

PRECIOUS PEARLS

(SAYINGS OF BABA GURBACHAN SINGH JI)

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"A"

ABIDING HAPPINESS

A child cannot be consoled by sweets, but only by the love of parents. We seek abiding happiness in ephemeral things, which can afford only transitory happiness. For eternal happiness, we must know and realise our eternal parent i.e. God.

ABIDING PEACE

Material comforts cannot bestow abiding peace. Even the affluent pine for peace, which can be attained only by communion with God.

ABODE: GOD

Our real abode is Formless God, who can be realized through enlightenment by the grace of a True Master.

ABODE: NOT IN SHRINES

Man knocks about in various religious and holy places to find his true abode. This can, however, be 'found' only by the grace of a True Master.

ABODE: PEACE GIVING

One enjoys peace of mind only after reaching home. Similarly, the soul stays bewildered until it 'reaches' its real abode i.e. the Over Soul.

ABODE: TRUE

Human life is an opportunity to discover one's true abode i.e. God. The time span of human life is absolutely uncertain. One may be summoned back any moment, without notice. Yet, ironically enough, we pay all attention to mundane affairs and never bother about securing our true abode - the prime aim of human life. Sans this, all worldly achievements are futile.

ABODES OF SAINTS

The abodes of saints become places of pilgrimage and their utterances scriptures.

ADULTERATION

The fake religious preachers adulterate the teachings of scriptures as a milkman adulterates milk.

ADVERSITIES

Adversities and obstacles ultimately make us strong and courageous.

ALTRUISM

Energy wasted in idle and tall talk had better be utilized for the betterment of mankind.

"AMRIT" (ELIXIR)

"Amrit" or elixir imparts immortality, a state that can be attained by complete identification with the Immortal.

ATHEISM

The responsibility for spreading atheism lies with those who talk about but know not God.

ATTAINMENT

Spiritual attainment is surely the highest attainment.

"B"

BEATEN TRACK

In mundane matters, we often do not follow our ancestors. While our forefathers walked on foot or rode horses, we now travel by trains and aeroplanes. However, in the religious realm, we generally follow the beaten track of rites and rituals and do not try to discover and imbibe the ultimate and eternal Truth.

BELIEF: MEN MERE MEDIUM

Saints and devotees believe that God works through men, who are just a medium.

BELIEF: TRUE

One should see and then believe.

BENEVOLENCE

If out of benevolence, a rich person adopts an orphan, the latter turns rich overnight. Likewise, even a benevolent glance of a saint transforms one's destiny.

BEST LANGUAGE

The language is a means of communication. The best language, however, is that of love and affection.

BLESSED

The past saints and sages also taught how we can achieve the prime aim of life. Many listened, but only a few believed and acted on what they said and were blessed.

BLIND AND DEAF

Those who have shut their eyes and ears to the message of the True Master of the day, are themselves responsible for their suffering.

"C"

CAUSE INVIGORATES

One is strengthened and invigorated in spirit when one works for a noble cause.

CAUSE: NOBLE

Numerous people die or are killed. But they, who lay down their lives for a noble cause, leave their footprints on the sands of time.

CAUSE: TRUTH

No doubt, we feel distressed when someone departs. Death for the cause of Truth, however, evokes our utmost reverence and admiration.

CHANGE OF HEART

Even if all people had the same complexion, diet, dress, language, life-style as also all the material comforts, they may still miss peace and harmony. They may still quarrel, hate and malign one another. The aforesaid transformation would be merely cosmetic and superficial, not real change of heart. Hearts can be changed only through spiritual awakening i.e. god-realization.

CLAY GODS

Would god Almighty, the Supreme Father of all of us, like that we, His children, created in his own image, should all through our lives worship clay gods instead of Him?

CLEANSING HEARTS

The mother bathes the child clean, but it persists in playing with mud and soils its clothes, time and again. She, gives it a wash repeatedly, though it cries and protests. So do the saints cleanse human hearts of all the dirt of duality, hatred and ignorance, despite heavy odds.

CLOSENESS

What matters is not the physical proximity to the Master, but the intensity of one's love and devotion for him. Whoso lives up to the Master's teachings, is humble and egoless, is close to him.

COMMUNION: BLISS

As the mind is joyous in a garden, the soul is blissful in God-communion.

COMMUNION: RADIANCE

As electric bulb glows only so long as it is connected to its source i.e. power-house. Similarly, the soul is radiant when it is in communion with God - the source of divine light.

COMPANY

To acquire and imbibe saintly traits, the company of saints is indispensable.

CONGREGATION CLEANSSES

As a home is cleaned daily to keep it neat and tidy, daily congregation is essential to keep our mind and heart clean.

CONGREGATION FORTIFIES

Mere God-knowledge is not enough. Congregation with the saints is also essential to fortify one's faith in God.

CONGREGATION: INSPIRATION

Congregations held in the memory of the departed saints and devotees are not meant to mourn them or pray for the peace of their souls. They have already merged in God, the fountain-head of eternal peace and bliss. Such congregations are meant to draw inspiration from their lives.

CONGREGATION: MOTIVE

Saints attend congregations to attain the divine riches. Those, who have got a material motive, however, go without such a boon.

CONGREGATION: SPIRITUAL BATH

We automatically get soiled during our daily chores, but are cleaned by a bath. Similarly, our mind is cleansed of the dirt of worldliness by spiritual congregational baths.

CONGREGATION: SPIRITUAL BLISS

We love to go to a garden because of the sweet fragrance we enjoy there. A congregation too is a garden where we enjoy the fragrance of spiritual bliss.

CONTAINER AND CONTENT: CHANGE

A True Master is not for a change in our appearance, but in our thinking. He 'changes' the content, not the container.

CONTAINER AND CONTENT: RELATIONSHIP

It is an irony that generally even close kinsmen of the great masters could not rise above their sense of worldly relationship and failed to evolve spiritually. They observed only the 'container' and not the 'content'.

CONTENTED

Those, who are contented, are truly rich.

"D"

"DASS" (SLAVE)

"Dass" signifies a person who has voluntarily and humbly surrendered himself to the True Master. He is honoured and revered for this reason.

DEVOTEE: BENEFACTOR

A true devotee, wherever placed, shares the burden of the poor and the distressed, and dispenses justice tempered with compassion and mercy.

DEVOTEE DOES NOT UNDERRATE

Some say that while addressing, one should imagine the audience to be ignorant. However, a devotee does not underrate others.

DEVOTEE: EQUABLE

The flow of a river is always directed towards the ocean, its ultimate goal. Likewise, a devotee is always in communion with God and is equi-poised in pain and pleasure. He maintains his faith in God even in all troubles and tensions.

DEVOTEE: FOCUS

Like a sage, a devotee should always focus on his goal i.e. God-realization.

DEVOTEE: GUARDIAN OF DIVINE LAW

A true devotee is always conscious that the one, who knows the divinity and the divine law, has a far greater responsibility. He is, in fact, the guardian of the divine law. One, who is ignorant of the law, may be forgiven, but not the one, who 'knows' it.

DEVOTEE: HALLMARK

Total surrender and obedience is the hallmark of a devotee.

DEVOTEE: MASTER'S DARLING

A humble and sincere devotee is dear to the Master even if he has never sung a song or delivered a speech.

DEVOTEE: NOT BOASTFUL

If one harps on the good or favour done by him to another, he is not a true devotee. A true devotee is never boastful.

