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Om Shri Shivabalayogi Maharajaya Namaha

TRANSCRIPT of CONVERSATION
with
His Holiness Shri Shri Shri Shivabalayogi Maharaj

PORTLAND, OREGON, 1990

*Conversations with Shivabalayogi tape recorded at the "Manor House"
where Swamiji was staying in Portland, Oregon, on May 18 and May 19 of 1990.*

D. Jagadish Kumar translating.

Comments by Swamiji himself are in bold italics.

Comments of the transcriber, Tom Palotas, are in brackets [].

MAY 18, 2009

- Q We understand Swamiji is eating more lunch now. Is he eating lunch more now?
- SBY He is taking food. If he doesn't take a little food in the afternoon, it makes it difficult for him to travel, and now he is traveling a lot. So he is taking a little food now.
- This time the air hostesses at British Airways are taking good care of him. Because he is traveling a lot, he feels a little weak. For many hours he had to sit in the plane, from Madras.
- Q If Swamiji approves, we [the Seattle program] have a ferry boat ride for him. Swamiji wanted to go to different districts around Seattle. So we have a devotee in Bremerton, which is one hour by ferry, each way is one hour. So we hope that is not a hardship for Swamiji. Also, a half hour to an hour driving after the ferry. So it is about a two hour trip. Actually, he would like Swamiji to stay overnight. He has some land where he would like to build a shrine and a meditation center, and he would like Swamiji to bless it. We can come back the same night or stay overnight, depending upon . . .
- SBY Is there a program there?
- Q Yes
- SBY And all the devotees will come there?
- Q Yes, it is advertised.
- SBY . . . picnic . . . [responds favorably]
- Q The program is near a big navy nuclear submarine base. We heard that Swamiji had some interest being in New Mexico where they were doing the atomic testing. Maybe Swamiji could get rid of some tension there.
- SBY He says it would be nice for him to go and visit that place, where that action is taking place. Because that way he can serve the people. He can go and bless the area.
- Q Maybe we can drive by there. Jerry would like to drive Swamiji in the antique Pierce Arrow.
- SBY Sally was to have taken Swamiji in her car, it seems, last time. Jerry took Swamiji in his car [the Pierce Arrow] then on the way [to the airport] the car [Jerry's] went out [and Sally ended up having to drive Swamiji].
- Q [Sally, somewhat surprised:] I didn't know I was supposed to even take him then. I was just following. I wasn't even scheduled to drive him there. I still got to drive him a few feet. [Jerry's car broke down almost at the airport.]
- Q [Swamiji's devotees are being served food. Isn't Swamiji eating?]
- SBY That is the way he is always. He first feeds his devotees and then he has. Back in the ashram, when we are in Bangalore, all the devotees have their food and then Swamiji has.
- Q Is there a particular reason for feeding devotees first? Is it by way of example or something else?
- SBY He is saying it is like a mother and her children. The mother first feeds her children and then she has. That is the way. Otherwise, he says, the people will give food to Swamiji and starve you all. [laughter]
- It seems in India in one place it happened. They gave Swamiji the English food. They told him that they would serve Swamiji first and they would be serving his devotees as well. So Swamiji had the food and then he found out that his devotees had had no food at all, they had not been able to eat anything at all. Since then, he takes care to see that first everyone has their food. Then only does he eat.
- In the Bangalore ashram as I told you, the same thing happens. First he feeds all the guests, the devotees who come there, then he has food. If you maintain this tradition, then the guests will be served well.



- Q Does Swamiji just prefer to eat in private?
- SBY That is the way he has it always. He always has it in his own room.
- Q It seems like every time we've heard that there is something that Swamiji likes or doesn't like so much in the way of food, next time we hear it has changed around. Is Swamiji's tastes changing or are we just not thinking right?
- SBY He says it is a matter of preparation. If the preparation isn't right. He gives the example of a court of law in which you cross-examine the witness. There is a lot of difference between the cross-examination being done properly or improperly. Sometimes if the preparation is not right, you make a mistake in the preparation, then the person who eats the cooking gets beaten up. It happens, it is not a joke.
- Q Gets beaten-up? By whom?
- J. By Swamiji, if he does not like the food, at the Bangalore ashram. First he warns you.
- Q So either you get better or you don't cook any more.
- J. That's the way he treats you. A lot of people have been treated that way.
- SBY See when you prepare the food, you should have a lot of interest and concentration in preparing the food. If you don't concentrate on that job when you are doing it, the cooking when you are doing the cooking, then that food will not be good for the health. It will spoil it. Stomach gets upset.
- Q I assume it is more than just paying attention like being careful. It's the vibration, the energy, or the attitude that one has.
- SBY He says yes, you are right.
There is a poem by another yogi in India. What he says is that even a spoon of milk of the cow is good for our health. Whereas if you take the donkey's milk, then if you take a pot of it, it is not the same. In the same way, food that is prepared out of devotion and interest, even if you take a handful, it's good.
- D I also assume that Swamiji's body is much, much more sensitive than ours. So it makes a much bigger difference to Swamiji.
- SBY What he is telling you is that he keeps traveling a lot. Whether he is in India or abroad, he is traveling a lot. In India the climate is different, the weather keeps changing. The water also keeps changing. The climate changes. The air changes. Because of that he has to be very careful with his health. Otherwise it gets upset. And that is the reason why I [Jagadish] now have been sent around with him, so that I can take care of him. I do the cooking also for him.
- [Jagadish] I am working there [in Bangalore], so I had to leave my job and take a long leave of three months. Then I didn't have a passport or anything. Because they tell me I am going with Swamiji, so within eight days all of the formalities are finished. Then I was sent. In India it takes months.
- [Swamiji] Within twenty-four hours they obtained a passport for me. We had to bring a member of parliament, I had to take him with me to the passport office to get my passport. My [Jagadish's] name is not there in the program at all [*i.e.*, given to hosts].
- D How long does it normally take to get a passport?
- J. Well, if you just apply for it and leave it aside, it takes something like a month.
- SBY The brother of Bheemaraju [Swamiji's nephew and adopted son] is named Sathyaraju. That person knows how to cook for Swamiji. He is a very good cook. He keeps going around with Swamiji in India. Now actually, he [Swamiji] had an idea to bring that person here. He lost his passport and could not find it.
- D Well, we are glad you came. Yes, wonderful drums.
- J. That is easily played. It is he [Sathyaraju] who takes care of Swamiji most of the time.
- D He does good bhajans.
- SBY He says if you people also get trained in cooking, then he will _____. But not here. If you will come to India then the people in India will train you, the people in the ashram who cook for Swamiji. ([Jagadish:] see I don't cook there either.) See if you have interest to learn, only then will you be allowed to come and learn. Otherwise you will not get inside the kitchen.
- D We asked this question a little earlier but I am not sure I understood the answer. He asked whether Bheemaraju when he came to Seattle would stay in Seattle after Swamiji left or would travel with Swamiji to the east coast.
- SBY He says he will stay. Because he has to get more of his training. He needs to keep him here, just leave him here.
- D We have offered for him to stay with us at our house.
- SBY Yes. He has _____ Bheemaraju.
- D Bheemaraju said at one point that he might get his own separate apartment. Get an apartment in Seattle and stay permanently, for a year or something.
- SBY He says that will be after he completes his training.
- D His idea was that Swamiji would come and stay for extended periods.



