

Mateshwari – Mother Of The Entire World

Brahma Kumar Brother Ramesh Shah* talks about his experiences with **MAMA** when she visited Mumbai in 1955: My *lokik* mother asked me, “Mateshwari has arrived – will you come to meet her?” I replied, “I will definitely come. Please take an appointment because many people may be visiting her and she must be busy with other programmes too.” She gave me time from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. that evening. It was the first time I saw Mama. She used to wear sari in the Parsi style. In our first meeting itself, an invisible and eternal relationship was forged between us two, which became the catalysis behind considerable transformation in my life. Mama stayed with us for a long time and taught us many things like a mother. They say, ‘A mother is the first guru or teacher’ and so Mama became the guru-mother of our spiritual life and guided us extensively. I used to ask Mama several awkward questions, but yet she would answer them with a smile and satisfy my heart.

Once, I asked Mama, “Despite the fact that there were many sisters who had come to the *yagya* before you, you went ahead on the basis of your *purushārth*. Which one aspect took you ahead of the rest?” Mama answered, “This is a very difficult question as one does not progress because of one speciality. Many things are involved, which when work in harmony take a person forward in life.” I said, “No, I want to know about only one aspect that helped you move ahead in *purushārth*.” After contemplating for a while, she said, “It is my understanding that the virtue of determination, that is, to fulfil any thought I have, at any cost, is taking me ahead.”

MOST RESPECTED MOTHER, WHO RESPECTED ALL

Mama gave everyone respect along with immense love. Once, I asked Mama, “I don’t like one thing about you.” Mama asked what it was. I replied, “Mama, no mother in the *lokik* world says ‘Aap’ to her son; she addresses him as ‘Tu’ (‘Aap’ and ‘Tu’ both mean “You” but the former is used for seniors or as a sign of respect, while the latter for those younger in age). You use ‘Aap’ when you address me, implying that you don’t consider me your son.” Mama said, “That’s not true. Prior to your making Baba belong to you, Mama made you belong to her.” I asked again, “Then why don’t you say ‘Tu’ when you speak to me? This ‘Aap’ is a burden. I am younger than you and you are the World Empress Shri Lakshmi of the future world, and are worshipped as World Mother Amba and Goddess Saraswati presently, but nonetheless why do you address me in this manner?” Then Mama replied, “Listen Rameshji, every soul in this world drama is elevated and is playing his or her own part. We are the children of the Supreme Father, Supreme Soul, and as souls we are brothers. This is why we should interact with love and regard. In terms of worldly interactions, I use the term ‘Aap’ for you but don’t think that Mama has not accepted you as her son.” Mama thus taught us to be far-sighted and treat every individual with respect and love.

CONSTANTLY SUPPORTING AND REASSURING

When we were to hold an exhibition in Mumbai for the first time, I discussed it with Mama. Mama asked what the expenses would be. I said, “Mama, we need to first get Baba’s permission.” Mama said, “Mama gives you permission on Baba’s behalf. Tell me how much it will cost.” I gave her an estimate. Mama said it was fine and that we could go ahead. Mama always gave me her approval.

We had to create pictures for the exhibition. After they were ready, we would send them to Baba for any corrections and he would then return them to us. Baba once wrote in his letter, “The son has become crazy over these pictures. What will we do with so many? The three – Tree, Trimurti and Cycle – are more than enough.” Mama’s enthusiastic words were also written at the bottom corner of the letter: “Son Ramesh, whatever you are doing is fine. Baba is only testing you. Continue making pictures.” In this way, I always received Mama’s support, her favour, and encouragement. The first exhibition of the *yagya* was inaugurated on 29 December 1964 and attended by Mama too.

HER UNSHAKEABLE & UNBREAKABLE FAITH IN DRAMA

Once when I was in Madhuban, Mama was to return from a trip to Hapud. She arrived in the evening and was given a grand welcome. At night, Mama sat with Baba and shared news of the commotion that had occurred in Hapud (BKS had faced much opposition) and I too was present. Mama talked about what the antagonists had done etc. Baba listened very calmly and Mama too was stable whilst speaking. Listening to their conversation, a question came to my mind: “Mama, you have personally witnessed the circumstances in Hapud and are now describing them to Baba. When you were experiencing all of it, did your mind go through any upheaval?” Mama answered, “I do not experience any upheaval.” I asked her why not. Mama looked at Baba and replied, “We have firm faith in the fact that establishment is taking place as done 5000 years back. All the ups and downs, obstacles, and problems being faced now have been seen 5000 years back too. Many such things will come and go. This is the reason our stage does not get spoilt and we don’t experience mental upheaval.” We thus learned a lot from Mama’s unshakeable faith in drama.

