

SRI SARVESHWARI TIMES

DECEMBER 1998

A superficial person does not stay in one place
And there really is no place for a superficial person

AUGHAR VANI, Avadhuta's Wisdom



Aghoreshwar
Baba Bhagwan Ramji

Mudrani Bhavani

The word Mudra literally means currency and Bhavani is the term used for shakti (all pervading power or Divine Mother). Thus Mudrani Bhavani literally means currency in the form of Divine Mother. Although it is a very unusual and unconventional way to address "money", Aghoreshwar was beyond conventional and unconventional. The following chapter has been taken from the book, Aghoreshwar Anupranit, a book in Hindi containing some of Aghoreshwar's spontaneous uttering. It is a very refreshing perspective considering the variety of emotions the very word 'money' evokes in each one of us. Money is not "evil" or an obstacle, it just is. It is our attitude towards it that matters. We hope you embrace the Divine Mother in all Her forms as you enter the new year, as She is ever awaiting to fulfill all your needs. May each day of 1999 be full of peace, happiness, and well being.

Today is Full moon. The earth is moving on its axis with slow motion. The part of the earth where Aghoreshwar is residing, has moved away from the sun. The sun and the moon both are visible in the sky. Redness of the Sun from the west and cool brightness of the moon are filling the earth atmosphere. Although the source of light is the same, the sun, the same light is spread in different parts of the earth appearing in different shades.

Sitting on his seat, Aghoreshwar has been murmuring words of a similar nature. Pandey baba, the shakti that is present today in the world in the form of "buying power" is visible to me everywhere. That Divine Mother in the form of currency having received the approval of the masses and been decorated with the seal of approval of the leaders of a nation, is known by different names in different nations. How powerful that Mudrani, the Divine Mother in the form of currency is, is shown in that after giving their own seal of approval, even the rulers of a nation begin to roll at Her feet.

No one is either close to Her or far from Her; She does not discriminate. She wants to live in the house neither of the rich nor the poor. She wants to live in every home equally. She is capable of providing happiness and all the things that one may need. With the power of that

Divine Mother in the form of currency, we can buy anything from diamonds and gold to rice and vegetables. Although nowadays She appears in the form of paper, She contains the power to buy the heaviest thing on the earth, be it gold or steel.

Having received the approval of the masses and been decorated with the seal of approval of the ruler of a nation, She is desired by both common men and the rulers of nations. When She comes in Her Divine power, She is capable of taking you to unreachable places; She can take you all around the world. One can travel with Her anywhere, to the sky, the depth of the ocean or the air. Not only me but the all human beings in this world respect Her attributes. It is the shakti when it attaches itself to a common person and makes him truly wealthy. Having attached itself to a piece of paper, it gives that scrap a name and form and enables it to buy any thing in the world.

Because of Her, the tendency towards violence, jealousy and bitterness is increasing in the world today. Openly trampling their own good conscience and spirit, humans engage in amassing Her, and move about in the world carefully carrying Her in their pockets, briefcases and boxes with great respect. In whatever name and form She is available in a nation, She becomes the foundation of the life of that nation.

Although She appears to be in the form of a piece of paper, decorated with a few symbols and letters, She becomes so important that She is capable of buying even gurus, priests, scholars and various religious heads. She takes part in the creation as well as the demolition of a church, temple, mosque or synagogue. All human beings are running after Her to get hold of Her, to keep Her with them as much as possible in the shortest amount of time. But She never stays; She keeps rolling like a ball. Her stagnation in a society or nation brings chaos to its day-to-day life.

O Mother, you don't even let those rest who are engaged in destruction, and those who are being destroyed are not peaceful either. O Mother, what kind of deed of yours is this? Seeing and hearing this all fills me with wonder. If you gather in someone's pocket in excess, you make him very arrogant, and if you don't go to a person, he turns into a beggar.