SBY He says you want to keep Swamiji for a year in Seattle?

D Is [PK] coming back to America?

SBY Your friend will not be able to come here and he will not be able to follow Swamiji on the tour. If his mind is not right he will not be allowed to go around with Swamiji. **“Get out.”** If a person is travelling around with Swamiji, his mind should be alright.

You know this person [PK] rang up [telephoned] this person Tom, and he asked for him to send money for his travels. [PK] got around fifty thousand rupees from here. He spent all that. Now he says he doesn't have any money for ticket. People here have sent money to him, one a thousand dollars another a thousand. He took all that money and now he says he doesn't have any more.

When he came from here to India he took [M's] camera without telling her. Now he has sold the camera in India. [M] came to the ashram in Bangalore, she told Swamiji about that. So this lady, it seems, is searching for the camera in the house and she couldn't find it, so she just thought probably [PK] must have taken it. When she comes to India she asks him. Swamiji asked him to sit in one place and do tapas.

Swamiji has told him that he is not supposed to travel around with Swamiji. Last time he created a lot of trouble for Swamiji. Going back to India he carried a lot of jewelry, gold, and all. When travelling with Swamiji this is not right. The customs in India are very strict. And that is the reason Swamiji has asked him not to travel with Swamiji. When he entered India he had all this jewelry entered on his passport. Then he says he has lost his passport.

D We haven't seen [Z] since he came back.

SBY [Z] was doing the same thing as this. He also brought some gold bangles. Swamiji asked him to get them entered into his passport. They were trying to sell them, but couldn't. The government does not permit you to bring gold inside India. If you take gold to India you have to get it entered into your passport. When you are going out you are supposed to take it back. [Z] tried a lot to sell that gold. **“No permission.”**

If this happens the Indian government will not issue the visa to Swamiji the next time. Swamiji has to be very careful.

D Did [Z] understand that he was putting Swamiji into jeopardy?

SBY He [Swamiji] told [Z] that he would not be able to sell his gold. It was Swamiji who got them entered into his passport.

Swamiji says he doesn't like people going against the government of India. It makes it difficult for him. He keeps telling people not to misbehave and follow the rules. He himself does that. The people around him, they themselves do it. [Z] couldn't do anything. He had to carry it back. He went to Singapore and I think he sold them there. He tried a lot to sell the bracelets in India. He tried to sell them to Swamiji's devotees. **“No chance.”** From Bangalore he went to Delhi and then to Singapore. He stayed with Swamiji four months. It seems he got the gold in England. At that time Swamiji told him not to bring that.

Swamiji says he didn't have any trouble with him. He used to do his meditation. He was there in the ashram. He went along with Swamiji to Dehra Dun, and then Hyderabad. **“No trouble at all.”** He used to mind his own business, mind his own job, without creating any trouble for Swamiji. [PK] made trouble for Swamiji here as well as there.

D You must have a lot of patience to put up with your naughty children, all of us.

SBY He says at times I just beat them up. [laughter] **“No problem”** (laughing). He says he warns them about ten times. After that, the eleventh time, he just asks them to get out. Especially for [PK], Swamiji has advised him about a hundred times. Everybody has something to report. One says he lost his bag, one says he lost his money purse, one his camera, one a passport.

At the airport, last time, when he was leaving for India with Swamiji, he started telling people that he had lost his ticket, that all the devotees could each give a hundred dollars. Then after Swamiji passed through the customs into the airport, then he announced that he has got his ticket back. Swamiji himself was shocked, he says. This time at the airport it was the same thing. They are about to leave and again he announces that he has lost his ticket. Then Swamiji had to announce to everyone at the ashram that no one should give him any money for his ticket. Then he got back his ticket, found it.

D When he called us for money, we almost gave it.

SBY The second time you [Tom] called [PK in Bangalore], the phone was picked up in Swamiji's room. Swamiji was there. That's why he stopped you [from talking with PK; laughter].

D Does Swamiji know ahead of time if somebody is going to do something like this?

SBY There is another big story. **“Big story.”** Last time when Swamiji went to Seattle, from Seattle when he went to Raleigh, there through a letter he discovered that the tickets were sold to the public there for [a retreat]. Sixty-five dollars for a ticket. They had a program for



three days and for each day around a thousand tickets were sold, each costing sixty-five dollars.

D Did Swamiji make them give it back?

SBY Swamiji got a letter. Somebody who had bought a ticket like that, he sent a letter to that address. So that letter came to Swamiji also. He made Mr. [Shiladitya] Singh read that letter. They had opened an account in a bank, in the name of the Shivabalayogi Maharaj Trust. They used to operate from it without Swamiji's knowledge. Swamiji did not know about it at all. After he came to know about it, Swamiji immediately called the bank and asked them to freeze the account. Then he made the bank give out all the money to these people. He canceled the program himself. He didn't go to the location where the program was.

