DISCOVERY OF GOD

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Discovery of God

"There is One God-the Eternal Truth,
True is His Name, All-pervading Divine Spirit,
The Creator, The Supreme Being
(Omnipresent, Omniscient, Omnipotent),
without fear, without Enmity,
Immortal Reality, Unborn, Self-Existent,
Realized through the Grace of the Guru."

(Adi Granth-1)

God created the Universe – the earth, the sky, the water, the sun, the moon and the stars, flora and fauna and millions of species on earth, under water and in air. Finally God also created man in His own image. So, the man has been considered as crown of the Creation. The animals, the mammals, the insects, the birds and all other creatures are of lower nature. Only a human being has been bestowed with the consciousness, the wit and wisdom, and the mind with which to discern the Truth from the Untruth, and choose between the good and the evil, the light and the darkness. Hence there is a in-depth close relationship between God and man.

With a blurred vision and eyes of the mind closed due to the ignorance about his real self and the Ultimate Reality – God, the man of the world stuck up in the muddy materialism looks for peace, comfort and happiness through material objects, but fails to attain the same.

The saints and sages have unanimously made it clear that God is the ocean of peace and divinity. There cannot be any peace without God, and no God – realization is possible without the grace of the True Master.

Unfortunately, the Man forgets God, the Creator, and caught up in the glamour of materialism, and detracted from the main aim of human life, keeps on working day and night beautifying the body, amassing wealth by fair and foul means to an unlimited extent, performing domestic, social, political and multifarious duties and consumes his entire life in the pursuit of worldly objects, losing the game of life for the sake of materialistic gains.

Even if a saint talks about God and wishes to convey the message of the Truth, the worldling ignores the clarion call, the voice of Truth and says that he has no time for this. The great Gurus and the prophets put the Man wise by telling him not to remain engrossed in the worldly affairs and try to

achieve the higher goal of life i.e. God realization, for which he got this precious human life.

The religious and spiritual aspect of life is most vital and of utmost importance, which is neglected by man. Some noble people opt for search of the omnipresent God; they go to the temple/mosque or the church, listen the discourse, offer prayers, do meditation and perform rituals and various other acts of austerity and penance, which never lead to the Divine Destination.

It is the natural instinct of Man to know, to find, to search and to discover about every person, object and environment around him. Most part of the world has been explored and the scientists have made several discoveries and inventions for peace and comfort of man. However, they have not discovered or invented any drug to wipe out the malice, hatred and pollution of mind. The Yogis, and the self-styled Sadhus perform and prescribe rites and rituals, including reading and recitation of the Scriptures, spiritual exercises and gymnasts but all this short of the Divine Knowledge cannot lead to Divine Destination and merger of soul with God.

The visible world is known to everybody in some measure, but the Ultimate Reality, the Eternal Truth, the invisible formless Spirit of All – pervading God cannot be visualized and known to anybody without the kind grace of the perfect True Master. The saints tell the people of the world that there is no need to go to the forest in search of the Omnipresent God. God is with you, all around you, self-existent, present everywhere, in all directions and all at places even beyond everywhere, in all directions and all at places even beyond the earth and the skies. The great Gurus and prophets discovered the Ultimate Reality God, the abode of soul, the invisible formless on by through the grace of their respective perfect Gurus. After having seen and perceived God in His true glory, they took up the sacred task of revealing this Truth to the seekers all over the world.

"Allah is near, very near, nearest you, nearer than the Jugular Vein."

"Allah! There is no God save Him, the Alive, the Eternal.

Neither slumber nor sleep overtaketh Him. Unto Him belongeth whatsoever is in the heavens and in the earth."

(Holy Koran Surah II 255)

As Jesus rightly said: The kingdom of God is at hand, and so it has been stated in other Scriptures that the face of Allah, God and Ram, the Omnipresent, can be unveiled to the sincere seekers by the perfect True Master. There is no need to search God or engage in the discovery of the Omnipresent God. The true entity of God, the formless Spirit, pervading

everywhere can be easily discovered, realized, perceived and seen with the eyes of the mind through the grace of the True Master. Only he can reveal the eternal God in no time to every sincere seeker at mere asking. This is exactly what Nirankari Baba Hardev Singh Ji Maharaj is doing in the present era. He is imparting the Divine Knowledge and revealing the Truth to every human being at mere asking, regardless of one's caste, creed, color, diet, dress and culture, the country and the Continent, to which one belongs.