O Mother, it is because of you that many nations rose, and amassed weapons and armies, when you turned your back on them, it all scattered, and nothing remains there except ruins. No one even looks in that direction except a few historians, and they are able to do so only with your help.

O Mother I bow to you from all different directions. No one can match your valor. It is because of you that a brother becomes the enemy of his brother, husbands and wives quarrel and separate, friends become enemies and the sacred tie between Mother and child is defiled.

O Mother currency, you are grand, I bow to you. When you turn your back on a nation, the leaders of that nation are humiliated. I pray to that great power of yours. May you continue to maintain everyone's well-being equally at all times. It is because of you that one nation rises high and another goes under. Where your strength lessens, that place loses its luster and where your strength increases that place carries weight. Even the very poor cannot live without you. Even a beggar wishes for you. This is your ever restless form.

O Mudrani Bhavani, Divine Mother in the form of currency, you encourage some to do evil and some to do good. It is because of your arrival that sometimes the good become wicked and the wicked become good. It is because of your restless nature that I see humans running

hither and thither looking for you.

O Mudrani Bhavani, taking the side of one, you cause the destruction of the other. You give joy to one and some you teach to weave the threads of lies and deceit. You resides in all, whether it be dharma, karma, sin or virtue. Without you all the deeds of dharma, karma, sin and virtue are incomplete; your hand is in each and every one of them. It is not only I who knows it. You also know it. It is because of your blessings that some rich and mighty people engage in evil deeds, and some poor people engage in doing good. You are the Mother of all. O Mudrani Bhavani, although you appear to be nothing more than a piece of paper, you can be recognized very easily.

You are mentioned as the daughter of the ocean. Did your father, the ocean, send you off with sand as a farewell gift? Is that why you throw sand in everyone's eyes? Ocean is known as the treasure house of precious stones. All the precious stones in the world cannot be moved from one place to another or stored without your approval. Wherever you become in excess, the life of that society, nation or family gets infested with excessive enjoyment and mental sickness.

It is you who have created pundits as well as fools. It is you who give rise to the rich and wasteful as well as the wretched and hungry craving for a piece of bread right under the high-rises of the rich and famous. Seeing all these deeds of yours, I am unable to fathom you without your help. I am able to think of such thoughts only after filling my belly with food made available to me with your grace.

O Mudrani Bhavani, are you omnipresent? Do you belong to everyone? I see some get your company with little effort, and to some you become elusive even after their hard work. It is because of you, many homes get established and because of you many homes are destroyed. Sometimes you become the patron of wretchedness and sometimes you give birth to new inventions. O Restless One! When you were not in this form before, all the humans of the earth were very happy bartering.

You are the one who is the cause for a laborer to sell his labor. You inspire those in business, and also sometimes punish them. I have seen even the sadhus, so called renunciates, wandering the world carrying you in their palms. You make a lazy person active and an active person lazy. In some places you cause a big pit in the earth and in some places a high-rise to stand. This unfathomable form of yours can be described as neither ideal nor the reverse.

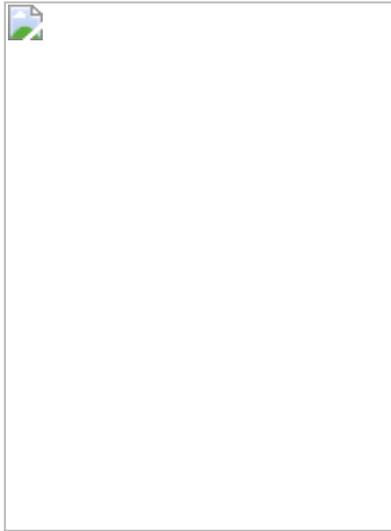
Oh Mother, to obtain you man engages in all kinds of undesirable acts, and after obtaining you he engages in even more destructive deeds. The desire to obtain you, and after obtaining you to protect you, both encourage humans to neglect their spirit.

Have compassion, Oh Mother!

Oh Mother, save mankind, save the character of mankind.

Oh Mother, save us from the atrocity that is caused by your illusive attraction.

