



# Ramana Bhaskara



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 Bhagavan Ramana left His physical body on 14<sup>th</sup> April 1950 at 8.47p.m. Few minutes before His departure, Bhagavan, who was lying on bed, asked the devotees to make Him sit. The devotees were having Bhagavan's darshan in a queue. Bhagavan smiled at some devotees, greeted some devotees with short words and rolled out tears on looking at some devotees. Whatever He did was all Grace. If Bhagavan were His body, He doesn't exist now. Even when Bhagavan was physically present, He was not His body. A day before Bhagavan's departure, some devotees asked Him: 'Your body is about to die. You have loved us enormously till date. Once your body dies, who is going to Love us?' Bhagavan replied: 'Now this body is alive. It is not this body which loves you all even when it is alive. It is true that the body will be subject to death but the one who loves you all is deathless. Though the body is mortal, the Self which loves you all is Immortal. It will continue showering its Love and Grace perpetually. It will not abandon you all till Self Realization is secured'.

 Through death experience, Bhagavan has transcended the death and secured the Immortal state. In spite of the body's death, He will continue to exist. It implies that Bhagavan has attained the Immortal state. You feel that you will cease to exist after the body's death. Hence you are all mortals.

 A devotee asked Bhagavan: 'I am an employee. I would like to give up my job and devote 100% of my time in spiritual practices in order to secure liberation'. Bhagavan replied: 'Without internal maturity and required eligibility, don't give up your work in hand. You must continue doing them. Without purification of the mind, even if you give up the work in hand, you will become incompetent to work as well as ineligible to secure Jnana. Therefore keep observing how far the mind has

secured purification and concentration. Who will eat an un-ripened fruit? The fruit has to ripen. Isn't it? It is the same even with God. He will accept you when you get internally matured. Contrarily if you still remain un-ripened, He will reject you. Your mind should not be un-ripened and sour. The mind should become sweet. God observes whether or not you have secured such a state. Without securing such state, if you give up your job, on one hand you will lose the job and on the other hand you will not secure Jnana. You will lose in both the ways. There are many such people who got ruined in this manner. I have seen many people who consider themselves to be advanced souls and realized souls and get ruined belonging neither to God nor to the world. Bhagavan intended that God exists within your Heart. You need not resign from your job in order to know Him. You need not give up your family and run away somewhere. Asceticism doesn't infer giving up the white clothes and wearing the saffron. It doesn't mean forcibly breaking up your family ties and running away somewhere. By doing so, you cannot secure Jnana. When the mind is immatured, it doesn't matter whether you are at home or in a forest. Where ever you may stay, the mind has to get matured. The mind has to secure the purity, concentration and proficiency. In order to secure them, whether you stay at home or in a forest, the spiritual practices have to be performed. If you are unable to perform the spiritual practices at home while possessing all favourable situations ie drinking coffee and eating food on time, how can you go somewhere into forests and perform spiritual practices in the midst of wild animals when the situations are unfavourable? Therefore if you run away from home, you will not get Jnana rather you will become subject to hardships".

Reduce the mental desires, perform duty towards family members and decrease attachment for them. Externally work for them but internally do not be attached to them. Attachment is forbidden rather detached attachment is preferable. You must perform duty towards your family members but internally you must understand that you are in no way related to them. The maid servant should become your role model. Sri Ramakrishna said: 'The maid servant caresses your children, feeds them with milk and plays along with them. You may get a feeling that she loves your children much more than you. Though she may work faithfully, kiss your children and caress them, in the hearts of her hearts she knows it very well that they are not her children. As the servant maid works for her master, even you too work for your family members. Whatever may be the work- whether you help them or take them to a hospital when they fall sick, remember in the heart of your hearts that they do not belong to you. Do your duty. Don't run away from the God allotted task. The maid servant is your Guru. Though you have attachment for your family members, it should be a detached attachment like that of the servant maid. It should not touch the mind. If your attachment is a detached attachment, it increases the depths of your Heart. You will secure God Realization. Running away from duty in hand or abandoning the family members will not secure Jnana rather it will bring in laziness. Do the duty in hand. Merely because you are performing your duty, don't give up the Lord in the Heart. Hold on to the duty with one hand and hold on to the feet of God with another. If you offer both the hands to family members, you will get disassociated with God.