Then [PK], what he told Swamiji was you cannot cancel the program now because if you cancel the program then we have to pay compensation to these people. Then Swamiji told him well, I've got plenty of devotees here. You can bear those expenses. I am not going to go to the program and I am not going to sell this way.

Then Swamiji had to send around fifty cars to bring those people from that location where the program had been arranged to the residence where Swamiji was staying. He called then there and he actually scolded them. Why did you give money? Swamiji went to the TV and he also went to the newspapers that he teaches the meditation without cost. You knew that so why did you pay money here? They paid the taxi fare and they were very happy that Swamiji called them to the residence. From that time on, he says, he has driven that group out. You know [S], right? That lady was also involved in that. She has been asked to go away from Swamiji and she's not supposed to see Swamiji.

This time he's not going to give a chance to _____. Only [M] is going to look after the programs. All this is not known to [M], yet. "**Story. Big story.**" This is the story of [PK].

He says at Santa Barbara he'd given a statement saying that he doesn't charge anybody for meditation. And at Raleigh he said he is not going to charge anybody for meditation. He says all this. Then he goes from Seattle to Raleigh and he finds this. So it shocked him.

RE Jagadish, so it shocked Swamiji. We have found a place where people can come to do, like a retreat with Swamiji where if they want they can stay. They have a lot of cabins. If they want they can stay in a cabin. That would cost some money. But if they just wanted to come to the program and don't want to stay there, there's no charge for the program. There would only be if they wanted to stay in the cabins. Would Swamiji approve something like that?

J Which program are you talking about?

RE This is something we would like to plan for next year.

RK It would be a program where the public could come to the meditations for free. But local devotees may chose to stay in cabins and pay for their own cabins.

SBY No problem, he says.

RE OK.

SBY He says the people of the committee, you should come forward and form a group. The group should meet and they should approach the devotees of Swamiji and then collect the funds for Swamiji's trip here, Swamiji's expenses here. And that's how they should get the money and arrange the programs. Because there are lots of devotees of Swamiji here. Even if each devotee gives only a hundred dollars, you got some two hundred devotees here. That comes to twenty thousand dollars. That's a lot of money for Swamiji's expenses. That's the way you draw the money, he says.

RE Jagadish, there's a lot of devotees of Swamiji that we don't know because they don't come to the meditations and they don't help with the programs. But they come to all the programs. Can we ask these people? We have weekly meditations but they don't come to the meditation and they don't help with the set up of the programs and they don't donate anything. But they come to the programs when Swamiji is here. Can we ask those people to contribute?

SBY He says you're not right. Your mind is not working right. The programs which you arrange, they'll not come to you, your programs. They'll not listen to you. Even if Swamiji advises you a lot you'll not change your mind, he says.

He says if you get the addresses of all the devotees and a month before Swamiji comes here you should write to all of them and have a meeting here. Once they come here you should ask them which item are they going to bear the expenses for. Then you should give that item to them. Each of the devotees can take on one item. Same thing happens in India also.

P I think that's what we did. We sent a copy of what we did along with our letter of invitation. This went out about a month before Swamiji came. And we estimated the total number of expenses that we thought it would be and asked whether people could . . . Bheemaraj advised us to do this. Did Swamiji see this letter that we sent?

SBY [no translation] "**Yes.**" What's the purpose of taking the address? What's the purpose of collecting the address from the devotees? How many people did you inform about Swamiji's program?



RK In the Portland area, Oregon, about two hundred fifty people.

SBY [no translation] He says there's around two thousand devotees here. "**Portland, Portland.**" There are about two thousand devotees in Portland. [You] give the information to the people you like. The last time [caught? saw?] the same thing.

RK We sent letters to all the devotees . . .

SBY [very animated, not allowing devotee to speak] He says let's not have this discussion now. You are giving the information, you are informing the people whom you like. He says Swamiji's devotees are devotees, that's all. It would not matter whether you like them or not. It shouldn't matter.

RK We haven't played favorites with anybody. We wrote everybody who's put their name on the list. Anybody who has signed up.

SBY [Do you have a copy of the list?]

RK The list that we had sent?

J You show me what you have.

SBY Did you have a meeting a month before Swamiji came here? Did you ask them to come to the meeting?

RK No, we didn't.

SBY "**Same, same.**"

TP We [in Seattle] did but very few came.

P We wrote a letter to every single initiate in Seattle. There's four hundred fifty there. These are people that have signed the initiate list. If people came and didn't sign, we're not aware of them. We invited every single one of these to a meeting and one person came, one new person.

SBY He says once Swamiji goes there, to Seattle, then all the people will come. At that time you can get the collection. Automatically they will give the money.

TP As done this way? A simple announcement at the end of the program?

SBY He says yes, that's right. He says there's nothing wrong with that. They'll give with a lot of happiness.

TP That's what we think. [But] money is important in this country and people don't like to part with it.

SBY He says you misunderstand. In every country people give money. It's only because you are not asking for it, that's all.

Your court does not give you money, he says. [Laughs]

But in every country the people do give money. He says for the sake of philosophy, people do spend a lot of money. In Bangalore we get a lot of money as

donations there. All the buildings, very big buildings. Now the new one that we have started now. It is one hundred feet wide and about three hundred feet long. It's a _____. Within six months

[Two sentences lost in recording.]

The first thing that he said was there are people born for that purpose. You will have to specifically put aside an item for each person. It should be itemized. It should not just be money.

P That's working much better than just asking for money.

SBY It could be like the [airline] tickets. It could be Swamiji's stay, Swamiji's cooking and expenses, the expenses for the publicity. Each person, whichever item he is interested in, he can just put his [name there]. If he puts his signature there, that is enough. If he doesn't give today, then he can give tomorrow.

It is not necessary to mention there the amount that will be required. But if you tell him whatever amount is required for that particular item, he'll have to give that.

