

What is Love?

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EDITORIAL NOTE

The feeling of love, the feeling of attachment, is one of the most predominant feelings in a human being. The force of love in the form of attraction manifests even in other biological creations and in inanimate objects as well.

Often, human beings in their ebullience do not realize that there is a fundamental difference between the nature and quality of human love and that of Divine Love.

In this Discourse-cum-Talk delivered through Revered Dadaji on June 16, 1975, the difference between Divine Love and human love is clearly explained. Revered Dadaji has also explained why the aspect of the human mind which experiences emotion wants an outward expression and why, even when right from the accepted social point of view, the outward manifestation in words or deeds is wrong from the spiritual point of view in almost every case unless the outward manifestation is governed and canalized according to spiritual principles and laws.

How one can begin to realize the force that is Divine Love by removing the veils that hinder and even block the flow of the Divine Love from and through the soul of the human being concerned has also been explained. These are the veils that were formed by thoughts of the likes and dislikes and attachments of each individual concerned to various thoughts, things and persons. When these thoughts which make up the veils are emptied out or removed by following right spiritual principles and laws, the force that is Divine Love, which feeds the human soul, just spreads in wider and wider circles through the human personality concerned.

Many other aspects of Divine Love and human love have also been explained in this Discourse-cum-Talk.

The occasion for this Discourse-cum-Talk arose after lunch on June 16, 1975, when Shireen, Revered Dadaji's daughter, had to say *au revoir* to Revered Dadaji. Shireen and Ardeshir (Dadaji's son) had arrived in Delhi on June 7, 1975, to spend some time with Revered Dadaji and also to attend the ceremonies, which were held on the third and the tenth days of the passing on of their mother, Smt. Gool Mehta.

— Sundri Vaswani

What is Love?

Today Shireen, beloved daughter of Dada, or her “dearest Dada” as she writes in her letters - as well as thinks and behaves in her thoughts and actions - is returning to Bombay by the evening plane after fulfilling her duty towards her mother who has passed on to the goal of the liberation of her soul on 5th of June, 1975 in Bombay. The tenth day ceremony was performed around her ashes here in Delhi on the 14th of this month.

Linked with this incident, a thought arose: “Is there anything of a general nature connected with this incident which is useful for others?” And during the prayer before today’s lunch, a little while ago, the thought came in this mind: What is Love?

Love for Thoughts, Things and Persons

In one way or another, everyone has experienced the feeling of love and the manifestations of love in diverse subjective ways: love for the human beloveds, particularly the beloveds that are offspring through the mother and the father as well as human beloveds other than the offspring. Human beings fall in love for different reasons with others who are outside their blood families. Such relationships often end either in marriages or other relationships linked with love.

People also have love for things that are biologically lifeless, like material things of one nature or another. People also have love for different aspects of their thoughts and expression of thoughts, which are linked with their likes.

Human beings in general have experienced all that is mentioned above. The question arises: Is it love from the spiritual point of view?

God is Love

Whatever is in any manifestation - the source of which can be very superficial or very deep - must have its origin in the spiritual realm and certainly in the Source of Sources generally called God. This is also mentioned in the Scriptures. In a general way, this is also what is meant by human beings when they say that God is Love. Is the Love that is God the same love that is in manifestation amongst human beings, by human beings and through human beings? If so, why is it that human beings in general do not experience directly the Love that is God?

Human beings have vague conceptual ideas about Divine Love. Yet, if that Source of Sources is the same as the love that human beings feel and manifest, then sometimes at least the feeling aspect of the human mind, the emotional aspect, should experience the link with the Source of Sources! In the usual

average human beings, however, the experience of the Divine Love is absent. In fact, it is very conspicuous by its absence.

Veils between Human Love and Divine Love

The question then arises: Is there a difference between human love and the Divine Love? If there is a difference, then what about the principle: "What so is in manifestation must have its origin in the Source of Sources that is God"? This principle has never failed. What is so, must have its foundation in the spiritual realm at least if not in the Source of Sources, which is possible to know only when one grows to know the Source of Sources.

Then, why is it that human beings do not experience the link between the human love and the Divine Love? Quite often, they make use of the words Divine Love when they experience their subjective human love. But these words are only a superimposition on their emotions, spoken more with a view to satisfying themselves as well as others.

It is therefore evident that there are some causations separating Divine Love and human love. What are those separating causations? What are those veils, as they are called? This is the main question.

Divine Love Gives and Gives

A thought connected with Divine Love comes in this mind. It says: "Love is not save the Love that gives and never takes."

This means that Divine Love goes on giving and giving and does not take. What does It give? It gives Love. What is Love?

Divine Love is the Force From the Source of Sources

One should distinguish the Love that is the force from the manifestations of Love in various forms. Manifestations of Love are in the spiritual realm which is without matter; they are also in the anti-spiritual or unspiritual realms without matter. And, they are in the material realm where matter is, like life on earth, not only of human beings but also of other than human beings and even of biologically lifeless substances on this earth.

The Love that gives is linked with the very force that is Love. It is also linked with the manifestations in which there is unobstructed flow of the force that is Love. When that flow gets obstructed either completely or partially, in whatever form, whether in matter or outside matter, there is a flow back of that force.

Right Outlet for the Flow of Love

If the flow of the force that is Love is obstructed in a human being on this earth, if it is not allowed an outlet in some form, right or wrong, it is bound to disintegrate the human personality. This is because the flow of the human love, even without the knowledge of the human mind concerned, is constantly fed from the Source of Sources. So, it must have an outlet. If it does not find an outlet in the right direction, it will find outlet in the wrong direction.