In all ages, as also in present era of science and technology, the need for Divine knowledge has always been reiterated by the great Gurus and the Saints, whose aim has always been to dispel the darkness of ignorance, to illuminate the minds of the millions, to dispense divine knowledge (Brahm – Gyan) and thereby to grant peace, bliss and salvation to every human being living in any part of the globe.

God and the True Master

We must first of all know what God really is, who is the True Master and what is the role and relevance of the True Master in the process of God-realization? The distinguishing features and superb qualities of God are given in the holy books, so that we can recognize Him in his true glory as the True Master unveils the face of God. The salient attributes of God are: He is the Creator, the Sustainer and the Destroyer. He is Formless, Shapeless, Colourless, Omnipresent, Omniscient, Pervading all, Self-existent and Immortal. God was, God is and God shall ever be. He is hidden and cannot be seen with the external eyes. God can be seen, visualized and perceived through the grace of the True Master who gives the Third Eye to know God. So the True Master is indispensable as only He can reveal God and none else. No other means, methods and rituals can make anyone realize God.

"God Himself is in form (Akar – creation) and without form (Nir-Akarall pervading spirit) He coordinates, governs and controls The entire cosmos."

(Adi Granth – 287)

"He is the one God, hidden in all beings, all – pervading, the self within all beings,

watching over all works, dwelling in all being the witness, the perceiver,

the only One, free from qualities."

(Svetasvatara Upanishad 6.11)

"Veiled by My Yogmaya (Divine Potency), I am not manifest to all. Hence these ignorant folk fail to recognize Me, the unborn and impossible Supreme Deity."

(Bhagwad Gita VII – 25)

Most people worship man-made gods and try to see God through the visible objects, idols and deities, forms and manifestations i.e. Nature. This is not seeing God in His true glory, in His entirety and, to be more exact, in the formless form – the All-pervading Spirit, which is known only to the enlightened ones, the saints, who can reveal God to the seekers of the Truth. There is no other way to realize God except through the kind grace of the True Master. No amount of rites and rituals, penance, meditation and spiritual exercise can lead to God realization. The True Master holds the key to the divine door of the Kingdom of God:

"Even if millions of acts and rituals one may perform, none can realize God without the gracious Guru.

"Let there be no doubt that none has ever crossed the Ocean of materialism, without the grace of the Guru."

(Adi Granth-864)

The True Master means the perfect Guru who is God personified and in whom the Almighty has placed Himself. He is unique and different from all other Gurus and Self-styled saints, who pose themselves to be the messengers and incarnations of God but virtually they are bankrupt so far as Divine knowledge is concerned. They are themselves engrossed in rites and rituals, penance and meditation and they prescribe the same to their disciples. They talk of God, narrate the legend and historical facts but they cannot reveal God. In other words they put their disciples on the track and ask them to keep on traveling in the form of repeating and reciting the Name of God, and perform various rituals for an indefinite period giving the false hope that they would reach the Divine Destination one day. This dream does not come true and they leave the world without enlightenment, without divine knowledge. In the Holy Bible such fake gurus and saints have called the false prophets and people have been cautioned not to get entrapped in their dragnet:

"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves."

(Matthew 7:15)

"They are the blind leaders of the blind and when one blind man leads another, both fall into a ditch."

(Matthew 15:14)

"Whenever there is the decline of dharma, and Adharma is on the increase, then I descend myself, age after age, to restore dharma."

(Gita Ch. IV, Shalaka 7-8)

The True Maste is the one on meeting whom one gets peace and bliss and the doubt and duality disappear, and one attains the ultimate goal of God-realization. The True Master is at one with the Infinite-God. The disciple gets spiritual emancipation from him and then he keeps on singing the glory of the True Master. The perfect Guru forgives the sins. He is kind and compassionate and has unbounded love for the people. His sacred task is to reveal the Truth (God) and to save the evil doers. He will prevails and whatever he says and does is ordained by God, and it all comes true here and in the next world. The holy scriptures clarify that such a blessed soul is God incarnate and that way he is unique, which means that he is the only one, unequalled, having no like or equal:

"There is none in the likeness of the Guru, He is the fortunate one who opts for the service of the Guru."

The Guru is the mediator between God and Man and he is the Saviour who can grant salvation.

"I am the way and the truth and the life, No one comes to the Father except through me."

(John 14.6)

The True Master is indispensable in the process of God-realisation.

The True Master is the Son of God, the Messenger of God and he appears on earth to redeem the sinners. He comes to restore harmony, peace and blessedness.

