

Aagna & Upaasna



Aagna



- What is Aagna?
- Instruction or order
- Who should it come from?

Bhagwan, H.H. Acharya

Maharajshree, Saints, Satsangis



Shikshapatri



212 Shloks of Shreeji
Maharaj's Aagna

“My disciples shall concentrate on the benevolent aim of writing the Shikshapatri and realise that it is written for the spiritual welfare of every living being”

Shlok 7



Shikshapatri



Shreeji Maharaj goes on to say:

- “Those who follow His aagnas will enjoy happiness in this world as well the next”
- “Those who disobey his aagnas will suffer great distress in this world as well as in the next”



Sudarshan Chakra



Each Aagna is like the 'Sudarshan Chakra'

They are for our protection

Example of Maa Sitaji

- Overstepped one aagna set down by Laxmanji...

Result = ?

Kidnapped by Demon Ravana
Suffered immensely in Lanka



Panchvartaman



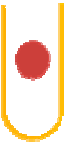
- 5 main Aagnas of the Swaminarayan Sampraday

Known as the 'PANCHVARTAMAN'

- Not to drink alcohol
- Not to eat meat
- Not to steal
- Not to commit adultery
- Not to self - convert as well as convert others



Upasana



Practice of the belief and understanding in God
i.e. worship

- For example, *who* you believe in
 - Upaasna of Mataji, Hanuman, Shiva etc
 - Shankar-upasak, Mataji-Upasak
- “You don’t have Upaasna”
 - How you believe in God
 - What is He like e.g. Sarva-Avtari?



In the context of Satsang



- Saakaar Upaasna
 - God has a divine form. He is never formless (*niraakaar*)
- Shuddh (pure) Upaasna
 - Swami-Sevak Bhav
 - No-one is like God, everyone are His servants
- Pragat Upaasna
 - Believe in the form of God that is present/live (pratyaksha) before you
- Sarvopari Upasana
 - Sahajanand Swami is cause of all avatars



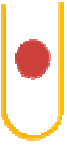
The concept of Upaasna



- Vachanamrut G.P. 40
 - Bhakti is devotional service - 9 such types..... and Upaasna : - FAITH in the divine form of God
 - Never loose this faith even if the state of brahm is reached
 - No matter what is heard/read
- Vachanamrut Loya 14 - Maharaj's upaasna
 - A beautiful, human-like form of God
 - Surrounded by divine bright light (tej)
 - Seated on a grand throne and served by countless muktas



Saakaar Upasana



Most religions, even in Sanatan Dharma, believe God as nirakaar i.e. just energy or light (Tej)

- But G.P 40 says God is
 - Dvibhuj; with two 'arms'
 - Divya; divine, beyond maya
 - Sada-Saakaar; forever with a form



Swami-Sevak Bhav



- Vachamrut K.10
- By God's grace, a bhakta can become great, BUT never like God Himself
- Disassociate with any person/shastra which may suggest the contrary
- Do bhakti with swami-sevak bhav
 - never compromise this upaasna
- Also G.M 67
- So never regard anyone else equal to God
 - Keep the pooja 'pure'



Pratyaksha Bhagwan- Sahajanand Swami



- Shikshapatri
 - Shlok 209
 - My words are my form

- Swaminarayan Bhagwan is ever present, in pratyaksha form
 - Before as human
 -now as murtis
 - the murtis are one with the form in Akshardham