

Character

- Samarth Guru Sri Ramchandraji Maharaj, Fatehgarh

I tell every human being, rather drum in their head that every seeker from the very beginning try his best to maintain and improve the condition of his personal character. No word should leave the mouth which is likely to be objectionable to anyone. Nor should any such act be indulged in as likely to be unpleasant to others. Keeping both these things in mind, character improvement should be attempted. This is the basic principle. I am not as much a lover of spirituality as of character. If a seeker has achieved the Dhruv Padh but character weakness still exists in him, my understanding is that he has not understood the True Philosophy.

Unblemished character means that all faculties in the human being should come to a state of moderation and remain in the same condition. When even this condition is negated, then nothing can match that. Of course this is difficult to be one's fortune, but that is no reason for dejection.

Now the question arises whether spiritual progress is possible without character and morality? Why are these important to be maintained and what is real principle behind it?

Before creation everything was in its perfect balance (character). Ages passed by and we lost our balanced character and became imbalanced. Any spiritual training in some form or the other, sets this perfect character as the goal so that we achieve the condition at the time of Origin. Now character doesn't just mean that one should only try to please others but it carries a wider sense. It means that senses (indriyas) have been brought to a state of moderation where they resemble their original condition. The senses should be subdued to such an extent that they don't rise to the point that they are not supposed to. How is this to be made possible? For this outward influences also help. Many small things in day to day dealings help in this. For e.g, when we go to an elderly person, not just spiritual but otherwise too, we treat him with respect. Whenever we approach, the first thought is that we should not speak anything that might be unpleasant to them, rather we try not to show this even slightly by our demeanour and behavior. At least for the time being we keep our emotions under control. This is the kind of practice to achieve that perfect character. If we develop this habit, senses will come to a subdued state in a natural way. On the contrary, if we don't follow this, our condition will keep on getting spoilt. Hence it is necessary that good behaviour and etiquette are followed. Perfecting character really means that after having achieved moderation, we can achieve oneness with Nature. Or in

other words we merge this thing into that (Nature) in such a way that the other is not felt. **Truth is, that character is the essence of spirituality.**

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