DEVOTEE: NOT TRUE

A devotee always behaves as a devotee, whether in the congregation or in the worldly affairs. In case, he behaves as a devotee in the congregation but otherwise in the worldly affairs, he is not a true devotee.

DEVOTEE: PRE-REQUISITE

True devotion is the pre-requisite of a true devotee.

DEVOTEE: REFLECTION

The personality of the teacher is reflected in the disciple. Similarly, a devotee reflects the teachings of the True Master.

DEVOTEE SERVES SELFLESSLY

In a game, a player never bothers why he was hit or who hit him. Despite his injury, he continues to play and never flees from the field. Similarly, a devotee does not flee from the field of selfless service despite all hassles and adversities. He, rather, plays his game with redoubled zeal and gusto.

DEVOTEE: SIMMERING

If a devotee himself simmers in the fire of enmity and hatred, how can he soothe others?

DEVOTEE SURRENDERS

A devotee's life is comparable to walking on a razor's edge, because it demands total surrender and shedding of ego.

DEVOTEE: TRUE DISCIPLE

To be a devotee means to be a true disciple, ever eager to learn, imbibe and serve.

DEVOTEE TRUSTS GOD

A worldly person thinks that he himself has to safeguard his interests, but a devotee trusts in God alone.

DEVOTEES: COMPANY OF SAINTS

The devotees are not ruffled by ups and downs. They never lose faith in God but keep company with saints, imbibing love, humility and the spirit of service.

DEVOTEES: DEDICATED TO GOD

The devotees should also excel in every field, but above all, they should dedicate themselves to God.

DEVOTEES: EQUAL VISION

With their equal vision, the devotees of God rise above all distinctions and discriminations and regard all humans as equal.

DEVOTEES EVOLVE

Instead of eluding criticism, the devotees invariably introspect to evolve themselves. They endeavour to save themselves from the evils of pride, prejudice and avarice.

DEVOTEES: IDENTIFICATION WITH

After marriage a girl so identifies herself with her in-laws that she does not like going back to her parents. Similarly, the devotees who are wedded to and have identified themselves with God, relish Him alone.

DEVOTEES LOVE ALL

The devotees firmly believe that God dwells in all and therefore they love and honour all.

DEVOTEES: NOT CYNICS

The devotees do not find fault with others, rather they discern and imbibe virtues from all quarters. They are not cynics.

DEVOTEES: PATH

Notwithstanding all heavy odds, the devotees tread the path of love, humility and faith.

DEVOTEES: REALIST

The devotees are realists, not merely idealists. They are Karam Yogis (action-oriented), imbued with the spirit of self-sacrifice.

DEVOTEES RELY ON GOD

The devotees are not affected by pain or pleasure, because they always submit to the divine will and rely exclusively on God Almighty.

DEVOTEES: SELFLESS

When we rise above our individual interests and identify our interests with those of others, we are true devotees.

DEVOTEES SERVE SILENTLY

The enlightened devotees serve mankind silently like the sun, water and air, who do not boast of their service. That is why they are ever revered and glorified in all quarters.

DEVOTEES: STOICS

The devotees endure excesses with a smile.

DEVOTEES: WEDDED TO GOD

Personal embellishment by a married woman is considered graceful and justified but that by an unmarried one may even invite sneers. This is true of the devotees who are wedded to God.

DEVOTION BEGINS

Devotion (Bhakti) begins where power (Shakti) ends.

DEVOTION: GOD-ROOTED

As only a rooted flower can bloom and spread its fragrance, one, who is 'rooted' in God, alone can enjoy and spread spiritual bliss.

DEVOTION: INTRINSIC WORTH

Just as a jeweller values an ornament by its intrinsic gold and content, regardless of its shape and design, a True Master values the devotion of a devotee, irrespective of his caste, colour, creed or social status.

DEVOTION: SUBMISSION

Devotion demands complete submission and total surrender to the True Master, who knows what is best for a devotee.

DEVOTION: SURRENDER

Devotion signifies self-surrender, self-effacement and self-sacrifice.

DIFFERENCES: EPHEMERAL

Differences among human beings are natural. However, among the worldly people these are indelible like a mark on a rock, while among the saints and devotees these are ephemeral like a mark on water: love and affection of saints and devotees are like the permanent mark on a rock.

DIFFERENCES: RESOLUTION THROUGH DIALOGUE

Human blood must not be shed under any circumstances. Differences of opinion, religious or secular, should be resolved peacefully and amicably by dialogue, discussion and reconciliation.

DIFFERENCES: RESOLUTION THROUGH UNDERSTANDING

All differences can be resolved peacefully by imbibing and extending the spirit of understanding, tolerance and accommodation.

DIFFERENCES: SAINTLY PATH

Peace and non-violence has always been the path of saints and devotees to resolve differences.

DISTINCTIONS: MAN-MADE

When a child is born, it bears no distinctive mark of any caste, creed or religion. Only subsequently it is 'stamped' as a Hindu, Muslim, Sikh or Christian. The saints and sages erase such divisive marks by tracing man's ultimate fatherhood to God, who is sans any mark or distinction.

DIVINE CODE

As a lock fitted with a number device can be opened by the specific code, obstacles that come in the way of propagation of Truth can be removed by the divine code.

DIVINE LIGHT: DIFFUSION

A lit lamp should not be hidden, but kept in the open so that it may spread its light far and wide. So should the Divine Light be diffused all around.

DIVINE LIGHT DISPELS DARKNESS

The darkness enveloping an ignorant soul can be dispelled only by the Divine Light.

DIVINE LIGHT DISPELS GLOOM

As darkness can be dispelled by light, spiritual gloom can be dispelled by Divine Light.

DIVINE RADIANCE

As a faint colour is eclipsed by a bright one, all worldly shines pale before the divine radiance.

DOOMED

In case a student wastes the whole year and tries to cover the whole course on the last night, he is doomed. Similarly, if we have not fulfilled the prime aim of life i.e. God-realisation, certainly doom awaits us in the final reckoning.

'DUST OF FEET'

Not water but the 'dust of feet' of the saints can cleanse one's mind and heart.

"E"

EGO: EVIL

Ego breeds ignorance and evil.

EGO: SUBTLE MALADY

A devotee is likely to turn egoist because of the service he renders. Egoism is, indeed, a subtle malady that may strike him unconsciously.

EGOIST: BLISSLESS

An egoist can never experience spiritual bliss.

EGOIST: SHUNNED

Because of its lethal venom, a snake is invariably shunned. So is an egoist, because of the venom of egoism.

EGOIST: UNGODLY

If you consider yourself superior, it is a sheer projection of your ego. An egoist has no place in the Kingdom of God.

ENDURING REVERENCE

We daily notice the people showering praises on a person one day and condemning him the next day. However, in the spiritual realm, reverence endures. Even if a devotee strays from the *path*, earnest endeavour are made to 'retrieve' him.

ENLIGHTENED

Only the ignorant draw comparison among the holy personages, holding one above the other. The enlightened, however, equally revere all.

ENLIGHTENED AND IGNORANT

One, who has actually visited a place, can truly describe it. Others can give only imaginary and extraneous version. This is also the difference between an enlightened and an ignorant soul.

ENLIGHTENMENT

As an electric bulb even of 1,000 watts cannot emit light unless it is connected with the mains, only the one, who is illumined by the Divine Light, can bestow Enlightenment.

EQUALITY

None is inferior or superior. Every individual is a limb of the human society, having his own role.

