

# Psychic Discovery in America

By Shri Dattabal

Many a land have I visited but never as a wayfarer. Nor were my tours ever motivated by effervescent intentions of a sightseer. It was the compulsion of concrete and tangible inner experiences, the philosophy that was the inevitable and resplendent product of those experiences, manifestation of supernatural capacities which were and are the most obvious fruition of such philosophy, was the first and foremost motive of my tours. And second cardinal motive was the quest of knowledge which would be satisfied through the explorations of new lands and new vistas. My mind stood firmly on two resolves : One was never even for the fraction of a moment to exploit enquiries or fancies that dwell in the minds of foreigners about India, her mysteries and her mystics: the other was to avoid mere mechanical repetition of Hindu philosophy. And of course the last but not the least: Never to exploit and tax the poor people of this land of ours. I made it a point to avoid any and all kinds of publicity gimmicks prior to my visit to the US - the land of affluence and power. That land is undoubtedly rich in all respects and endowed with beauty and grace of its own. It has bred men and women of both types : Those who are

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gifted with beautiful minds and also those whose minds are very ugliness incarnate. I landed in New York and my next stay was in Chicago. It was in Swami Vivekananda Vedanta Society. At least formally I got a good reception.

Ganges town in Michigan was the venue of my first discourse. Mr. Natu was the chief of Shri Ramakrishna Math and some sannyasins also resided there. They also delivered speeches on this occasion. My speech was immensely liked by American people and some Indians as well. Right from *Vedas* to Einstein and from Max Planck to Cleve Baxter who had explored hearts of plants and successfully recorded their sentiments and feelings, my talk included references to sir J. C. Bose and also to Shri Ramakrishna, Swami Vivekananda and Shri Shankaracharya. But the saffron robed parakeets of *Vedanta* philosophy exhibited their petty jealousies and total deprivation of broad mindedness and genuine appreciation. In Japan and in Thailand also I was frequently confronted with malice and envy. Men have always thought of envy as a feminine trait. However I experienced it in saffronrobed sannyasins also.

One American asked me to tell my philosophy in four words. "Why four? The word *Aum* should singularly suffice to sum it all up," was my prompt reply which was immediately appreciated with a thunderous applause. But envy which had garbed itself

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in saffron garments was deaf to the reply. It only listened to the applause. The fire of envy was rekindled. The fire-Agni is in one form as we come across it - its grossest form : another form is the fire of *Kundalini* power. Instead of enkindling this fire, fire of envy was kindled in those saffron robes. Of course there is nothing new or surprising about it.

I offered examples of Ramana Maharishi when I explained inner experiences of Shri Dnyaneshwara, Tukarama and Gurudeo Ranade. I told the audience that these were the only persons firmly established in soul. Only such persons could give birth to a revolution. They were endowed with phenomenal capacity of projecting love on an enormous scale. The scholars and the cleric totally lack this ability. The change-the transformation taking place in the human race at large is an inevitable and vital rung in its evolution. The great seers - Shri Aurobindo and Swami Vivekananda had clairvoyantly foreseen this phenomenon. Now is the right time and the ripe time for the inner revolution and I am positive that this revolution will be brought about by my beloved country and the US. Many Americans were thrilled. Clairvoyant knowledge of *Vedic* sages and objective approach of science in my speech created a tremendous impact in the audience as it previously did in my speeches in other countries. I consider this success as the product of blessing of Shri Dnyaneshwara and Shri Samartha Akkalkot Swami. It is my vision prior to my visit to the US and not any

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kind of superficial humility that compels me to acknowledge this fact.