You have come into this family in order to experience the fruit of your past actions ie Karma. This is temporary. The relation with God is

permanent. But all these are delusionary relationships. When your body itself is false, how can their bodies be true whom you love intensely? Can't you understand even this small thing? By giving up the remembrance of God, if you merely change the clothes and abandon the family, can you secure Jnana? No. Sanyasa (asceticism) is not merely change of clothes. Reducing the desires, ego and attachment is only the true Sanyasa (asceticism). It is not about leaving the job. Learn to compromise with God. God has allotted some task to you. Don't run away from the work allotted by God. Where will you run away? Where ever you go, you are accompanied by the mind. Escapism cannot secure Jnana. There may be several weaknesses in your mind. Face them. If you start making effort to get released from those weaknesses, you will secure God's Grace. Self-effort, ripening of time and God's Grace- all the three is needed. Make effort from your end, the appropriate time will come and also the Grace of God too. All of you will attain Self Realization.

 God has allotted a responsibility to your body. Where will you run away from that responsibility? Compromise with God. Therefore don't try to escape from the task allotted by God. Meditate upon God within the mind and perform the God allotted task calmly and steadily. It is a duty. Doing that alone is not the goal. The Lord said: "Contemplate upon Me. Love Me. Have Me alone as your goal and perform duty towards your family members. Don't carry them in your minds".

 You may pose the question: 'We are being told to take care of the family members. But they are not good people. How shall we handle them?' Isn't God aware of this? It is a type of destiny. In order to experience it, God has placed you in that family. In spite of doing your best, you may sometimes get cursed or cuffed by the family members.

There are some lessons to be learnt from them. You have to secure spiritual advancement through them. Therefore the Lord has placed you in that family. Don't feel bad for being in the midst of such bad people. As you relish eating porridge, enjoy in the midst of those evil minded people. Then your destiny will get exhausted. You will then secure liberation.

 The Lord said in the Gita: 'Oh! Arjuna, whoever you intend to kill, they have been already killed by Me. Killing the already dead people implies that the work is mine and you have to enact as if shaking your hands'. When a great warrior like Arjuna has been told like this, imagine your position ie how insignificant you are and how insignificant your life is. Whatever God has already achieved- you presume it to have achieved. As you have the ego, you claim that you have only achieved it. You possess doer-ship but whatever happens is all God's will. God alone exists. You don't have any existence. You seem to exist but don't exist at all.

 Both victory and defeat are possible in life. How do you take the victory and how do you take the defeat? God observes whether or not you are able to maintain the equanimity in both victory as well as defeat. God is not concerned with the external incidents. Right now I am speaking. You may think that Nannagaru is speaking well but God doesn't think so. When a word comes out from Nannagaru's mouth, what is the intention behind it? What inspired Nannagaru to speak thus? Therefore God is concerned with the intention behind those words but not with the words actually spoken out. All of you listen to my words. While speaking those words, God observes what the inner intentions behind those words are.

- 🌸 God exists in the hearts of all. It is He who drives us all. Whomever God selects, He alone becomes the Prime Minister. Whoever is eligible to become Prime Minister, God ensures that you get the thought to vote for him. So who has made him the Prime Minister? Is it you or God? It is God. But you are not aware of this fact. Not only this, every small thing is decided by God.
- 🌸 Power, money and scholarship - all these are intoxication. The Power - for which a person spends an enormous amount of money, has been referred to by Sri Ramakrishna as 'Pig's filth'. He has spoken these words out of experience.
- 🌸 It is irrelevant whether your family members are good or bad. Reduce your attachment and perform your duty towards them. Though your hands work for their sake, don't hand over your mind to them. Ensure that your mind stays at the feet of God. Compromise with God and perform your duty. Then the separateness will be lost. Without presuming that: 'I am in this body; the world is external to me and God is somewhere else', if you compromise with God, then the world and God become a lump ie (become one and the same). That is the logic here.
- 🌸 When the ego and attachment are reduced, your love becomes Universal ie the Love that has been restricted to your family alone now becomes Universal. It gets extended to the entire Universe. This is what Buddha's driver asks Buddha: 'I don't think you are doing right in abandoning the family and Kingdom. I feel that you are doing wrong'. Then Buddha replied: 'Your question is legitimate. You are asking me whether it is good in abandoning the family. So you want me to restrict my love to the family members alone or you want Me to distribute it to

the entire mankind? Should I distribute My Love only to this limited number of people? Should I restrict my Love to these family members alone? Is it enough if their sorrow alone gets exhausted?”