Babaji's message for the new year.



Spread fragrance of your character wherever you may happen to be.
Make a small resolution that you can keep.....may you stay firm with your word
that you have given to yourself.

Following question was posed to Babaji by a visitor. Babaji's reply to the question seems like a good material for self reflection. Hopefully it will fit in with the resolution that we make for the new year.

Lukman Surjana: Dear Sir, I don't know the meaning of life, in my mind only money, money and money. I fear my family poor and many kinds of fear in my heart.

Babaji: Have trust in the One who has given birth to you and has provided you with all the essentials so far. We all came empty handed in this world yet have been able to survive through good times and hard times. When we lack trust we experience fear. You should know that whenever you are given hardship, you are also given the ability and strength to cope with it. Happiness and sorrow both are the two sides of the same coin. Money alone will not be enough to keep you happy or save you from fear. True meaningfulness of life can be experienced if you touch all four aspects of life every day. Think of dividing your active hours in four parts (they don't necessarily have to be equal). First part of your time should be devoted to provide a reasonable livelihood for yourself and your family. Second part of your time should be devoted to those who are dependent on you for moral support e.g. your family members and friends. Third part of your time should be devoted to social service of some kind where you are not seeking any reward of any kind. It is called Seva. And fourth part of your time should be devoted just for yourself that is meditation or remembrance of God. These four aspects of a human life should be attended to everyday, without trying to mix them together. A life lived in such a way feels like a meaningful life.

Ashram News:

Mahasamadhi week begins with first Sadhana Weekend Intensive at the ashram.

The first Sadhana Weekend Intensive was held at the ashram on November 21st and 22nd, with some twenty-two people participating, including several people from Garberville. The main areas of focus for the weekend were deepening and intensifying one's practice through meditation, reciting jap, yoga, chanting, mindful silence and learning to create one's own altar. Babaji reminded us of how important it was that so many of us had taken time out of our schedules to be there, with the intention of fostering our spiritual growth as well as that of the ashram as a whole.

For both of us, as for many of the participants, the high point of the first day was sitting silently in meditation for an hour and a half. During this period, no one entered or left, and there was a palpable shift in the energy of the room. During satsang that evening, many people shared with great honesty and sincerity their own particular stumbling blocks, as well as their insights and heartfelt joy in experiencing the unfolding of their personal sadhana. We were reminded of Baba's remark that, "Without practices, even good knowledge turns into poison... only by keeping a constant practice [can] you move ahead on your path." [Agoreshwar on Sadhana, p. 1]. The fruits of practice, of doing pranayama and pranava, Baba says, are becoming concentrated and peaceful in our heart and mind, enthusiasm, healthfulness and unlimited joy, things "that are an unfathomable wealth." [On Pranayama and Pranava, pp. 9-10]

The second day focused on doing puja at home, and we both felt especially thankful to Babaji for the individual instruction on preparing our own altar and doing puja, and to Melissa for showing us how to prepare puja tray, lamp, flowers, and offerings, as well as to John for explaining the significance of the various outside shrines. It was a special joy for us to have our 7-month-old daughter, Veena, present on this auspicious day, and we were deeply grateful for the way in which she was accepted and welcomed as part of the ashram family.

On Sunday night, the topic of discussion shifted to "tightening the circle." Babaji invited us all to take a step closer to the center of the circle by becoming more

involved in the ashram's daily activities. At the close, all present felt a great surge of enthusiasm, with many participants expressing their deep gratitude to Babaji for giving us all so much throughout the intensive. Several people voiced the sentiment that we should have such intensives three or four times a year.

The sweetness that was created through the intensive continued through out the whole week of Mahasamadhi with chanting sessions of Aghoranna Paro Manto... during the day and a session of 108 repetition in the evening after arati. The Akhand jyoti (continuous burning lamp) lit in honor of Baba was a constant companion through out the whole observance.

-- Richard Ogle and Laura Bonazzoli



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