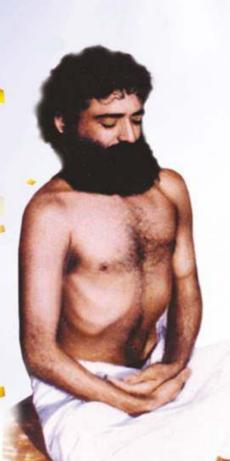


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Pujya Bapuji's SatGuru Sāi Shri Lilāshāh Ji Mahārāj

Among thousands of men, scarcely one strives for perfection, and of those who strive and succeed, scarcely one knows Me in truth. (The Gita: 7.3)



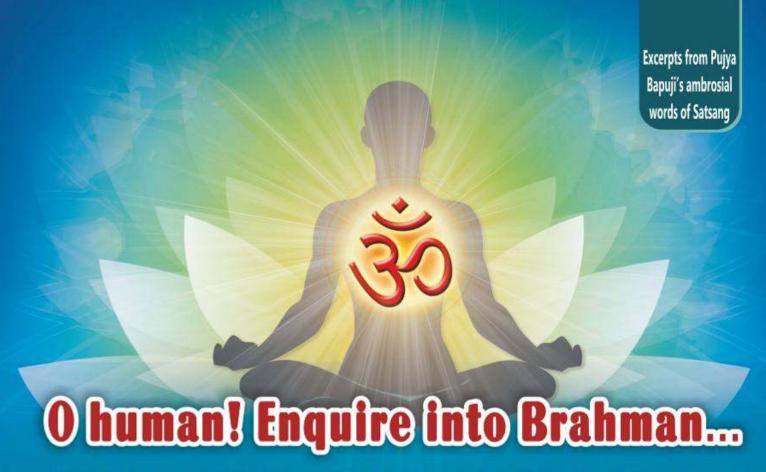
Pujya Sant Shri Asharamji Bapu Self-realization Day of such a rare great man... - Pujya Bapuji

Āshwin Shukla Dwitiyā

(4th October)



Separation from a saint who transformed crores of lives causes severe harm to society.



Bhagavān Veda Vyāsa Ji wrote in the world's foremost shāstra belonging to a sage, 'Brahma Sutras': Athato Brahmajijnasa. "Now, therefore, the inquiry into Brahman." (Chapter 1, Section 1, Sutra 1)

O human! If you wish to know anything, know that One by knowing which everything becomes known. If you desire to attain something, attain that One by attaining which everything becomes attained. If you seek to meet someone, meet that One by meeting which you meet all beings at the same time. Write in the diary of your life - 'Brahmajijnasa' (the inquiry into Brahman).

The inquiry into Brahman begins when the discrimination (Viveka) dawns. And how is discrimination attained?

'Discrimination does not arise without association with saints.' (Rāma Charita Mānasa, Bāla Kānḍa: 2.4) Discrimination arises from Satsang. What is eternal, and what is non-eternal? What is permanent, and what is impermanent? What is the true 'I', and what is the assumed 'I'? The Self is

imperishable; the world is ever-changing and perishable.

Considering the mortal body as 'I', we are unaware of the immortal Self. This lack of discrimination gradually diminishes through Satsang. Those whose discrimination is not awakened through Satsang live a life of ruin. If a human having a short life-span, takes recourse to discrimination, he can unite with the Lord of the infinite universe. If he resorts to a lack of discrimination, he endures the pain in the mother's womb in countless births, becoming a curse for himself, his country, and the world. One who takes refuge in discrimination, into the inquiry of Brahman, becomes useful for himself, his family, his country, the world, and even for the Lord of the Universe.

Kindly bring yourself to justice and forgive others. You will not progress until you become intent on removing your faults. Do not think that any religion, deity, or saint will elevate you. No. A deity, whether male or female, or a saint, will elevate you when you respect your discrimination and implement their advice in your life. If you have discrimination, you will accept their counsel. Saints, Mahātmās and religions can give you advice, not liberation. They can give liberation, but it requires your discrimination. Living a life respecting discrimination is your responsibility. If you accept such responsibility, the life-giver-your Self-will manifest.

Therefore, O seeker, O human! Engage in the inquiry of Brahman, engage in self-unfoldment. Continue your inquiry and spiritual journey until your 'I' is fully established in your Lord of the Universe (the  $\overline{A}tma\ Tattva$ ), not confined to a body or a family, not just a village or a state, not just a nation or the world. You will surely reach it. You will definitely reach it!

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# If one understands the marvellous Lila of Consciousness-nature...

