

Shrimad Rajchandraji's 153rd Birth Anniversary
Shrimad Rajchandra Vachanamrutji
Haathnondh-3, Aank- 23 Summary
(30.11.20)

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.

“Oh! The best, interesting, and peaceful right path!
Oh! The Omniscient Lord, root of that best peaceful path!
Oh! That peaceful path was introduced by Param Krupalu Sadgurudev - In this world, may
You remain victorious forever.”

In Vachanamrut, only two places mention the words ‘Param Krupalu Dev’- One is in Patrank- 417 and the second one is here in this haathnondh. There is a right path (sanmarg), the root of this sanmarg is the Omniscient Lord, and it was introduced by Sadgurudev.

There is a room and there are three birds in that room. One bird is in a small, rusted iron cage. The second bird is in the bigger, golden cage, there is a small plate inside the cage to drink water and eat food. The cage is big enough where the bird can move inside without any trouble. The third bird is sitting on the window sill, but it is not in the cage. It can fly away at any time, it is sitting.

In the same way, the souls are in three conditions. 1. The soul that is caged with the iron bars. He is surrounded by the fruition of unmeritorious karma, so he has a lot of miseries, clashes, pain, troubles, adversities, etc. 2. The soul is caged with the golden bars. He is surrounded by the fruition of meritorious karma. 3. The soul is free.

What are you getting disturbed with? Which desires do you have? Are you getting disturbed with the unmeritorious karma and iron bars? Then you will have a desire for gold bars and meritorious karma. Are you disturbed by the fact that you are not liberated or are you getting disturbed because you do not have proper facilities? From this, you will realize whether you are a seeker or not. Your clothes or rituals, place of bhakti, satsang, etc. will not be able to tell you whether you are a seeker or not. There may be thousands of people wearing the same dress and doing the same rituals, but still, you may be in one category, and your neighbor may be in the other category.

How can you expect the same behavior from the Enlightened One when your desires are different? One may want liberation and the other may want facilities in life. One will be walking towards liberation and is getting upset with his delusion and attachments, he works on his liberation. The other person still has infinite transmigration.

You need to realize that you are in the cage, you are a slave and you are dependent. You think that you are the master of your wife, wealth, etc. You may be the master of your wife, but you are the slave of your lusts and desires. You may be the master of wealth, but you are the slave of greed. You think that you are independent and you have started a business. In your gross intellect, you can only understand this much, but you do not understand that you are the slave of your greed. You do not understand your dependence.

If you see your flaws and faults, you can have dispassion for the world, and you can have an impetus for liberation. This way you will rise in the spiritual path. Unless you see your flaws and faults, you would not feel like getting liberated.

The ascetic does not have a wife, but he is not the slave of his desires. The ascetic does not have money, but he is not the slave of greed. You may get many things because of your meritorious karma. Instead of plain water, you may get sweet water. But you won't be contented. You will get satisfied only when you walk and progress on the path of liberation. You may get sweet water of respect and other things because of your meritorious karma. But you won't get the inner peace and inner happiness. They can only be attained if you attain self-realization, then only you can attain peace, bliss, and contentment.

No sensual pleasures can give you happiness or peace. Once you understand that you are a slave and you feel the need to get liberated with the help of satsang, you will start the journey to fly in the sky. This journey means the journey towards the formless, where you become focused inwardly. It is this understanding, not any amount of satsangs that will give you the courage and enthusiasm in this journey. You have to understand this thing; otherwise, no amount of rituals will help you to progress in the journey of the sky.

In the association of Param Krupalu Dev, Pujya Ambalalbhai, etc. decided to work on their journey in the sky. First of all, they just thought about it, then that became a strong feeling within, they put effort, and finally, they attained success. This happened 150 years ago only. You have to be very clear about why you want to go on this journey. A bird wants to fly high to make sure that the cat does not catch it or a human being does not put it in the cage.

There are many dangers even in the sky. If you think that there is a lot of jealousy and egotism in the corporate world and to get rid of it, if you feel that you can take the journey of inward focus, you must know that there is a little loneliness in this path. You should be aware that you still want to stay on that path only. There are vultures in the sky too. You might become a target of the hunters. When you were in the cage, you were fed well by the owner. But once you fly independently, you might have to face hunger. Now decide, do you still want to be on this path?

