

DR SHOBHA RAJU

MANTRAS The keys to unlock divine energies

Tt was in early nineties I guess, I $oldsymbol{1}$ gave a concert at Alwal during a festival. There was an old Vaishnavite Archaka Swami there. if I remember right, his name was Hayagreevacharya. He came to me and asked, "The Divine wants me to initiate you into a Mantra. Would you like to do it?". I cannot explain it logically but it felt like certain divine grace was coming my way. When certain spiritual preparedness meets with an unexpected happening, it gives an understanding of the happening to be Providentially planned. The under standing takes place in the internal observation of silence from within. It's hard to put the experience in words beyond this point. Inspired by such an experience, I instantly said, "Yes".

Sri Hayagreevacharya took me to his house. Asked me to wash my feet, asked his daughter in law to give me a cup of cow's milk and asked me to drink. I understood it as a social courtesy then. Now I realise it to have had a deeper purpose of preparing me to be initiated into the Mantra.

He wrote the Mantra on a piece of paper, gave it to me and asked me to repeat after him thrice. As I repeated it, I was experiencing a subtle transfer of grace. He told me that the Mantra helps in earning the required resources for necessities in life.

People who see me will never be able to access the difficult situation I sail as I am usually in a disposition which says, "I am just fine". I was taking small loans from a colleague of my brother, who had a finance company. He used to come with a note book every month and tell me how much of EMI I had to pay. I paid it religiously without checking the accounts. I used to feel, checking the accounts would amount to doubting one's integrity. When I didn't have money to pay the EMI, I would call him and profusely apologize and end up in agreeing to pay the EMI the next month, with interest.

I gave the above personal account to tell you how the situation transformed gracefully to a status in which I could get a gift hamper from City Bank for paying all the EMIs regularly for the loan I took for buying a Maruti van, after I started doing "Japam". It was not that I became very rich. But there was a quantum shift which was positive, from my unenviable situation. Not just me, I see all those whom I initiated into that "Mantra Japam" being much benefited.

Mere chanting of Mantra changes the situation? How is it possible?

I have been a keen observer of Life and Universe.

My observation reveals me some subtleties. I also read and listen to some wisdom which tallies with my observations and experiences.

Everything came out of

"Brahman". It's called "Consciousness" in English. This Consciousness is expressed as "Om" in sound form. Om is the vibration through which entire creation came. This knowledge was given in The Most Ancient Philosophy (Sanatana Dharma). The Bible also says, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with The God and The Word was God".

The "OM" is called "Beejakshara". It is the sound form of The Abstract God. It is the combination of A.....U....................... the basic sounds through which all other sounds have emerged. Even languages are formed. AUM contains whole Cosmos. Cosmos is formed out of AUM. Ancient spiritual scientists whom we call "Rishis", have heard this fundamental sound when they sat in silence and did penance to know the secret behind life. When they tried to explain the sound what they heard and tried to reproduce, it took the form of "AUM", the closest to the original sound. The white is only color of light but due to refraction, rainbow colors are formed. So also AUM is the only sound through which all other sounds emerged.

Chanting of Om irrespective of religions, links one to The Consciousness, The Brahman. But the focus should be on the vibrations. AUM creates. Those vibrations start from the inner most, subtle space in the body and connect an entity to the Infinite Cosmic Energy, thus ultimately making one to realise the Truth of Mahavakya, "Aham Brahmasmi". In that status one can create anything he decides. Saint Viswamitra could make a parallel creation. But usually, the Rishis who have perfect sink with the Absolute, won't utilize their power for silly causes.

The AUM, was basis for creating many other secondary Bijaksharas (I call them secondary with my limited knowledge of vocabulary as they are all the originates of AUM). Those Bijaksharas have their specific and particular corresponding energies or Deities. They have specific effects though ultimately they too may lead to the Absolute Energy, The Brahman as the source for them too is AUM.



For example, Sreem is a Bijakshara associated with Lakshmi. Lakshmi's main aspect is prosperity....money. Taking initiation from an Upasaka (The one who chanted it many times with focussed-mind and could feel the vibes within himself and there by gets eligibility to initiate (Upadesham) others into it) when one chants Sreem, the vibrations of that sound create a specific aura, which attracts the energy of prosperity from The Universe.

So is AIM. It's related to The Goddess of Knowledge, Saraswati. Chanting AIM reverentially creates particular vibrations which connects one to The Energy of Knowledge in The Universe. We have heard of Kalidasa, who didn't know a single letter becoming the

greatest poet in Sanskrit after Divine Mother, Kali manifests before him, impressed by his devotion and writes Bijakshara on his tongue. Writing Bijakshara on his tongue means instilling the vibes of particular Bijakshara or some Bijaksharas which connect one to express the related power. In Kalidasa's case, it was literature. With his literary skills, none could equal.

For every aspect of life, there is a corresponding energy in The Universe, which could be tapped and

acquired by a Bijakshara Upasana (Chanting with austerity). HREEM, KLEEM, HUM, HRAAM, HROUM, SAH, and many are there which are sound forms of particular Deities who have specific powers.

These Mantras were not easily given in olden times, unless one is proven to be devout and earnestly good in nature lest they should harm the world with their spiritual powers like Ravanasura, Bhasmasura and so on. But the ones who apply their

powers for evil purposes would perish ultimately as was in the case of those demons.

So here is a scientific process, how these Bijaksharas' vibrations have an effect on the human body, atmosphere and the world at large. We have seen heavy rains after chanting Varuna (Rain God) Mantras in Chennai.

Sankeertana is also a Mantra.... a musical Mantra which have similar effects

if only one could employ it aptly with clean heart.

So let us use this divine tool and lead better lives and see the dimension beyond physicality. AUM!

> (Author is a well-known musician, Devotional singer, writer and composer.) 🕦