

November 1, 1977 Darśana with Baba Hari Dass

Edit notes: The following was typed from notes handwritten at the time of the darśana. Q denotes a question. B indicates what Babaji wrote on his chalkboard, as read by the reader, and then as heard and noted by someone present. Comments in square brackets are generally those of the typist. Names of individuals who are not public figures are changed to protect their privacy. There was editing for format and IAST transliteration of Sanskrit terms.

Between [a satsaṅga member] and Baba Hari Dass:

Q: Is life a sad dream?

B: Yes, when we don't accept it. It becomes a sad dream to a yogi who wants to be with God. It becomes a sad dream to a person who is discontented in the world. Attachments, possessiveness, and desires can't be fulfilled. So the life remains a sad dream.

Q: How do dreaming and waking become the same?

B: Waking is when the mind functions through the senses. It sees the objects. It's waking in ignorance. Dreaming is the state when the mind is inverted and only sees the past saṁskāras in the mind. Dreamless sleep is the state when these pictures are also wiped out. A yogi can dream in awakened state. Functions outwardly and keeps the mind calm on God inside. A candle is a light and a candle is a darkness. You sit in a dark room with a candle. Others can see you but you can't see the others. The light of the candle is a darkness for you. Because it stops the perception of seeing in the dark. In other words, name and fame is a light for a yogi. He is seen by others but he can't see others. We can easily get deluded by the light also. It's a hard path. You now understand it. Go on doing sādhana and you will develop the eyes which can see in the dark.

Q: Can a sun be visualized?

B: Sun is ātman. One who has realized the Self can visualize it.

Q: [A satsaṅga member's] death..... It all seems so bitter.

B: It is. When we are looking outside, what we see is anger, hate, jealousy, killing, etc. It is always bitter and the creation can't function without it. Because negativity is equally as important as positivity.

Q: In this society, can one let go and be nothing and not get locked up?

B: By being a foreigner. If you listen to the talks and understand it, then you feel pleasure or in pain. If you think, oh they are not talking in English, then you will not listen. Mind can be switched.

Between a still younger man and Babaji:

Q: My eyes lose focus when I'm concentrating, like on juggling.

B: Do you do trāṭaka?

Q: No.

B: Did you take LSD?

Q: Yes.

B: How long?

Q: Not a lot.

B: Last time?

Q: Two to three years ago.

B: Still you have it in your system. [Horizontal sweep of Babaji's palm.] Do you see a trail?

Q: Yes.

B: LSD.

Q: It seems to have gotten worse lately.

B: Did you smoke gañjā?

Q: Yes.

B: It triggers it.

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