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Om Shri Shivabalayogi Maharajaya Namaha

TRANSCRIPT of CONVERSATION
with
His Holiness Shri Shri Shri Shivabalayogi Maharaj

Boulder, July 9, 1991
Video-Taped Conversation

Conversation with Shivabalayogi video-taped in the living room of Shankar and Chandradevi who hosted Swamiji in Boulder, Colorado. D. Jagadish Kumar is translating.

First half-hour is not typed up because it is not of general interest (mostly Swamiji's health, which was very poor on this tour, his ten-day rest in Portland, and his travel schedule to ashrams in India which is known from other sources) and Swamiji is talking in simple English with no translation.

*Comments by Swamiji himself are in **bold italics**.
Comments of the transcriber, Tom Palotas, are in brackets [].
Numbers before headings refer to the time elapsed on the video-tape.
ellipsis . . . refers to interruption or incomplete sentence.
_____ indicates word is not intelligible.*

| | | | |
|-------|--|-------|---|
| 0:00 | <u>Swamiji's Health; Rearrangement of Tour Schedule</u> | SBY | Once he starts, then it will keep going. He is just going around to get to know what all is there. |
| 2:51 | <u>Pillow; Foot Rest</u> | | |
| 3:35 | <u>Last Night Fever</u> | 30:38 | <u>Teaching Spiritual Leaders; Money</u> |
| 4:17 | <u>Swamiji Rest</u> | SBY | He says first we will have to hit these spiritual leaders who are collecting money for spirituality, who charge people in the form of tickets for their programs, first we will have to hit them. Then we will start the rest of the activities. Until then it will be difficult, until we hit these people. |
| 6:45 | <u>Last Tour (1990) Kuwait</u> | D | By hit you mean to make right, to confront the spiritual leaders? |
| 9:09 | <u>Bangalore Ashram Crowds</u> | DJK | Exactly. I mean we have to put them down. We will have to make the people understand that by giving money you won't get to God. We should teach them also not to take money like that, not to charge them. I mean they can ask for donations like we do. They should not charge because that deprives these guys who do not have the money from . . . |
| 15:47 | <u>(eating prashad)</u> | D | The spirituality. |
| 17:23 | <u>Swamiji No Rest: Anantapur, Hyderabad, Dehradun</u> | SBY | He tells you that you will not get God buying tickets. You cannot purchase a ticket as _____. You should never sell the spiritual line, he says. You should not sell spirituality. He says in the States, he will have to control that. |
| 21:29 | <u>Ten-Day Rest in Portland</u> | D | That's a lot of work. |
| 23:47 | <u>(taking prashad)</u> | SBY | <i>"No question</i> [disagreeing].” No it's not, he says. |
| 26:35 | <u>Visiting Swamiji for Birthday or Tapas Function</u> | 32:30 | <u>Bhava Samadhi</u> |
| 27:34 | <u>Mahashivaratri & Adivarapupeta</u> | SBY | He says once he starts the bhava samadhi here, they will take care of everybody. |
| 29:06 | <u>Ganesha Birthday Hyderabad</u> | | |
| 29:57 | <u>Homa in U.S.A.</u> | | |
| D | Will he ever do a homa in the United States, when he comes? | | |
| SBY | He says he has not started it yet. He is working the atmosphere here. The atmosphere here. | | |
| D | The what? | | |
| DJK | The atmosphere, how the people behave, yeah. For whatever reason. | | |



DJK Well the actual words he is using is, they will beat them all up. What he means is that they will take care of [that]. In the United States, if we have a lot of bhava samadhi, everything will come [to control]. If we have that, he says, everybody will come to control.

All the spiritual leaders are actually afraid of bhava samadhi

D And when Swamiji puts one down that are all going to come up like . . . one, two, three, all excited.

33:27 Spiritual Leaders Creating Tension

SBY “No, no.” He tells you what we are to teach people is peace, to reduce the tension in their lives. So these guys are increasing the tension rather than reducing it.

