch or clock, you are not going to wait until 06-10-35 to become late purposely.

"Then the question comes if your watch is not correct. Then you set up your watch or clock on radio of your country daily."

Why are you chanting mantras? To whom are you praying?

There are three inputs to Agnihotra: specific organic substances burned, exact timings of sunrise/sunset, and vibrational input in the form of two short mantras. All three inputs are necessary to produce Agnihotra's effects.

Scientists know that different vibrations have different effects on living things: if you play nice music to cows, they yield more milk; if you play nice music to plants, they grow better.

Shree said, " Human voice must be involved in offering."

What about the medicinal Yajnyas mentioned in *Homa Therapy, Our Last Chance?* Can I learn to put herbs in the Yajnya fire, as the book mentions?

Shree Vasant said that to do those Yajnyas with herbs, one would have to study for years. We teach Agnihotra, Vyahruti Homa, Om Tryambakam Homa, etc., and they are very powerful. Shree Vasant said that when the time comes, we will be shown how to do those Yajnyas.

Why are the timings on my sunrise/sunset time sheet different from those in the newspaper?

For Agnihotra, we use a specific definition for sunrise and sunset. That definition is used in the computer program which calculates our time sheets.

If you're burning things in Agnihotra, how can you say that you are getting rid of pollution? Aren't you creating more pollution?

Fire produces carbon dioxide. Carbon dioxide is always present in the atmosphere and is not harmful in itself, but is harmful if it reaches excessively high levels.

Plants take in carbon dioxide and give off oxygen. In farming projects around the world, it has been shown that Agnihotra and Homa Therapy rejuvenated the plant life on farms and plantations, thereby increasing

oxygen and helping to purify the atmosphere.

Some plants have the ability to remove, degrade, or render harmless various hazardous materials present in the soil or groundwater. (This process is known as phytoremediation.) By supporting the plant kingdom, Agnihotra and Homa Therapy can help purify land and water contaminated by heavy metals and other pollutants.

Isn't all smoke bad for the lungs?

In many cases around the world, people with asthma, who normally cannot tolerate smoke, experienced improvement and relief by sitting in Homa atmosphere.

Negative ions signify pure air. Positive ions signify polluted air. When scientists tested cigarette smoke, positive polluting ions were present. With Agnihotra fire, exactly the opposite occurred - negative ions were produced.

What if someone criticizes the Homa Therapist for thinking negatively when discussing pollution, climate change, etc.?

One could say, "Try sitting by a polluted river and changing it with your thoughts!"

Agnihotra is a material aid we use to help restore balance in nature. We are aware of the current state of the environment, but we

also offer a solution.

Special Circumstances and Agnihotra

The following questions were asked of Shree Vasant between 2006-2008. The questions and replies were as follows:

Should a person do Agnihotra if there has been a death in the immediate family?

If the mother is in New York and the son is in San Francisco and the son dies in an accident, the mother immediately feels something is wrong with the son. This is the subtle connection. This subtle connection exists when somebody's mother or father dies and hence, at least for a few days, the person can ask someone else to do the fires and he can sit near the fire. In case of sister or brother, the period can be minimum three days. Then take bath as you normally do.

After giving birth, for how many days should the mother refrain from doing Agnihotra?

After giving birth, it is better that the woman herself does not do Agnihotra for twelve days or when the flow stops, whichever is more.

What if a woman is having perimenopausal bleeding?

So long as blood is coming she should not do Agnihotra. This is the principle in general and this period should be treated as a monthly period with all rules applied.

Commandment Five: Inculcate the Habit of Sharing Your Assets

*from Ten Commandments of Parama Sadguru
Commentary by Vasant Paranjpe*

Purport: He who cultivates the habit of giving is assured of fulfillment of all his needs.

Commentary on Commandment Five:

If we cultivate the habit of giving away part of our material possessions we have learned the secret of happy life. The sharing of assets should be the consequence of a dutiful response in the heart of the donor. The action is doubly blessed. It blesseth him that gives and him that receiveth. One need not anticipate a demand from someone before giving. You give because it is your duty to give. This is DAAN, the second aspect of the Fivefold Path.