4th October: Pujya Bapuji's

Self-realization Day Special

(Based on Pujya Bapuji's Satsang discourses)

### What is Self-Realization?

The Supreme Self was, is, and always will be ours. However, the flesh-and-bone body, which was not there before (at birth) and will not remain later (after death), is gradually moving towards non-existence.

Out of ignorance, some consider this body 'mine,' while others identify the body's

name as 'I'. Lord Krishna says, "Ajnānenāvritam jnānam..." Knowledge of our Self-nature, our real essence, is enveloped by ignorance, which has become dense, leading us into delusion. Believing in what is not, and being unaware of what truly is, is what delusion means.

"Yad drishyam tad anityam." That

which is perceptible is impermanent — whether perceived through the eyes, the mind, imagination, or intellect. However, that which enables seeing is eternal. This teaching is heard from the *shāstras* and the words of Self-realized great men. When this resonates, it is called Self-realization. Ātman means our being; it is our 'I'. That is Brahman. If you identify it with a body, it is the individual soul, but if you realize its vastness, it is Brahman. *Avam ātmā* 

experiencer of all.' (Atharva Veda, Mandukya Upanishad: Mantra 2)

Brahma, 'This Self is Brahman, the

### Then one is separated from God.

You are not a body made of flesh and bones; you are the knower of the body, mind, and intellect. The body undergoes death; you have never died, nor can you ever die. जन्म मृत्यु मेरा धर्म नहीं है, पाप पुण्य कछु कर्म नहीं है। मैं अज निर्लेपी रूप...

"Birth and death are not my qualities; sin and virtue are not my actions. Birthless and unstained purity am I, that is known to very few."

The doer earns virtue and sin. When the sense of doership is gone, and you

> abide in the Self, then you will become untouched by both sin and virtue. You will

perform virtuous deeds, but you will not be proud of being virtuous. *Rajasic*, *Tamasic*, or *Sāttvic* actions will be done naturally by the force of *prārabdha* (destiny), you will not carry the burden of being the doer or the experiencer. Just as an actor can play the role of a king or even a beggar, so you may experience any state (condition) in the world, but you will remain ever awakened in your consciousness-nature. Those were the

blessed days when I understood this truth: आसोज सुद दो दिवस, संवत् बीस इक्कीस। मध्याह्न ढाई बजे, मिला ईस से ईस।।

"On the second day of the bright fortnight of the month Ashwin in the year 2021, At half-past two in the afternoon, God met with the God,"

The individual soul did not meet God, nor did God meet the individual soul; God met with God. Both the God and the individual soul are eternal in essence, indestructible existence. When the soul identifies itself with the body, it has the desire to live, and so it is called 'jiva,' and when it awakens into its Self, it is 'Shiva', Pure Consciousness. The individual soul and the Supreme Self are one. In Punjabi,

# Pujya Bapuji's Holy Message for Navaratri

Oct. 3 - Oct. 12:

The Navarātri that occurs in the autumn season is called Shāradīya Navarātri, and the one in the spring season is called Vāsantī Navarātri. The autumn season is known as the mother of diseases, and the spring season is also considered the mother of diseases. In the spring season, Kapha is aggravated and in the autumn season, Pitta is aggravated. Knowing the secret of

Navarātri, Bhagavān Veda-Vyāsa wrote, "These two seasons are like 'Yama's fangs' or 'death's bite' for living beings." Those who

remain careless may even lose their lives.

During Navarātri, if you overeat (eat more than your hunger), indulge in conjugal sex, or remain careless, your health will deteriorate. If a person with a Kapha constitution eats Kapha-increasing substances in the spring season, or a person with a Pitta constitution consumes Pittaincreasing substances around Shāradiya Navarātri, fatal diseases may occur and the condition will worsen, irrespective of being Bāpuji (a Guru) or Betāji (a disciple). During the autumn season, I even ate Pitta-increasing vegetables, which made me sleepless in the night. Then, I had to drink white pumpkin juice, apply itch oil, and drink Gangā water. It took a lot of effort to get relief. Until Sharad Purnimā arrives, even a little carelessness in diet can take its toll.

Therefore, out of great compassion, the sages have established the *Navarātris* (vows of nine nights). If you want to avoid the onslaught of disease, if you want to save yourself from sin and afflictions, observe fasts and do *japa* of the divine name during

these Navarātri days to get special benefits.

### The Importance of Different Days of Navarātri

Each day of *Navarātri* has its own significance and resultant benefits. The first three days are for worshipping *Ādyāshakti Kālī* to rise above base instincts. The next three days are for worshipping Lakshmi in order to become

eligible for wealth and prosperity. The final three days are for worshipping Saraswati for the attainment of knowledge and

Shāradīya Navarātri Special days are for Saraswati for of knowl

Brahmavidyā.