He is the True Maste and sole Proprietor of the Treasure trove of Divinity. His sacred task is to dispense the knowledge of God to all human beings without any discrimination on account of caste, creed, colour and nationality and without regard to the qualifications and disqualifications of the seeker. Those who repose faith in God and the True Master attain everlasting peace, bliss and salvation. Many things are wrought by prayer and faith in God. The faith must be in the perfect True Master, and God Nirankar, and not in the visible objects, idols and man-made gods.

The True Master is the embodiment of Divine Light, which he bestows upon the seekers. This is the distinguishing hallmark of the True Master.

Light in the Darkness

Holy Bible Says:

"The light has come into the world, But men loved darkness rather than light, Because their deeds are evil."

"Any one who does evil things hates the light, And will not come to the light because he does not want his evil deeds to be shown up." (John 3:19-20)

How unfortunate that wearing the human cloak, man behaves like a brute, a devil, causing death and destruction and breaking human dwellings of the innocent for the sake of selfish gains. Entangles in the glamour-world of materialism, man follows the path of sin and suffering leading to the hell. He wastes the precious human life and departs from the world emptyhanded, left with nothing but repentance at last to face the pangs of repeated births and deaths:

"Even if hundreds of moons appear and thousands of suns rise there still shall remain complete darkness without the light of the Guru."

(Adi Granth-463)

"I am the light of the world, whoever follows me Shall have the light of life And will never walk in darkness."

(St. John. 8:12)

God is the Supreme Light. The same Divine Light manifests itself in the human form as the True Master.

"Allah is the Light of the heavens and the earth. Light upon light, Allah guideth unto His light whom He wills."
(Quran XXIV-35)

The darkness of ignorance refers to a state of mind in which one cannot see a person or an object. One falters and fumbles at every step because of the darkness all around. He mistakes a rope for a snake and is scared of it. The saints say the darkness of ignorance is due to the lack of knowledge of God. Light and darkness cannot co-exist. Light symbolizes truth, peace and happiness and the darkness depicts ignorance, gloom and obscurity.

Baba Avtar Singh Nirankari Said in one of his Sermons:

"A blind can neither see himself nor the sighted ones;
But a sighted person can see both – the blind as well as the sighted."

The difference between the light and darkness is as vast as the void between the earth and the sky. The distance can be abridged by True Master, who bestows the divine light while the darkness vanishes then and there:

"The Guru has given me the light of Divine Knowledge, and the darkness has vanished, with God's grace I have met the saint and my mind has been illuminated."

(Adi Granth-293)

"The divine light is everywhere and in all beings.
With this light the whole universe is illuminated
But this divine light becomes manifest only with the kind grace of the
Guru."

(Adi Granth-13)

Most people remain stuck up in the dark ditch of ignorance. Only the rare few opt for the path of truth, love, light, purity and nobleness. None can tide over this darkness, this state of being blind-folded, and thus ignorance on his own. Only the True Master bestows the divine light and pulls out men from the dark dungeon. Those who are devoid of the eternal Truth (Light of LIFE) are prone to evil-doing, sin and suffering. They do ignoble acts and commit all types of heinous crimes. The enlightened ones lead a simple, noble, pure and purposeful life, wishing well of and doing good to all.

One may have a lamp, the oil in it, and the wick, but it cannot be lit without a matchstick, a lighter or a lit lamp. Likewise, the mind shrouded by darkness of ignorance can be enlightened only be the Enlightened One, the True Master. One may possess all riches, wealth and bounties but he cannot be satiated without the Light celestial. Men without this divine light are just like unlit lamps. The saints have always been illuminating the minds of the ignorant people and dispelling the darkness from the world. This noble task is being done in the world today by the Nirankari Mission under the spiritual guidance of Baba Hardev Singh Ji Maharaj (Nirankari Baba).

Saints love the Divine Light and the enlightened ones, but they have no hatred for those who are without light, the intuitively blind. They pray and inspire others to shed ego and arrogance, and receive the light and learn to live in the light. The saints' sacred task is to spread light in the darkness all over the world. The True Master holds the treasure-trove of this Divine

Light and his aim is to enlighten the minds of the millions and extricate them from the darkness. This Light celestial never fades, flickers and disappears, but remains glowing and glittering perpetually. This is the light of God.

Those are the fortunate few, who have received this Divine Light from the True Master and they are enjoying everlasting peace, bliss and salvation.