EXALTATION

A grass-cutter, who incidentally become a king, would daily take a look at his old implements lest he should become oblivious of his original status. Likewise, a devotee, conscious of his insignificance, always praises God for his exaltation.

EXPERIENCE

It is one's own experience, which one can relate with authority and authenticity.

EXTRANEOUS FACTORS

One, who adopts only the diet, dress, etc. of a holy personage, is like the one, who counts the leaves and branches of a tree, instead of eating its fruit.

EVOLVED

A truly evolved person is one, who is enlightened within and without.

EVOLVEMENT

An actor, who acts as per the directions of the director, evolves and achieves perfection. This is also true of a devotee, who abides by and imbibes the teachings of the True Master.

"F"

FAITH: BLIND

Sans God-realisation, faith in God is blind. A True Master alone can cure this blindness.

FAITH: CEMENTING FORCE

Faith is the cementing force of all the layers of life. When people lose faith in democracy, it is anarchy. And, when they lose faith in God, it is dooms-day.

FAITH FORTIFIED

Faith in God instilled by the True Master is fortified by the congregation.

FAITH: LIVING

Worldly people have blind faith, but saints have a living faith in God.

FAITH: TOUCHSTONE

Adversity is the touchstone of a devotee's faith.

FATHER GOD

A father does all that he can for his children and caters to all their needs. So does Father God. Let us, therefore, know and realise our Father and surrender to Him completely as obedient children.

FEAR AND TRUTH

Fear and truth are incompatible.

FILTHY TALK

Flowers decorate and perfume our drawing rooms, but filth is dumped and buried in places where it is neither visible, nor can it spread the stink. Likewise, filthy and foul talk should be 'dumped and buried'.

FIRE

To cleanse bronze of its dross i.e. lead, it had to be put into fire. Similarly, to get rid of our inner dross of ego and arrogance, we should go through the furnace of surrender (to the True Master).

FLATTERY: ADDICTION

Flattery too is an addiction. Even the devotees get addicted to it. As awakened beings, they should guard against it.

FLATTERY FANS EGO

Flattery fans the ego and one becomes self-centred, even tyrant.

FLATTERY HARMS

Flattery may bring a rich dividend, initially. But, in the long run, it harms the flatterer, the flattered and the society, at large.

FLATTERY: POISON

If truth is bitter. Flattery is poisonous.

FLATTERY AND PRAISE

Flattery and praise have become almost synonyms. The devotees, who are frank and forthright, differentiate between the two: they shower praise wherever it is due, but shun flattery, at all cost.

FORM AND FORMLESS

If we belittle a man of high status, he would not tolerate it. How can the Infinite Formless be pleased if we reduce Him to a finite form?

FREE HAND

A free hand alone can set free the one in chains. Similarly, a liberated soul alone can snap others' bonds and bondages.

"G"

GLORIFICATION

Whoso is glorified by the True Master is glorified by one and all.

GLORY: TRUE

True glory can be attained only by dedication to a divine cause.

GOD: ONE AND MANY

Unfortunately, different names of God often lead to communal conflicts and clashed. Actually, God is one, the Supreme Father of the entire creation. Hence, we must know the One and become one.

GOD: FOUNDATION

A building rests on its foundation. God is the foundation of the edifice of the universe.

GOD'S MYSTERIOUS WAYS

At times, God gives a rude jolt to rouse His complacent devotees out of their torpor, forthwith. Such a drastic and mysterious operation of redeeming His devotees is, however, misconstrued by the ignorant as a punitive and cruel act of God.

GOD: PROTECTIVE UMBRELLA

As a married woman feels secure in the company of her husband, a God-realised person, being conscious of the protective umbrella of the Almighty God, knows no fear.

GOD: SEEING

Mere written account of anything fails to satisfy our curiosity unless we have actually seen it. This is true of God, as well.

GOD-GLORIFICATION: FOOD

Glorification of the Lord is the food and feast for the soul.

GOD-GLORIFICATION: VOCAL

Being ever God-conscious, a true saint glorifies God with his heart and not merely vocally.

GOD-KNOWLEDGE: A MEANS

God-knowledge is the means and God-realisation, the end.

GOD-KNOWLEDGE: BASIC BEGINNING

God-knowledge is the basic beginning. One must also practice it to experience peace, bliss and happiness.

GOD-KNOWLEDGE: BLOOMING

A seedling grows and blooms only if watered regularly. Similarly, God-knowledge is nurtured and blossoms only in the company of saints.

GOD-KNOWLEDGE: FRUITFUL

God-knowledge can be fruitful only if one reposes one's unflinching faith in God and feels His immediate presence everywhere.

GOD-KNOWLEDGE: LIVING

Mere God-knowledge does not bestow bliss, unless one lives up to it.

GOD-KNOWLEDGE: PANACEA

The whole world is plagued by pride and prejudice, hatred and violence. God-knowledge alone enables us to rise above such perverse impulses. What is direly needed is a True Master or a Preceptor to bestow God-knowledge, a panacea for all human maladies.

GOD-KNOWLEDGE: PRACTICE ESSENTIAL

If one goes to a teacher, reposes his faith in him and acts as per his instructions, one learns; not otherwise. So is the case with God-knowledge; it must be practiced.

GOD-KNOWLEDGE: STRENGTH

God-knowledge imparts wisdom and strength to endure and overcome all obstacles and opposition.

GOD-KNOWLEDGE SUPERSEDES RITUALS

One, who has attained knowledge, need not carry the books around. Similarly, a person, who has attained God-knowledge, can dispense with all rites and rituals.

GODMEN

Though godmen may not be scholarly in the popular parlance, yet they possess and dispense the highest knowledge i.e. God-knowledge.

GOD-REALISATION: BLISS

They, who have realised God, are ever blissful even in this dark age—Iron Age.

GOD-REALISATION: BROTHERHOOD

On realizing Father God, we treat one another as brothers and all divisive tendencies vanish automatically.

GOD-REALIZATION: FEARLESSNESS

God-realization dispels all fear.

GOD-REALISATION: FIRST PRIORITY

Generally, people think that God-realisation is a pursuit for the old age when one is free from the worldly responsibilities. But who knows when the end may come. One must, therefore, avail oneself of the first opportunity to realise God forthwith.

GOD-RELISATION: LIGHT AND LOVE

Tension and turmoil prevails everywhere. Such turbid environment can be transformed into an era of love, light, fellow-feeling and selfless service, only through God-realisation.

GOD-REALIZATION: MUCH TALK

It seems that nothing has been talked about more than God. Yet, how many care to realize Him?

GOD-REALIZATION: NOW OR NEVER

A wise ruler ever keeps his army well-prepared for any eventuality. It is vain to organize an army after an attack. Death is certain and may strike any moment. Man should not, therefore, dilly-dally in attaining the real goal of life i.e. a living relationship with God.

GOD-REALIZATION: ONLY KEY

No one scripture is holier than another; no one prophet is greater than another; no one religion is superior to another. All the Great Masters have taught God realization as the only key to peace and salvation.

GOD-REALIZATION: PRECIOUS MOMENT

In fact, the most precious and important moment of our life is that of God-realization.

GOD-REALIZATION: THROUGH GOD-REALIZED

A God-realized seer alone can bestow God-realization. One, who is ridden with religious rites and rituals, cannot go beyond these shells.

GOD-REALIZATION: TORCH

With the torch of God-realization in hand, we can not only avoid the pitfalls but also guide others lost in the dark alleys.

