

New Year's Message 2021

Summary

(1.1.2021)

Please Note: This is an English summary of the pravachan by a seeker, Rimaben Dhanky and has been uploaded here for the benefit of the English reader.

We will start the new year with Shrimad Rajchandra Vachanamrut. Param Krupalu Dev (Prabhu) said, "The association of the Enlightened One is the precious and incomparable benefit for the soul." Prabhu did not say very valuable. We only knew two things- not valuable and valuable. Do not try to compare this association with any other achievements. In the momentary world, everything is ever-changing, whether it is body, mind, relationships, etc. The only important thing is the association of the Enlightened One.

There are four types of people, who have different categories and different mentalities.

1. Cattle mentality or herd mentality- the cattle do not check whether it is a need or not, it keeps eating out of its desires. There is no need or greed, it is only a habit. There is no desire at the conscious level. You have sensual pleasures. You should worry about the body and nourish it. You should take medicines. You should eat something to maintain the body. If you do not eat at all or overeat, you are cattle. You take care of the body, senses, and mind to avoid physical weakness. It should not be maintained because of your love for the body.

Prabhu has given an example of Pundarik and Kundarik in Ashrav Bhavna (reflection on the influx of karma). Pundarik and Kundarik listened to the discourse and decided to embrace initiation. Kundarik said that he was going to embrace initiation and Pundarik should look after the kingdom. Kundarik embraced initiation and underwent a lot of austerities and spiritual pursuits. One day Kundarik reached his brother's kingdom and went to see his palace. He saw the comforts and luxuries of the palace and he decided to leave initiation to enjoy the pleasures. Pundarik tried to help him out, but Kundarik did not listen. So Pundarik embraced initiation. Kundarik overate in the palace. He fell ill and he accrued the bondage of lifespan at that time only in the seventh hell, as he was undergoing the distressed thinking for 33 sagaropam. Pundarik attained spiritual welfare.

2. Metal category: This is in the sense of medals or recognition. The first one was because of sensual pleasures. The metal mentality is because of their passions. You collect things because of your delusion. You have more and more possessions because of your ego and not due to your necessities. You need everything branded items for your ego. You need things, which are usable and suitable for your weather or size. Why do you want fashionable? If your life revolves around this, you come under the metal category. Prabhu said in Patrank- 832, "More you have, less you are. The less you have, the more you are." When you have more, your ego is satisfied, but the soul remains dull and deluded. The mind will like everything branded because of the ego. This is for your passion of greed

3. Battle category: This category keeps getting into various arguments. You have short-tempered stupidity. Your ego wants to save it after you say something hastily. You want to justify or prove something. You do not like to go to the Enlightened One or intelligent one, as the Enlightened One will show you your illogical arguments, which you feel is logical. Your ego will be exposed. You became short-tempered because of that ego only. Unless you are a real spiritual aspirant, you will never go to the Enlightened One. This category of people are short-

tempered, angry, insensitive, deceitful because of the defending and justifying nature. You will try to change the facts. This is for your passions of pride or egotism.

Prabhu used to do His swadhyay every morning after having a bath at 8.30 am. He studied Agam. He read it, but He did not need anything from outside, He just had to open the mysteries of what was within Him. Prabhu was in the vicinity of Bhagwan Mahavira, He had enjoyed live Agam, He did not need to understand the essence and mystery of Agam. Prabhu had suggested to all the ascetics to read Thanang Sutra.

In Thanang Sutra, a beautiful saying is there. There is guidance given to Gurus, "If any of your disciples are learned, they can give a good discourse, have a good memory, but if he is quarrelsome, do not allow him to give a discourse." If he is a fighter-cock or argumentative, he should not give a discourse. People may like his discourse, but do not let him give discourse, as he will do utsutra prarupana (not consistent with what is taught in the scriptures) in a short time because his instincts are for battling. He does not want to become a needle to repair a cloth, he becomes a pair of scissors to cut it.

During the lockdown, Pujya Gurudevshri had experimented and had told Nemiji and Maulikji, "I want a strong discussion on things. If there is no churning of ideas, only one person will talk and others will follow. Never use the word- 'I disagree'. When you check your inner feeling when you say that you disagree, you have a dislike within. You feel that why that person is not thinking right." You will have a dislike for a person or a topic. There is a slight passion seen. The moment you say, "I disagree", you have to leave the room. The people have to be good in the mission, even though they are dumb.

In the other experiment, Pujya Gurudevshri said, "I see it differently. May I give my opinion?" Gurudev felt a lot of love and peace within. If you want to come out of the battle category, you should use this trick. This is for the passions of anger.