"The shell of the egg of illusion has burst, my mind is illumined; The Guru has broken the shackles and the captive soul has been liberated."

(Adi Granth-1002)

In the end, we have this common prayer for all:

O'God! From untruth, lead me to Light From death, lead me to Immortality Peace, Peace, Peace. (Bridhardanyaka Upanishad 1:3-28.)

The Real Religion

The word "Religion" is derived from the Greek word 'relegate' or 'religio', which means 'to bind together'. Religion has been the most powerful force in uniting the people all over the world and in reshaping the lives of the people in the mould of truth, love and humanism. Nirankari Baba Hardev Singh Ji Maharaj says: "Religion unites, it never divides."

The Prophets and the great Gurus preached only one religion i.e. the religion of love and humanism. Baba Avtar Singh Ji Nirankari has given a simple and beautiful definition of what true religion is:

There is no religion greater than perceiving the Formless God face to face;

There is no act better than serving the saints.

(Avtar Bani – 154)

Nirankari Baba says: "I am an ordinary human being and humanism is my religion."

"To be pure and unselfish, that is the whole of religion."

(Swami Vivekananda)

Lord Krishna Said:

Whenever there is the decline of dharma and adharma is on the increase,

I descend myself, age after age to restore Dharma."

(Gita Ch. IV)

"O' Arjuna, leave aside all other dogmas and beliefs and come to Me and I will reveal you to the eternal Truth, which is the essence of all religions."

(Gita 18:66)

"Shed all dogmas and superstitions, and realize God; this is the eternal religion."

(Adi Granth)

The real religion removes all barriers and bondages of rites and rituals, fever and fervour of religiosity, fanaticism, omens and superstitions, forms and symbols. It ensures direct and ever-lasting union of soul with God. Any religious instruction short of this is the husk and not the kernel part of the religion.

Sant Nirankari Mission presents the highest common flavour, essence and fragrance of the true religion. People of all religious faiths and beliefs

repose faith in the Omnipresent Formless God (Nirankar). One can peep within and see for himself whether he is following the Real Religion or not.

Universal Brotherhood

Sant Nirankari Mission, popularly known as Universal Brotherhood is the Mission of God. Satguru Baba Hardev Singh Ji Maharaj (Nirankari Baba) is the Supreme Head of this Mission.

"Nirankar" means the Formless, Omnipresent All pervading God. It is an international religio-spiritual organization with its headquarters at Nirankari Colony, Delhi – 110009 (INDIA).

The Mission's aim is to bring divinity to human beings by preaching the concept of one God, one religion and one human family Vasudhaiv Kutumbkum (Universal Brothehood). Those who receive the Divine knowledge and perception of the formless spirit of God and believe in God and the True Master are known as Nirankaris:

"All human beings are created by the Spirit of God,
The whole manifested world has been created with God's Spirit
So none is good or bad"

(Adi Granth-1349)

"Men were first of one Religion, then they fell at variance. All the mankind is one family, one people. All men are brothers and sisters and should live as such. Allah loves those who so live."

(Holy Kuran 2:12,9.)

Nirankari Baba imparts the divine knowledge (Brahm Gyan) to every seeker at mere asking.

"Ask and it shall be given, seek and you shall find; knock and the door shall be opened."

(Methew 7:7)

The True Master unveils the face of Allah, God, Ram, Waheguru and unites the soul with God, which reflects its unique beauty. God's true entity is the Tenth Dimension as distinct from the nine elements of the Nature.

On receiving the spiritual consciousness, the man becomes a true human being. The Nirankari Mission provides a common forum, where people of all religious faiths, cultures, ideologies and nationalities get together to sing the glory of God. In this cosmic Mission, the rich and the poor, the

sinner and the saint, the high and the low, the Samaritans and the Jews, the Americans, the Europeans, and the Asians, the Chinese, the Russians, the Australians and the Africans are treated as equal, being the children of the same Supreme Father and members of the one Universal Brotherhood.

After receiving Divine Knowledge from the True Master they enjoy everlasting peace, bless and salvation:

"God is Love and Love is God. Service to Man is Service to God."

(Bible)

Love, selfless service and acts designed to promote social and humanitarian cause are the true teachings of the True Master.

Unity in diversity can be witnessed at the huge assemblage of the saints from all over the world at the Annual Nirankari Sant Samagam held in Delhi in the month of November every year. The people hailing from different countries and continents, belonging to different religions and cultures can be seen embracing one another with humility, love and respect. This is a wonderful glimpse of heaven on earth.