If it does not find an outlet in either direction, right or wrong, there is a flow back. And the constant flow back of Divine Love from the Source unto the soul of the human being concerned, will create such disturbances in the mind and body that mind and body will get out of gear, getting out of health, and may even die. The death in such a case occurs not in the natural way as intended by nature - which is gradually sinking into death - but it may be some form of sudden death.

Therefore, some outlet of that flow of human love, linked with the Divine Love with or without the knowledge of the human being concerned, is a must. An average human mind is not trained in the right way to grow towards the source of its human love, which is the soul of the human being concerned. So, the emotional, the feeling aspect of the human mind, which is unconsciously fed by the soul that is linked with the Divine Love, wants an outward expression, instead of growing inward.

The expressions of different individuals vary in keeping with the thoughtforms developed by each one, based upon their subjective likes and dislikes. These thoughtforms of likes and dislikes, although they are obstructing factors, are at least permeable. These thoughtforms of likes and dislikes form veils out of which some are manifested. The Divine Light of Love from and through the soul passes through these veils and gets filtered. Thereby, it manifests, individually or in groups, in diverse manifestations, which are acceptable or unacceptable, or are between the two extremes.

Cause of Attraction between Human Beings

When the force of love passes through a certain set of filters of veils, which consist of layers of thoughtforms within the minds of the individual human beings, the love force causes the human mind to create certain ideas, which again are nothing but thoughts. The human beings concerned generally like to manifest these ideas. Likewise when the love force passes through the veils of thoughts of other human beings and create ideas in their minds which have similar radiations,*then the human beings concerned get attracted towards each other or one another. Out of this attraction develop various pulls through the veils of forms. Quite often, they are pulls of the matter that is man or woman. Thus, arise diverse deeds, which may be right or wrong from the human point of view, even from the accepted or unaccepted point of view.

Even when right, from the accepted point of view, unless they are governed and canalized according to spiritual principles and laws, the outward manifestation in words or deeds is almost always wrong from the spiritual point of view. But, when controlled and canalized through spiritual principles and laws - like *yamas*, *niyamas*, *sheelas* and commandments, at least to begin with, and higher laws as one grows - the focusing of the rays of force of Love through the veils manifests in words and deeds which are different when compared with manifestations not controlled or canalized in the right way.

This difference is founded on deeper aspects of thoughts. Then, the Love force passes through the veils or filters by growing inward first, and not outward in manifestation, nor even remaining stagnant at the same level of the origin of such thoughts and feelings. Such stagnation is better than manifestation without control of the thoughts and feelings that arise through the feeding Source that is Love. Yet, the stagnation is not according to the spiritual values that are realized by the human minds, linked at least with their spiritual part that is their soul.

The manifestations are better when controlled through the spiritual laws and principles. But for growing towards the soul, to know the spiritual link of the Source of Sources with one's soul more, by direct knowledge, the only way is to remove, in the right way, the veils or the filters, as they may be called, that are between the soul and the human conscience as well as between the human conscience and the human wakeful mind, particularly linked with the sense-perception.

Light of Soul Spreads When Veils are Removed

When these veils or filters are removed, both from behind the conscience and from in front of the conscience, the light of the soul spreads. Instead of passing through the veils, which are no longer there, it spreads. Though it goes outward in the same direction, it spreads in wider and wider circles. When it grows, it can spread in half the circle or even in a whole circle, that is, in all directions. It is only after these veils are removed, that hinder if not block the flow of the Divine Love from and through the soul, that one begins to realize what is Divine Love.

Till then, human minds know only manifestations in words and deeds. At best, they form their conception of what is love in a circumscribed way and that too of subjective human love. They give more value to manifestations rather than to the Source that is Love. Therefore, human love can never, never, last.

It is the Source and the force from the Source, manifesting through the souls of human beings, that is eternal. Outward manifestations, however good they seem to be, are mere passing phases. They last for some time, depending upon the set of veils through which the Divine Love passes. Thereby, it also adds to the veils

when there is attachment to new thoughtforms that arise through expression in words and deeds.

Grow Deeper towards the Source of Love

Therefore, do not manifest merely in thought, word and deed the love that you feel. Grow deeper towards the Source of Love by removing and emptying as many veils as possible in the right spiritual way.

Manifest outward, as you grow inward. Do not manifest the force that is Love by only going outward or remaining stagnant. Such manifestations have got no deep roots. Even though they may satisfy for the time being, with every satisfaction, some dissatisfaction is bound to arise within the human beings concerned. When such dissatisfaction outweighs the satisfaction aspect, disturbances arise leading to conflicts, conflagrations and even wars in outward manifestations. Alternatively, it may lead to suppressions, depressions, mental disturbances and disintegration, if the force does not find a right outlet.

Therefore, do not hinder the outlet if it is in the right direction, accepted and acceptable to society in general. But do not always remain satisfied with that expression, whether it be in one's individual life within or outside oneself or in group life of a family, community or the life of a country of one nature or another. With every outward manifestation in words or deeds, grow inward nearer the Source. Then manifest outward as you get nearer the Source. This is the way to grow through love both outward and inward.

For growth inward, as we have said often in earlier Discourses, begin the emptying process with Right Surrender by following the *Seven Principles of Right Surrender** (*Refer "*Seven Principles of Right Surrender*", published by the Society of Servants of God) which have been already given. Then at the right time, when the doors of inner perception open, grow unto Right Mindfulness and Right Spiritual Wisdom. Let the rest of the progress happen. Do not force it to happen as you grow through your soul, towards the Source of your soul unto the Source of your soul and of all the souls that is commonly called God.

God Bless You.

*Thoughts are emanations from minds that radiate outward from the mind. Every thought has a certain vibration. People who have thoughts of similar vibrations get attracted to one another as individuals or in groups.