4. Settled category: It means a spiritual person is not interested in right and wrong. He is only interested in good and bad. What would happen when you say something? Will you be able to maintain your loving and peaceful relationships after saying that? He knows whether he responded or he reacted. If you do not have the insistence for right and wrong, you won't have a platform of passions. Your argument is based on you are right and others are wrong. The seeker keeps checking whether he remained good or not. He checks his level of forgiveness, compassion, and impartiality.

For the spiritual aspirant, the settled mentality is more important. What is more important for you- your relationship or your ego? You have to choose between the two. You can sustain only one, you cannot have both. If you add lemon juice to milk, it curdles. If you add sugar to milk, it becomes sweet. You have to decide whether you want lemon or sugar. You have to become sugar only. Otherwise, you should remain quiet. From today, make sure that you do not add lemon juice to your relationship.

Our regime says, " Khāmemi Savve Jivā, Savve Jivā Khamantu Mi Mitti Me Savva bhuesu, Veram majjham na Kenai."- I forgive all living beings, may all souls forgive me. I am in friendly terms with all, have no animosity toward any soul. You should remember these words when there is a little heat in the situation. You have the ideal of friendliness and forgiveness when you say, "Shivamastu sarva jagatah"- May the whole universe be blessed. You do not even know that person, but you still wish for his welfare. "Shivmastu Sarva Jagatah, Par-hit-nirata bhavantu bhutaganah, Doshah Prayantu Nasham, Sarvatra Sukhi bhavantu lokah."- May the whole

universe be blessed. May all beings engage in each other's well-being. May all weakness, sickness, and faults diminish and vanish. May everyone be healthy, prosperous, blissful, and peaceful. We have attained such a beautiful path of love, forgiveness, friendliness, etc. You have to decide now what type of life you want to live.

Do you want to have a life that has no goal? You just flow with the flow- this mantra is positive and negative both. If you want to enhance your spirituality, you should flow with the flow. If you are a worldly person, then this is not your mantra. You should know what is right in which place. If you are a worldly person and you flow with the flow, it is your mood. Your walking route is not having any goal. But in your working route, you have a goal. Sometimes you have a lifestyle without putting in any effort.

At the starting of a lockdown, one of the employers asked all his employees to go once a week to the office to collect their salaries. When everything started opening, he asked people to come once a week for work and salary would be given on any other day of the week. People had become so lazy that they did not want to come twice a week just for the salary.

Do you want to live a life without any curiosity or questions? Your quest does not start only. If you want to stay longer in any place, it would become monotonous. Add purpose in life, you cannot change things outside. Make sure that you start liking them and they do not become boring. You have to enjoy your identity. You should have questions arising within.

Gautamswami asked Bhagwan Mahavir, "What is the essence?" Bhagwan gave three jewels (tripadi) and dwadashangi (twelve canons) was created. If you want to progress and succeed in life, you should have a quest. You should have inner contentment along with the outside progress. You should have flawlessness within. You should not have any masks. You should have straightforwardness. You can fight today and play tomorrow like children. Get that innocence back. You need to be clear in your goal. You have a short life, you can do what you want to do.

Once you have clarity of goal, break it into your target. You made a big pizza. You cannot eat the whole pizza, but you need to make small pieces. Your goal has to be broken into small targets. What do you want? Do you want a good path or you want a true path? A good path means getting indulged in sensual pleasures, the true path is of samyag darshan (right faith), samyag jnan (right knowledge), and samyag charitra (right conduct). Do you want fun or do you want your destination? If you have fun each day, you will be lost.

Samyag darshan is an attraction towards divinity. Samyag jnan is the attention of divinity. Samyag charitra is an action towards divinity. You have to work on attractions first, then work on attention. Then you will come into direct action. Be clear about what you want. You need the right effort.

Swami Ramtirth went abroad on a ship to the USA. He went to San Francisco and then New York. Once He was in New York and wanted to open a door. He could not open the door. He put a lot of effort into pushing the door. Then someone told Him that He needed to pull the door. You have to pull your consciousness inwards, you do not need to run outside.

You need to put efforts in three ways. 1. **Saras (good or nice)**- You should sing well in front of the Lord. You should clean the room nicely. Your bhakti and meditation should be good. Each of your activities should be done saras. It is said in the scriptures that you must do everything in a good way. Chandanbala swam across from the ocean of transmigration with the boiled black

gram. She did not have a lot of money, resources, or servants. She just wanted to offer something to Bhagwan. In the previous birth of Shalibhadra, his name was Sangam. He just offered a plate full of rice porridge to the ascetic and he became Shalibhadra in the next birth. He did it saras. Shabri offered the fruits of the jujube tree with a lot of love for Shri Rama. Sudama just offered rice flakes to Shri Krishna, but he offered it in saras way.

