

THE DIVINE CONNECTION

Throughout our life we've had moments when we felt we were coming closer to God. Some of us even find ourselves in tears as we remember this love that seems so familiar, like a lost memory of our past. These are God's gentle reminders to us. Each time we hear God's call we have an opportunity to return to God. Some of us pass these chances by and go back into the merry-go-round of the world. Others are moved to seek out the Source of the whisperings.

When we desire to awaken our soul, the soul responds and its faint callings can be heard. Its own power starts to stir, and our attention can no longer ignore it. The stronger the cry, the more our attention is drawn to it. With time, the call of the world can become fainter and fainter as our attention is pulled irresistibly toward the love, the music, and the bliss of our soul.

—H.H. Sant Rajinder Singh Ji Maharaj

The Divine Connection

Initiation is the process by which we receive a connection to the divine Light and Sound of God by the living Master of Sant Mat. This divine current of Light and Sound reverberates in all creation, and by meditating on it we can transcend physical body-consciousness and begin our journey through the inner spiritual regions until our soul merges back in God.

Two Powerful Meditation Techniques

During initiation we learn and practice two powerful meditation techniques: meditation on the inner Light (*Jyoti* meditation) and listening to the inner Sound (*Shabd* meditation). References to the divine Light and Sound of God are found in every religion. This Power has also been called *Naam*, *Shabd*, *the Holy Word*, *Kalma*, *Sraosha*, *Saut-e-Sarmadi*, *Baang-i-Asmani*, *Sonorous Light*, *Voice of Silence*, and other terms in various religions and languages.

The Spiritual Master

Only through the grace of the living Master can our connection to the inner Light and Sound be made. Initiation is a sacred covenant between the living Master and the disciple.

Benefits

Upon initiation, a disciple receives many benefits. Once the living Master opens the disciple's inner eye to see the Light and Sound of God, the Master then serves as an inner guide in his radiant form to protect and guide the soul through the inner journey. The living Master conveys the five Charged Names which serve as a protection and password to help the soul travel through the higher planes. The Master Power takes over the responsibility of winding up the karmas of the disciple during his or her lifetime so the soul can achieve union with God. The living Master also provides outer guidance and help to the disciple, responding to the disciple's need for assistance in all aspects of life.

Requirements

The requirements for initiation are to lead a vegetarian lifestyle – avoiding meat, fish, fowl and eggs – and not to partake of alcohol and recreational drugs. Initiation is free of charge, and all are asked to remain in their religion or current faith.

The Journey Home

Life offers no more promising journey than the gradual unveiling of the glory of God within us. Life's ups and downs, joys and sorrows, will always come our way. However, deep inside each of us is a remarkable spiritual potential, a divine Source of permanent peace and joy. At initiation we take our first, momentous step toward realizing ourselves as soul and entering higher spiritual regions. Initiation is the awakening of the Light and Sound lying dormant in each one of us. It is the first step on the road back to our True Home, back to God.