

Gurudev clarifies a doubt in a dream

*Anecdote on Swami Purushottamananda Maharaj
Narrated by Swami Shantananda Puri Maharaj*

If only we take up any enterprise with full belief in the Ultimate Universal Reality, we will never fail to have the desired response.



Gurudev clarifies a doubt in a dream

I felt almost a similar incident happened to Dr. Shukla, another devotee of my Gurudev. In the later days of his life, Dr. Shukla became the chairman of the Trust of Swami Purushottamananda Maharaj, my Gurudev's Ashram. Once when he had come to Guha for a stay of 4 or 5 days, he came to my room, bolted the door, and confessed to me as follows, "From my childhood, I was extremely fond of chanting often Ram Naam. About thirty years back or so, my Gurudev initiated me with a different mantra. I was unhappy with it but I did not have the guts to tell him that I wanted only Ram mantra. Ultimately in the last thirty years I could neither do japa of the mantra given by my Guru nor was I able to repeat Ram Naam because of the fear that the latter might offend my Gurudev."

Basically Shuklaji wanted me to guide him on the right path and thus dispel the confusion which had held him back for years from doing any japa. I told him that it was really a criminal act to have remained in confusion for so many years without getting his doubts cleared by somebody. I told him as I was his Guru Bhai, I would not dare to give him any advice on this matter but advised him to pray intensely to Gurudev to dispel his doubts during the rest of his three days at the Guha. I assured him that Gurudev would positively respond to his prayers. On the third morning, Dr. Shukla entered my room in a hurry with his eyes brimming with tears and in a choked voice informed me, "Swamiji, exactly as you predicted, Gurudev himself gave me Darshan and clarified my doubts. I am eternally thankful to you."

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How did Gurudev meet Dr. Shukla?

Swami Purushottamanandaji just walked into the medical college hostel at Lucknow one day. He entered one room where there were two or three boys. He called one of them, "Shuklaji, come along with me." Shuklaji accompanied him and they walked for a long time. Shuklaji was puzzled and thought to himself, "I have never see this Swamiji at all and how is it that he calls me by my name in the hostel?" They walked and reached the side of the local cinema hall where a film on Chaitanya Mahaprabhu was in progress. Gurudev told Shuklaji, "Please go and get us two tickets". Shuklaji remonstrated with him saying he would not go for the tickets because the film had already begun. He also did not have the money to pay for the two tickets. He told Gurudev that the cinema authorities would not give free tickets. Then Gurudev told Shuklaji, "Go and tell the manager that we want two tickets."

Shuklaji went inside and made a request to the manager. The manager came out and showed my Gurudev up to the sofa and seated him there. The manager stood by Gurudev throughout the film. Shuklaji was amazed. About ten minutes later, my Gurudev walked out of the cinema house and told Shuklaji, "Tomorrow I will be coming again at the same time and we shall go out for a walk then."

**** Hari Om****

Website: <http://www.swamishantanandapurimaharaj.org/>