J [clarifying] You don't have to mention on the sheet. Whatever is the expenses for that item, they will have to bear it.

SBY After he agrees to pay for it, then you tell him [laughter].

P We have an example of that exactly. A devotee has become extremely distressed about spending that money. [Not translated]

SBY Swamiji has come here, right? One of the devotees had asked Swamiji, "I want to do something for the Bangalore ashram. What should I do?" So I [Jagadish?] told him about two items. So it's up to him to chose any of the two items. He'll come to Bangalore and he'll come to know what is being done. Then he will decide what to offer. That's the way it should be done. It'll happen automatically, he says. You don't have to worry about it.

TP It will require more trust by us because I think we want to control and to make sure we have everything in place with plenty of time early, so we want to organize more.

SBY He says if you worry you'll not be able to work in the court.

J Using his intellect and using his mind, he'll start worrying about it then he won't be able to do it.

SBY You have Swamiji's blessings. You will get all that is required automatically. You don't have to worry about it. Whatever you expect, you're going to get ten times more than what you expect.



He says before we came to Portland we went to Reno. That's a new place. He didn't go there earlier. Swamiji has not visited that place. So many people have come forward and who say we are all ready to do Swamiji's tour.

TP Ready to do something for Swamiji.

SBY Two people have come to us in Las Vegas. That's again a new place. He has not been there. Even now they keep ringing, "You tell me now what is service . . ."

P Sounds like we've been a little bit short on faith. [Not translated]

SBY He is telling you, you can plan for it and then you'd type out a list of the items. If you do that much, the people will automatically come, he says.

TP I have set up a bank account in Swamiji's name. It has maybe a thousand dollars in it. Is that necessary then? Or should I just keep it for people who just want to give money?

J Who?

TP Ask Swamiji if it is even necessary to have a bank account then.

SBY Yes. Whatever money you receive in donations you can put there.

TP The books are in the car if Swamiji wants to look!

SBY He says not now. He'll come over to Seattle, then. He says he doesn't doubt you, the "liar" [lawyer].

J It's late. Can Swamiji go now?

The End

MAY 19, 2009

Comments arising from retranslation of some portions by Bheemaraju in braces { }.

D Will Swamiji tell us how he described God to the devotees in Reno?

SBY He says if you ask him [S., another devotee present], he will tell you about it, what Swamiji talked about. "Talking"

D Describe God for us S.

S. I can't do it as good as Swami. The best answer that I heard was Swami said God is like all of you, I see all of you I see God.

SBY Swamiji asks you to tell them what he said that day, what he talked that day.

S. Then he said God is like mercury, the color of mercury. It comes as a point of light and opens up into a figure. Sometimes you can see like a beam.

SBY He says whatever he has described . . . He says you should put a question and then he will answer you there. Why do you worry about what happened in Reno. You just ask him what you want then he will tell you.

D Well, the question is could Swamiji describe God for us.

SBY "Yes." If you meditate you will come to know how he is.

D How long would I have to meditate, Swamiji?

SBY One second. Well, it could be in a second or it could be twelve years.

D How can it be a second?

SBY If you read Swamiji's history you will come to know. Within a second he went into samadhi.

D Was Jesus' crucifixion a mistake or was it part of Jesus' mission to be crucified?

SBY He says yes, it is a very wrong thing that happened to him. It is a great wrong done to him.

D In Christianity we think he intentionally came in order to be crucified. So that's not correct.

SBY He says at that time there were no Christians. When he was crucified there were no Christians at all.

D But Christianity teaches now that it was all planned that way.

SBY What is the use of that?

D I don't know. That's why I ask.

SBY He says that at that time what the government had done, what the rulers had done, that was wrong. When the public went and complained against him to the rulers, even that was wrong. He has come to serve the country and the people. The impression the religious leaders were trying to create was that he was going against the country and he was trying to harm the country. It is no use, whatever way you try to tell him, the end, what has happened is wrong. Now you try to tell him in a hundred ways . . .

D No this is how the Christians explained it . . . to make it OK. Just because it was already known because of prophesy doesn't make it right. Because it was known



