

Letter to a Householder on Love and Acceptance

*By Swami Shantananda Puri Maharaj,
[VASISHTA GUHA 23.4.97]*



My dearest _____,

Narayana Smaranam. May God's blessings and grace be on you always. I was intensely wondering why for quite some time you have not written any letters – Lo, yesterday your letter was delivered to me. It takes 15 days for a letter to reach this place. I recollect every meeting with you starting from _____ to Tiruvannamalai. Herewith I am sending a photo

of mine recently sent to me by an Engineer from Kanyakumari who took sanyas from me on 15th February 1995. It was taken near the entrance to Vasishta Guha (cave proper).

Yes LOVE & ACCEPTANCE are the highest sadhana for attaining GOD as also peace and unlimited bliss for ever. Sincerely love all beings from insects to men. Love all those who are enemical to us. That is the only way to make ourselves pure. Acceptance is far more difficult than loving all. We have to pray to God, "Oh Lord, give me the state of mind where I shall accept with pleasure (NOT SIMPLY TOLERATE) all situations ordained by you, the MASTER COMPUTER PROGRAMMER, however unfavourable or distasteful they may look." With all my tall claims, even I am sometimes shaken and my mind tries to rebel against certain situations. Nowadays in VASISHTA GUHA, 50% of routine PUJAs in morning & evening have been given to me. I am a man of meditation and ritualistic PUJAS had never been my favourites. Many foreigners & others too (sometimes) come to my room & ply me with their doubts. Thus often I get very little time for solitude & meditation. If I had wanted I could have run away to other places. NO, acceptance is a MUST. The Lord above knows what is good for me. By practice with determination & by prayers to the Lord, both these can be cultivated.

This place is too far & costly to reach – both in time & money. Within a couple of years you will have an opportunity to come here. So, no need for you to try to come this year. I shall be leaving Guha on 22nd or 24th June' 95 for spending 70 days in a MOUNA MANDIR – an underground room where I shall be locked up from 1st July to 10th September. During that period, no mail / letter will be delivered to me nor any letters written by me will be posted. Absolutely no communication with outside world is permitted. On 11th September, I shall leave for PUNE as the person who has arranged MOUNA MANDIR for me requires me to go over there & contribute to a computerised research project on practical spiritual Sadhana being done by him in collaboration with the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) at POONA University & also do BHAGWAT SAPTAH (if possible). I shall be at PUNE for 2 to 3 weeks. I may return to GUHA by 1st week of October' 95 or so after visiting PANDARPUR also if possible (It is one of my earliest desires to have darshan of PANDURANGA VITTALA). All in God's hands & I am not involved emotionally in any of these programmes. So I'll be out of touch with you from 22/6.95 to 1st week of October. On 24th & 25th June nights I might be at Delhi – CD with one Mr. AG of phone no. 999999 or (2) AB of phone no. 9999999 (both are residence phones).

Including moksha everything has been programmed already. Make God as the head of your family & leave all cares to Him. Never worry about anything. Whatever is to happen has to happen and our HEAD is not going to fall down. God's wisdom is far superior to ours & let us never question it.

I remember our friend Mr. VG also very often. If you meet him please convey my HARI OM.

With love and OM,

Yours in Gurudev,
Shantananda

* * HARI OM * *

Note: All the capital words / emphasis / sentences are as written by Swamiji. No significant editing has been done in order to retain the original form of the letter.

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