Sri Siddharudha Kathamrita

Sri Ganeshaya Namah | Sri Sadguru Siddharudhayanamah ||

Chapter 35

Intense seeker's lust for wealth is an obstacle to hearing.

Saying thus, Sadguru destroyed his adjunct for his benefit.

When Guru suffered from fever, he received fever

And immersed in *Samadhi* (the fourth state) enjoyed Supreme Bliss.

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O Master, even Brahma wishes to remove his adjuncts (updhis) by mere touching of Your Lotus feet. Let my head be at those feet. Three - murtis (Brahma, Vishnu and Maheshwar) also have adjuncts but you have no adjuncts. All the adjuncts will be removed by worshipping You. Jeeva (individual soul) attains bodyless thought and knows that all the forms are Yours. He sees the whole universe within himself. Those, who have not touched Your feet, they say, "Wife, children, wealth, etc. are mine" As soon as the people surrender at Your feet, their mind will be changed. To the things that he said, 'mine, mine' and now they become Your forms. He sacrifices his ego. He, now understands that happiness is not in senses. So, he does not like sense objects. Lack of likes and dislikes leads one to Brahma. Brahma itself remains when there is no raga. In this way, study of knowledge (Jnan) continues through Your Grace. After the attainment of knowledge this illusory world will be collapsed in a second.

Ears become sacred by hearing the life story of Siddharudha. When Siddharudha was in Hubballi, a devotee came from the Mahishoor Province. Seeing his simplicity, Siddharudha named him `Bholedevotee'. He prayed to Sadguru, "O Siddharudha, having heard Your name and fame, I've surrendered to You. You are Kind Sadguru. Please, cross me from the ocean of mundane existence" Sadguru told him to come to Vedanta-hearing and if he served there, he would be

blessed. Then Bhole-bhakta got a house in the town. He

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had some hoarded money. His mind was shaking, when he sat for Vedant-hearing and his mind would go to his house. He began to worry about the safety of his money- "If the thieves stole the money, what should I do for my livelihood?" He could not sleep at night as he spent the night in worrying. So, he was dozing during the shravan (hearing) or his mind was going to the money because of the fear of the thieves. Observing him carefully, Sadguru said to Himself, "He has worries in his mind. He has definitely all the qualities of the intense seeker but money has become obstacle in his way." Oneday, Bhole-bhakta was awake during the night time. He went to sleep late at night. In the mean time, the thieves broke the the door and entered the house.

They first made Bhole Bhakta not shout by packing the cloth into his mouth and tied him to a pillar. Then they took all his money and fled. At that time, none helped him. The greed of wealth covered him and remembrance of Sadguru did not come to his mind. The thieves had taken all his clothes and left him in lion cloth. After the thieves went away, his neighbours came and saw Bhole- bhakta tied to the pillar. They took pity on him and released him. He went straight to Sadguru and fell at His feet telling Him everything that had happend, he began to weep. Sadguru said to Bhole-bhakta, "God (Ishwar) always gives miseries to the jeevas for the good. So six internal enemies steal mahat-dhan every day from the people in the world. Spiritual wealth is better than material wealth. There's nothing to worry about the perishable wealth. You may get wonderful wealth in future and that wealth will be with you forever" Saying thus, Sadguru gave him His dhoti. Then, Bholebhakta asked him where he would go. He further told him that he would live at His feet and he would live happily

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in the *matha*. Since the day the thieves stole the money, all his worries ran away. He remained carefree. Now, he began to enjoy sound sleep at night and did not doze during the Vedant Sharwan. As he achieved concentration, sense tendancies were destroyed. The mind not attracted by the other senses, remained at the service of Sadguru.

Once, Sadguru was groaning as He caught typhoid fever. Then, the festival of shivaratri was approaching. Sadguru knew that all the devotees would be worried. The people who came for the festival would return disappointed. This worried Siddharudha. Then, Siddha called his close devotees and asked each of them, 'Will you take my fever? One said, 'If I suffer from fever, wife and children will be scared'. The other said, `I've some urgent work in my business' Some other said, 'My wife is pregant'. 'I am not yet married' said the fourth one and the fifth one said, 'My wife is still young. If I die, what would she do?' Speaking thus, they went back slowly. Then, the saintdisciples remained. When Sadguru asked the same question, one said, `The devotees have come to take me back. The other said, `My study of Shastra has not yet completed. There's still some residue untouched' Some other said, `I'm going to holy places tomorrow.' Thus, having told lame excuses, all escaped. Finally, Siddharudha asked Bhole-bhakta if he would take his fever. He replied, 'You should give me your typhoid fever, gracious gift but if I die, You should not be the cause for my death. Do this. If I die under the aegis of Yours, I think that, I'll be blessed. I'am not still happy with

the service I rendered to You. Therefore, give me an opportunity to serve You'. Hearing the words of Bhole-bhakta, Sadguru felt happy and said, `If so, take the fever' saying thus He touched Him with