- that he would be crucified through the prophesy of other seers. But that doesn't make it right.
- SBY Where is this prophesy coming from, can you explain that? Who came to know that Christ going to be [crucified]?
- D . . . Christ knew . . .
- SBY They couldn't catch Christ, it seems. Within a second he was caught. {Bheemaraj confirms Jagadish's translation. Unfortunately, he does not know what Swamiji intended to say. Perhaps the meaning is that Christ could not have known ahead.} He has come to save the people, he has come to serve the people, not to be crucified. Well with the Christians writing it like that, explaining it like that, it is after everything has happened.
- Now see Swamiji is sitting here in front of you and talking to you. And he is doing everything right, yes. He is telling you what is right and what is wrong and all that. Now after this time is over, after Swamiji, people could write about him in any way.
- D So when they write, for example, that the earlier prophets, like five hundred years before, had prophesied that a Christ would come and be crucified, that's just people saying something up? [sic]
- SBY He says there is only astrology. They can only foresee what is happening. But as he said, that does not make it right or wrong. That won't make the wrong right. They knew that was going to happen, that is all.
- It was also written about Swamiji, by the great sages, that he is going to be born at this and this time. And everything about Swamiji is written. And that he is also going to serve the people. Now he is serving the people. Now let us say the government calls him a traitor. All the sages have written about him that he is going to come and serve all the people. Now if the government calls him a traitor and arrests him and puts him in jail, what is going to happen?
- "Same, same." Same thing happened to Christ. Same thing has happened to Christ, also to Mohammed, also to Buddha, he says.
- D Buddha died naturally.
- SBY "No, no." He was poisoned.
- D Buddha was poisoned?
- SBY "Yes."
- D And Mohammed, too?
- SBY Mohammed was not poisoned. His head was cracked open.
- D Will the Christians ever come to understand that Jesus was a yogi, and understand who Jesus really was?
- SBY [somewhat indifferently] He says that if they understand it is good and well. But if they don't they will keep increasing their own tensions, their own troubles. He says the whole Christianity will come down, it will fall.
- D Was Jesus a yogi, an avatar, or both?
- SBY "Yogi." He says a yogi.
- D Did Jesus study in India?
- SBY "Yes." He says he studied {not studied but did tapas} in India. He studied the Jewish language [philosophy?], he studied there himself. {Swamiji did not say the last sentence.} Then came to the Himalayas "*Himalayas*" in India and he did the tapas there. He did penance there. Again for twelve years.
- D So was his death then accidental?
- SBY He says it was a plan. He says the religious leaders that were in power at that time, they didn't like him. So they were just trying to plan to catch him in some way and then get him punished. That's how the plan . . .
- D I guess what I meant was . . .
- SBY That is not the natural death for him, he says. It was before time. It was a death before . . .
- D That's what I mean. Is there such a thing as accidental death in the sense that . . . Like how foreordained are things within say God's plan, and then do people actually die before their time. It sounds like Swamiji is saying they do, as in the case of Jesus.
- SBY [emphatically] "Yes." People do die before their time.
- D So that suggests there is not as much destiny, or foreordained, or fate?
- SBY He says that there is nothing like that. That there is nothing like destiny. Even Christ, after he died, after he lost his body, he got people into the line. He did achieve his goal but after he lost his body. Through his atma, his spirit. His spirit worked a lot. "*Atma, atma.*" He says his spirit worked in spite of losing his body. He got what he wanted. He did achieve his goal. He did hit them right, and then he achieved his goal. He says that even in that time Christ had put the people in the right path. It was the religious leaders who tried to deviate them from the right path.
- D It sounds like what Swamiji was saying is that there were writings of Swamiji prior to his coming, about his coming, predicted. What are these writings? Are they available, do we read them?
- SBY Yes, the books are available. It is known by the name of *nadi*.
- D Are these written on leaves?



SBY At that time they did not have the paper. So they are writing on leaves. In that, it seems, Christ's history was found; the *nadi*.

D How old are these writings?

SBY He says just like you are now recording what Swamiji has said, at that time all the maharishis, all the sages, they sat around in a meeting like this, and they wrote down what was going to happen in the future. People like you they put questions, and then the answers are come out from the sages, and that was written down. That has become the *nadi*.

D Can we get a hold of this *nadi*?

SBY There are people who have then now, in India. So you will have to get it from them.

D And what was written down, were they predictions or plans?

SBY Yes, it contains both, both the plan as well as the predictions.

D Isn't that destiny then?

SBY He says that there [it is] written down that if a person is born at this time, then this is what he is going to be. Now to make you understand he is giving you an example of the telephone, and how you using the telephone can contact the whole world, just by dialing a few digits. I hope you understand what he means. the time of birth it contains everything about the man. So if you can read that properly, just like the telephone call. If the call is properly decoded, then you can reach any point in the world, right? So in the same way the date of birth and the time of birth, if that is properly read, if that is properly understood, that contains the whole history of the man, everything.

D As well as future lives?

SBY Everything.

Not just Christ and Mohammed and Buddha that you have been talking about that have been killed like this. Lots of other sages in India, old sages also have been killed like that.

D And so that was a part of destiny then. It wasn't accidental death.

SBY When you say destiny you mean what God willed, right? (Yes) He says God will never will like that. If God really wished that that should happen to Christ, how could he develop so much? I mean that Christianity has now survived for two thousand years, right? It has spread like anything. How do you think that has happened in spite of Christ's dying? It is because his spirit has worked. How could his spirit work if God willed that Christ should die?

D Is that why his disciples wrote in the Bible that . . .

SBY He says the Bible is not original. "**No Bible original, no Mahabharata original.**" He says neither the Bible is the original one nor is the Mahabharata the original one. Mahabharata, the epic of India.

It gets changed. That's not real history as such. Neither the Bible nor the Mahabharata is actual history as it happened. They get changed.

He says because Christ was punished in that way, the emperor or the king would have taken care that everything about Christ would have been destroyed. He would have seen to it that everything is destroyed.

Again, he takes the example of the Mahabharata where the fight was between two groups of people, right? So in the end one group of people had won. It is their descendants that are ruling the country. So they will see to it that everything that is written in the book is bad about the other group. You have got the point, right? So they take care that the other group is always shown as the bad group in all ways possible. So history gets distorted because of that.

D So what is the relationship then between accidental death and destiny? Is everything then destined?

SBY OK, you are going by a car. Then you have an accident and you die. Actually, you are supposed to live for another ten years. So what is that? "**Same.**"

D Same, accidental death.

SBY Even Christ's death, he says, is accidental death. It is not the normal death.

He says because Christ was a yogi, in spite of losing his body, he could still attain his goal. He could still serve the people and go ahead.

D If Christ was a yogi, obviously he was very powerful. Why did he allow that to happen? Why did he allow them to kill him?

SBY He says if the devotees are idiots, [Swamiji chuckles] that's what will happen to him, gurus.

D That was the next question. Did it happen because of jealousy in the devotees?

SBY [without any translation] "**Yes . . .**" If the devotees are idiots and fools. That's why they got their guru caught.

D Did Jesus know, and these other yogis, did they know beforehand that they would be murdered?

