

THE POWER OF SILENCE - II

I am going to share the story of silence with you and it has been suggested that I tell some experiences from the days of Sakar Baba. It is easier to tell a story than to theoretically explain the power of silence and then we can experiment because the path we are pursuing, is from sound to silence, sound to subtle and subtle to silence. That is the difference between the path of knowledge and the path of bhakti. When there is sound the mind is tuned to the sound and the words and as soon as the sound is over the mind is restless.

The story begins with the first meeting with Sakar Baba. It was July 1959. Myself and two friends came to meet Baba after six months continual study at the Bombay Centre. We stayed in a room in Madhuban very near to Baba's. After arriving, we showered and went to Baba's room. Baba and Mama were sitting there and we went and sat in front. No words were given just drishti.

A record was playing on the gramophone but I don't remember which one, because as soon as I sat in front of Baba and looked at Him I experienced very sweet drishti and the mind was tuned to that vibration of silence within seconds without very much effort. I was hardly four or five feet away from Baba and the whole concentration was on His forehead. No effort was required to feel that "I am a soul, a being of light".

Such sweet drishti full of love and power, and it was like a semi trance experience there was no feeling of the physical body. The joy of meeting and yet it was in silence. My mind was very quiet and I felt Shiv Baba's presence in silence. It was a very powerful experience.

Before coming to Madhuban I had several experiences in meditation in Bombay. Through this personal meeting with the One whom I was searching for not only in this life but for many lives my feelings were of confirmation and clarity. So in that experience of silence, the first result was acceptance. I accepted Baba's presence. After acceptance was joy and surrender. I decided in my heart that now seeing Baba face to face that He had come to transform this world. I made a promise there and then that this life of mine would only be used for Baba's service.

To give one's life in God's service is a major decision, I was however inspired by the first murli I heard six months previously. "When Brahma Baba recognised Shiv Baba he surrendered his life for His service. Since then Baba has never been without, instead he has claimed the inheritance of the kingdom of heaven for many future lives. This was in fact the very first arrow to hit my heart from the murli.

The first meeting I had with Shiv Baba whilst in silence created a determined thought of surrendering. This doesn't mean that I left my job, but I surrendered within. This was the result of the silence experienced at that meeting then of course Baba's meeting and words. Later on I always aspired for Baba's drishti - as much as I could get. It was like becoming a fan of someone. At that time there weren't many souls in Madhuban, about 9 or 10 looked after Madhuban and maybe 5 or 6 came from outside. There was hardly any competition, not many souls and so there was a lot of time to receive Baba's drishti and that was working wonders on the soul.

I remember when I first started meditation that thoughts were given to be repeated in the mind so as to be able to experience that I am a soul, a pure soul, I am a peaceful soul, but as soon as Baba looked at me, I had that experience without thinking any thoughts. A very powerful experience and a practical feeling of how Baba's company was colouring and elevating the soul to the highest state in no time.

That experience in a way created more interest in being near to Baba, to find some excuse, luckily Baba knew how thirsty the soul was and He invited us to come and ask questions. In fact there were no questions! After experiencing Shiv Baba and Brahma Baba together what more was needed? Before gyan all I had desired was to have experience of God realisation, and I didn't need anything else. Now that I have this experience even if Baba says you will get the kingdom of heaven I'm not interested in this all I am interested in is you Baba.

I want to experience you all the time and I want to be under your drishti all the time.

I stayed three extra days -- ten in all. We received all the attention from Baba at that time. He used to share some of his experiences in the form of stories. Sometimes stories of his lokik life and even while sharing that, he would go into silence even while playing Baba would be seen not just as ordinary but totally different.

Brahma Baba was showing his own example of how he was trying to remain with Shiv Baba most of the time, and then he would share his experiences. Those 10 days were in our childhood so Baba gave a lot of time and

attention and taught us practically how to remain in Shiv Baba's company while doing all things.

The murli said this morning that you appreciate silence more and more when through silence you reach near the karmateet stage, near the stage of liberation and you become like the Father, so the inner happiness or supersensuous joy is multiplying. That could be seen from Baba's smile all the time. Less words and more silence. His face radiated all the time with that smile Joy, inner happiness, peace and contentment.

The power of that silence was such that the moment we were in Baba's company or the moment that Baba looked at us our own thoughts our inner stage would be transformed within no time.

