

Anything is achieved, If Guru thinks so.

In this episode we are going to look into the glories of Guru/Acharyan.

चक्षुर्गम्यं गुरुं त्यक्त्वा शास्त्रगम्यं तु यः स्मरेत् ।  
करस्थमुदकं त्यक्त्वा घनस्थमाभिवाञ्छति ॥

Instead of worshipping a Guru or an Acharyan who is explicitly and easily present in front of us but worshipping GOD who is invisible, is like, instead of using the water which we have with us but expecting rain from the sky. That is, glory of the Guru is very special.

There is a story in Srimad Bhagavata Puranam.

Lord Narayana created Brahma from HIS naval. Brahma from his mind created Mariichi Maharishi. A son was born to Mariichi by name Kashyapar. Suryan was born to Kashyapar and Atiti. From Suryan, a Manu called Shraaddha Devan was born. His wife is Shraddhaa. They had no child. So they approached their Guru Vasishtar to perform PutrakAmeshti yAgam. Hence Vasishtar invited big Maharishis like Agastya to participate and conducted the MitrAvaruna yAgam.

To give birth to a girl child, Shraddhaa, wife of Shraaddha Devan, underwent a vratham by taking ksheeram(milk) as food. Wishing and praying for a girl child She prostrated before Hotaa (priest in charge of offering) who is conducting the yAgam . Meditating for the same in his mind, Hotaa uttered vashatkara mantram and conducted the yAgam. So, she gave birth to a girl child and named her ILLai.

Expecting a son and with the birth of a girl child, Shraaddha Devan felt very sad. He again went and surrendered to his Guru and asked him, while your sankalpam for PutrakAmeshti yAgam was for a son, how did a girl baby was born and how did this happen? Guru Vasishtar knowing what has happened through his vision said that this is because of Hotaa's diversion and that he will get him a son by using his prowess. Immediately Vasishtar recited a mantra in praise of Adhi Purasha-Hari. Pleased with the prayers, Bhagvan granted him a boon. With that boon, he transformed the girl child ILLai to a boy named Sudyumnan.

Sudyumnan excelled in everything and became a great warrior. Accompanied by some Ministers and associates, once he went to a forest for hunting wearing armour, with his bow and arrow and riding on a horse belonging to Sindhu Rajya towards north. Rudra Bhagavan was residing in that place with Parvathi Devi. Sudyumnan entered that place in the forest. Immediately Sudyumnan became a woman. All those who accompanied him also have transformed into women and horse into mare.

Hearing this incident, Maharaja ParIkshit asks Shukar the reason behind this and Shukar replies:

Once, rishis like Saunaka who were in vrataanushtanam (strictly observing spiritual rules and regulations) went to a place called KumAra vanam near Kailasa . Rudra Bhagavan was residing in that place. As they proceed to see Rudra Bhagavan, brought brightness in all directions. At that time Ambikai and Rudran were alone. Seeing them coming, Rudran said, If any man enters this place, he will be transformed into woman immediately. As Sudyumnan and his associates are not aware of this, they all became women.

Belonging to the dynasty of Vaivasvata Manu, King Sudyumnan thinks of his Guru Vasishtha and tells him about the present condition. At once, Guru recites a mantra in praise of Rudra. Rudra feeling happy asks Vasishtha what he wants. Telling about Sudyumnan, he asks Rudra to change him back to male again. Rudra blessed and said, for one month he will be like a male and for another month like a female and let him continue to rule his kingdom like this.

As Manu had Vasishtha's katAksham/anugraham, he was favoured by Vasishtha three times.

First, Vasishtha himself initiated the mitrAvaruna ishti, took the responsibility, invited Rishis and conducted the yAgam due to which a baby was born.

Secondly, because of HotAa's indifferent action/diversion, it happened to be a girl. Immediately Guru changed the girl Illai to a boy by reciting a mantra praising Lord Hari.

Third time again when Sudyumnan turned into a female soon after entering into the KumAra vanam, by chanting Rudra mantra and with the help of Rudra, he changed him back to male.

Only because of Guru's katAksham and anugraham to Manu, these were possible all the three times.

What the above Bhagavata puranam story infers is, Acharyan is the one who will go to any extent and do anything for the sake and welfare of his sisya. With Acharyan's katAksham and anugraham it's possible to achieve anything. Nothing is impossible with Guru's grace.

एकयैव गुरोर्दृष्ट्या द्वाभ्याम् वाऽपि लभेत यत् ।  
न तत् तिसृभिरष्टाभिः सहस्रेणापि कस्यचित् ॥

Be it mukkaNNan(three eyed Rudra) or eNN KaNNan(8 eyed Brahma) or even sahasra kaNNan (Indra), nobody can change the prosperity(kshemangal)that comes from Acharyan's glance either from one of his eyes or from both the eyes. None can do that. Whatever Acharya sArvaouman thinks/decides/ desires that will happen for sure and none can change that.

सुलभं तु गुरुं त्यक्त्वा दुर्लभं य उपासते ।  
लब्धं त्यक्त्वा धनं मूढो गुप्तमन्वेषते क्षितौ ॥

It's like, searching for GOD who is invisible and with whom we cannot talk, and will not come even if we think of HIM, instead of approaching the Acharyan who is easily available. Also like, looking for a treasure under the earth inspite of having our own wealth. What this Bhagavata Puranam says is, there is nothing that an Acharyan or His katAksham / anugraham cannot do. Anything can be achieved with Acharyan's glance.

So, If we always keep serving our Acharyan who is explicitly present before us, recites Puurvaacharyar Taniyans and thirunaamams(names)continuously, that itself will bring all the prosperities and goodness in our lives and uplift us.

To be continued.....

Transcription by Mrs Vasanthi Sampath