GOD-REALIZATION: ULTIMATE GOAL

A farmer toils for his harvest. A servant serves for wages. What except God-realisation is, after all, the goal of those who perform rites and rituals for years? If so, they should approach a True Master, as enjoined by all the scriptures.

GOD-REALIZATION: UNIVERSAL BROTHERHOOD

Religious scholars may command a lot of scriptural knowledge, but they have no perception of God. Though they preach universal brotherhood, they neither know nor have seen the Father. Our Mission does not merely preach human brotherhood, but also reveals the Father. Consciousness of common Father spontaneously fosters brotherhood of all humans, irrespective of caste, colour, creed, sect, race and nationality.

GOD-REALIZED: ABOVE DOGMAS

A God-realized soul is not wedded to any particular dogma or rigid creed.

GOD-REALISED: ADORNMENTS

Those, who have realized God, regard all comforts and conveniences as His blessings. Love, humility, service, respects and regard for others, are their coveted adornments.

GOD-REALISED: ALTRUIST

A God-realize soul lives and strives for the well-being and welfare of others, including even those who malign or maltreat him. He is like a cloud which showers rain on cottage and castle alike.

GOD-REMEMBRANCE

Saints believe not so much in lip-service, as their hearts pulsate with God-remembrance.

GOD-REVELATION: LATENT AND PATENT

Wood embodies fire in a latent state, but it is not visible. As soon as we apply a match-stick, it manifests. This is also true of God, who pervades everywhere, but becomes patent (manifest) only through enlightenment by a True Master.

GOD-REVELATION: SCIENTIFIC TEMPER

Today, the youth possess a scientific temper. Unless God, who is universally glorified, is actually revealed and observed, young men are not impressed by mere cliches about God.

GOLDEN MEAN

The saints and devotees have all reverence and regard for the eternal and universal values. They, however, follow the golden mean between materialism and spiritualism.

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

A golden opportunity comes but once in a life-time. Those, who avail of it, are indeed fortunate. Today such an opportunity to realise God is knocking at the door. The fortunate few, who avail of it, will experience spiritual bliss and beatitude.

GOOD DEEDS

We lay much store by good deeds. In truth, good deeds are those that are performed according to the teachings of the True Master in a spirit of selflessness and with the realisation that God is in and all around us.

GREAT: HUMBLE

Be humble, be great.

GREAT: NOT BELITTLING

No one can become great by belittling others.

GREATNESS: BEHAVING

Man's greatness lies in behaving as a man.

GREATNESS: SOW

Sow humility, reap greatness.

GREAT MASTERS: FOR WHOLE HUMANITY

Religious zealots put communal stamp on a Great Master, who actually belongs to the whole of humanity. Unwittingly, they belittle instead of glorifying the Great Master.

GREAT MASTERS MANIFEST

Some contend that after the exit of a particular Great master, no more Great Master would manifest. Their contention, apparently, emanates out of their utmost reverence and regard for their Great Master. They, however, forget that so long as mankind survives, there will be a need for the Great Masters to redeem it.

"H"

HAPPY HOMES

Husband and wife are the two wheels of the chariot of the family and the children, the riders. If even one of the wheels is shaky or out of tune, the chariot is sure to jolt, even crash, causing harm and hurt to the chariot and the riders. Mutual respect and regard, trust and confidence, co-operation and understanding, among members of the family, make for a happy home.

HEAD

An organisation runs smoothly only if it is headed by one who commands the respect and confidence of all. Similarly, by acknowledging God as the Supreme Head, humanity can live in peace and bliss.

HOLY BATH

A holy bath cannot cleanse the sin of causing suffering to others.

HOLY PERSONAGES: HEALERS

As the physicians treat physical maladies, the holy personages heal spiritual ailments.

HOLY PERSONAGES: ONE

All the holy personages are one in the sense that they cherish one and the same mission – redemption of mankind. The time and place of their manifestation is immaterial.

HOLY PLACES REVIVE FAITH

Today, the palatial monuments, in which the great kings and powerful emperors once lived, have no more than historical interest. On the other hand, the small and humble huts, wherein the holy seers lived, are places of pilgrimage and worship, reviving faith and devotion for them and for God.

HOLY PLACE: WHERE GOD GLORIFIED

Holy is the place where God is eulogised and glorified.

HOLY WORDS

One must live up to the holy words to become holy.

HOUSEHOLD LIFE

Practically, all the holy personages gave the pride of place to household life and led an enlightened exemplary family life.

HUE

Whoso is dyed in the Godly hue is immune to worldly hues.

HUMILITY: GUIDING STAR

Humility is the guiding star for the pilgrim's progress.

HUMILITY: FRUITFUL

Ignorant people may mock at the humility of the devotees, because they know not its worth. The seed that mingles with the dust and loses its identity, one day sprouts into a plant and grows up into a fruit-bearing tree.

HUMILITY: ROYAL ROAD

Humility is the royal road to greatness and glory.

HUMILITY: STATUS

Those entrusted with some organisational or missionary status should be all the more humble.

HUMILITY: TRUTH

Those, who are humble and conscious of their own shortcomings, realize Truth.

HUNGER

Material riches cannot satiate spiritual hunger.

HYPOCRISY

Though people acknowledge that the human body, mind and wealth, belong to God, yet they behave as masters of these assets. Consequently, they suffer.

HYPOCRITE

A hypocrite can never be a true devotee of God.



IGNORANCE ALIENATES

A woman cannot truly know a man unless she is married to him. Likewise, without knowing and 'marrying' God, people worship different gods, in utter ignorance, and are thus alienated from Him.

IGNORANCE: DISINHERITANCE

We are children of God Almighty and are entitled to His rich heritage. However, we continue to suffer because of our ignorance of this fact.

IGNORANCE: EGOISM

With our vision blocked, we are likely to stumble. If, however, the optical obstruction is removed, we will not only be able to see again but also guide others. It is our ego that blocks our spiritual vision and shuts out Truth. This veil of ignorance and egoism can be removed only by a True Master.

IGNORANCE: SELF-IMPOSED

God is not apart from man. In fact, it is man who has turned his face away from God. This is indeed the root cause of all his suffering.

IGNORANCE: SUFFERING

Despite owning a gold mine one may regard himself to be a pauper due to sheer ignorance. God Almighty, the source of all blessings and bounties, is verily a gold mine. But man is woefully ignorant of it. This gold mine can be revealed by a guide i.e. the True Master.

IGNORANCE: VEIL

Not distance, but a veil of ignorance alienates man from the all-pervading God.

IGNORANCE AND KNOWLEDGE

The states of ignorance and knowledge are similar respectively to those of alienation from, and integration with, the Ultimate Truth.

ILLUMINED SOUL

An unlit candle, howso big or ornate, cannot light another candle. But even an ordinary lit candle can certainly light a thousand candles. So can an illumined soul kindle thousands of dark and deluded souls.

ILLUSION

Those, who advise us to go to a jungle or wilderness to seek the all-pervading God, are actually misguiding us. This illusion has created an army of beggars and parasites.

IMMORTALITY

God-knowledge alone can bestow immortality.

INGRATITUDE

If one enjoys all the bounties but does not know and remember God, the great giver, can there be a worse example of ingratitude?

INTEGRATION

Mere reading and repeating the marriage manual cannot impart marital bliss unless the bride and the bridegroom are untied in a wedlock. Likewise, mere repetition and recitation of the scriptures cannot integrate man with his Maker and bestow spiritual bliss. This is possible only by the grace of a God-realised personage.

