

GRAHASTHA AND GOD'S LIGHT

The Grahashta is the torch bearer of God's light in this world. Manu the great law giver, speaks eloquently of how the householder is the basis of society and how even sanyasis etc., are dependent on the grahashta. Because the other orders of life are supported by the householder, the stage of household life is said to be the most excellent.

To the householder is given the satisfaction of all legitimate desires that can be fulfilled without hurting others. At each stage of life there are actions which are appropriate – it's only the sanyasin who has no action enjoined upon him. But the actions appropriate to one ashrama are not suitable for another. A lemon fruit may be very pretty but it is impossible to eat it raw – it has to be part of a cooked dish!

How does a sadhaka who is a grahashta, act? Like anyone else. There are no special frills attached to him. His seeking is unobtrusive as it is his seeking. It is not an act for the world. So for Sri Sathguru the seeking was not divorced from Her life and since the quest was the most important thing for Her, She got up in the early hours of the morning, while all the world slept and then meditated. Vishnu Mohan used to speak of how Her wet hair would leave a mark on the wall of the puja room and that was the only evidence of long hours of meditation. But She had time to play with both the children, invite visitors home and do all that any other mother did.

Even as a householder, the strong consciousness of the fact that ultimately all the world was but a training ground for the final ascent to the highest realisation was always with Her and all Her actions were directed to that goal.

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