SBY He says, those people even if they know, or if they don't know about it, it doesn't matter for them. Because if they have their physical body or not they can still do their work. "**No interest.**" The death of



- the body is not a really big thing for them. So they don't care about it. They don't mind.
- D Like Swamiji. He doesn't care about his body.
- SBY The other day you asked him about some atom bombs and all. And he told you that he doesn't care for any. So he says whether he has his body or not, he is going to do his work.
- When he was about to install the, when Swamiji was about to open the temple and install the idols there, he was not supposed to install the idol of Brahma. That was what our history, our Shastras [scriptures] used to say. The Brahma, Vishnu, Maheshwara idols were put there, right? Now the Brahma's idol was not supposed to be installed by any human being and he is not supposed to be worshipped. According to our history. We are not supposed to worship God Brahma. But he did that. He installed the actual idol of Brahma and now we are performing puja to him. We are now performing the worship to him. The scriptures forbid that. Our scriptures they forbid that. So all the religious leaders they told him, they warn him that if you do this you are going to die. He says it doesn't matter. If I die I'll come back again. He says if in the process of installing that idol if I die, I'll again take birth and again I shall see to it that it is installed. But actually it is called the consecration, right, giving life to the idol. He gives the life to that.
- D What does Swamiji do? How does he imbue the idol with?
- SBY He says that if you see that then you will understand. Without seeing it, how can you understand that? If you are ready to construct a Brahma-Vishnu-Maheshwara temple here, he says he is ready to consecrate that and you can watch that then you can see. "**You understand.**" Then you will understand what it is.
- D Was it religious leaders who said not to worship Brahma?
- J No actually, it is a curse to Brahma by the other gods, that he should not be worshipped. Actually it is by a sage. A sage goes and he gives a curse to Brahma that henceforth he will not be worshipped in this world. Because of some wrong . . . Finally he gets a curse. So since then, nobody is worshipping Brahma in this world.
- SBY In India only there is one place where he is being worshipped.
- J In Ajmir. There is one temple of Brahma. Only there is he worshipped, nowhere else. Now he has installed the idol up there and he has also consecrated Brahma.
- D So then has Swamiji lifted the curse?
- J Yes. You are right. Through his penance that curse has been nullified.
- D What is the significance of that, of the curse being lifted?
- J Through his penance, that curse got automatically lifted.
- D Why is that important? What does that mean? We don't understand. We don't know Brahma very well.
- SBY He says it is like playing the vina. You know the instrument vina? It is something like a sitar. It is a stringed instrument. It is considered to be a very fine instrument. It gives a lot of pleasure to people who know about it. OK, so talking about Brahma to you people now will be like playing that instrument in front of a buffalo.
- D So we must learn about Brahma now.
- SBY He says yes, learn all that. You will understand how we are born, why we are born, and what we are doing, and why we live and all that.
- D What's a good way to learn about Brahma then.
- SBY He is asking you to read the history of Brahma.
- D Any particular book?
- SBY He says yes. The *Yoga Vasishtha*.
- D We still have no good copies in America, of the *Yoga Vasishtha*. We have no good translation, Swamiji told us, of the *Yoga Vasishtha*.
- SBY In India there are some, he says.
- Well, these three people, Brahma, Vishnu and Maheshwara, out of them Vishnu and Brahma they wanted to find out who was great within themselves. So between them who was greater, they wanted to find out that. So Shiva, he became a linga.
- So at that time Shiva he took the form of a linga, he says. Swami tells us that at that time he took the form of linga. And that linga stretched right from the depth of the oceans to the sky. Now the competition was that whoever could go to the ends of that, reached the end and come back to the middle again, he was the greatest. So then Vishnu started going down and Brahma started going up. So both of them couldn't reach the end. But then they came back again to the middle. So Brahma, he told a lie saying he has reached the end and then come back. Because of that Shiva cursed him that henceforth he will not have worship, in the world.
- So because that curse was given by Shiva himself, and Swamiji was made to sit in tapas by Shiva, by doing penance, by doing tapas, Swamiji has canceled the



- curse. So Brahma got relief from this curse. Now anybody can worship Brahma. **“No trouble.”**
- D How long has this curse been in place?
- SBY He says, since how long have you been born, in different births? Since then this curse is there.
- D Swamiji said last time he was here that there was a curse placed on the Hebrews because of their crucifixion of Jesus, and that he (Swamiji) was going to lift that curse. Is that still . . .
- SBY He says now he has installed the linga in Italy. When he goes to Israel to that place where this has happened — is that in Jerusalem? — So if Swamiji goes there and installs the Shivalinga there, that will be the end of the curse. The people will be free from that curse.
- D Could Swamiji explain to us what is behind the placing of the Shivalinga, what that gives us, what it does that makes that so significant? It is a very powerful thing and I don’t understand why.
- SBY What’s the meaning behind your being born? What does that mean? When you say you are born, what is the meaning?
- D Your spirit comes into form?
- SBY He says that the installation of the linga is to bring Lord Shiva into a form So that then people will come into the devotional line. Their tension will be reduced. And they also will start doing tapas, penance, and things like that. So he has to do that.
- [directed to another devotee there who traveled with Swamiji to Italy] Have you been to Italy, along with Swamiji? He wants you to tell them how much devotion those people are performing the worship to that linga.
- . . . [no audible response]
- He says by installing a linga like that and consecrating it, krores [ten millions] of people will become devotees. Ten million is a kroe. So krores of people will become devotees there. And lots of people will do tapas and become yogis, because of that installation of one linga. He says Lord Shankara Bhagavan [Shiva] is in that symbol. So by installing it, this is what will happen.
- D Can any natural oval stone from any river be a Shivalinga or does it have to be from the river in India that is so sacred?
- SBY Only from the river Narmada. From Omkareshwara. There is a temple, there is a place called Omkareshwara. He says the other Shivalingas which are made by hand, by us, they are of no use.
- D Did you bring one in your luggage? Did you bring a Shivalinga in your luggage?
- SBY He says he doesn’t have any work to bring that here. If you build a temple then he is ready to bring it here.
- D If we build it . . . then he will bring us one?
- SBY Yes. With the government . . .
- D What do you need for a temple?
- SBY He says otherwise if you don’t build a temple and if he wants to bring that here the government will arrest him, for having brought this Shivalinga over here. **“Yes.”**
- D Whose government? [Swamiji is talking throughout quite animated.]
- SBY Both the Indian government will object to it and the American government also. Because we took a linga to Sri Lanka, he had a lot of trouble in that place. He had to take the permission of the government of India. He will take the permission of the government of India and also the government of Sri Lanka to do that.
- D If we build a temple, he will install a Shivalinga?
- SBY **“Yes.”** Yes. He says he will send a person to Narmada, to that river, then he will get a linga from there.
- D Does he have a suggestion where we should build this temple.
- SBY He says put it on your head. [laughter] You can go and search and look for a place. He says you should search for a place, select a place, and then you should tell Swamiji, this is the place we have selected for it. He will tell you whether that place is right, OK or not. OK, he will tell you a place. Will you do that?
- D Yes
- SBY In Washington you have the President’s house, the White House.
- D Oh, you want it on the front lawn, huh?
- SBY In the White House.
- D Oh, in the White House. [laughter]
- SBY That is in your court. You will have to come up with [laughter].
- D In the White House or on the front lawn?
- SBY In the White House. If you get a temple ready in the White House, the responsibility of bringing the linga and installing it there is Swamiji’s. **“Yes.”** [laughter]
- D Can we do it first on the astral planes, just for practice?
- SBY He says if he does it in the astral plane he will be considered a thief.