2. Satat (constant)- You should do good-saras work constantly- satat. If you do good work constantly, it becomes your habit. If you have any good intentions, you should do it immediately, otherwise, your intentions will change. If you want to give something to charity, do it at the earliest. You may change your mind within two hours. Do good work immediately. Keep feeding your crafts. Growth means you should be better than your last performance. **3. Sakhat mahenat (hard work)**- You should work very hard to make your work better. You must stretch a little more beyond your capacity. Every work should be scary. If you have no fear, you have no growth. Whatever seva (selfless service) you undertake, it should be scary. If you remain in your comfort zone, you will not make things good. You should have little fear that you should not go wrong. If you manage your fear well, you will have growth.

You have to honour all the seasons. You will see summer and monsoon both. You wait for the mango juice in summer. You have to accept changes and honour them. Honour changes in life. That will create fear and friction.

The soul is eternal. It is never born, it will never die. But the association of the soul with this body is not eternal. You have to do your work. You will have to do everything in your day's schedule including business, social relationships, food, sleep, etc. along with spirituality. Don't say that you don't have time. You need management skills. You don't need to go to the management school. Do not compromise in spirituality.

Once Ravana told Kumbhkarna, "You are wasting your life when you sleep for six months." Kumbhkarna answered, "What did you gain by staying awake and what did I lose by sleeping?" You should know how to manage your life. **Think of only such things which you won't hesitate to speak out.**

For all these things, you need time management. Some work like food, sleep is compulsory. The world says that seva and spiritual pursuits are optional. You need to do everything within 24 hours. You were busy when you did not enter spirituality. Now you have satsang and seva, but you manage it with skill. You can't compromise on spirituality, food, sleep, social relationships. You need time management. When you have too many things in life, you will use the word 'stress'.

The Enlightened Ones are not stressed despite doing high productive work. He has clarity on whom to give time to, how much time should He give, why should He give that time, when should He give time. He knows what is important and what is not important. You should learn to say 'no'. It is not ego or anger, you have to manage your life. You have to manage your spiritual life.

Ratnasundarsuri Maharajsaheb's Guru was Bhuvanbhanusuriji. Guru kept doing ayambil with two things- chapati and dal. Looking at the Guru, even the disciple started doing ayambil. One day they both sat down for ayambil together. Before dal could be served, Guru started eating chapati alone. He did not want to waste time for dal to come. Ratnasundarji took five more minutes to complete ayambil. Guru nagged him, "Why did you take five more minutes?" Ratnasundarji said, "I had some grains of a gram (chana)". Guru asked, "Did you embrace initiation for chana? How can you waste five minutes of your restrained life for chana?" This is

the sacred relationship between the Guru and the disciple. Guru will start grumbling and nagging for five minutes. If you have such a Guru, you will do saras, satat, and sakhat effort. If you get the refuge of such a Guru, you don't need to listen to the lectures on time management. Keep praying for a nagging, screaming, and shouting Guru. That He is a Guru means He is detached. If He prematurely detaches from you, then you will remain immature only. Guru will scream at the top of His voice to save your five minutes.

You can have entertainment in life, but you should have time for your soul too. Finish your job of the soul first and then entertain the mind. The mind should not come before the soul. You don't have to fight with the mind. See-through it that there is enough time for your soul. Great people have considered time as an invaluable asset.

A mother always tells her child not to waste money. The Enlightened One asks you not to waste time, as time is money, wealth, and asset. If time is managed well, you can complete all your work easily. If you want to earn Guru's raajipo, no work should be left till the last moment. You have to learn about managing time. Do not die with regrets. Prabhu did not leave the mortal frame with any regrets, He completed all His work. It is life management. Failing to plan is planning to fail.

When you get the calendar for a year, just arrange all the dates- when you have paryushan and other festivals, Block your dates in the calendar. You need to plan everything. Every night, you should make a to-do list. If you do all these things, you will not be stressed. The next day, you will do things. This way there will be high productivity and no stress. You can see growth, energy, and creativity in yourself. You may not be intelligent, but if you are empty, you become creative. If you can't come out with creativity, you are doing your work with stress.

If you feel that great people have very little time, you are wrong. They manage time and there is high productivity. Prabhu had a lifespan of 34 years and He completed all the work with high productivity and creativity. If you can focus properly on two things, start multitasking. If you can't focus, do one thing at a time. If you have focus, you can do one hundred work at a time. Don't go for multitasking if your mind is not sharp and peaceful. Prabhu had done 100 things at a time and He stopped at that, He did not want fame from this multitasking.

You need fire in your belly and faith in your heart. You are sure to succeed.