Letter to a devotee on different subjects

By Swami Shantananda Puri Maharaj, VASISHTA GUHA [29-11-94]



My dear _____

Narayana Smriti! May Lord's blessings be on your self and your family members. Your letter of 18-11-94 was received by me yesterday only (28-11-94). I wanted to write to you as soon as I reached V. Guha but I had misplaced your address and then I was sure that I would be getting a letter from you soon enough. You were very much in my thoughts.

My stay at TIRUVANNAMALAI was highly beneficial to me spiritually. By making me give discourses they made me think of GOD alone for nearly 3 to 4 hours solidly in a day and it is I who is thankful to them. The people at RAMANANAGAR were all mostly sincere travellers on the path of spirituality and it was a real pleasure to spend sometime in the company of people like yourself.

On 11-12-94 we have my Guru's birthday and from 4-12-94 my Bhagavatam reading and exposition in Hindi starts. A number of devotees have started pouring in and we have limited accommodation of 7 to 8 rooms only in this Ashram. I am also assigned the task of doing Poojas and sometimes the task of Public Relation viz. meeting visitors, etc. Somehow atleast one year of service I have dedicated to GURUSTHAN & such service will cleanse and purify my mind and heart. I am happy at this job as much as while wandering freely from place to place. A selfless service to our country or mankind in general also is highly self-purifying. Anyway our life is choiceless. Including spiritual advancement every little thing happens by LORD'S WILL IN ITS OWN TIME and this is pre-programmed. Let us enjoy all the programmes including the BANSURI programme of PRAVEEN GODAKHINDI. Even our meeting and your so termed metamorphosis were all willed by the Lord & no credit goes either to me or to you.

WE ARE ALL PARTS OF THE DIVINE and HAPPINESS IS OUR BIRTHRIGHT. WITH YOUR FRANK NATURE & SIMPLICITY you will achieve your goal. I wish you all HAPPINESS & PROSPERITY. DO WRITE TO ME ABOUT YOUR WELFARE from time to time. Awareness that we are angry is itself a step leading to annihilation of anger in due course. Ofcourse find out the person who gets angry. It is a difficult process.

WITH LOVE AND OM Shantananda

PS: YOU WRITE BEAUTIFUL ENGLISH. MY REGARDS to MR. VG. MY GURUBHAI WHO WAS HAVING BRAIN CANCER HAD LEFT HIS BODY in SEPTEMBER.

* * 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.

Website: http://www.swamishantanandapurimaharaj.org