DJK I mean, what he means, trying to induce, making them stick to their own rules and methods, and discarding people who go to other gurus . . . so this increases the tension. A lot of people come to him and ask him, “I have been to that guru. Is it okay if I come to you?”

SBY Today there was a lady who came and asked him. She has come across a lot of gurus in her life. So she doesn’t know what to do. Swamiji told her, see there are so many rivers in the world, so what do you do? In which one do you take a bath? He told you you will have to select the one that is suitable to you.

36:15 Fifteen Years in Siddha Yoga

D When Monya and I moved to Santa Barbara, we’d gone through India, traveled through India, and we’d been fifteen years in Siddha Yoga. Fifteen years. And never any other group. Fifteen years.

DJK Siddha Yoga?

D Siddha Yoga. Mukhtananda, Guru Mayi. Nityananda. And we came back and I . . . after we were in India at the ashram, I never wanted another guru. I was like, I didn’t want any more practices. ___ And just before he came, I said . . . We took down all our pictures, and we were like ___. We were the kind of people that had pictures everywhere. Our whole house was pictures of the guru: Nityananda, Mukhtananda, Guru Mayi. We took them all out; cleaned the whole house out. Then Swamiji came one week later. We were quarreling. We were so thankful.

[translation for Swamiji]

The other thing was, the only thing that I kept was my credit card.

[translation for Swamiji]

[Monya] ____, but I was. [Jake?] But she can’t live without a guru.

[Draft. Close the door. Swamiji cold?]

38:45 Nityananda a Yogi

What our relationship was to Guru Mayi and Mukhtananda, and also, I’ve always had a . . .

SBY He tells you that Nityananda was a yogi. He had to take twelve to fifteen devotees of his who were to be successors. So he blessed them all. So out of them, Mukhtananda was one and he came over here to the U.S. Others were in India. All those people keep coming to Swamiji.

He says in Bangalore they are building a temple for Nityananda, and he was taken there to lay the foundation stone for that.

D Swamiji was Nityananda in a past life?

SBY He says he has had lots of lives and now he is this life. He says, in whichever lifetime it was, he didn’t come out to teach the people or he didn’t come out to guide the people without doing the tapas. He had to do the tapas in every lifetime.

D In India they believe Swamiji was Nityananda and Nityananda went into mahasamadhi when Swamiji came out of tapas. And it wasn’t the first time that Swamiji had two bodies at the same time.

DJK First Time? No, no, no.

D Not the first time. So Nityananda, your connection to Nityananda is sitting in front of you.

40:56 Nityananda in Bangalore

SBY He says . . . he’s telling you what happened with Nityananda. He had devotees in Bangalore as well as in Bombay. The devotees in Bangalore wanted to bring him to Bangalore. Those in Bombay wouldn’t allow him to go to Bangalore. So in this quarrel between these devotees and those devotees, he [Swamiji] says he left his body, Nityananda left his body.

He could not come to Bangalore. So next he [Swamiji] had to go to Bangalore. So all those devotees of Nityananda who were in Bangalore, they all became his devotees.

42:20 Guru-Devotee. Timing

D How come we are all so lucky to be able to be in this room with him now and be his devotee?

SBY He says unless the time comes right, you will not get these chances.

He says the right time has to come for us. He gives you an example, right. So he has come and he is staying in this house. The people to the right, in the next house, they are not coming here now. They have to wait for their right time to come to see him.



43:07 Bangalore & Dehradun

SBY He says he didn't have the idea of coming to Bangalore from Adivarapupeta. He wanted to go up to Dehradun in northern India. But Tapaswiji Maharaj, who came and helped him in his tapas . . he wanted to go and see his [Tapaswiji's] ashram because he [Swamiji] had given him [Tapaswiji] a promise that, "After I get up from tapas, finish that tapas, I'll first go to your ashram." So that is in Nandi Hills which is about forty miles from Bangalore. There is his ashram. So he wanted to go there and visit that. He went there to visit that ashram and then got _____

43:56 Violence in Bangalore

D Wasn't part of the story that Swamiji was going to leave but the other spiritual leaders sent the goons trying to force him out so then, because he is Against, he said, "I am going to stay"?