INTOXICANTS

While we should shun the use of intoxicants, we must not hate or look down upon those who have become their victim. Rather, we should help and encourage them in their rehabilitation and redemption.

"J"

JAILOR AND PRISONER

The enlightened and the ignorant both live in the same world. But the former is like the jailor while, the latter, the prisoner.

JUDGMENT

To judge a performance is not the function of an actor but of the audience.

"K"

"KARAM YOGI" (ACTION-ORIENTED)

One, who does his duty honestly and earnestly, is a "Karam Yogi" - a true devotee.

KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

The Kingdom of Heaven is open to all, except the arrogant.

KNOWLEDGE: FUTILE

If a doctor confines his (medical) knowledge to himself or to his family, he is of no use to the society, nor can he be called a doctor in the true sense.

KNOWLEDGE: INDEX

The real index of a doctor or a lawyer is not his appearance, but his specialized knowledge.

"L"

LAMP

The lamp on a high way is much more useful than the one inside the house.

LEARNING: HUMILITY PRE-REQUISITE

We are here to learn. We should never think of teaching others or consider ourselves as superior and others inferior.

LEARNING: INSPIRATION

Learning broadens one's mental horizon and inspires one to learn and imbibe more and more.

LEARNING: LIVING

Not mugging up, but comprehending and following the scriptures is true learning. A true devotee does not believe in mere recitation of the scriptures, but in living up to their teachings.

LEARNING: PRACTICE

Learning is a slow process requiring persistent practice and diligence. It is not a switch-button operation. Similarly, assimilation of God-knowledge requires constant and diligent practice, under the guidance of a True Master.

LEARNING: PRE-REQUISITE

Humility and submission is the pre-requisite for learning.

LEARNING: SPIRIT

A devotee is humble and ever eager to learn. The spirit to learn is, in fact, the hallmark of a devotee.

LEARNING: WILL

Those, who lose the will to learn, become arrogant, and arrogance surely blocks all learning.

LETTER AND SPIRIT

While elucidating spiritual tenets, we have to give material illustrations. We should, however, follow the spirit and not the letter.

LIFE: GAME

Life is a game. Let us play it in a truly sportsman spirit.

LIFE: PIOUS

Whoso leads a pious life is revered and worshipped.

LIFE: WHOLE

Life is an integral whole. It cannot, therefore, be half true and half false. It is either true or false.

LIVING MASTER

As a living physician can cure our physical ailments, a living Master alone can cure our spiritual ailments by bestowing God-realisation.

LIVING TEMPLES

God Almighty cannot be propitiated merely by construction of the places of worship, but by loving and serving fellow-beings, the living temples of God.

LUSTRE

Education and learning add lustre to a pious life.

"M"

MAINSTAY

A teacher repeats the same alphabet time and again to help the pupil assimilate it. Similarly, the saints repeatedly exhort us that we should make the Eternal Lord and not the transitory world, our main stay.

MASTER'S WORD

As is the sight to the eye, so is the Master's word to the devotee.

MATERIAL POWERS

The material powers that comfort us today, plague us tomorrow.

MATERIALISM

As a spider is entombed in its own web, man gets entrapped in materialism and suffers.

MIND

Just as a restless monkey tied to a pole climbs up and down and cannot commit any mischief, a mind 'tied' to the pole of God-knowledge does not get unruly in spite of its apparent restlessness.

MIRROR

An eye cannot see itself though it can see everything around. It needs a mirror for the purpose. The True Master is the mirror in which the devotee can see his *self*.

MISCONCEPTION: GOD'S ABODE

People harbour a misconception that God dwells only in the places of worship. The truth is that God is all-pervading and can be realized any moment, at any place, through a True Master.

MISCONCEPTION: GODMEN

It is a mistake to think that godmen live only in jungles or caves. They are the light of the world and live in the world.

MISCONCEPTION: GOD-REALISATION

There is a general misconception that God-realisation is not feasible. Actually, it is so easy. It is just to know yourself - your real self.

MISSION

To cure patients is the mission of every physician. Similarly, to dispel spiritual ignorance is the sole mission of all the Great Masters.

MOTIVE

The surgeon and the robber both wield a knife, but with different motives. The one to save life and the other to rob.

"N"

"NAAM" (NAME)

"Naam" does not mean mere name or word. It stands for God Himself. In fact, "Naam" transmutes one into a "Nammi" (godman or devotee).

NAMES

The same disease may have different names in different languages. A true physician, however, diagnoses the disease and dispenses medicine, instead of entangling himself in disputes over the name. Similarly, a True Master dispenses knowledge of God, irrespective of the multiplicity of His names.

"O"

OBLIVIOUS

It is an irony that man, created in God's own image, keeps his eyes wide open to the creation, but shut to the Creator: he is oblivious of the Creator.

OBSTACLES

For the devotees, obstacles serve as a catalyst for the propagation of Truth.

OWN GOD

In case we do not own a house and someone tells us that our house is being damaged, we shall not bother. If, however, we own one and someone even lies to us that it is being damaged, we shall at once rush. Thus, we love a thing only if we own it. Similarly, God can be loved truly only if He is known and owned.

"P"

PAIN AND PLEASURE

Pain and pleasure are an integral part of life.

PEACE OF MIND

Our surroundings and our doings do affect our thoughts. However, the purity of thought, a prerequisite for peace of mind, is not possible without Enlightenment.

PRACTICAL LIFE: BEST PUBLICITY

The practical life of the devotees is the principal vehicle of publicity to inspire and attract others.

PRACTICAL LIFE: KNOWLEDGE MATCHING PRACTICE

There is no death of distinguished religious and spiritual scholars. They would, however, be classed as really great only if their knowledge matches their practice.

PRACTICE COUNTS

We can benefit from practice and not merely from speaking or hearing.

PRACTICE AND PRECEPT

One, whose deeds do not conform to his precepts, is far apart from God.

PREACHING

Those, who do not practice what they preach, fall from grace. Their preachings too fall flat.

PRETENCE

Pretence brings contempt and humiliation, while frankness inspires admiration and confidence.

PURITY: LIVING FAITH

Purity is the living faith and a way of life of a devotee. He is pure in thought, word and deed.

PURITY: WITHIN AND WITHOUT

A man, who is impure within, cannot be pure without. Likewise, one who is unrighteous in actions, cannot be righteous in thoughts.

PURPOSE

In the entire creation there is nothing without a purpose. There must be a purpose of human life, as well. Have we identified and achieved the same?

"Q"

QUACKS: LACK GOD-KNOWLEDGE

If a shopkeeper has sugar in store, he will at once supply the same. The self-styled saints cannot bestow God-knowledge, because they themselves lack this boon.

QUACKS: RENUNCIATION

Those, who preach asceticism and renunciation of hearth and home of God-realisation are mere quacks, who advise amputation of a limb even for a little pain.

"R"

REAL

Artificial flowers may be beautiful to look at, but they have no fragrance. On the other hand, real (natural) flowers may not be so attractive, but they perfume the entire environment with their sweet fragrance.

REDEMPTION

Only a free man can set others free. Similarly, the one who is himself redeemed, can redeem others.

REFUGE: GOD

God alone is true, eternal and infinite, while the entire creation is transient and finite. The devotees, therefore, identify themselves with and take refuge in God and lead a truthful and blissful life.

