



ATTACHMENT AND DETACHMENT

Process of purification and detachment

Extract from 23/2/09 Satsang

Om Shri Paramatmane Namaha

The process of purification actually goes on happening by itself. What ultimately does purification mean? Purification ultimately means detachment. The real impurity is to own something, to consider it as your own and to have a relationship with it. This process of purification or detachment is happening all the time in life. How?

Things are ebbing away from us. For example, everybody wants to remain young, but youth is ebbing away. As I said once, do not think that I always had as little hair as I have now! And remember that yours will be like mine one day! This is a process and a cycle of change.

In the same way, sometimes money comes and sometimes it disappears. Some-times you are healthy but sometimes you are ill. One may try one's best but even then there is no guarantee that one will remain healthy. We can have a close friendship with somebody and that friendship may come to an end any day. We all see our dearest ones departing, our parents or our old relatives. The process of death purifies.

Death is a great purifier. But there is one difference. All this happens under com-pulsion. Those who accept it through wisdom get liberated. Otherwise when it happens by compulsion, you are not liberated inside. Not even death ever solves the problem. If death solved the problem that would mean that all those who die should become liberated. No, they again take birth. Birth and death, birth and death – the process goes on.

During one's lifetime one has to become detached through wisdom, and even then to continue with activity in the world. At first attachment or desire is the motivating force for activity, but later compassion, love and service to others become the motivating forces. Even after Self-realisation, one does not stop working, the motivation remains there. So this is a process. Those who acquire wisdom follow this path. Naturally, they are easily able to realise that permanent state of their being and become completely liberated.