By practice of DAAN you get used to the discipline of parting with or receiving material possessions without concomitant pride or dejection. The habit begets detachment and grants you the correct perspective to look at things material. It sublimates your emotions regarding worldly possessions or lack of them. Non-attachment reduces the burden on the mind and makes you free. Then you automatically begin to “Love thy neighbour as thyself.”

If you vaunt your gifts it is not the spiritual act of DAAN, but mere donation.

“Therefore when thou doest thine alms do not sound a trumpet before thee as the hypocrites do...that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you they have their rewards but when thou doest alms let not thy left hand know what thy right hand does. That thy alms may be in secret and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.”--Matthew 6:2-4.

You give because it is your duty to give. Do not think that you are obliging the person to whom you give. Consider that he is obliging you by accepting the gift. He is the instrumental cause to enable you to obey a Divine command. Think of him as an instrument of purification of your mind. Consider the act of giving a privilege granted to you to worship the Divine.

“And spend something (in charity) out of the sustenance which We have bestowed on you, before Death should come to any of you.”
--Holy Quran LXIII-10.

Giving in the spirit of duty serves to pull down the barricades which separate man from man. You only help yourself by practicing DAAN. A little practice of this virtue will totally change your reactions to the conditions in which you are placed and you land into peace and bliss.

“I declare that gifts offered to the perfectly virtuous bring abundant fruit. Not so to the immoral. Perfectly virtuous is he who has abandoned the five: sense desire, hate, sloth, restlessness and all doubts. Perfectly virtuous is he who possesses the five: concentration, wisdom, liberation, perfection in training and vision of one perfect in training.” --Buddha to Vachhagotta

DAAN can be in cash or in kind. If you give money to a person and he spends it on something which you think is wrong it is not DAAN. You have not only not performed the spiritual act of DAAN but you have committed a wrong. By your action you become a partner in his guilt. You have helped him commit a wrong action and thus you involve yourself in bad Karma.

“A gift made to someone from whom we expect nothing in return, believing that such a gift ought to be made, in a fit place and time and to a worthy person, such a gift is SATVIC (pure).

“A gift given in the hope of receiving something in return and reaping any fruit therefrom or that which is given grudgingly is RAJASIC (source of pride).

“A gift given to an unworthy person or given

disrespectfully is TAMASIC (cause of self degradation and misery).” --Bhagavat Geeta 17-20, 21, 22

Only the first of the above three is DAAN. Such a gift leads to a detached attitude to material possessions and thus reduces the burden on the mind.

It is the inexorable law of Karma that you “reap as you sow”. The operation of Divine Law brings back to you in terms of material perquisites what you have parted with. All your needs are taken care of. Hence DAAN is a material aid to happiness.

Practice of DAAN generates non-attachment and we are better able to go through the vicissitudes of fortune in life. The cultivation of this attitude prepares us to face possible adverse circumstances in future.

To summarize, observe the following points in the practice of DAAN:

Treat all your income and property as a trust from the Almighty and be in the habit of parting with a certain percentage of it.

Give in secret so that your pride shall not be nourished.

Healings with Homa Therapy

Give in a spirit of humility. You give because it is your duty to give. Since this discipline is for all people a rich man has to give, a poor man has to give. A rich man can receive, a poor man can receive.

The person to whom you give must be a proper person not given to habits which you think are wrong. You may give to a poor person who would utilize your gift for fulfillment of his needs. You may give to a rich person who may utilize the gift in the service of society in the spirit of DAAN. You may give to a holy person who is bound to make use of the gift in the service of his fellow man.