REFUGE: TRUE MASTER

Whoso seeks refuge in the True Master, needs no other shelter.

RELATIONS

The worldly relations are generally cynical and fickle and can fizzle out any moment. The love of saints and devotees, however, is selfless and enduring.

RELATIONSHIP: LIVING

Unless we establish a living relationship with God, the Supreme Master, all our possessions are just like the stolen property.

RELATIONSHIP MISSING

When one claims his Satguru (Teacher of Truth) to be perfect but fails to imbibe any of his teachings, obviously, the teacher-disciple relationship is missing or sham.

RELATIONSHIP: REAL

The birth of a baby spontaneously evokes love in the mother. This is because of their intimate relationship. Similarly, real relationship with God i.e. His Fatherhood, automatically fosters Brotherhood of Man.

RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

The worldly relations are ever fickle. Even blood-relations betray us in adversity. The booty amassed by thieves and smugglers is generally enjoyed by their friends and relations. When caught, it is the former who suffer. On the other hand, the relationship with God is ever abiding and stands us in good stead.

RELIGION: ESSENCE

Not the effervescence but the essence of religion sustains it.

RELIGION: HUMANISM

True religion makes true humans.

RELIGION: LIAISON

The prime purpose of religion is to establish liaison with Universal Light and Truth.

RELIGION: NOT SHOW

Religion or spirituality is not a matter of show. Unless the essence of religion (Truth) is realized and imbibed, one cannot be truly religious.

RELIGION: OBSERVANCE

There is no need for a new religion. One should know the essence of the religion one professes. One may have faith in any scripture, but reading or reciting it is of no avail, unless one actually practices its teachings. No officer can be pleased merely by reading and reciting his orders, but by observance thereof.

RELIGIONS: BASICALLY ONE

Often we tend to consider one religion higher than another. However, on realizing God, we realise that all religions are basically one. They integrate man with the Almighty.

RELIGIOUS: EQUAL REVERENCE

One cannot be truly religious unless one has equal reverence and regard for other religions.

RELIGIOUS: SANS RELIGION

The irony is that we consider ourselves religious without understanding what religion really is!

RESPONSE

It is the ruler, not the throne, that can respond to our petitions. Similarly, it is the living Master who can redeem our souls.

REVERENCE

Living up to the teachings of the True Master is their true reverence.

RIGHT ANSWER

The right answer is one, even if furnished by one or one million.

RIGHT: MAJORITY AND MINORITY

Some contend that the majority is always right and we should follow it blindly. However, even the majority verdict may be wrong and the single minority view may be right. The solitary word of Guru Nanak was right, though the world, at large, thought otherwise.

rites and rituals

Deprecation of rites and rituals by the Great Master in every age, should be an eye-opener to God-seekers.

RITUALS: FUTILE

A holy personage is not a slave of orthodoxy and traditions. Rather, he rids the people of such chains as Guru Nanak did to awaken and enlighten the people.

RITUALS: MERELY APPETIZERS

Appetite is, no doubt, essential, but the means to appease it i.e. food is all the more essential. Similarly, the rituals may act as 'appetizers' for God-realization, the goal, which is attainable only by the grace of a spiritual guide.

ROBE OF LOVE

We have been pulled out of the mire of materialism and endowed with a spotless robe made of the fine fabric of love and affection. We must take care not to soil it with ego, hatred or jealousy.

RUN-AWAYS

The world can benefit only from a man of the world. The run-aways cannot contribute anything to human welfare.

"S"

"SACH KHAND" (REGION OF TRUTH)

"Sach Khand" (The Region of Truth) is a forum, where "Sach" (Truth) reigns. It is located not high above in the skies, as is generally believed, but in truthful conduct.

SACRIFICE

Sacrifice is a pre-requisite for the successful accomplishment of a cause.

SAINT: ABOVE ILL-WILL

A saint is ever humble, never disrespectful to others. Nor does he nurture ill-will against any one.

SAINT: ADVERSARIES

A saint does not lose his poise even when tormented. Rather, he prays for the well-being of even his adversaries, and in the process wins them over.

SAINT: ALWAYS BALANCED

A saintly soul is always balanced and blissful. Even moments of misery do not disturb him as they do a worldly person.

SAINT: COMPASSIONATE

A saint is moved to compassion by the sufferings of others, but stands like a rock against tyranny.

SAINT: FAITH

A common man magnifies his trivial troubles. But a saint takes even a serious trouble lightly and does not allow it to affect his faith.

SAINT: NON-VINDICTIVE

A saint does not entertain vindictive or hostile feelings even towards those who maltreat him. God himself creates such circumstances that the offenders are caught in their own net.

SAINT REDEEMS

'Cleanse the pot first' is the advice of the self-styled saints to the seekers. But a true saint does not mind our murky past. He believes that only a patient needs a physician for a cure. A healthy person has nothing to gain from a physician.

SAINT SHOWS GOD

The scriptures describe but cannot show God. Only a true saint can show God.

SAINTS FORGIVE

The worldly people, even if they 'forgive', retain rancour in their hearts. The saints, however, not only forgive but also transform sinners into saints.

SAINTS: INNATELY GOOD

Unlike the worldly people, who look for shortcomings in others, the saints with their innate goodness always see good in all.

SAINTS: OPPOSITION

A flower does not refuse to bloom because the thorns are around; it continues to blossom and spreads its fragrance. Similarly, saints too diffuse the fragrant message of Truth regardless of opposition and criticism.

SAINTS PERCEIVE GOODNESS

This world is verily a mirror. Everyone sees his own image in it. The saints being good, see goodness in everyone and consider everyone good.

SAINTS REVEAL FATHER

The religious scholars may command a lot of scriptural knowledge and preach universal brotherhood, yet they neither know, nor have seen the father i.e. God. The saints not only preach human brotherhood, they also reveal the Father.

SAINTS : REVERED

The kings and emperors are remembered for their material glamour, but are not revered or loved. On the other hand, the saints, sages and seers, are cherished, loved and worshipped forever, for their spiritual attainments and benedictions.

SAINTS: SANDALWOOD

A true saint is like sandalwood, which imparts its fragrance to its surrounding objects. The ritualistic are, however, like the bamboo trees, which fail to imbibe fragrance even in the midst of sandalwood.

SAINTS TRANSMUTE SINNERS

Even thieves, dacoits, thugs and murderers, evolved as saints when they encountered seers and realized God. They are revered and worshipped as saints even today.

SALVATION

One can attain salvation only while in flesh and blood.

SCHOLARSHIP

Saints' discourses may not pass the test of scholarship. Nevertheless, these enshrine the pristine truth and reality.

SCIENCE AND SPIRITUALITY

Science can impart sight to see the world around, but not the insight to see Divinity. It can cleanse our blood of impurities, but cannot cleanse our heart of base feelings. It can cure almost all the ailments of the heart, but cannot instil sympathy, compassion and goodwill therein. Such tender and noble sentiments can be generated only by the spiritual awakening.

SCRIPTURES: GUIDES

The scriptures serve as a guide to God-realisation. But, instead of following them, we quarrel over them. If we abide by the scriptures, in letter and spirit, we will realise God, and enjoy the much coveted peace, bliss and beatitude.

SCRIPTURES: KEY

The scriptures are, no doubt, a key to the Kingdom of God, but we need a True Master to operate it.

SCRIPTURES: LETTER AND SPIRIT

It is an irony that the scriptures, meant to dispel superstition, often make the people superstitious, because they follow only the letter and not the spirit thereof.