Later I saw how Baba was more and more interested in going beyond words. Baba inspired every child to do service of other souls and he would listen to all the service news personally, but slowly I found that whenever someone tried to share news in detail, after listening to a few sentences Baba would understand the essence and give very deep sweet drishti and say smilingly,

"enough Baba understands" While giving drishti he would give toli and slowly finish the talk.

Before each murli was given in class there used to be songs. Baba tried to limit it to half a song first. Each year a little change could be seen from half to a quarter and finally to one line until even that was stopped. There were songs until 1967. The full songs were played up until 1963, some were new film songs because we didn't have our own songs, some brothers and sisters

brought inspiring songs to Baba of romantic Bhakti. The song was played on a gramophone and the one who brought it would sit in front of Baba with tears of love flowing down. Baba would give so much love and so much power to the soul who brought those records because Baba understood the feelings of the soul.

Baba wanted us to go beyond. He himself kept on experimenting with silence, whenever he was free, when there was no one else around.

When Baba appeared to be sleeping in his room he was just experimenting. I remember a few times slowly lifting the curtain to see whether Baba was sleeping or not. Even that little movement would attract his attention and he would say "who is it sweet child". And we used to say to Baba don't worry please have your rest, and Baba would say, come inside what do you want to ask. Sometimes sitting in Baba's room on the gaddi or in Baba's cottage he used to go so deep in silence. He wouldn't notice someone being around and so they also would go into that depth of silence.

It was a practical experience of experimenting with that power of silence. When the soul is in the deep consciousness of the one who is ever in silence it becomes like Him and the vibration around becomes very powerful and yet quiet - comforting silence. Baba's own effort used to be that while sitting I should be able to leave this body not due to any sickness and you will notice this in some of the murlis. Baba shared that from time to time (not insisted but shared in a suggestive way) that Raj Yogis should leave the body at will, which is the most difficult thing to do.

There may be a little cause but the soul should become so detached and that would be possible only when through silence the soul is experiencing Shiv Baba's company in such depth.

Because of that the past is absolved and freedom is achieved. I don't think that we are so attached to our past costumes even the most beautiful ones of golden, silver, copper or iron age but we are very much attached to the present. We all learn about the change that will take place in the world but we hardly think "if it is to happen what is my stage, am I able to understand Baba's signal is it now time to leave, and can I leave at this time". That will be possible when we are experimenting with silence in such a way that we feel "I am totally different from this body. I belong to that world of silence, the world of light, eternal light. I belong to the one who is eternally there so when I am in that consciousness for a long time that sanskar will finally detach the soul from this body, otherwise it is not possible". This experimenting was seen by us when Baba was alone.

Most of us came to Baba young and had lots of inspiration to do Baba's service. Many things were in our minds and we liked to discuss them with Baba.

He encouraged us, listened, guided but sometimes when we thought it not appropriate to meet Baba we would simply go to sit near Baba and experience that deep silence.

Baba would return to this corporeal world with that deep power of silence in his eyes and give drishti. It was like going into a trance. When you go into trance you forget the present and when Baba came into sound he would

ask "yes child would you like to ask anything?" I don't know what happened. The questions or things uppermost in our minds which were to be asked, very important, very urgent....evaporated. We wouldn't be able to recollect what was to be asked and instead we only had the desire to keep on receiving Baba's drishti. We would say instead "Baba I've forgotten and will ask you later. But, Baba had something to share and so he used to share that. Now I'm talking about experimenting with the power of silence for the self because we all know we have been telling other people and some of you have been wearing pullovers with "when we change the world changes" So for self transformation we need to be deeply interested in experimenting with the power of silence. This is something very personal. When I went for my bypass surgery, afterwards I met Baba. He said "It was because of your practice for a long time to become bodiless that helped you to pass this test" This does not mean that I have finished experimenting with silence because I am still attached to this body.

I want to do a lot after getting my rebirth, my lokik rebirth but on the other side I know this has to go I have to return. I have to have my new birth in the Golden Age as soon as possible. I'm thinking that way but I feel that there is a lot more to do.

I enjoy being in silence so much I don't like any sound at that time. Whether it is right or wrong, early morning, amrit vela, I just like silence- nothing else, because within no time I am able to fly to the soul world and my normal experience is of being with Bapdada. The power in the soul multiplies each day. I can feel that that is working

on the sanskars. Transformation is taking place. I feel that most of the time, throughout the day, my mind remains so light, positive, happy, whatever is happening all around. So a practical experience is guiding me to go deeper and deeper into total self realisation. This is ultimately going to be our natural sanskar based on this practice. This will be a natural soul consciousness in the Golden Age, that we take with us from here.