SBY He says yeah, they did send the ruffians to beat him up and then to drive him out from Bangalore, but he didn't care about that.

He is telling you the story about what happened at that time. He was conducting his programs of meditation, bhajan and all. There were about ten thousand people who were in that program there. So this other spiritual leader who didn't like Swamiji getting the popularity, what he did was he hired some two hundred people, gave them about twenty thousand rupees, and he asked them to go and disturb the program. So they came over and tried to disrupt his program here, and the police had also come there. So the police came and they asked Swamiji's devotees to stop the program for violence. What he did was, he put the police into trance. Then he got all those two hundred people beaten up.

He is telling you who all was in trance at the time, the police officers. One had the trance of Narasimha Swami.

DJK You know that half-man, half-lion form of Vishnu? So one of the people got that trance, one of the police guys.

SBY The other one got the trance of Ravana. Another fellow got the trance of Vittala.

In the state of Maharashtra they perform the Dasara, that's done for Vittal, he says. So one fellow was in the trance of Vittal. One was in the trance of Tarakasura. Another in the trance of Kumarswmi. These five people beat up all those two hundred guys. All the two hundred fell down. They were all taken to the hospital.

So the next day morning, the commissioner of the area and the superintendent of police and the police authorities, they came to see him at the ashram. They

came and they apologized to Swamiji for having sent their police. Swamiji told them, "No, it's all right. You police was of a lot of help to us.

_____ in the hospital they find about two hundred people there lying in bed. It seems the people in the hospital, they complained to the police officers, the authorities, saying, "See how we were beaten up by your police."

So this fellow replied, the officer replied, "Had you all been dead I would be happier."

He says during the night, the police conducted an inquiry and found out that these people were paid by the spiritual leader, to come and disturb [the program].

Right from that time he has a lot of support from the police. Even now if something happens to the ashram, he won't have any trouble. The police come and they support him. None of the spiritual leaders bother him now.

49:18 Charging Money

SBY Their point was that because he had gone to their state, that he'll have to follow their rules and start charging people for the programs. They asked him to have some tickets for the programs. He refused.

The rate they fixed up for a piece of vibhuti, they asked him to charge rupees ten. And for the meditation, they asked him to charge a hundred sixteen rupees per head. And for the pada puja, they said he should charge a thousand one hundred sixteen rupees. And to have his darshan, private darshan like this, they'll have to pay fifty rupees each. "*Swamiji says get out.*"

Since then they started off troubling him. He says now he is requiring all devotees to go and hit them.

50:45 The Spiritual Leader's Successor; Forgiveness

SBY He says the day the successor of this guy, the spiritual leader who tried to beat him [Swamiji] up, now his successor is a devotee of Swamiji. He [Swamiji] says he [the successor] asked Swamiji to come to his [the spiritual leader's] ashram. Swamiji told him, "Well, your guru was angry with me."

D Who invited Swamiji?

DJK You know, the first time the spiritual leader sent two hundred people to beat him up.

D Oh yes, the same one.

DJK No, no. His disciple who was his successor, he is a devotee of Swamiji. He asked Swamiji to come to his ashram.

SBY Swamiji said, "well, your guru didn't like me, so the people there wouldn't allow me to come there."



