

Before Knowing Ānanda Mārga

a) His First Hint

*B*ábá says that at the age of 13, spiritual aspirants feel attraction for Parama Puruśa (the Supreme Consciousness). I was about 13 when the idea of my future filled my heart with indescribable joy. I was not a religious person, but God was in my mind. I knew that my life would be different from the way my worldly family lived.

b) Getting Ready

*F*rom the age of 17 till I met Ānanda Mārga at 31, my life was, without my knowing it, a preparation for becoming a worker of Shrii Shrii Ānandamūrti. Everything I learnt then, I was able to utilize in my field work. I studied several languages during eight years, I took a bookkeeping course, and I used to give private language classes.

From the age of 26 to the age of 31 I worked as a kindergarten assistant and as a Hebrew teacher for children at the same school. I was quite busy, but nevertheless something was missing. I was worried about my fu-

ture. Therefore I found no better way to get inspired other than going to innumerable fortune tellers. At that time I had not the faintest idea that Ānanda Mārga existed.

c) The Fortune Tellers

Strangely, most of the fortune tellers spoke to me about Bábá, Shrii Shrii Ānandamúrtijii, without my realising it.

Here are a few of the things they said that I remember:

“There are two eyes following you wherever you go.”

“He is your real Father. He has given you to your family to raise you, but He will take you with Him.”

“He is the love of your life. You meet Him every time you are born. You will work for Him. He is perfect. He has so much knowledge.”

At that time I thought: “Who will be that important man with whom I may spend my life working, since I myself am so unimportant?”

Other things I was told were:

“Your soul is in prison. He will free it, but you have to work. The day you unite with Him it will be forever. But you love Him so much that you don’t want to be unified with Him because while doing so, you will lose Him.” I was also told that unification is eternal and it brings infinite happiness.

To understand this was beyond my capacity. Today I can well grasp its meaning. The sweetness of devotion is to give joy to Him, and by doing so, one gets joy. For this experience, two entities are needed: the Lord and the devotee. Once the aspirant merges in Him, He/she becomes one with Him. This means losing Him. There is charm in being two, the Lord and the devotee. On attaining Him, eternal bliss is experienced; one becomes the Lord.

Another Chinese clairvoyant told me, “You will work for God and leave your family.”

She even spoke about one future incident related to my Dharma Samiikśá (spiritual analysis done by the Sadguru, to point out our past mistakes and accelerate our spiritual progress.) I was so impressed by her revelations I felt like I was floating on air. Who was I to work for God?

Someone else told me, “Behind your bed there is a man with eyeglasses looking after you. He loves you.”

Yet another lady who was a famous forecaster told me, “Little girl, He is God. He appears to be a man. He can listen to your thoughts even from far away.” She told me that I would be travelling a lot giving lectures, and that I was going to be a nun in orange dress.

I was told He would give the true philosophy and that He would write so many books that I might not have time to read them all. But still I would be spreading His ideas.

d) Visiting a Psychic in La Rioja City, Argentina

Every time I was told something exciting, I would daydream about it. But after some time it would fade away from my mind. Due to my impatience about my future, I would then go in search of some more hope. This time it was a lady spiritualist.

She told me, “You will succeed in life. I see such a shining star.”

She trembled, feeling so much energy all over her body. Now I believe she might have seen the Pratiika, our star of six points.

Again I left her house overwhelmed with hope, a mysterious hope.