There are insecurities in this path. You might have one desire and all the doors of expression would be closed. You should remain happy and blissful. You should have faith and enthusiasm. Vultures and hunters are there for the flying birds. You should know that there are many pitfalls. You should be clear that you want to do this work only. Your faith and confidence should not go down in small things. You are not fighting against the fruition of delusion karma; you are fighting against the dormant delusional karma. Do you still want to be on this path? Then the Enlightened One is wishing you the best of luck.

A crow is never scared of getting caught or getting caged. The parrot is beautiful and has a nice voice, so to speak. The person with virtues and potential will have fear. Those who have the virtue of yearning for liberation, he will have the fear of falling. Those who have no virtues will have no fear at all.

Before starting the journey in the sky, check three of your virtues. 1. Sincerity (imaandaari). 2. Responsibility (jawabdaari). 3. Loyalty or faithfulness (vafaadaari).

You need sincerity. You cannot keep saying, “sorry” every time, this is a lack of responsibility. You need loyalty towards your goal or what you have decided. You also need loyalty towards the path and the guide (Guru). If you do not follow these three things, it will be very difficult for you to walk on the path; you may be a householder or an ascetic. If you do not have these three things, you won’t be happy within. You should know how to manage your fruition of karma.

Sthulibhadra also had the fruition of karma from the false beliefs to conduct delusion. You have to learn to tackle and manage your delusional karma at the Lotus Feet of your Sadguru. You should have imaandaari, jawaabdaari, and vafaadaari.

A bird has wings, but it needs the right vision to fly in the sky. Your energy gets right vision from the Guru; He is the conferrer of spiritual eyesight. Shri Krishna did not teach Arjun how to work with the sword or bow and arrows. Arjun was a very powerful warrior, but Shri Krishna gave Arjun the right vision, through which he won over the war of Mahabharata.

You need loyalty for the path and the guide. You need love, faith, and surrender for the Guru or you can say surrendering everything or offering everything. It includes love, faith, and surrendering. The path of bhakti has only one word- offering or surrendering.

When something gets snatched away from your life, it is called death. But when someone awakens you, then He is called Sadguru. A Marwadi went to his Guru and the Guru asked him to stay back. The Marwadi said that it was not possible to stay back, as he had to complete a deal. Gurudev remained silent and the Marwadi left. He reached the door and a donkey brayed. The man realized that it was a bad omen. He went back to his Guru and Guru only said, “You believe in the donkey, but you do not believe in me.” You need surrendership.

In Acharang Sutra, Sudharmaswami has told Jambuswami at many places, “Bhagwan Mahavira told us this”, and then He gave His preaching to Jambuswami. Jambuswami had a lot of bhakti and faith for Sudharmaswami. If Sudharmaswami said something, Jambuswami would have accepted it without any thoughts. But this shows the surrendering of Sudharmaswami. Then He revealed, “Anae dhammo, anae tavo”- Following His ajna is religion. Following His ajna is austerity. Sudharmaswami did not forget His Guru even though He had many disciples Himself. This shows His bhakti, reverence, humility, and modesty.

Look at the surrendering of a lady. When she falls in love, she surrenders her surname. She surrenders her gotra (sect). If a lady can have so much of surrendering for worldly happiness, then a disciple should have more surrendering for the supreme purpose and he has to be impartial while offering himself to the Guru. Giving up his viewpoint, if one serves at the Lotus Feet of a Sadguru, he would understand the real truth and proceed towards self-realization.

How will Shrimad Rajchandra Mission help in your journey in the sky, your journey in the formless, your journey of inward focus, your journey of soul-consciousness? Mostly Pujya Gurudevshri was in Dubai. A person went to Him after the satsang and said, “I want to join Your Mission.” Pujya Gurudevshri jumped from the seat and said, “It is not my mission, it is my Guru’s Mission. It is Shrimad Rajchandra Mission. I am a blessed soul. I am the humble servant of the Mission, but with great responsibilities.”

How long will the Mission stay? Yāvaccandrādivākaraṁ- as long as the sun and moon shall exist. The Mission will stay even after He departs because it has come into existence because of Param Krupalu Dev's will and it will stay till He wills. Guru is greater than the sun and the moon.