Whatever we want to do we will have to do it openly, in this real world. He says this lawyer himself [referring to another devotee there] will start punishing him then. He himself will pull Swamiji to the courts, just like Christ was pulled to the courts. [Swamiji laughs] **“Understand?”**

D Yes.

J That is why he answered like that.

SBY [Jagadish laughs] OK, he has got a good idea for you now. You will stand for the President in the next election. Swamiji will then put you in President. [laughter] **“No problem.”** [Swamiji laughing]

D And my main platform is that I want to put a Shivalinga in the Oval Office. [laughter]

SBY He says well Swamiji was born to install the idol of Brahma and consecrate it. So that is the reason even the Indian government could not do anything about it. Otherwise all the religious leaders there, they tried a lot to get him caught with that reason. They could not succeed. **“And no king . . .”**

He says there in India it’s not a monarchy now. That’s the reason we didn’t have any problems. Now it’s a democracy so the people are the kings. That’s the reason we didn’t have a problem in doing what we want. Had it been a monarchy, the same thing that happened to Christ would have happened to Swamiji for having installed the linga. Because it was not a monarchy there was no king there, Swamiji was saying.

“Same, same, Christ same . . . astral bodies . . . bhajans” He said the same thing happened even during the time of Christ. Christ started spreading this line of meditation. Then he also had this astral bodies, he also started the trance **“bhava samadhi”** the bhava samadhi **“bhajan”**. So the people didn’t like it. He started the bhajans also. The people didn’t like it, the religious leaders, they didn’t like it. They were jealous about him. They reported him to the king. He says well in the same way now also the religious leaders they went and complained to the government. But the government couldn’t do anything.

D Is it similar to when Swamiji went to Bangalore and emptied out all the other ashrams, so the other spiritual leaders got kind of angry and back at Swamiji?

SBY Yes.

D Jesus did the same.

SBY At that time, when Swamiji tried to establish his ashram in Bangalore, lots of other religious leaders who had their *maths*, they call their place a *math* [a religious center], very big people, very prosperous and rich and very powerful people they were. Those

people they tried to drive off Swamiji from Bangalore. Tried a lot. They sent the ruffians over to Swamiji’s ashram. At that time my uncle was with Swamiji, at the ashram. My uncle and the other three, the few volunteers who were with Swamiji, they fought with them and they drove them off.

D Should we plan or prepare ourselves or not be surprised if we find resistance in this country to Swamiji?

SBY He says in the whole world, nobody can do anything to me now. Now his policy itself is different. His policy, the way he works. The way he gets things done is totally different now. He says he is just going to teach you meditation and ask you to practice it. So how can the people catch him now? If he starts the religious feelings, then there will be trouble. Or if he works against the government, then he will have trouble. Now all that he does is give you the meditation and asks you to practice it. So what can they do about it?

D And by religious feelings, creating a kind of an organization? Is that what he had in mind?

SBY He says yes. Now we have already religion like Christianity, Buddhism, and Hinduism, and Muslims, like this. Because of that there is trouble. But this time he is going to just unite all those people. He is not going to create a religion as such. Because of that they will not have any chance to trouble him now. The actual words he uses are: if they try troubling me, I am going to kill them. Now all the trouble that they wanted to give me they have already given me. It’s all over now. You take the example of America itself. Can the government issue orders saying that Swamiji should not come here and give meditation classes?

D In theory . . . Only in a visa situation . . . It wouldn’t be correct but it is theoretically possible that some bureaucrat decides that Swamiji is a threat. I mean it’s possible.

SBY He says well, if the government asks him not to do this here, then he is going to put an argument to the court saying that Christ doesn’t belong to your country. His question he is going to put is does Christ belong to this country? What will be the answer?

D No.

SBY What will be the judgment then? He says well this is the cross-examination. You tell me what the judge is going to do about it?

D I think in this country the judges would protect Swamiji.

SBY Now he is going to say that this is a democratic country, right? In a democratic country anyone can that, right? Then Swamiji will tell them, OK, you pass



a bill making it a rule, saying that only these people can stay here. Then I will go back. **“No trouble.”** [Swamiji laughs] You will have to get that rule made, the bill passed in your parliament. Then he will go back.

D If the United States devotees make mistakes, could that interfere with Swamiji’s mission?

SBY Swamiji himself keeps warning all his devotees. He keeps correcting them every now and then. He keeps controlling them. **“No trouble.”** [Swamiji chuckling] He says neither the government nor the public will be able to do anything about it. He says if we criticize a religion, a particular religion, then they can trouble us. Not otherwise. Whereas what he is now doing he is going to support every religion. He is not going to ask anyone to change their religion. If some people come and tell him I don’t want your support, If some religion comes and tells him we don’t want your support, then he will not train those people, that is all. So he will ask those people to control the people of that religion, from coming to Swamiji, that’s all. You get the point? **“No trouble.”** Now at this time most of the countries have democracy. **“No king.”** King doesn’t have the eyes, he says. He doesn’t see properly. Even the judges don’t have eyes. Whatever the powerful lawyer tells him the judge keeps doing that. **“Same, same.”**

D Why is Swamiji doing this for us? Doing his work, helping us so much?