Both *Navarātris* are a boon for health, virtue, and spirituality. Each goddess's worship holds deep significance.

या देवी सर्वभूतेषु शक्तिरूपेण संस्थिता।
नमस्तस्यै नमस्तस्यै नमस्तस्यै नमो नमः॥
Yā Devī Sarva-bhuteshu, Shakti-rupeṇasansthitā| Namastasyai, Namastasyai,
Namastasyai, Namo namah||

"O Mother, who is present everywhere, who is the embodiment of Power and Energy, I bow to you, I bow to you, I bow to you."

Each day, people worship different goddesses according to specific rituals, but for those who have received the Guru Mantra, it is supreme.

एको देवः सर्वभूतेषु गूढः...
Eko devah Sarvabhuteshu gudhah...
(Shvetāshvatara Upanishad: 6.11)

God, who is one only, is hidden in all beings. He resides also in the form of the goddess as Pure consciousness.

कीड़ी में नानो बन बेठो हाथी में तू मोटो क्यूँ ? बन महावत ने माथे बेठो हांकणवालो तू को तू।... ऐसो खेल रच्यो मेरे दाता ज्याँ देखूं वाँ तू को तू॥

# Woman and Co-accused Sentenced to 3 Years 6 Months for False Rape Allegation

The number of false rape cases in the country is increasing day by day. Recently, an incident came to light in which a woman, and 12 people who instigated her to do so, made a false allegation of rape against a senior official. They were each sentenced to 3 years and 6 months imprisonment, together with a fine of Rs 86,000, by the Principal District and Sessions Court of Belagavi district of Karnataka.

Recently, the Kerala High Court quashed a rape case in which the complainant had falsely accused a man of rape to recover money lent to him. The Court said, 'The judicial process is a proceeding for serious crimes which cannot be

allowed to be used as a tool for harassment.

When there is evidence to show that criminal proceedings have been initiated maliciously, with the ulterior motive of vengeance and harassing the accused, the court is competent to quash the proceedings under Section 482 of the Criminal Procedure Code. In such circumstances, it is the duty of the court to look carefully and more closely into the FIR. Apart from the statements recorded in the FIR, the court should also look into other facts related to the case and, if necessary, understand their deeper

meaning with due care and caution.'

Severe punishment should be given for this crime.

Misuse of the judicial process unfortunately harasses many innocent people, eminent persons, saints, and other individuals in the country serving people. A glaring example of this is the case of the 87-year-old venerable saintAsharamji Bapu.

During the time of the alleged incident reported by the complainant, Bapuji was first at a satsang programme, and then at an engagement ceremony. The complainant's medical report showed no evidence of physical or sexual harassment, not even a scratch on her body. The call detail records related to the

girl and the recording of her police statements were manipulated and tampered with. Many such facts suggest that the complaint against Bapu Asharamji was filed with malicious intent, and the facts presented were distorted during the investigation.

Many legal experts familiar with the facts of Asharamji Bapu's case clearly state that he was framed under a well-planned conspiracy. Advocate Shri Lukesh Kumar Sahu says, "It is astonishing that despite several pieces of evidence proving the innocence of Saint Asharamji Bapu, he was sentenced to life

## Pada-Pashchimottanasana: A Divine Boon

In this edition of the 'Art of Living' series, we will learn about Pāda-Pashchimottānāsana. Among all the *āsanas*, this one is the most important. Its practice rejuvenates the body. As per Pujya Bapuji's nectarine satsang discourses:

"Pāda-Pashchimottānāsana is a divine blessing. This āsana is dear to Bhagavān Shiva. Since it is somewhat difficult to perform, it is also known as Ugrāsana. Lord Shankar propagated this āsana in the book 'Shiva Samhitā', which was later popularised by Gorakhnath Ji, and now we practice it.

At the age of 22, I experienced numerous illnesses while I was at home. I had stomach pain since childhood Asana is the third limb of Yoga

and later suffered

from appendicitis. The only solution was surgery. Around that time, I left home and went to Guruji seeking God-realization. Guruji instructed me to practice Pada-Pashchimottānāsana. Practice of thisāsana cured my appendicitis, and I haven't had it since. Whenever I had stomach pain, practicing this āsana made me feel fit and up-to-date. Every practitioner should definitely do this - whether they seek God or wish to stay healthy.