IF WE DON’T GIVE LOVE, WHO ELSE WILL?

I once asked Mama, “Whoever comes to you, they either talk about their difficulties or complain about other people’s weaknesses and defects. No one ever comes to speak about good things.” Mama nodded and I went on, “When someone speaks to us this way, we tend to get influenced and our *drishti* towards the person changes accordingly. Doesn’t the same happen to you?” Mama replied, “I consider everyone to be effort-makers. Each one is making efforts to change themselves and go ahead. In the process, some fail along the way, some move at a slow pace, and a few come to a standstill. Mama also knows that this is a school and a school normally has a variety of students – some are intelligent and others dull or weak. Not everyone passes with first rank in their examinations; some come first, some second, few third, and few also fail. I have the faith that a kingdom is being established, and subjects of a kingdom are number-wise. The various categories of the kingdom will be formulated here, and each one is making efforts to create *sanskars*, which form the basis of their future status. Therefore, no matter what is spoken about anyone, I do not allow anyone’s weaknesses or defects to get imprinted on my memory track. I never create negative impressions about the other child. I maintain feelings of benevolence and love for the child I am listening to, as well for the one who is being spoken about. I constantly maintain good wishes to help everyone progress. I show regard and love for both souls because if we don’t give them love, who else will?”

When Mama came to Mumbai, Baba gave her the responsibility of creating Shri Lakshmi-Shri Narayan's picture. Kakubhai (*lokik* father of B.K. Sister Nalini, Ghatkopar, Mumbai), was in contact with an artist brother named Parmanand Namak, who had made some of our pictures. Mama said, "This will be the portrait of the first World Emperor and Empress and so it should be done very well." Mama would send a trance-messenger to Avyakt Baba to clarify things. Baba would mention how many necklaces should be around the necks of Shri Lakshmi and Shri Narayan, how many diamonds, pearls and jewels should be embedded on the necklaces etc. He even went to the extent of mentioning how many diamonds the *kamarbandh* (belt tied around the waist) should have! Mama took detailed information from Baba on every aspect. These experiences trained us for future service.

WHY DID I HAVE EXTREME LOVE FOR MAMA?

When I am merged in my own intoxication, I ask myself strange questions. Once, in such a mood, I asked myself, "Ramesh, do you have more love for Baba or Mama?" I asked this question jokingly and my inner voice said, "You love Mama more." Just as a young child is asked, "Is Mummy sweeter than Daddy?" this question too was for young children. I think the main reason behind this answer was that Mama had lived with us for 18 months. Everyday we travelled by car together, I would listen to her Murli, we would have dinner together etc., and this caused me to develop devotional love for Mateshwariji. When I think deeper, I understand that Mama represented excellent and incomparable effort-making. Father Brahma was the Supreme Father, Supreme Soul's lucky chariot, he had an experienced body of 60 years and owned limitless wealth, and so in my understanding, he did not need to make lot of efforts to attain the Number One position; it was natural for him. But Mateshwari came to the *yagya* at a young age, she had no experience in looking after a household or family, nor did she serve or co-operate through wealth and so from all angles, situations were against her whilst favourable for Pitashri.

Once in Pune, Mama and I went to see Panshain Dam, which had broken and caused severe damages. We had to walk a little way and whilst walking, we all went ahead and Mama got left behind. We waited for her to catch up and then I said, "Mama, you were left behind. Baba too has come on walks with us many times, but in spite of being elderly he walks in step with us and has even gone ahead several instances." Mama said jokingly, "Rameshji, Baba is no doubt unique. There are two souls in one body, where one is the Supreme Soul and the second, Baba's soul. So a two-engine train would definitely move faster than a one-engine train, wouldn't it? Even whilst coming to Pune, there was a reason why they added two engines to the train. Baba will undoubtedly go ahead of us since we all have one-engine. Baba also becomes the engine and we, the train carriages. He needs to be in front so that he can pull the carriages ahead." This answer of Mama's sheds special light on the truth; this is why you can understand I have more love for Mama, because she achieved her status of World Empress Shri Lakshmi through great efforts. Our Mateshwariji was the living form of tireless, care-free *purusharth*. What was the reason behind this? There are many answers to this question but I will only share a few:

1) Mama never speculated about the knowledge, that is, she related only what she knew. If there are some aspects of knowledge which the Supreme Soul has not clearly talked about, we tend to conjecture that it might be like this or mean that – we attempt to blend the directions of our mind (*manmat*) with Godly directions. For example, in 1962 I had asked Mama a question in Madhuban: “Where do all these trance-messengers go? At that time, are their souls in their bodies or elsewhere?” Mama immediately answered that Baba has not clarified this topic yet. I then asked, “You have probably thought about it yourself? What do you think?” Mama then replied, “I am a student who is studying and therefore, I only think about what the teacher has already taught me. When the teacher is personally in front of us, why don’t we ask him? Whatever I say will be *manmat* because I am not aware of what God’s directions are in this respect. You may ask Baba this question tonight.” Knowledge means having the understanding of both one’s powers and drawbacks. Mama was knowledgeable about both, which is why she went ahead in *purusharth*.

2) The second reason for Mama’s fast efforts was her determined power of thought. It is difficult to measure this, but one can know when it waxes or wanes. When Mama had faith in something, she would definitely see it through. Once, the specially loved brothers and sisters of Kanpur had sent an invitation to Mama in Mumbai, in the form of sweet, love-filled songs. The songs had an element of sadness too and this made the listeners emotional and their tears flowed. Mama’s eyes too were moist but she said these drops would not leave the eyes. Despite listening to a voice filled with deep love, the tears did not fall, but were hidden within the eyes. We asked Mama why she didn’t shed tears and Mama then revealed her *purusharth*. She shared an incident from the initial days of the *yagya*. In Karachi, Baba used to stay separately in Clifton. One night, Mama suddenly remembered Baba and wept throughout the night, so much so that she even wet her pillow. Baba later on heard about this and explained to her in private, “Daughter, you must not weep from now on.” From that day itself, Mama made a promise to Baba that not a single tear-drop would ever fall from her eyes. “And from that day until now, I have not failed in my promise.”

On another occasion, I told Mama that as a child she must have planned something for her future. What did she aspire to become? Mama answered, “At that time, I wanted to follow the path of *bhakti* (devotion). I admired how people still praise Mira (devotee) and others; I too wanted to perform a task for which I would be remembered even after having departed.” Mama truly fulfilled her childhood desire!

3) Mama’s power of logic was extraordinary. Mama had the virtue of being able to quieten someone in two seconds. I had once invited friends from the *lokik* gita pathshala (where Gita scripture is read and taught), who were well-versed in the scriptures to meet Mama. I questioned whether Mama, who had never read any scriptures, would be able to make them content with knowledge? And the first question that came up was, “Are you saying this Gita (*lokik* one) is false?” Mama answered promptly, “Why don’t you look at the attainments? What did the *Pandavas* attain on listening to the Gita? The Gita was for society but society became Iron-aged. The *Pandavas* went to the Himalaya Mountains. The Yadavs were destroyed on their own land, whilst the Kauravas were destroyed in the battle at Kurukshetra. Although the knowledge is so great, why did evil take birth? Here, the Supreme Soul says ‘I establish the Golden Age by relating the knowledge of the Gita, that is, I transform the world

through the Gita. So tell me, which Gita is the truth – the one that brings about world transformation or the one that gives birth to immorality? There is no question of blind faith here; it is the truth. You are all educated individuals, so go beyond blind faith and think about the truth in an unbiased way.’ Hearing this, they started whispering to each other, ‘She has silenced us by talking about attainments.’ The flow of conversation had definitely changed course.

4) Till the end, Mama lived up to her status and responsibilities. In reality, she was a young girl but from the moment she received the status or seat of ‘Mama’, she did not step down thereafter. She always maintained a motherly elevated vision towards everyone. Baba has given us children a status or throne too of keeping a brotherly or brother-sister vision and attitude amongst ourselves. Do we constantly maintain this *drishti* and attitude? If not, it’s because we let go of our status time and again.

Everyone was pleased with Mama and she too was content with all. She was not influenced by someone’s nature or intentions. She could win over everyone through love, which was why no one ever felt distant or like strangers in her company. Even people who did not accept the new aspects of spiritual knowledge praised Mateshwariji’s personality. Everyone considered her to be their mother.