Now how to experiment with the power of silence for world service. I was very happy coming up here. I saw the list of sister's and brother's participating in a continuous meditation bhakti programme, to sustain Baba's launch of the stamp. Baba's service is meant for world transformation to bring peace and happiness to the world but it's like conquering Ravan, removing him from his seat. His kingdom is going to be finished and therefore it is not acceptable to Ravan.

So Maya or Ravan is trying it's best to fight back. Any weak thoughts which arise in the minds of Brahmins who have been following shrimat for many years..what's that? It's Maya fighting back.

As Baba says you are taking away the customers of Maya so it can't stand that, losing it's job, losing it's property, belongings, everything, it's subjects. So Maya is fighting back on different levels. The subtle level is in the minds of Brahmins, which we are conquering slowly through the power of silence, or knowledge or guidance. We are sure to win there is no problem. Each day we see more victory. On the other level there are some people in the world who are not able to understand what is going on.

It is something totally different from what they have seen so far. The orthodox minded people see that we don't follow certain things which they follow in bhakti, customs or systems. So Maya fights back through them also. They criticise the system, purity, philosophy. They criticise our ways. We need to take care of the needs of Brahmins coming to Madhuban and therefore there was a need for Gyan Sarovar. People aren't able to understand, they criticise it, they write about it in the newspapers sarcastically. Such things have happened right from the beginning. You all know Baba's yagya history. When Baba started the yagya it was something new and needed purity. People can't accept it, and therefore there was agitation against the new system.

It was Baba's work, the work of the Almighty Himself, so even when there was so much opposition, it not only survived, but developed more and more internally and later externally.

As Baba's work expands and the number of Baba's children grows Maya awakens at some place or another to face and create problems. You will be wonderstruck. People should be proud of Baba's yagya and honouring His work His efforts, but the floodlight is so strong some people are blinded. Some people of Abu Road and Mount Abu are unable to accept it and a few have written to a newspaper saying this is against Hinduism. Similar things happened before, and it was through the power of silence that Baba had victory.

Through the power of silence the victory has to be there. On one side the Brahmins are very enthusiastic to do something new, something great, but on the other side

maya also comes with near equal power to fight back, but we all know that the days of maya are numbered now. Baba says that it is nothing new.

These things happened a kalpa ago and they will come to take leave from you, don't worry - continue with your work. We are in the field of action so you have to conquer it practically through your action and that action is creating a more powerful vibration through meditation.

The ultimate victory is of the pandavs but the pandavs have to fight for it. It is not just because they had the Supreme one beside them that they are victorious. So for establishment of the Golden Age, the kingdom of heaven we have to fight and conquer Maya on all levels and as Baba says it's a beautiful fight.

Expression of anger may come from the other side, but you don't have to express anger. We are supposed to do something totally opposite. If someone creates a bad atmosphere we have to win him with love and with compassion knowing that he is not able to see the reality. That comes only when in silence we keep ourselves in Baba's company, Then Baba's system, way of thinking, attitude, Baba's approach would remain in our minds and we won't hesitate to remain positive. We won't have any fear of what they do and remain confident that they will understand one day. Those that don't understand... what happens to them... what happens ultimately, we don't have to worry. Even for them Baba says have good wishes, spread good vibrations, so that they achieve at least mukti. A special meditation room was set up on that ground

and a yog bhatti was organised. Serviceable brothers and sisters went to meet each and every member of the reception committee to request a change of venue and ultimately Baba succeeded.

It was changed to Red Fort, but we had to take action, we had to go to the people and explain, they were not anti at all.

All that everyone said was I will definitely help your cause but please explain to others. So there were 12 members and the President of India was the Chairman of the reception committee, and he was very positive. He accepted our request.

When our hearts are pure our intentions are good and our aim is to serve the world, and to serve humanity, then obstructions hardly matter. Let's continue to think about what Baba has said.

Whatever happens in this age of conflicts which may sometimes look good or may not look good, it's all for the good! When some obstruction is there we plan a programme of silence. It helps us to add to our power of silence more and more. We have to continue until the day that the final flag of victory is hoisted all over the world. There is still time for that. Don't ask me how many years, I think you know it, How many years? Just a few? So I think we should have very good meditation now for about 20 minutes. Not with the thought of fear but with full confidence in the consciousness of being master almighty souls whose positive thought is to become the law.