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His hand and gave him His fever. Bhole-bhakta caught the fever instantly and Sadguru gained His health back. All the devotees were so glad. The festival took place as usual. Siddharudha was remembering Bhole bhakta's boundless devotion minute by minute during the festival, and He often told him to be fearless. After the festival was over, Sadguru told him that He would take back His fever, but Bhole-bhakta replied that if he (Sadguru) took His fever back, the devotees would be unhappy. In return, Siddha told him that He would be unhappy, if he slept because of the fever. Bholebhakta told him that he wanted that fever and if he (Siddharudha) was well, he would be happy. Having

heard the words of Bhole-bhakta, all the devotees said, `This is really blessed. He gave up the bodyconscious and he deserves Guru's Grace' Siddhaguru felt very happy, He touched the body of Bholebhakta with nectar like hands and removed his fever. He sat up suddenly and said to Guru, 'Why did you cure me? If you sleep because of fever, I'll not tolerate and I'll dedicate my life' Then Siddharudha told him that enjoyment of the disease was over and wouldn't attack. He also told him not to worry about anything.

One day, early in the morning, Siddharudha said to Bhole-bhakta, 'I'm going out. Come with me. Accordingly he followed Sadguru. It was dark. Bhole-bhakta saw Siddharudha falling into the well. Then Bhole-bhakta also jumped into the well. As there was a little water, he was wounded severely. He remembered Sadguru. He saw a divine light just like lightening suddenly. Seeing that light, he felt very happy. Having seen Sadguru in the middle of the light, he stood up and while embracing the form lovingly he merged himself into the form and enjoyed complete bliss. There was

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no body-conscicus. The difference between Guru and disciple melted away. At this time, he was immersed in Guru swarupa (in the true nature of Guru). He was engrossed himself in aikyabhava for five ghalige (one ghalige=24 minutes). The unification with his Sadguru loosened gradually and he became separate from the form of Sadguru. He was looking at the form but having not forgotten the experience of unification he remained enjoying the bliss. The light became dimmer and dimmer and the form of Sadguru disappeared with it. When he gained body conscious he remembered the pain of the body. Meanwhile, the voice of Sadguru came from the above. Soon he forgot all the sorrows. Sadguru asked Bhole bhakta where he was living. He told him that he was in the well. Then, Sadguru having made His hands long, He picked up Bhole-bhakta. Looking at him Sadguru embraced him. So, Bholebhakta's pain of body was removed. Sadguru gave the bliss of Samadhi. The functions of Sadguru are strange. Bhole-bhakta did not know anything, but he attained the knowledge of self (Atmajnana). He did not study Vedas but he gave up body conscious. He served Sadguru from the bottom of his heart. So, he became Brahma himself. All the sins will be destroyed just by mere hearing of the story of Bholebhakta and one gets the knowledge through the Grace of Sadguru.

Now hear the secondary meaning of the story. Bhole-bhakta is the embodiment of good will itself. Good-will had once wealth as a sensualist. The thief stole it. The fire of disapassion burnt the bodyconscious of Good-will who accepted the fever lovingly. The kind, Sadguru in this way, tested him and he passed the test with flying colours. Sadguru took him to a lonely place to give him Jnan (knowledge).

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Good will saw Sadguru falling into the well as Samadhi and Bholebhakta (Good will) giving up his body-conscious jumped into the well. So, his indrivas were wounded. There, he saw his own nature. Seeing the form of Sadguru in the middle of light, Bhole bhakta combined with the form and enjoyed the bliss of Samadhi (equilibrium). Though Guru separated from him, Bhole-bhakta remained in Eternal bliss. Often enjoying it, he became Brahma *Jnani*. There is no other realisation except this. Saint Tukaram once, said, 'If one wants realisation suddenly, one should abandon body conscious. The form of Sri Sadguru itself indicates the meaning of all Vedas. Really I cannot describe

Sadguru. Still he is making me write this book.

If you hear with love the next beautiful chapter all your faults will run away and Sadguru will Grace you provided you abandon the body conscious. Here Shivadas dedicates the thrity fifth chapter of `Sri Siddharudha Kathamrita' at the Lotus feet of Sri Siddharudha, which burns all the sins by just hearing.

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Sri Ganeshaya Namah | Sri Gurubhyo Namah ||

Chapter 36