The Puspas

Mrs. Puspa Cheras, Malaysia
Problem: Paralysis

My husband had not been well in the last two years after a stroke. He had been going in and out of the hospital. Then we went to an ayurvedic center for treatment, where we met Mr. Alan Yong. There we attended two sessions of Agnihotra morning and evening. We drank Agnihotra ash in water and applied it. The third day, my husband was able to walk. We applied also Agnihotra ash with ghee on his swollen hand and now the hand is better.

My husband does not want to use the cane any longer. He is walking independently now. He was paralyzed and he could not walk for one and a half years. Now he walks! I put all my faith in Agnihotra and I do it at sunrise and sunset. My husband takes two to three Agnihotra ash capsules per day.

Cesar Alejandro Gonzales Zapata
Rosario, Santa Fe, Argentina

I am thirty-nine years old. I started with the practice of Agnihotra because I had a **varicose ulcer** on my leg. The ulcer was a hole about three centimeters deep. I was afraid, so I started Agnihotra in the morning and afternoon. After taking the Agnihotra ash orally and applying it with ghee, the wound healed completely after four months. I did not take any other medicine.

But the first change I felt with the practice of Agnihotra was in my character. I had a very impulsive nature. I was easily upset by anything. When I spoke, I did not care if I hurt the other person. I lost so many jobs because of this. I would get angry and leave. I would raise my voice and I would not listen to anyone. If a car passed me, I got angry easily and began to argue.

Agnihotra changed all this. Also, my dad taught me to repeat the “OM SHREE” Mantra mentally and breathe deeply before reacting. All this is very effective and I feel that my character has changed about ninety percent. Now I lead another way of life.

If I stop doing Agnihotra, I notice the change in my character. When I get angry, I feel something coming up inside of me. But now I

can control it; before I could not. The next morning, I do Agnihotra fire and feel the calmness. Now I live a very happy life.

For example, I was walking and a lady’s dog bit me. Thank God, it just grabbed my pants, but I remained always quiet. The lady apologized and I said I was okay and kept walking. Without Agnihotra, the situation would have been different. That is when you realize you’ve changed. Before, people told me to calm down, now I tell the people to calm down. I am doing Agnihotra for almost two years.

From The Orion Transmissions

*received by Parvati Rosen-Bizberg
Wysoka, Poland*

July 14, 2009 On Faith

Yes. Yes. What is the ORIGIN OF FEAR in one's heart? This we observe is considered and widely accepted as a characteristic of HUMAN NATURE. Fear thus is ACCEPTED. Let us examine this in a logical, rational manner, as FEAR is neither logical nor rational.

Let us put on the gloves of a surgeon then, to examine FEAR within the nature of the human being.

To examine fear, one need be-if not at least temporarily-OBJECTIVE. Fear is never objective!

From where does fear spring up in the human being? Is it of Divine origin? No. Divine is never based in fear. TRUE DIVINITY is total, unconditional Love. It is reflected in the forgiving heart. Shall we continue?

Fear then, is it a product of SOCIETY? Is it then reflective of lifestyle, indicative of stress-filled lives lived often on the brink of despair or desperation? It seems so.

There are numerous fears--fear of death, fear of life, fear of heights, fear of depths, fear of falling, fear of failing, fear of success, fear of man's inherent mortality, fear of forgetting, fear of remembering, fear of loss and fear of

gain. Fear passed on through lives gone past, fear based on a future seemingly unforeseen. What, if any, is the ANTIDOTE to soothe and relieve the fearful heart? The antidote is FAITH.

Fear is cultivated, fed well and entertained with a flourish. If, instead, human beings began to ignore FEAR, to untangle the tentacles which reach into and strangle one's hopes and dreams, a new way would dawn ... to be replaced with FAITH.

Ah, FAITH. FAITH is cultivated and nurtured in the heart of one who chooses consciously to move toward the Light.

FEAR thrives on darkness. FAITH thrives on Light.

Every day, human hearts must choose from the menu of life--choose beings who reflect faith or instill fear; choose activities which offer the priceless opportunity to move in FAITH, or those which carry you into the fields of FEAR. The choice has never been more clear. The proverbial fence whereupon many have sat out their lives is being torn down. This truly is the ERA of TRUTH. One either walks in Light or falls in darkness. This is the time of great extremes--extremes in weather in Nature only reflect the extremes in the lives of human beings on this planet.