The devotees of Sant Nirankari Mission imbibe the divine virtues of love, tolerance, peaceful co-existence, purity of thought, word and action wishing well of everybody and rendering selfless service to the world-community.

This Universal Brotherhood Mission endeavours to establish a world-society of the spiritually enlightened, where there is no place for duality, hatred, jealousy, lust, anguish, greed, attachment and ego, discord and division, war and violence and oppression of the weak by the mighty.

Nirankari Baba Ji and hundreds and thousands of his devotee saints are working day and night to spread this Divine knowledge to all people of the world, to make this world, a beautiful place to live in.

This Unique Mission provides the remedy for all the ills and ailments afflicting the world-society. The man is divested of ego and pride, and his mind is purged of the pollution. The devotees of the True Master sing the glory of God and practice the golden principles of Satsang (attending congregating of saints), Simran (knowing and remembering God) and Sewa (rendering selfless service to the people).

The Unique Mission:

1. It arranges merger of soul with God.

- **2.** It dispels the darkness and removes all doubts, delusions, omens and superstitions.
- **3.** It relieves people from the burden of rites, rituals, penance etc.
- 4. It does not discriminate humans against one another on grounds of caste, creed, colour, diet, dress, culture and nationality etc.
- 5. It fosters the concept of One God-One Religion-One Human Race, and cuts across all bondages, barriers, divisions and dissensions, which divide men on sectoral and regional grounds.
- It brings together all people professing different religious faiths and cultures and makes them live together as members of Universal Brotherhood.
- 7. It transmutes the depraved society and seeks to create a new socio-spiritual order based on love, unity, tolerance and peaceful co-existence.
- **8.** It advocates practical saintly life imbued with divine virtues of humility, purity, peace, love, tolerance and non-violence.
- 9. It provides a common forum, where all human beings professing different religious faiths, cultures and nationalities sip the Divine Nectar (Amrit) and enjoy everlasting peace, bliss and salvation.
- **10.** It holds the True Master in highest esteem as he imparts Divine knowledge in a moment to every sincere seeker.
- 11. It escorts the seekers straight to the kingdom of God and establishes direct and constant communion with the omnipresent God.
- 12. It makes one's faith steadfast and stable, it enables the devotees to cultivate company of saints (Satsang), render selfless service to the humanity (Sewa) and to always remember God's Name (Simran).
- 13. It shows the middle path i.e. neither to renounce the world nor to get too much entangled in it. The saints live in the world, yet do not become worldlings.
- **14.** It improves the quality of life by restoring human and moral values and translates into action the true teachings of the True Master.
- **15.** It practices what it preaches, and accomplishes what it aims at.

Golden Principles

Nirankari Baba Ji has laid down Five Fundamental Tenets in the form of pledges which every seeker of Truth (God) has to adopt before receiving the God knowledge. These basic principles constitute the core and crux of this Divine knowledge enshrined in the holy scriptures. The True Master himself or any one of his anointed devotees bestows this knowledge upon the seekers.

These spiritual doctrines are to be practiced by every devotee in his daily life. These provide peace and bliss, which one gets with the kind grace of the True Master Satguru Baba Hardev Singh Ji Maharaj.

These tenets are:-

1. True ownership of self and material assets.

Nothing is ours. All assets-physical, intellectual and material belong to God. We all are mere trustees. So we should not he proud of any of these belongings.

2. No discrimination on caste and sectarian grounds

This principle enjoins upon all not to be arrogant about their caste, creed, sect etc. God does not discriminate anyone on account of one's caste, creed and colour etc. These are man made superficial barriers which are not admitted in the kingdom of God. All human beings are equal before God. All human beings are children of the same Supreme Father.

3. Not to hate anyone on account of diet, dress and culture

Not to hate any person on account of different diet, dress and culture, which varies from country to country as per climate and environment. These things are related with the body and not concerned with soul. One may eat whatever he likes and wear the dress of his choice, but he should not hate others on any such grounds.

4. Not to renounce the world, and become a recluse

Not to become a pretentious saint, or a sage. One should lead normal life as a house-holder, and need not renounce the world.

None need to go to the forest in search of the Omnipresent God. God can be realized with the grace of the True Master even while performing one's social and domestic duties.

5. Guru's Sanction

The disciple should not divulge the Divine Secret to anyone without the permission of the True Master. A student does not become a teacher on the very first day he goes to the school. Guru's sanction is a must before transmitting Divine knowledge (Brahm Gyan) to any person.

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