

Gurudev's protection for eternity

Anecdote on Swami Purushottamananda Maharaj

Narrated by Swami Shantananda Puri Maharaj



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Mr. G was a member of the faculty in the polytechnic college at Dehradun which was situated a little far. One day Mr. G went out of station, and the servant also has taken a day off. The telephone at the house was not in a working condition. It was about night 9.30pm when Mrs. G found her young daughter aged about 3-4 years, having very high temperature. She could neither leave the child to go in search of a doctor nor was she able to communicate with anybody as the telephone was not working. She put the child on a cot on the terrace and was reciting the tenth chapter of Durga Saptasati for three to four times. There was no sign of abating of the fever and the child never opened her eyes. In a panicky condition, the helpless mother shouted, "Gurudev, you only told me to read the tenth chapter when at any time there is an illness or an ailment in the family. I have done it several times, and I am in a helpless condition. Please help me." This event was four or five years after my Gurudev had left this world.

Suddenly, she heard some footsteps and saw Gurudev coming up to the staircase straight to her. He took out some of the holy ashes [Vibhuti] from a small pocket and put it on the forehead of the child. He assured the lady that nothing would happen that night and the child would be okay but that the first thing in the morning she should rush to a doctor along with the child. He smiled at her and went away. Only after he departed, she remembered that her Gurudev had left his mortal coil long back. How could he come now? She went and saw that the mark of the ashes on the forehead of the child was fully visible. Within 15 minutes she found that the temperature of the child was substantially down. She was so tired, she went to sleep sitting on the chair.

Early morning, when the milk man came at 5.00am, she requested him to go to the main road and get an auto rickshaw for her. The auto was brought and she took the child and went to the family doctor. The doctor examined the child and said it was a case of diphtheria and a lot of white spots had developed in the throat. He himself phoned for an ambulance and took them to a hospital. The child recovered within a week's time. Obviously, this incident was not meant to show the mystic powers of my Gurudev. He knew that unless the child was cured, their belief in him would go away and their progress in the spiritual direction would be stopped all together.

Thus, in the interest of their spirituality, he had to exercise his mystic powers even though he was no longer physically present in this world.

**** Hari Om ****

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