Dear beings moving into the Light, CHOOSE FAITH. FAITH uplifts. FAITH blesses. FAITH SUPPORTS. FAITH nurtures. FAITH originates in Divinity. Move in Light. In Grace. In Joy. Blessings abound. Live in truth and harmony as is the will of Divine. Walk amongst your brothers and sisters in peace. Speak the truth. Let all which is in confusion be bathed in clarity.

If any of you have erred, if you have made mistakes in your dealings with others, all of you forgive yourselves and allow those who reach out to uplift you. Let the TRUTH be known. Be not reticent. But speak the truth in a palatable manner.

Those who are hiding behind masks of deception or of defense will come to realize their errors. Give them the opportunity to be forgiven.

May all walk as one in the fields of FAITH, in TRUTH and the Light of Understanding.

OM TAT SAT.

July 16, 2009 On Truth

Yes, yes, yes. The times they are a-changing. Indeed. Indeed. When there is dissension amongst those whose paths are the same, there is much greater negativity afoot than one could imagine. However, adhere to the

truth, dear ones. Adhere to that which you know to be true.

Truth will always find its way to the light.

This is the era of TRUTH. Lies and deceit which have been hidden are now being uncovered. There will be no way of stopping the unveiling of the truth. It is the time for it. Those of you who walk the path of Light with purity and grace shall walk in Light. Those who have sullied their walk with untruth shall reap the karma of it. However, the Divine is all forgiving.

Divine has room for the thief and the justice maker. All that is required is willingness to stand before the Divine fully unclothed of all masks and come forward in Truth. Then, all is forgiven always. This is a time for Truth and for Forgiveness, for Faith and for the transference of supreme power of LOVE.

For more information, visit:

<http://www.oriontransmissions.com>

Homa Therapy Farming



Architect Alejandro Cajas
Ecuador
PAPAYAS

I want to share an experience which I had with the Agnihotra ash. I went to visit my mother and she told me that she was going to cut the male papaya tree in her garden because it was not giving anything. I said, 'Mom don't cut the tree. I'll bring some Agnihotra ash, which we will put around the tree and let's see what happens. I will also leave you a bag of Agnihotra ash so you can continue to apply ash.'

After some time my Mom called me happily and said 'Son, the papaya is starting to produce fruits.'

I could not believe this because that would be a genetic change. So I went there and saw the papayas actually growing. And these

were delicious papayas! We all enjoyed these fruits, a product of the Agnihotra ash.

That to me is a great experience! It is practically a miracle of the Agnihotra ash and the Agnihotra fire.



Eng. Hernan Posas
Ecuador
BANANAS and a Biological Control Agent

I want to tell you that we had on our farm "Fuente de Alegria" (Source of Joy) a cochinita or chinche arenosa plague. This plague has caused us big problems, including rejection of containers in the United States. Our bananas went to Wal-mart, but Wal-mart rejected the containers due to the presence of the cochinita, which is not acceptable for the

United States market. This bug is an insect, a sucker living in the roots of the banana plants, but it also goes up into the fruit. Although it does not harm the bananas, it is very dangerous if it enters places where fruits are imported, because it is very harmful for citrus fruit, grapes and many plants growing in the U.S.A. and Europe. Consequently, it is imperative that there are no insects on the bananas.

This year, and we are thanking God and HOMA Therapy for this, an insect which is a biological control agent for the cochinita has appeared and is entering the banana plantation--only now since we have been doing HOMA Therapy. Before, this insect was in the cocoa, but never came to the bananas. This insect has come to wipe away the cochinita plague.

We practice every day Agnihotra at sunrise or sunset, eight hours of Tryambakam Homa and on new and full moon we do twenty-four hours of Tryambakam Homa.

