

28th Episode – Forms of Shiva

Following 27th episode of “Overcoming Invisible Adversary & Bhairavi Prathana” towards Maha Kumbhabhisekam of Panching Gua Charas Jalalingeswarar Shivan temple, with good intention and thoughts for all devotees, the following write-up is prepared.

As discussed in the previous 27th episode, we looked at the details of overcoming invisible adversary and Bhairavi Prathana. Unquote “When we face a struggle like this one, **this is the time to turn inward**. Hence in this time, it is important for us to chant the simple **Bhairavi Prathana** and be meditative. One who earns the grace of **Bhairavi**, **neither has to live in concern or fear of life or death or failure, all that a human being considers as wellbeing will be his, if only he earns the grace of Bhairavi**”, Unquote.

Also, as noted in 27th episode, following the extension of MCO (Movement Control Order) by Malaysian government, we have closed down Jalalingsam Temple for all devotees until 14th April 2020 and to follow suit further ruling, if any, from Malaysian government. The official message has all been communicated by Temple President Mr. K.Balakrishnan.

In this 28th episode, we will look at forms of Shiva and significance of the following mantra;

Yoga Yoga Yogeshwaraya
Bhuta Bhuta Bhuteshwaraya
Kala Kala Kaleshwaraya
Shiva Shiva Sarveshwaraya
Shambho Shambho Mahadevaya

In the Indian tradition, **Shiva has many forms**, each representing a **powerful possibility for inner evolution**. Shiva has numerous forms that encompass every possible quality that the human mind can and cannot imagine. Some are wild and fierce. Some are enigmatic. Others are endearing and charming. From the naïve Bholenath to the fearsome Kalabhairava, from the beautiful Somasundara to the terrible Aghora – Shiva embraces every possibility, remaining untouched by it all. But among all these, there are five fundamental forms.

Yogeshwara

Being on the path of yoga means you have come to a phase in your life where you have felt the limitations of being physical, you have felt the need to go beyond the physical – you have felt restrained even by this vast cosmos. You are able to see that if you can be restrained by a small boundary, you can also be restrained by a huge boundary at some point. You do not have to crisscross the cosmos to experience this. Sitting here, you know if this boundary restrains you, if you crisscross the cosmos, that will also restrain you after some time – it is only a question of your ability to travel distances. Once your ability to travel distances is enhanced, any kind of boundary will be a restriction for you. Once you have understood and known this, once you have felt this longing that cannot be fulfilled by mastering physical creation – yoga. Yoga means to breach the barrier of physical creation. Your effort is not just to master the physicality of existence, but to breach its boundary and touch a dimension that is not physical in nature. **You want to unite that which is bound and that which is boundless**. You want to dissolve the boundary into the boundless nature of existence. **So, Yogeshwara**.

Bhuteshwara

The physical creation – all that we can see, hear, smell, taste, and touch – the very body, the planet, the universe, the cosmos – everything is just a play of five elements. Only with five ingredients, what a magnificent mischief called “creation”! With only five things, which you can count on one hand, how many things are being created! Creation could not be more compassionate. If there were five million ingredients, you would be lost. Gaining mastery over these five elements, which are known as the pancha bhutas, is everything – your health, your wellbeing, your power in the world and your ability to create what you want. Knowingly or unknowingly, consciously or unconsciously, individual people attain to some level of control or mastery over these different elements. How much control or mastery they have determines the nature of their body, the nature of their mind, the nature of what they do, how successfully they do it, how far they can see – everything. **Bhuta Bhuta Bhuteshwaraya** means

that **one who has mastery over the pancha bhutas** determines the destiny of his life, at least in the physical realm.

Kaleshwara

Kala – time. No matter if you have mastered the five elements, you have become one with the boundless, or you know dissolution – as long as you are here, time is ticking away. Mastering time is a completely different dimension. **Kala does not just mean time; it also means darkness.** Time is darkness. Time cannot be light because light travels in time. Light is a slave of time. Light is a phenomenon that has a beginning and an end. Time is not that kind of phenomenon. In the Hindu way of life, they have a very sophisticated understanding of time as six different dimensions. One thing you have to know – as you sit here, your time is ticking away. The Tamil expression for death is very good – Kalam aayitanga – “his time is up.”

In English, we also used such an expression in the past – “he expired.” Like a drug or anything else, a human being also comes with an expiry date. You may think you are going to so many places. No, as far as your body is concerned, it is going straight to the grave, without deviating for a moment. You can slow it down a bit, but it will not change direction. As you are getting older, you will see, slowly, the earth is trying to suck you back. Life completes its turn. Time is a special dimension of life – it does not fit into the other three dimensions. And of all the things in the universe, it is the most elusive stuff. You cannot pin it down, because it is not. It does not exist in any form of existence that you know. It is the most powerful dimension of creation, which holds the whole universe together. It is because of this that modern physics is clueless about how gravity functions, because there is no gravity. It is time which holds everything together.

Shiva – Sarveshwara – Shambho

Shiva means “**that which is not; that which is dissolved.**” That which is not is the basis of everything, and that is the **boundless Sarveshwara. Shambho is just a key, a passage.** If you can utter it in a way that your body will tear up, it will become a passage. If you want to master all these aspects and get there, it will take a long time. If you only want to take the passage, you can transcend these aspects not by mastery, but by sneaking in. If you want to walk straight, it is a tough path – a whole lot of work. If you are willing to crawl, there are easier ways. Those who are the crawling kind do not have to worry about mastering anything. Live as long as you live. When you die, you go and reach the ultimate. There is a certain beauty, an indescribable aesthetic in mastering even something simple. Kicking a ball for example, even a child can do. But when someone masters that, suddenly there is an aesthetic to it that makes half the world sit up and watch. If you want to know and enjoy mastery, there is work to do. But if you are willing to crawl, it is simply Shambho.

Scientific predictions talk about life cycles of the virus, and how that plays out. Whether it will settle before the 15th of April or not depends on whether we go by the directives or we get tired of the virus precautions and go about our business as usual, which would have an enormous cost. When life around you are in crisis, then your intelligence, your physical health, your sense of balance, your wisdom, everything is of utmost value. When we face a struggle like this one, **this is the time to turn inward.** Hence in this time, it is important for us to chant the following consecrated mantra and be meditative.

**Yoga Yoga Yogeshwaraya
Bhuta Bhuta Bhuteshwaraya
Kala Kala Kaleshwaraya
Shiva Shiva Sarveshwaraya
Shambho Shambho Mahadevaya**

Shiva Shambo
Om Nama Siva Ya Om
Help Ever Hurt Never
Service to Society is Service to Almighty
Master Ir. Sivabalan - Temple Trustee
28th March 2020