SCRIPTURES: NEED

The scriptures enshrine useful prescriptions and precautions for spiritual ailments. One should, however, not forget that mere precautions or prescriptions cannot cure the patient. Nor would the praise of the physician or his treatment be of any avail. For a cure, one must take the medicine and also abide by the instructions of the physician. Similarly, we need not only a spiritual guide to reveal God and truly interpret the scriptures, but also to follow his teachings.

SCRIPTURES: RECITATION

Mechanical recitation of the scriptures is like gargling instead of drinking water and cannot quench the thirst.

SEE

Those, who are considered far-sighted, may see things far ahead, but they miss the reality at hand. However, those, who 'see' with the eye of the True Master, see the reality everywhere, far or near.

SEE AND SAY

One who has actually seen a place can truly describe it, not otherwise. Like scientists, spiritualists too believe in "see and say".

SELFLESS SERVICE CLEANSSES HEARTS

Selfless service alone can cleanse one's heart.

SELFLESS SERVICE: HIGHEST PEAK

Selfless service is the highest peak of worship and devotion.

SELFLESSNESS: MEASURE

Selflessness is the sole measure of devotion.

SELF-SURRENDER

Self-surrender is the only way to God-realization.

SERVICE: APOLOGY

If, for any reason, one cannot accomplish an entrusted assignment, one should beg to be excused: this too is service.

SERVICE: MENTAL

Mental service also means seeing good in all and not finding faults in anyone.

SETBACKS

Setbacks should be taken as opportunities, provided by Providence, to introspect and weed out our weaknesses.

SHAM SHOW

The 'white' is a symbol of purity and piety. However, if a person nurtures hatred and ill-will within, even the white attire would be a mere sham show.

SHORTCOMINGS

Tremendous courage is needed to accept one's shortcomings. Unless we accept, we cannot remedy the same.

SOCIETY

The human society can be likened to a machine and the individuals as its components, each having its own place and role.

SOUL: BLIND

Imagine the misfortune of a person crying for water while standing on the bank of a stream, unaware of the crystal clear water flowing beside him. Such is the plight of an unenlightened human soul, in the midst of the all-pervasive God.

SOUL: LOST

A child, lost in a crowded fair, weeps and wails. Sweets and merry-go-rounds, so alluring for the children, fail to enchant it until a person, who knows the child as well as the father, turns up and restores the former to the latter. Now the weeping child is all smiles. So is the case with the human soul which, caught up in the maze of materialistic world, has lost 'touch' with its Father-God. The people vainly try to console it by performing religious rites and rituals. It is, however, only by the holy communion with god through a True Master that the soul can rest in peace and poise.

SOUL: MIRROR

Soul can be aptly likened to a mirror. We can clearly see our face in the mirror if it is clean.

SOUL: REAL ABODE

When one dies, the physical constituents merge with their respective elements. Have we ever cared to know where the soul goes? If we wish that it should not wander about but rest in its real abode, it should know it. God-knowledge alone can lead it to its real abode i.e. God.

SOUL: UNENLIGHTENED

As unenlightened soul roams about in utter wilderness. This indeed is the fate of every being or object that gets separated from its source or centre. Water in a tumbler, 'separated' from the flowing river, loses its vast dimension and the capacity to remain fresh. Even the water that evaporates from the sea, comes down again in the form of rain, wends its way through difficult terrains and roaring rivers in order to rejoin the sea from which it got 'separated'. It knows no rest till it rejoins its source. So is the case with the soul, separated from the Over Soul

SOUL: WEDDED

Even a poor housemaid turns a queen if wedded to a king. Likewise, the soul wedded to the Super Soul, enjoys royal splendour i.e. celestial bliss.

SOUL AND SUPER SOUL

A child in the lap of its mother is happy even in a hut, while the one, who is deprived of its mother, is in agony even in a palace. So is the case of the soul, embraced by, or separated from, the Super Soul.

SPIRITUAL BLISS

If we have not experienced bliss after attaining God-knowledge, we should search our souls and plug leakage.

SPIRITUAL HUE

The spiritual hue never fades. Hence spiritual transformation is abiding.

SPIRITUALITY CONQUERS HEARTS

Nations can extend their boundaries with military might. Law can be daunting and brute force can make others bow. But these cannot win love and affection of others. spirituality may not conquer kingdoms, but it does conquer hearts.

SPIRITUALITY RESTS ON GRACE

Spirituality rests on grace, self-surrender and dedication.

SPIRITUALLY BLIND

A spiritually blind person shuts his eyes towards the all-pervading God and shouts: there is no God! It is just like shutting one's eyes to the sun and shouting: it is night!!

STEADFASTNESS

Men, who are true to their word, are steadfast in their action.

SUPERIORITY

Superiority lies not in the time factor, but in the degree of devotion and dedication to a cause.

SUPPORT

To scale the material heights, we need material support. Similarly, to attain the spiritual heights, we need spiritual support i.e. Master's blessings.

SURRENDER

Surrender and obedience are the secrets of happiness.

"T"

TRADITIONS

People steeped in religious traditions instead of having a fresh look at their relevance today, brand an enquiring mind as irreligious and thereby alienate it from religion.

TRANSFORMATION: MYSTICAL

After marriage, a girl adopts the life-style of her husband. Similarly, after God-realization, the life-style of a devotee is transformed from material into mystical.

TRANSFORMATION NOT CONVERSION

The spiritual personages do not believe in religious conversion but in spiritual transformation.

TROUBLE

A little trouble is a great vexation to a worldly person, while a saint considers it as a passing phase.

TRUE FOLLOWER

One, who is a true human being, is a true follower of all religions.

TRUE MASTER: BEST ESCORT

We need no road to the all-pervading God. The True Master, who knows God, can straightaway escort us to Him.

TRUE MASTER: BESTOWER

A Master always bestows, never begs.

TRUE MASTER BLESSES

Those, who approach a True master as humble and earnest seekers of Truth, are blessed with this boon.

TRUE MASTER: BONDAGE-BREAKER

Instead of binding us to the religious routines, a True Master liberates us from such bondages.

TRUE MASTER CHANGES DESTINY

Dedication to the True Master straightens the reversed gear of our destiny forthwith through his blessings. It is like straightening the inverted letters of a rubber seal when embossed.

TRUE MASTER: CONTEMPORARY

A patient must approach a present physician for treatment, not a physician of the past. Similarly, one must approach the contemporary True Master for spiritual enlightenment.

TRUE MASTER: DIVINITY INCARNATE

Mastership is not a degree or a status. It is divinity. A True Master is divinity-incarnate.

TRUE MASTER ENRICHES

If one tries to become a millionaire by one's own labour, one may not succeed. But if one is adopted by a millionaire, one instantly becomes a millionaire. Similarly, a True Master bestows spiritual wealth i.e. Enlightenment and thus enriches the devotee in a moment.

TRUE MASTER EXALTS

A True Master is compassionate and exalts even the humblest of the humble.

TRUE MASTER: EXEMPLAR

A True Master never imposes his teachings on anyone, rather he inspires the people by his own example.

TRUE MASTER: INDEX

Not the physical body but the God-knowledge is the index of a True Master.

TRUE MASTER: INDISPENSABLE

Lord Krishna and Lord Rama are revered and worshipped by millions as divine beings. They too were men of flesh and blood like any other human being. But they attained divinity only when they were blessed with Divine Knowledge by their True Masters. How then can we realise Divinity on our own?