When Pujya Gurudevshri went to Bahrain, He had to take Param Krupalu Dev's chitrapat with Him for the pratishtha. Someone told Him, "Bapa, You brought Krupalu Dev to Bahrain." Pujya Gurudevshri tapped him and said, "Who am I to bring Him? He has brought me to Bahrain." You have to be very clear about it. All of us are humbled and blessed servants of Param Krupalu Dev. Pujya Gurudevshri is there to impart whatever He got from His Guru. This is His life and sport, it is not His stress.

Pujya Gurudevshri feels that the Mission has become His body and He expresses Himself through the body. The disciples have helped Him in this expression. If you want to serve Pujya Gurudevshri, you must serve the Mission. Seva in the smallest corner is enough. The Mission is before the body, choices, likes, and dislikes of Pujya Gurudevshri. He always looks at the benefits of the Mission. He compromises in practicality, not in the principles. He may ask you to resign or break a relationship if it is good for the Mission.

For many years, everyone knew the place as an Ashram, and not the Mission. The Mission is the place where you develop and grow on the path of self-discovery. If you have legal problems, you will go to court. If you have an illness, you will go to the hospital. If you have financial issues, you will go to the bank for loans. If you need peace, you need a place, where someone can help you on the path of enlightenment. Such a place is an Ashram. It provides you light to come out of the darkness. It is like a guiding factor, a support system to a genuine seeker. It is not a place for entertainment.

The Ashram is not a cluster of buildings. It is a cluster of seekers, who come here to reflect, rediscover, and revitalize the self. This understanding and enthusiasm is Ashram. The Ashram is one activity of the mission. People go to the Ashram to repair and prepare themselves. Move higher slowly, your maturity and stability should increase slowly. Your light should not flicker in strong winds. You should have spiritual evolution; you should attain peace and bliss. Activities will continue in the Ashram. There will be a routine, culture, conduct, and programs in the Ashram. You must take part in these activities, they are means, but this is not the goal of the Mission. Do not get satisfied or egoistic about these activities. You are doing seva as your activity and you chose to serve it. But this is not your goal.

If you have actions without a vision, there is no meaning of that action. If you have vision without actions, it remains as imagination or a dream. When action and vision come together, there is transformation.

What is the vision of Shrimad Rajchandra Mission? Self-realization and serving others. When this vision is translated into the proper frame, it becomes a Mission Statement- To Realize One's True Self and Serve Others Selflessly. If you do not go deep within the Mission Statement and attend all the activities, you are lost. You have to be clear about it, otherwise, there is no meaning in doing any other activity. Understanding the Mission Statement makes you a missionary. The Mission attempts to sharpen your intellect and make it subtle through satsang. You have to go from contemplation to meditation. The Mission is for oiling your emotions through bhakti. It also fuels your enthusiasm. You need a spark. If you are walking on the road, people should feel that you have just completed

bhakti. You should look peaceful and blissful. You need recharging of your conviction. You believe everything, but you should be recharging everything. You need refueling.

You always know that one substance cannot do anything for the other substance. But the reason for your misery is still someone else. You remember everything, but do not develop any virtues within you. You may be doing a lot of seva, but the Guru knows that you have a lot of impurities within. You have to develop the potential. You cannot enter the Enlightened One's heart without developing your eligibility. You will be appreciated for your seva, but you do not get the place in His heart.

If you have decided that you will not bribe anyone, you should not bribe anyone whether it is for the official purpose or selfish motives. If you bribe for your selfish motives, you have lost the value. Values can be seen at the time of troubles only. When everything is going smoothly, your values will remain intact. If your present is bad, your past is zero. Everyone passes through such situations. But you have to elevate yourself more with more satsang. The Mission is there to help you on the path of enlightenment. The Mission has a big purpose. This purpose is going to be diluted to some extent, but at that time, satsang will help you. The Mission will elevate you.

Swami Chinmayanandji beautifully said, "All the Mission activities are to replace the beast in you with the best in you." Keep the Mission ahead of the person. If you are ready for self-resurrection, you should join the army of Shrimad Rajchandra Mission. You should be ready to go on the cross. You are not a dog to be known by a collar. Be at your best and people should know you as the disciple of Param Krupalu Dev. He is there in everyone's heart. So far you have seen what Shrimad Rajchandra has done, now you will see what His name will do.