Benefits: The life force moves upward, and the mind becomes subtle. Memory power increases, and the intellect becomes brilliant. Unnecessary belly fat is reduced. It helps in conditions like appendicitis, hernia, jaundice, insomnia, backwash of sour liquid in the throat, nervous weakness, diabetes. haemorrhoids. obesity.

constipation, indigestion, stomach wind, and all stomach diseases. It stimulates digestive fire, and pressure on the chest, and strengthens the heart. Laziness is removed. It increases body height and prevents nocturnal emission. Women do not suffer from leukorrhoea, uterine diseases, irregular menstruation, etc. They will experience reduced labour pain and will give birth to radiant offspring.

When the breathing becomes natural, the movements of prāṇa and apāna meet, opening the door to Sushumnā.

Prāṇa flows through the path of the spinal cord, enabling control over the vital fluid. (You can become successful

in semen retention.) Practice for 2-3

minutes raises Life Energy from the centres below the navel. Your current temperament, restlessness of the senses, or outgoing tendencies will not remain the same.

If there is obesity, it is reduced, and if there is thinness, it is corrected, making the body well-shaped and healthy. This āsana is a blessing from Lord Shiva for those who practice brahmacharya (celibacy). Those who are severely troubled by lustful tendencies should practice this āsana, as it suppresses physical and mental passion. It gives excellent exercise to the abdomen, chest, and spinal cord, making them more efficient. The joints of hands, feet, and other body parts become strong. All systems of the body

# **Amazing Religious and Health Benefits of Amla!**

Elixir of

Heakth

In the Srishti Khanda of the Padma Purāṇa, Lord Shiva tells Kārtikeya: "A long life would be obtained by eating āmlā (Indian gooseberry) fruit; religious merit would be accumulated by drinking the juice of it; misfortune would be destroyed by taking a bath after applying its tenacious paste to one's body; and one would get all prosperity. O Kārtikeya, evil spirits, demons and goblins do not haunt that house where a dhatri (tree) always stands.

Not the Ganges, not Gayā, neither Kāshi nor Pushkara is able to remove all the sins of man; it is āmlā only that removes all sins. All the sins of he who bathes (after applying the tenacious paste of āmlā to

his body) on the day of each of the two fortnights, perish."

Ayurveda regards āmlā as the best rejuvenating agent. According to the Dhanvantari Nighantu, 'āmlā is an excellent rejuvenating agent that balances all three doshas.' It is a wholesome daily food, suitable for any season, body type, region, time, and age. Desi āmlās are far more beneficial than grafted varieties.

Āmlā possesses qualities akin to nectar, which is why it is called 'Amrit Phala' (fruit of immortality) and is as beneficial to humans as a mother, earning it the name 'Dhatri-phala' (nurse fruit).

Amlā has been used since Vedic times. Sage Chyavana regained his youth by consuming Chyawanprāsh made from āmlā. Āchārya Sushruta praised āmlā as the best among all fruits, फलेभ्योऽभ्यधिकं च तत्। and Āchārya Charaka referred to it as 'वयःस्थापन' meaning age-sustaining. Vāgbhata also considered āmlā as one of the best substances for sustaining youth. For good health, regular consumption of food containing all six tastes is necessary, and āmlā provides five of these tastes, except for salt. Due to the absence of salt, āmlā acts as a powerful *Rasāyana* (Promotive therapy).

The health benefits of āmlā can be obtained from various forms such as

powder, candy, syrup, chutney, preserves, and Chyawanprāsh. Compared to pickles, which contain a lot of salt, consuming āmlā preserves is more beneficial and effective. (Products made from ripe

āmlās, such as āmlā powder, āmlā candy, āmlā syrup, Chyawanprāsh, and āmlā preserves, are available at Sant Shri Asharamji Ashrams' Satsāhitya Sewa Kendras and samitis.)

According to scientists, āmlā is rich in vitamin C, far surpassing the amounts found in guava, tomato, and lemon. It contains 20 times more vitamin C than oranges and sweet lime. Rather than relying on synthetic vitamin supplements, consuming āmlā, which provides vitamin C in a natural form, is far more beneficial. Even dried āmlā powder retains a significant amount of vitamin C.

While most sour foods tend to increase pitta, āmlā, uniquely, pacifies it. Āmlā is also rich in iron, making it highly effective in the formation of blood. It is particularly beneficial for the eyes.

Consuming āmlā before, during, or



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This churna, prepared from special Ayurvedic herbs, cleanses the body by removing all doshas from the body, which prevents many diseases caused by the imbalance of Vāta, Pitta, and Kapha. It is beneficial for many diseases like indigestion, anorexia, hiccups, headaches, hyperacidity, heart disease, hypertension, diabetes, rheumatoid arthritis, and diseases of liver and kidneys. It is useful, especially in obesity and constipation.



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# Amla Juice It increases longevity, gives youthfulness, and is beneficial for various diseases.

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an appetiser, immunity booster, and beneficial for the heart.

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