- “No, no. I’ll make arrangements for that. Please come.”
- So even Swamiji’s devotees stopped him saying, “You should not go there. You’ll get beaten up.” He assured them that nothing will happen to him and he said he would go there.
- He says when he invited him in, he told him that he is doing a lot of service to the people of that state. Having come to that state, he is giving a lot of service.
- So he [Swamiji] told him that, “See, I came here in 1963, and when I came here, one spiritual leader tried to get me killed. He paid people money and he tried to get me killed.”
- D In America?
- DJK See, he went to Bangalore, right? that was Karnataka State. That fellow praised him saying that, “You are doing a lot of service to the people of this state.” Swamiji in reply said that, “I have come to this state in 1963, and when I came here, one of the spiritual leaders of this area, he paid some people to get me killed. Had they killed me, I wouldn’t be able to do all this service to all these people.”
- See, it was the same guy who did this, who paid people to get him killed. Okay. Now he went to the same ashram and the same guy praised him saying, “You are doing a lot of service to the people here.” he retorts back saying, “Yeah, one guy tried to kill me . . .”
- He [Swamiji] says that he [the spiritual leader] got tears in his eyes and he fell at Swamiji’s feet. Then he told Swamiji that, “It was I who tried to get that . . .” He asked Swamiji to forgive him.
- He says now that guy is in trouble, having a lot of trouble.
- D Because Swamiji did not forgive him?
- DJK Probably against other things like that.
- D He got forgiveness but he just doesn’t have a brain.
- SBY He says he should not forgive such people. Because if he forgives people like that, then if anybody else comes in and you start troubling them right. that is his job, so . . .
- Now he himself [the spiritual leader] will get beaten up. he says I told you that his successor was Swamiji’s devotee. This guy is in control now. So he gets his guru beaten up.
- D He gets his guru beaten up?
- DJK What he means is now that he has taken up control, he is giving a lot of trouble to his predecessor.
- D It’s like the king’s son. King has a son. Son wants to put the king into prison. [not translated]
- SBY All that he [the spiritual leader] had been doing earlier, this guy [the successor] does not agree with all that. So he changed everything and . . .
- He says this guy does everything right. So that man asked him to do something wrong and he wouldn’t agree to do that.
- 56:29 Charging Tickets: Maha Bodhi Society
- D Was Swamiji able to convince the spiritual leaders charging tickets and all this to stop charging tickets?
- DJK Where?
- D In Bangalore.
- SBY He says he didn’t have to stop it by any action, as such. When he was in Bangalore, automatically they all came down. So the people who go to them, if they ask them to pay any money, they tell them straight that “Shivabalayogi does not charge for any of his service. Why do you charge?”
- He says they’re a little jealous of Swamiji now, but they won’t be able to do anything. He makes fun of them, he says.
- He is talking about a person of the Maha Bodhi Society. He says that he goes in a van from house to house asking for money, begging for money. What people telling him is “Shivabalayogi sits in his room and he gets all the money he wants. So why do you have to go from house to house begging for money?” That guy is very angry about it.
- He says that’s the way all the spiritual leaders are getting hit now. They all wish that he goes out from Bangalore again.
- D I’ll bet.
- 59:11 (asks to retire: prashad)
- SBY Would you like to ___ now? He would like to go to his room. “**Prashad, prashad.**”
- DJK Is this all the candy you have, to give out as prashad?
- 59:40 Selling Prashad
- SBY He says even the food that we do in the ashram, even that creates a lot of displeasure for them because they sell their food. All the ashrams in Bangalore, they sell their food. Nobody gives it free. Because we give it free, they are unhappy about us.
- 60:09 Ashram Expenses: Swamiji’s Absence
- SBY He says you are not having any trouble with bringing food to people. Only when he comes here that the donations stop. So that’s the reason the Trust is having trouble feeding the people, he says. As long as he is in



India, there is no trouble. When he is in the ashram at Bangalore, the donations keep coming, he says. Because he is now coming out here for the four months, those four months they find it difficult to get the money to feed the people.

Ever since last year when he was stuck in Kuwait, the people there, they prayed to . . .

DJY . . . I think I told you this yesterday, no?

D Yes.

SBY . . . They prayed to the God saying that if he comes out alive, then we will do a feeding every Sunday. Now they have started doing this since last year and they are finding this trouble when he is not there.

