

Ananda Varta



The Eternal, the Atman—

Itself pilgrim and path of Immortality

Self contained—THAT is all in One.

Vol. XXXXV

● JANUARY—1998

● No. 1

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Those who, prompted by a deep yearning for the vision of the Supreme Being Tread this long and difficult path, can do so only by His grace To take refuge in patience is the only acceptable attitude of mind. One must never lose hope. Wherever you may be placed and under whatever circumstances, let your thinking be centred in Him and in Him alone.

Sri Sri Ma Anandamayi

Nama is the best Bhakti (devotion) Nama is the best ending. Nama is the best Japa, Nama is the best Prayer.

Shree Shree Sitaramdas Onkarnath

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ĀNANDA VĀRTĀ

*A quarterly presenting the divine life and teaching of
SRI ANANDAMAYI MA and various aspects of
Universal Dhrama*

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ANANDA VARTĀ welcomes contributions on the life and teachings of Ma and reflections and personal experiences of Ma's devotees and admirers. Articles on religious and philosophical subjects as well as on lives of saints and sages of all countries and all times are also invited. Articles should as far as practicable be typed with double spacing and on one side of the page.

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*Man must go out in Search of That which is
concealed behind the world. He should choose
an abode that will make it easy for him to proceed
to his True Home.*

Sri Sri Ma Anandamayi

*There is no sin born out of any deed, word or
thought which is not destroyed by the Power of
Nama.*

Sri Sri Sitaramdas Onkarnath

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MATRI VANI

Is it possible to train someone to be a Brahmachari ? It is a person's nature that makes him a Brahmachari. Everyone is born and acts according to the dispositions and tendencies acquired in former births.

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Everyone runs after happiness and enjoyment. Yet supreme happiness and bliss are ever 'there' and nowhere else. That which is eternal must be revealed and then the question of going or not going in search of anything does not arise.

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"Misfortune must will not be looked upon as a disaster ; it would be a sin to do so, for who sends the misfortune ? What he does is all beneficial. Under no circumstances, however adverse, should man accept defeat".

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"Let 'I' cannot be eradicated from your vocabulary. Time is gliding by swiftly ; for a few days only lasts this reunion with friends and Kinsman. Gather up your possessions, brother, no one accompanies you final journey".

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Everyone meets with disappointments in life. This is the common lot of mankind, but the man who trusts God and remembers Him constantly is free from worries. He recon-

ciles himself to every situation that falls to his lot "Contentment is a continual feast".

* * *

The real beauty of life in beholding the Divine everywhere. The whole nature before you is His manifestation. In this supreme vision lies your real freedom, peace and bliss.

* * *

Depend upon God in all things. Surrender to Him is the only way to inner freedom and peace.

* * *

Not to have the guidance of a competent Guru is indeed detrimental this is certainly very true.

* * *

"Throughout the twenty-four hours abide in the awareness of the Presence of God. Then only can there be hope of Realization. Who can foresee at what moment He may choose to reveal Himself? This is why one must ever keep wide awake".

The Divine Mother Shri Shri Ma Anandamayi

Dr. Premlata Srivastava

A. Good-bye Dhaka

In 1932, there was a gap of 21 days between Ma's birth date and birth tithi. Therefore, celebrations were held for 21 days without a break. A couple of days after the festivities were over, Ma with Bholanath and Didi, had visited one acquaintance. The lady of that house offered some vegetables and lentil to Didi who put them in the folds of her sari. Thereafter, they visited another home and asked for alms. In this manner, they visited many homes and collected so many things that they had to hire another vehicle to transport them to Ashram. She had asked all the people from whom she took alms, to take Bhogprasad from the Ashram in the afternoon. This Bhog was prepared of the food items received as alms. Thus, by playing the role of medicant, Ma satisfied everybody and unknowingly prepared to leave the city forever.

By renouncing the comfortable easy way of living at the Dhaka Ashram, she opted to tread the unknown, much difficult path like a true wandering ascetic.

On the day of Her departure, Ma went to Siddheshwari to touch the deity of Kali and the grounded peepal tree. By evening, she was in a different mood.

It was 11 o'clock in the night. Most of the followers had returned to their respective homes. Bholanath was fast