

LETTER NO 6

(Letter written by Bhaiji)

*Dehradun
3.10.*

Kalyaniashu (a term of endearment made to a junior deserving affection),

Received your letter. Long back I had heard from Mother's lips "you are very good" and from then on my affection and respect are with you. Knowing that you are always in Ma's memory, think of Her with a mind free from worries.

I have made Ma hear your letter. Ma said after receiving a reply to her last letter on how you are spending your time day and night, she will speak further. Feel satisfied by accepting Ma's blessings.

Hope that you are happy with your father, mother, brother and sister and hope you are in exclusive union with your 'Yogamandir'.

Well wisher

Jyotish Chandra Roy

Another word there is no need of envelope along with letter. After writing letter one should not wait for any reply – that too is a restraint.

The analysis:

This was the first communication between Bhaiji and BG. He was replying to both the letters written by BG to him and Ma. Though both of them had never met in person at this point, they had indirect acquaintance of each other through Ma.

Bhaiji had recognition from Ma as her spiritual son and similarly BG as her daughter. Bhaiji quoted Ma as saying, "You are very good." Although in the eyes of Ma everybody is the manifestation of God and She never found fault with anybody, such a specific utterance from the lips of Ma for an individual was not very common. For Bhaiji any word or hint from Ma carried special significance. Thus Bhaiji gave BG respect and affection. He asked BG not to worry about anything as Ma was always thinking of her. That indicates that Ma very often spoke about BG to people near Her.

Generally a devotee is supposed to be in constant remembrance of God as well as the preceptor. Here we see the opposite- the preceptor is constantly remembering the disciple. Once Ma said, “Wherever and whenever you are, remember that a look of this body is always on you.”

Bhaiji read out BG's letter written to Ma. Although we do not know the content of the letter we do come across a very interesting aspect of spiritual practice which a seeker very often deliberately or inadvertently ignores. Out of over-enthusiasm or an impulse from within, a seeker wants to jump ahead in his spiritual practice without taking care to practice the intermediary steps or giving proper importance to the preliminary practices needed to become eligible to tread the spiritual path. He wants to know everything immediately and practices in a haphazard way forgetting the sequential and gradual approach towards his goal.

In the preceding letter Ma wanted to have a full account of how BG was spending her time each day. BG had ignored the query in her reply and did not mention anything about this. Here we found that Ma was also was not responding to BG's queries contained in her last letter, if there were any. On the other hand Ma asked Bhaiji to write that until BG gave a full account of how she was spending her time She would not give further instructions. Ma always used to say, “One should follow the advice of the Guru without any reservation.”

Bhaiji wrote about BG's **exclusive union** with the Yogmandir. As BG was under the direct spiritual guidance of Ma one might expect that she would be following Ma's instruction to focus all her attention on the Yogmandir.

It seems that to be sure of a reply BG had sent a post-paid envelop along with her letter. It was quite natural for BG to do that. Bhaiji gave her a valuable hint which a seeker should follow during his spiritual journey. A seeker should always be alert to restrain both physical and mental actions - called sanyam. For a seeker the first step is to have minimal expectations, even of the guru. The seeker should know in his heart that once he is surrendered to the Guru he will be provided with all necessary spiritual requirements without him having to ask.

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