Still, he told them not to be worried about it but just continue doing it, that they will get the money automatically for the feeding.

As long as he is there, there is no trouble for the Trust, but when he comes back here to the U.S., the Trust has trouble. He says that's the reason that he tells people, when he asks for the donations, so he can send the money back to them. Because he sends the donations that we get here to the ashram, the trouble is now less.

62:09 How the Bangalore JP Nagar Ashram Was Acquired

SBY It's a very big ashram, he says. It's not a small one and it's difficult to maintain it now. He says after he started touring around the world now, going to other countries, a lot of people from these countries are coming to the ashram and stay there. So he has to feed all them. He has to take care of all them. He says now he's here but there are a lot of foreigners there now in the ashram.

D Is there room at the ashram to build more houses, you think?

SBY We have a land of about five acres there, in the middle of the city. "City Center."

D It's in the center of the city, not out in the country?

SBY He says even that land came to me in a funny way. He was not interested in making an ashram in Bangalore. What he used to do during that time was . . . he used to go around the country a lot. Because it was his idea that he just does this, spread the meditation to more and more people and for that he would travel around the country. So he used to travel by road, by car, to all the places in India. So once when he was in Bangalore, the authorities in Bangalore came to see him, and he asked him why he was not staying in Bangalore for long. Swamiji told him that, "Well, you have not given me any land so I am not staying here."

"That's all the problem? Can I call you?" So by the next day morning he says, "Yes, the land is available."

He was the guy who was in charge of planning for the city. So he told Swamiji, "Okay, now you come with me. You drive with me and then you select which piece of land you want."

He says now this area that he has selected, it's a plain. It's not hilly. It's not too much ups and downs. He says on Monday he talked about it. By Saturday he had the land. When the __ was over everything was done.

He was not interested in that, he says. He got this done and then he went off to Dehradun.

62.09 Construction at JP Nagar

SBY Somebody else who didn't like what he'd done was, he knew that Swamiji was not in Bangalore. So he immediately sent notice to the Trust saying, "See, you have taken the land but you are not using it. If you don't use it within the time, if you don't start any construction, we will take it back." He got a letter to Dehradun saying this . . .

Then he started constructing a building, he says. He says he started constructing the building in 1972. Even now he hasn't stopped. Just keeps going on and on and on.

D Building creates opportunity for more devotees?

SBY Now he is trying to construct rooms for people to stay, but in the form of apartments so that each room or two rooms would have their own kitchen and everything else separate. That's the way he is trying to build up. "Good Plan." He himself gives the plan for all this building. He is trying to see there is no waste to the land that has been given to him.

He says the planning authorities of the city, they asked him to construct in one way, but he turned it around and he is constructing like this. That saves him a lot of land.

D Have they finished his new bedroom?

DJK Yeah. They just have to do the furniture now. The rest is done.

D So he's not moved in it yet.

DJK Oh no, not yet.

67:28 JP Nagar Ashram Layout

SBY The way he planned it is . . . , like if you take a plot of land like that [DJK gestures towards a coffee table] . . . what he did was have his rooms, the dhyana meditation hall . . . all this is constructed here. And the whole plot was vacant, so he was afraid that somebody else or the government would take that off. So he started constructing at the other end now. Now he has the temple, the Brahma Vishnu Maheshwara Temple and



the big auditorium behind that, and the rooms attached to that.

68:17 Meditation College, Design

SBY Now, the only thing that is left out now is a building in the center.

D Where the garden is?

DJK Yeah.

SBY There he wants to have a training center, a college for meditation. A lot of people asked him to start the medical colleges and the engineering colleges, but he said, "No. I will start a meditation college."

D What would the meditation college be like?

SBY Downstairs would be library. In the upper floor, they will give lectures, he says. There is a place for giving lectures. On the third floor, he'll have a place for himself to speak to people. **"Round Building."**

DJK The one that is constructed now that is a cylinder [*i.e.*, the meditation hall which has a large barrel roof], with the shell roof. The roof is like this. [DJK gestures barrel roof.]