In my speech I talked on *Jyotir - darshan* - the experience of the innermost flame. As a matter of fact some scientists in the US challenge these experiences on the basis that they are merely subjective. But Max Planck has very recently proved that basically there is no distinction between subjectivity (microcosmic level) and objectivity (macrocosmic level). To illustrate this I quoted a recent example given by Max Planck. When a nucleus of an atom is observed, this very act of observing it, affects the whole structure of the atom. Human beings are part and parcel of the machination of cosmic re-awakening. To elucidate the point I said, "You believe a stone to be stationary and think of man as a biped. Man undoubtedly is endowed with different organs for different uses but at the same time a stone is also having organs. Its very state of being stationary is itself in a way a direction given to its evolution." I further told the audience about the Chinese *Ulu masters* who are better known as dancing masters. They only dance but the masters like Ramana Maharishi, Shri Ramakrishna and Swami Vivekananda can transmit energy through their eyes alone. Indian sages have always created and transmitted such men and through this very process, revolutions took place during the course of their existence. This revolution is not merely a change, it is change through the process of evolution.

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It is self-evolving and unfolding change. Turning again to the subjective (microcosmic) existence, every saint meets with the experience of the innermost flame when he delves deep in his own consciousness. And when this very flame is transformed into the white flame the person ascends on the rung which is a very high state of spiritual evolution. I translated from Marathi the beautiful description of this white flame by Shri Dnyaneshwara as 'The ocean of white light,' when one enters this ocean, one's consciousness brinks upon and embraces the cosmic oneness. Shri Dnyaneshwara has firmly advocated the awakening of *Kundalini* for this. This form is being investigated and researched upon in the US. But this *Kundalini* awakening doesn't merely comprise of the vibrations in the spinal chord but it is essentially the process of self-awakening in man. As on the phenomenal level, the evolution takes place from unicellular existence to man and through successive unfoldment from man to godman. The capacity of projection in man is the highest landmark of such revolution.

This of course is the gist of my speech. After the speech many Americans approached me and appreciated my speech. And of course I again encountered envy and I was granted only ten minutes for my next days speech. 'Indian *Vedanta* and philosophy and their synthesis' was the topic of my next speech and to do justice to it in such a limited

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span of time was an impossible task. Hence I politely declined the invitation to the next day's talk. The gentleman who had arranged these speeches had promised me in his correspondence with me to arrange thirteen more speeches. The correspondence is still with me but I have the least desire to expose a man of my own land. Ugliness is also a reality of life as is beauty. And I remembered Gibran's words, 'Love ugliness also.'

With Gibran's message still lingering in my heart I left for New York. There I met Uri Geller. He is a peculiarly strange man. By mere exercise of will, he bends any metal. He also performs other feats like reading other peoples' thoughts. I met him as a yogi. He demonstrated some of his abilities and I also demonstrated to him some of my abilities. This meeting has left pleasant memories in my mind.

The renowned parapsychologist Dr. Karlis Osis had come to see me in Kolhapur some two or three years ago. I met him again in New York. He gave me Geller's address. I called Uri on the phone and asked him whether he would come to see me. He immediately consented. We met in the garden opposite Pierre hotel. Uri is lean and somewhere in his late twenties. He parked his car at a distance and did not allow his secretarial staff to accompany him and came jaunting towards me. Uri Geller was first introduced to the United States by Dr. Andreja Puharich. He has given

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scientific tests in the laboratories of Young and Ted Westing in Philadelphia and proved his abilities. He can bend metal forks and spoons by merely looking at them. He can read thoughts of others also. He has given demonstrations on London TV and in the office of the world famous 'Time' magazine. He took a key from us and lightly passed his finger over it and the next moment the key bent. I imagined some geometrical design in my mind and he immediately recognized it accurately. In the beginning he was puzzled when I made my mind blank and he confessed that he couldn't read my thoughts. I can positively vouchsafe to his abilities. I demonstrated to him my telekinetic abilities and gave a demonstration in telepathy. He was awestruck. "Had you phoned me a week earlier. I would have introduced you on the New York TV." was his obvious reaction.

There are yogis in India who can demonstrate Uri's abilities but we have always given secondary importance to such powers. From the view point of an Indian yogi acquisition of such powers is just a station on the path of God realization. I am willing to demonstrate my abilities in a well-equipped laboratory to the scientists of the United States.

We took leave of each other with warmth and respect in our hearts for each other. Few hours after this memorable meeting, I took the flight that brought me back to India.