TRUE MASTER: KNOWLEDGE, NOT BODY

The Master is immortal: he is not the physical body, but the divine knowledge. The body perishes, but not the knowledge, which is eternal. As a container is valued for its content, the Master's body is held in high esteem because of his knowledge and teachings. Therefore, we should give primary importance not to his body, but to his word.

TRUE MASTER: LIBERATOR

Religious leaders shackle the people in various bonds, but a True Master liberates them.

TRUE MASTER: PRESCRIPTION SELF-SAME

The contemporary True Master dispenses the pristine medicine prescribed by the ancient seers, but now forgotten. Only the hospital and the physician have changed, but not the prescription.

TRUE MASER: PRESENT

Even to understand the teachings of the past teachers, we surely need the guidance of the present-day teacher. Similarly, though past saints and seers are worthy of reverence, we can realize God only from the contemporary True Master.

TRUE MASTER REVEALS GOD

The preachers only talk about God, but a True Master reveals Him.

TRUE MASTER: SAVIOUR

The grain that 'sticks' to the central axle of a grinder is saved from being crushed. Likewise, they, who 'stick' to the True Master, are saved from the grinding mill of births and deaths.

TRUE MASTER; SOURCE OF SPIRITUAL KNOWLEDGE

Neither a smart uniform nor a heap of books nor even a grand school building can educate a child. Only a teacher can teach even without any book or building. Similarly, a true Spiritual Guide imparts spiritual knowledge without any religious trappings.

TRUE MASTER: SUPREME

As the knowledge of God is supreme, so is the teacher of God-knowledge. That is why, he is also called a Lord, a Prophet, a Satguru or a True Master.

TRUE MASTER: TEACHINGS

Only they enjoy spiritual bliss and beatitude who imbibe the teachings of the True Master. Those, who hear and forget, cannot enjoy a blissful life. They are just like a leaking pitcher which is never full.

TRUE MASTER: TOUCHSTONE

If God-knowledge bestowed by the True Master tallies with the scriptures, the True Master is indeed true. This is the touchstone.

TRUE MASTER: TRUE FRIEND

Fair-weather friends may desert us in adversity, but not the True Master - our true friend.

TRUE MASTER: TRUE GUIDE

Neither books can teach us nor can tools make us a technician: a competent teacher or a guide alone can teach or train. So is the case with God-knowledge; it can be attained only from a True Master.

TRUE MASTER: UNIFIER

Unlike the worldly people, who divide the masses for their self-interest, a True Master unites all.

TRUE MASTER UNRAVELS

The recitation of the scriptures or worship of the idols is futile. Only a self-realized soul i.e. a True Master can unravel the mystery of Self.

TRUTH: ABOVE MUNDANE

Strangely enough, our concept of truth consists of a truthful statement of mundane matters, but has no relation to the Eternal Truth!

TRUTH: DIFFUSION

Those, who have realized Truth, are duty-bound to diffuse it.

TRUTH: IRREPRESSIBLE

We should never think for a moment, that the voice of Truth can be stilled. It could never be silenced in the past. Whenever anyone tries to suppress it, it bounces with a bang.

TRUTH: NEGATED

One, who nurses malice even after realizing Truth, has, in truth, not realized it.

TRUTH: SIFTING

Only the devotees, who have realized the eternal Truth, can sift Truth from Falsehood.

TRUTH: STEADFAST

After realizing Truth, we may have to face agonizing antagonism, but we should hold fast to it.

TRUTH ULTIMATELY TRIUMPHS

Evil may seem to be dominant for a while, but ultimately truth triumphs.

"U"

UNFORTUNATE LOSE TRUTH

Unfortunate are those, who 'lose' truth even after 'finding' it.

UNFORTUNATE: UNHAPPY

Those, who are unhappy even after realizing Truth, have not actually realized it, and are unfortunate.

UNION

How good is the time and blessed the union with the Supreme!

UNITY: ABIDING

Abiding unity lies not in dead uniformity, but in harmony.

UNITY: THROUGH GOD-KNOWLEDGE

The only way to foster unity among the people of different castes, colours, creeds, races and nationalities, is to knit them with the thread of God-knowledge.

UNITY: THROUGH INNER AWAKENING

The devotees look so different in their diet, dress, caste, creed, culture and race. Yet, basically, they are one. The worldly want to achieve unity through outward uniformity, whereas it can be actually achieved only by inner awakening and evolution.

UTTERANCE

A devotee is ever cautious to weigh each word he utters, because utterance can earn respect or rebuke.

"W"

WAGES

As money is the wages of physical and mental labour, God-realization is the wages of God-devotion.

WEALTH: BLESSING

Even wealth is a blessing if it is utilized for public welfare, but a curse if it makes us proud.

WEALTH CHANGES

As wealth changes hands, its worshippers change colours.

WEALTH: MASTER AND SLAVE

Wealth is the master of the worldly, but a slave of the saints.

WEALTH: MATERIAL AND SPIRITUAL

For the worldly people, material wealth is all in all. For the devotees, however, spiritual wealth is the greatest treasure.

WEALTH: NOT EVIL

Wealth is not an evil if used for the human welfare. But it is surely an evil if it makes one arrogant.

WEALTH: REAL

Today money rules the roost. Love and faith are almost extinct. In fact, spiritual attainment is the real wealth, the greatest asset, that bestows peace, bliss and contentment.

'WEAPONS'

Love, humility and non-violence are the sure 'weapons' of a devotee to conquer (the hearts of) people.

WHITE SCARF

No one can become a saint simply by wearing a white scarf. It is a symbol of purity, piety and humility. Wearing it is meaningless unless one is actually pure, pious and humble.

WINNING OTHERS

No two persons think or feel alike. By imposing our own viewpoint, we alienate instead of winning others. People can be won over by understanding, appreciating and accommodating their view-points, faiths and beliefs.

WISHING WELL

If one wishes to thrive at the cost of another, one is bound to suffer ultimately. Hence one should always wish well of one and all.

WORD AND DEED

One is as apart from Truth as is one's word from one's deed.

WORK IS WORSHIP

To do one's duty conscientiously is as good as worship.

WORSHIP: CREATION OR CREATOR

Both, the worldly and the devotee, worship. However, the former worships the art i.e. the creation, while the latter worships the artist i.e. the Creator.

WORSHIP: GOD OR GODS

It is no use worshipping manmade gods. Worship only God, the creator and sustainer of the universe, after knowing Him.

WORSHIP: KNOWN GOD

God can be truly worshipped only after He is known and realized.

WORSHIPPERS

The worshipper of the creation attain but transitory happiness, while the worshipper of the Creator experience abiding bliss.

WORTHY

We can become worthy beings only by worthy living.

"Y"

"YUGA" (AGE)

People curse the present time and admire the good old day. They have all praise for the "Sat Yuga" (Golden Age) and roundly condemn the "Kal Yuga" (Iron Age). In fact, it is the state of our mind that brings about the differential outlook on "Sat Yuga" and "Kal Yuga". In the company of saints and seers, we abode in the "Sat Yuga". But in the company of the vicious and the wicked, we wallow in the "Kal Yuga". In truth, good and evil have all along co-existed in all ages. It rests with us whether we opt for "Kal Yuga" or "Sat Yuga".

"Z"

ZEAL

If one comes forward to render selfless service with the same zeal and fervour with which one sings or speaks or dances, it can work wonders.