

## Letter to a Householder on Prarabdha, Maya

*By Swami Shantananda Puri Maharaj,*

*[V. GUHA 6.3.97]*



My dear \_\_\_\_\_,

Om Sai Ram JAI RAM JAI JAI RAM. Japa, Prayers, Chanting of Lord's name & meditation are the only means to peace & happiness.

My programme in April 1<sup>st</sup> week is uncertain. Now I may go by the 1<sup>st</sup> week of April itself to DELHI & then to GUJARAT on 19<sup>th</sup> April. This month also (13<sup>th</sup>) may go for 2 or 3 days to nearby places where some Lord's devotees are inviting me. Apart from a lot of physical inconvenience, it will cost you a lot to come & go to this place. Soon after my Guru's birthday on 8<sup>th</sup> DEC' 97, I hope to come to South – 1 to 1½ months in KANHANGAD ANANDASHRAM & 1 to 1½ months in RAMANASHRAM, TIRUVANNAMALAI. So we shall surely meet in either of those places. When once I go to MOUN MANDIR at NADIAD, I shall

be locked in a windowless room & not allowed to meet or speak to anybody. So you can't meet me at Gujarat [April to November 97]. So please have some patience. In Dec' 97 I could even come to your place but unless God wills it, I may not have that much extra money for the fare expenses & normally nowadays I stay only in Ashrams & avoid staying in everybody's house. So please do not waste money in coming here & the purpose also will not be served.

As regards money, irrespective of whether we purchase a lottery ticket or work hard in other ways, only that money you get & that too at those times determined by the Lord as per Prarabdha. Whatever you are destined you will get even without lottery tickets. Lottery tickets, playing cards for stakes, betting money in races – these are all habit forming costly affairs where people get intoxicated & go on purchasing tickets in the hope of becoming rich & spend all their money & resources. I will not advise you to go in for such methods. Leave it to the Lord & all the money in the world you can get by praying to Him, if He wills so. I have a few Guru Bhais in very high position who used to tell me in 1975 or 76 onwards that they went to earn a few lakhs more for their family & then get out of it all. They are still earning & still telling me that they want to get out of it. This is 100% Maya. Once the devil of desire for more money (for clearing debts or for any purpose) possesses you, you can never get out of it. It is like pouring ghee in fire to extinguish fire. It will only land your family in more misery. So it is left to you. If you have LTC concession for coming this side, there is no objection to your coming. From Rishikesh Tehri Bus stand there are buses to SRINAGAR, RUDRAPRAYAG, DEVAPRAYAG or BADRINATH which will drop you at Gullar – 22 kms- about 50 minutes' journey – 10-11 Rs. Fare. Some buses go infrequently from U.P. ROADWAYS also. Swamiji here will allow you to stay for about 4-5 days maximum. I shall leave not this Guha any day after 9<sup>th</sup> April (not decided). Love and Hari Om to all at home and your good self. May God always protect you and shower his grace.

LOVE & OM

Yours Shantananda

\* \* HARI OM \* \*

**Note:** All the capital words / emphasis / sentences are as written by Swamiji. No significant editing has been done in order to retain the original form of the letter.

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