Patrick Feijo
Ecuador
BANANAS

We selected a hectare of bananas only to test HOMA Farming Technology and we are only fumigating using the Agnihotra ash solution with the help of a water pump. In this sector

we also apply the ash that is produced during the Tryambakam Homa. This has given us an excellent control of the Black Sigatoka, so much so that the people who do the technical checkups and the weekly plant analysis, who initially were full of disbelief and laughed at us and at what we were doing, took samples from the Homa plot and were astonished.

The Homa area has another color and presents less infection. We are very excited. We are considering now handling the whole farm with HOMA Therapy. We started the Homa farming project in the part of the farm where there was the poorest soil, but now there is clear evidence that this lot is much better than the rest. You can see from an airplane that it is much greener.



The Gift That Is Parama Dham

*Ross N. Ford
Baltimore, Maryland, U.S.A.*

On July 31st, at the ceremony in Madison, Virginia for Shree Vasant's Ashes, Richard Powers invited me to begin to take advantage of the meditation experience at Parama Dham.

Parama Dham is the first Fire Temple of the new millennium of Homa Therapy and Agnihotra propagation. Only certain mantras are spoken in the room; otherwise strict silence is maintained.

Richard--a man who speaks only what is important--created a link for me that brought me back on August 28, 2009 to sit in Parama Dham (literally, "House of Almighty Father").

I was driven and escorted to Madison by Barry Rathner who had said to me that the best place in the world for him to sit in meditation is in fact Parama Dham.

I sat in silence in Parama Dham. I experienced the awareness of the room being filled with people. It began with African-dressed women, then yielded to thousands of suffering people and the political leadership of equatorial Guinea.

That number went into thousands of people whom I had suddenly brought to Agnihotra fire.

There were people from the inner city of Baltimore, specifically Noni and Leon Faruq's people in the "Safe Streets" community. Before the download was over, many people had been brought to the fire.

Rather than a draining experience, it was an experience of fulfillment.

I am extending Richard's invitation to all, especially the members of Baltimore Homa Community.



From Shree Vasant's Teachings

GRACE

When one is told, for example, "Grace will provide," one can choose to sit back and wait for grace to operate without making much effort. Then, that is essentially expectation and not 'surrender'. Then one can always blame the Almighty if his goal is not actualized--that is if, in his mind, Grace has not provided for him. Grace always will provide but better you make honest efforts in the direction of higher goals. Then automatically Grace is activated by that effort. That effort is "Love thy neighbor as thyself."

GREED

Greed is the most evil of all sins.

GUIDANCE

If you are properly attuned you will be guided moment to moment by Grace. That guidance is there. It is like a channel you tap into. You choose to be aware or not. You can tune it in or tune it out. If you miss a meditation timing you are allowing your vision to become cloudy. Say to yourself, 'I am only an ordinary person. I am only an instrument for Love to spread and nothing more.' If you have that attitude then when you open your mouth to speak the words you utter will not be your own. They will be given through you and truly you will become a humble instrument of divine Grace.

HABITS

If we are performing regularly these YAJNYA fires our negative habits become less. Our focus shifts but this also takes effort on our part--not only to perform YAJNYA but to make a little effort to correct our bad habits and go into an attitude of service where the needs of the self are met by Grace and not fulfilling desires and demands. To get out of that negative thinking one must really focus energy, not on the negative but on positive thoughts, only positive. In every situation we should try to react with love.

HUMILITY

Humility does not mean thinking lower of yourself. This is misinterpretation. Perhaps it is better to say, "thinking less of oneself and more of others," but not thinking lesser of oneself. Just less thinking of one's own desires, one's own opinions and attitudes. Surrender to His will comes simultaneously with humility. You should always think, "How best can I serve other people? What can I give of myself in service to another person?"

JOY

It is always feast or famine in normal life. Ups and downs. That is the way of mind. YOU GO A LITTLE HIGHER AND YOU ENTER A STATE OF JOY. This is THAT. This is where we are taking you.

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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.