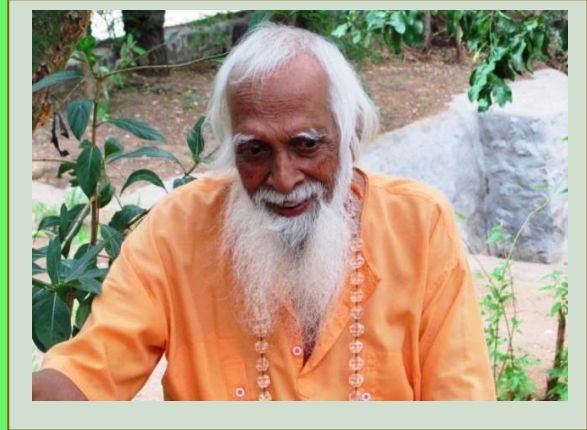


A Guru's word is a blessing in disguise

Anecdote on Swami Purushottamananda Maharaj

Narrated by Swami Shantananda Puri Maharaj

The compassion of the Guru is something beyond our understanding but it definitely works even without one's seeking it.



A Guru's word is a blessing in disguise

Dr. Shuklaji of Central Drug Research Institute at Lucknow was the most favourite disciple of my Gurudev, Swami Purushottamananda Maharaj. Once Shuklaji purchased a new car and drove it all the way to Vasishtha Guha in the Himalayas in order to get the blessings of his Gurudev. He arrived in the evening by 4:00 or so when Gurudev who was simply sitting outside the cave. Gurudev suddenly flew into a rage on seeing the doctor. He reprimanded him severely, "Who has invited you to come here? Why did you come here? Get out, go back to Lucknow. I don't want to see you for one moment longer." Dr. Shukla was highly peeved. He thought to himself, "I've never done anything wrong. Why should he set upon me like a bull dog? I can get hundreds of Swamijs."

In a fit of temper, Shuklaji drove his car back to Lucknow the same day and arrived at his house by midnight. He was surprised to see his house fully lit with two or three doctors standing there. They apprised him that his younger brother had taken ill and had become unconscious. They were unable to revive him and so they asked him, "Go and see his condition yourself." He immediately took up his stethoscope and went inside. He examined him thoroughly. He could not find anything specifically wrong with his younger brother.

Shuklaji thought of his Gurudev and mentally sought his help. Suddenly the name of an injection flashed in his mind. He took his car and went to a chemist which was open for 24 hours. When he gave the injection, his brother opened his eyes, got up and was thoroughly

normal. The doctors were all astonished. Dr. Shukla never revealed to them that it was the Grace of his Gurudev which reminded him of this injection which proved efficacious.

Now Shuklaji understood why his Gurudev behaved so rudely to him when he went to see him at the Guha. He took his car again and reached Vasishtha Guha, his Guru's abode, the next day. Now my Gurudev welcomed Shuklaji with a broad smile and asked him to have some food that was left in the kitchen. He never referred to the crisis which related to his brother.

The compassion of the Guru is something beyond our understanding but it definitely works even without one's seeking it.

**** Hari Om ****

Website: <http://www.swamishantanandapurimaharaj.org/>