 If your hands are filthy and filled with dust, how can you cleanse anything? Similarly when your mind is filled with hatred and jealousy, whom can you distribute the Peace?

 Many people pose this question: ‘Where do we go after death?’ You will go either to heaven or hell or Kailasa ie to some world or the other. The Puranas have talked very high about the heaven and Kailasa. But I have to tell you the truth here without any hesitation. Right now whether you understand it or not, you will certainly understand this on some day in future. Kailasa, heaven, hell are all as false as the Jiva who travels after death. They don’t represent the Absolute Truth. Even if you travel to the Heaven, where ever there is going to, coming back becomes inevitable. You have to return back to this earth on some day or the other. Unless all the tendencies get annihilated, going to some world and coming back from it becomes unavoidable. When the tendencies get completely annihilated, the ocean of Peace and Bliss within your heart overflow into your head. Then you understand that the Peace and Bliss being experienced are incomparable to anything else either in this world or in the Heaven.

 The rich becoming poor, the poor becoming rich, the powerful becoming powerless and the powerless becoming powerful – are we not seeing this on a daily basis? All these are temporary. Everything gets lost in the process of time. When your body itself perishes in the process of time, how long does the good luck or bad luck related to the body prevail? Whatever you are destined to get- whether good or bad

are bound to lose in the process of time. By decreasing your relationships, by lessening the restricting love for very few people and by reducing the attachment, your love and affection will become Universal and spread towards everyone irrespective of their caste, religion, nation, region and sex. When your love becomes Universal, you will not get the thought of abandoning your job or running away from home.

 Don't become anxious. All of you will secure the state of Nirvana. If a fruit is very much ripened, it will not stay on the tree anymore even if you desire so. It will fall down automatically. Similarly everything happens in its own time. Don't keep waiting. On the arrival of appropriate time, all of you will secure liberation. Don't wait for the sake of liberation. Waiting breeds sorrow. God knows when to give a turning point to your life and when to bestow you with the state of Nirvana.

 Wearing white clothes and presuming to be a householder or wearing saffron clothes and presuming to be an ascetic - all such thoughts originate from the ego. The ascetic thinks: 'I am an ascetic' and the householder thinks: 'I am a householder'. Is this what you do? You are the very embodiment of the Supreme Self. You are the very embodiment of the Supreme Consciousness. Without contemplating upon that which you are (ie the Self), you are increasing the mental hindrances by getting identified as a householder or an ascetic due to body consciousness.

 Whether you acknowledge it or not - there is a Truth within the Heart. It is beyond the body and mind. It exists in the form of 'I'. If you want the Truth to exist either as body or as mind, it expresses its incapability

in being so. The Truth within the Heart says: 'The body is subject to birth and death. Hence I don't want to exist as body. The mind is subject to several disturbances. Hence I don't want to prevail as mind'. Whatever is referred to as 'I' currently is the body bound 'I'. Its existence is limited to body and mind. If you tell the false 'I': 'You can remain as body and mind. There is no problem in it. But try to be as the Self too', then the false 'I' says: 'I don't know how the Truth is. Therefore I cannot exist as the Truth'. As long as the Truth within the Heart doesn't come into experience, the physical bodies come and go. It is a vicious cycle. You must keep rotating in that vicious cycle of birth-death. Releasing you from that vicious cycle is the goal of Mahatmas. Whether it is Buddha or Rama or Krishna or Ramana – whoever may be the Guru, they will try to release you from the vicious cycle of birth and death. That is only their goal. They talk as well as mingle with you and understand your weaknesses. To Drag out the weaknesses and burn them into ashes is the very goal of Guru.

 On doing some good, don't have the misconception that it happened because of you. Everything happens as per God's will. Even if you do something good, don't feel proud about it. Without God's Grace it is not possible. Nothing is possible without God's Grace. Some of you may have performed good deeds. It became possible only through God's Grace and not due to your intellect. Don't think that it is due to your hard work. If you consider yourselves to be instruments of God, you are blessed indeed and become recipients of God's Grace.

 Don't think negatively, rather think positively. Don't do any task for the sake of ego. If you talk something, do that only if needed and not for the sake of ego. If you get any thoughts, they should not promote your honour or ego. They should facilitate in your spiritual progress. The

Vedas said: 'Let noble thoughts come to me from all the directions. Let noble thoughts enter my Heart and facilitate my spiritual progress'.