SBY **"No, no, no."** [DJK apparently tells Swamiji he is referring to the hall, not the next building.]

DJK But the next one he is planning is a spherical shell.

D Spherical shell?

DJK [Swamiji gestures towards something in the living room that is outside of the video camera's field of vision.] It will look like this, he says. I mean he is going to have a dome on top of that. There's no pillars.

SBY Now what he has is an arch, a roof like an arch, but with no pillars in between.

70:08 Trimurthy Temple Construction

D What kind of temples would he like to construct, if he constructed, if he would like to construct?

SBY He says he has now started constructing the Brahma Vishnu and Maheshwara Temple. Well, the idols are consecrated now. The idols have been installed. The temple is not _____. On the top we have to build a gopura.

DJK You know what a gopura is, right? It goes up like this. [DJK gestures tall spire.]

SBY That, he still has to build those. Those are not built yet. He says the rest of the work is not done. So after that is done he is planning to get this . . . temple work completed . . .

Everything that he starts off is very small in the beginning, and it keeps on growing and growing.

D Does he enliven the statues?

DJK Yeah.

SBY He has already done for those idols there. Brahma and Saraswati. Vishnu Lakshmi.

71:20 Opposition to Trimurthy Temple

SBY He says this is the first time we have a Trimurthy temple there, all three gods and goddesses. Again, this time again the spiritual leaders tried to stop this temple from coming up.

D Brahma?

SBY **"___ Brahma."** [nods assent.]

DJK They didn't want us to start worshipping Brahma again. They told Swamiji that if you do that you are going to die.

SBY He told them that, "I will do what my guru tells me. My guru asked me to do the tapas. So I did it. Now my guru asked me to construct the temple. I'll construct it. I won't listen to you."

They told him that Brahma has a curse, that he should not be worshipped. He says, "It was Shiva who gave the curse and it's me who is going to remove the curse now." Now the worship of Brahma has started off. It is going wonderfully.

73:04 Shiva's Curse on Brahma

D Why was there a curse on Brahma?

D It's a story for another night. We must ask Swamiji to rest.

SBY He is telling you the story. He says Shiva was getting married, and this guy, Brahma also wanted to marry the same girl. But the girl was interested in Shiva. Shiva thought that he should punish Brahma by cutting off his fifth head. So he cut off his fifth head. So that had the _____

He tells you that this was one reason and then the other one is . . . Once Vishnu and Brahma had a quarrel as to who was the greater between the two. So they came to Shiva and they asked him who is greater. Then he created a linga, a Shivalinga, and he asked them to go and find out where the ends of the linga are. Brahma went up and Vishnu went down the linga to find out the ends. They went back after a long while. Then Brahma lied to Shiva saying, "I did reach the end and I came back from there."

Vishnu told him the truth that, "I could not find the end."

So then Shiva gave the curse, "Because it was a lie, you should not be worshipped any more." At that time he was given the curse.



D It has lasted all that time?

DJK Until now, yeah.

SBY Now, he [Swamiji] says, if he is not worshipped we can see in the face of the idol that he is unhappy about it. He says the people who do the worship there, in the temple, they come and report to Swamiji that, "Today the Brahma isn't looking happy."

"So when I go up there," when he touches them, he touches their face and caresses them, within a second, he says, they change. They become happy.

When you look at them you can see the life in them. Altogether in a line.

DJK Brahma and Saraswati in the first hall. Just beside the hall, in that, we have Shiva and Parvati. Then the next one we have Vishnu and Lakshmi.

D And in between Ganesh, and one with Swamiji [gesturing to the left].

DJK Swamiji? No, no.

D Well there is a picture of Swamiji.

DJK Picture of Swamiji [nodding assent].

77:14 Swamiji retires

[the end]