

Vasudhaika Kutumbakam 2010 – A report

On the 27th of March, Pujya Acharya Sri Prem Siddharth graced a conference on spirituality; “**Vasudhaika Kutumbakam 2010**” organized by **The World United** at Ashoka Gardens, Mehdipatnam, and blessed the audience with a talk on “**Jeevitha Paramaarthaniki Vedanta Disha Nirdesham**”. Pujya Acharya shared the dais with other spiritual and religious luminaries like His Holiness Sri Tridandi Srimannarayana Ramanuja Chinna Jeeyar Swamiji, Sri Sridhara Guruji, Sri Dr. Marella Ramakrishna, and Sri Sharma of Ramakrishnamutt.



After the discourse of H.H. Jeeyar Swami, Pujya Acharya spoke about the path that Vedanta reveals to the seekers in order to lead a purposeful life. Stressing on the importance of life and its purpose, Pujya Acharya said that behind any Sadhana, the ultimate purpose of human life is to attain “Nitya Aananda”. While this eternal happiness is the latent desire, the evident desires in this world always exist in groups. These desires arise from the erroneous perception that the source of happiness is the world outside. Vedanta points out that the happiness derived from the world is ephemeral and classifies this impermanent happiness into three categories – *Priya*-happiness when speaking / hearing about a desired goal, *Moda*-happiness obtained by nearing the desired goal, *Pramodam*- happiness obtained when the desired goal is achieved.



Pujya Acharya pointed out that the erroneous perception about the source of happiness and purpose of life arises due to three reasons, **Conditions of the Society** – the norms of the society that become habits in the mind of the man, **Circumstances of the Family** and **Weakness of the Personality**.

Vedanta instructs that while the society is not easily changed, and the family situation can only be mildly altered, the weakness of personality can be completely cured to ensure that the former two do not cause distress to man.



Pujya Acharya also debunked the myth that the mind can be stultified completely into a state of thoughtlessness. Quoting a Geeta sloka, he said that Prakasham (due to Satva Guna), Pravrutti (Rajo Guna) and Moham (Tamo Guna) are the three states of the mind. Since the inherent nature of mind is defined by the thought streams (Vritti Pravaha), the practice of attaining a state of thoughtlessness and silence is but a wild goose chase.

Silence is not just the absence of sound and thought, but the effortless integration of mind and body while transacting with the world.

In conclusion, Pujya Acharya presented the audience with a four-fold sadhana that will ensure this integrity in mind, body and action. We should always remember that **we may not get what we deserve but only get what we negotiate for.**

Inner Growth is assured to the one who transacts with the world for:

1. **Mental Health** (as every one requires some stable relationships to maintain reasonable sanity. Loneliness, for unprepared one, becomes a source of restlessness)
2. **Exhaustion of Prarabdha** (Any transaction in this world, with people, objects or situations are a necessary means of exhausting the Prarabdha. Prarabdham Bhogadeva Nashtam Bhavathi – says Sri Sankaracharya)
3. **Enhancing the Endurance** (Mental strength to withstand the unfavorable is essential for a seeker as it is a pre-requisite for Self-Knowledge. So it needs to be developed while transacting with the world; this quality is stressed by Vedanta in the form of Titiksha)

4. **Yagna Bhavana** (Understand that our spiritual endeavor while transaction in the world is a great Yagnam. Everyone around us is necessary for the successful completion of the Yagnam by playing an active or dormant part in our work.)

Thus, may our activities be motivated by these thoughts to ensure the inner growth. This growth will bestow upon us the Nitya Ananda. This is how Vedanta guides us towards the purpose of life.



Sri Dr.G. R Yugandhar and the other dignitaries of The World United felicitated Pujya Acharya with a citation and a shawl and sought his blessings, support and motivation for the spiritual undertakings in the future.

Hari Om.

Report by – Swathi Anil ...