SBY He says he has come here to reduce the tension and to give you peace. Now on one side you have the atom bombs with you. So you need protection from them. You need some protection against them. That’s why he is here.

He is asking you, he is wondering how much change is there in this country from last year to this year? If you just let some more years pass by there is going to be a lot more change. It will become like our Rajasthan. That’s a desert. The climate is going to change so fast. Just let it go by some more years. It is going to become a desert.

D And Swamiji is going to affect the environment?

SBY He says not the environment. I am going to change the people, I am going to change the mind of the people.

D So we don’t pollute as much . . . change the consciousness.

SBY He says he will change your mind so that you will protect yourself from some egotist, some crackpot who is going to push the button and explode these bombs.

D There’s a theory called the hundredth monkey theory where if enough people raise their consciousness that it will shift the balance of the world. Is that so?

It means like if we get enough people that raise their consciousness to a certain level that it will automatically shift the consciousness of the rest of the planet, and that the planet can be saved that way. The reason why it is called the monkey is this was a controlled experiment done on an island with monkeys. And they found that if they gave monkeys . . . They were teaching them to do something, with tools, and when they hit the one hundredth . . . With sticks and rocks. What happened was the monkeys taught each other on this one island. Had them break open coconuts or something with a stick. Then on an adjacent island, after a certain number of the monkeys had started learning how to do it, then, on the adjacent island the other monkeys spontaneously started to use the tools without ever having to be taught. So people have extrapolated that . . .

SBY This is not a big thing. The monkey has got much more intelligence than we have. [laughter]

He says we don’t have to teach it anything. It can teach us a lot. We will have to learn a lot from the monkeys. You don’t have to teach the monkey, he says. You will have to learn from the monkey. He says the monkey has a lot of intelligence. More than man. It can do anything. He says a monkey can burn the whole of America within ten days. If it has the interest to do that. He takes the example of Hanuman. These are the descendants of Hanuman. He says these monkeys are all the relations of Hanuman. [Jagadish breaks into uncontrollable laughter]

To your question, the answer is yes. If you change the intellect of some people automatically the others will change. He says OK we are now ten people sitting here. If he changes the mind of a few, then there will be discussions between the people here. So the minds of the other people also will change. That’s what will happen.

That is the reason he keeps calling you here. He is asking you to learn more, learn well. That’s why he asks you to mix up with the people, mix up with the rest of the people. You should be just one of them. With that, the tension will come down. If you just stick to your own ego, then the tension will come down.

He gives another example. He says you people have supported the men who made the bombs. You have voted for the government who prepared these bombs, these atom bombs. Now there is a danger to you. So what are you going to do about it? To which country are you going to go from here? Now every country has got its own bombs. So where are you going to go now? Where are you going to explode, on which country are you going to put these bombs?



D Is our responsibility primarily to meditate or should we be active politically?

SBY He says you need not do anything in politics. The politicians themselves will come to help, he says. Well, what he actually says the slap. As they keep receiving more and more slaps they will come down and they will return to us. You don't have to go and tell them anything. You don't have to go and speak to them at all.

Now in this country there are lots of poison around this country. Now let us say there is an earthquake, some sort of an accident, or somebody just drops a bomb here. What will happen? They let out all the poison, the whole of that poison spread over the entire country. Who has brought that calamity?

D We have.

SBY "Aha, *tension* . . ." He says well you people have brought that upon yourselves because of tension. You want to control the other countries.

D You know the way it's presented, the way history looks at it is, it's not that as much as we were trying to get to the bomb before the Germans did. And they were evil empire and we were the white empire. It was very black and white.

SBY The question he has is, you have now made the bomb, even before the Germans could make, and you dropped it on Japan. Now everybody has the bomb. All countries have bombs. So where are you going to put these bombs? On which country are you going to put these bombs now?

He says your Reagan, the earlier President, he couldn't beat you in Iran, couldn't do anything about you in Iran. Iran has destroyed two hundred steamers of yours, he says, two hundred ships of America. You couldn't do anything about it. Because America dropped a bomb on their petrol wells, on their oil wells, they destroyed ten buildings here he says. They fell down, ten of the planes.

Now, no country can harm any other country. He says there is no way now you can go and control, go and destroy a country. All you are going to do is just increase your tension, that's all. The only way, the only path left for you is turn to philosophy.

He says now there is so much poison around this country. Now if there is an earthquake anytime, what would happen?

D Is Swamiji bringing about the new age, when things get better, like the end of the Kali Yuga, or something like that.

SBY [without waiting for any translation] He says, the first thing he said was you keep the issue of the Kali Yuga aside. This is what is going to happen in the Kali Yuga. It's the people who give a chance for all this to happen. Now again it is up to the people to protect themselves against this.

D By meditation?

SBY [without waiting for any translation] He says in various ways you will have to reduce the tension. You will have to elect good people.

D Is it a direction towards world disarmament?

SBY He keeps saying that that's a farce. That the world disarming itself is a farce. The government is trying to cheat the people. The actual word he is using is the government is throwing mud into the mouths of people. No government is really doing that. They are trying to create more and more weapons.

D Because the whole economy is based upon weapons.

SBY He asks you, why should they do it? Just because somebody has a factory who builds arms, who manufactures arms, and to protect his interests, to keep his economy up, why should you give a chance to destroy the whole of the public? This is a democratic country. You have voting power. You close the factories. "*The voting, voting.*" But won't you close the factories? "*Close.*" "*You understand, lawyer?*"

D Yes

SBY "*Ah, good.*" He wants the *prasadam* [food to bless and distribute].

....

SBY So he is telling people again and again and again like this. Slowly the minds are changing. The people will become intelligent, in the entire world.

D In Swamiji's opinion, in the last year has the world gotten better or worse?

SBY He says you have to tour the country. You go around the country and find out what has happened. Now these two people they are coming from New Mexico. You ask them, they have been listening to all the people. People talking about all the problems they have. Can he go now?

[the end]