

Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati

Mahatma
Ramalingam
and
his revelations



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Editor's Notes

Ramalingam, called also Ramalinga or Val-lalar, was born in Marudur (next to Chidambaram, in South India), on Sunday, October 5, 1823. At the age of only five months, his parents carried him in pilgrimage to the temple of Nataraja in Chidambaram. His father died a month later. Moving their residence to Madras, the older brother, Sabapathi assumed the responsibilities of family head. When Ramalinga was five years old, with a prodigious facility he learned to read under the supervision of Sabapathi's teacher. Instead of attending school, he passed the time reciting in ecstasy poems written by himself in the temple of Kanthakottam (Madras). Sabapathi reproached him for this attitude, but seeing that it didn't give any result, he ordered his wife Pappammal never more to admit him in their house to feed. Breaking this order, she fed Ramalinga secretly when he was hungry because she considered him as if he was her own brother.

Ramalinga was a model of uprightness and moderation. Physically, he had a sharp nose and large, serene eyes whose look emitted divine brilliancy. He undertook long fasts, eating frugally once every two or three days. He had extraordinary capacities and was accustomed to disappear for some days and nobody was able to discover his whereabouts. He was kind, simple and sincere. He died on January 30th, 1874.

It is a real pleasure for me to present this treatise on *Mahatma Ramalingam and his revelations* to you. Thank you, Dr. Shudhananda Bharati for having transmitted *Mahatma Ramalingam and his revelations* to us. The first edition of this book is dated 1936.

Christian Piaget



Song of Unity

*Unite. Unite, Unite, Oh Souls
Unite and play your roles
Unite in mind, unite in heart
Unite in whole, unite in part
Like words and tunes and sense in song
Let East and West unite and live long
Trees are many; the grove is one
Branches are many; tree is one
Shores are many; sea is one
Limbs are many; body is one
Bodies are many; self is one
Stars are many; sky is one
Flowers are many; honey is one
Pages are many; book is one
Thoughts are many; thinker is one
Tastes are many; taster is one
Actors are many; the drama is one
Nations are many; the world is one
Religions are many; Truth is one
The wise are many; Wisdom is one
Beings are many; breath is one
Classes are many; college is one
Find out this One behind the many
Then life shall enjoy peaceful harmony*

Peace Anthem

*Peace for all, peace for all
For all the countries peace
Joy for all, joy for all
For all the nations joy
A rosy morning peace
A smiling summer joy (Peace for all)*

*All for each and each for all
This is the golden rule
Life and Light and Love for all
For all that live our love (Peace for all)*

*Work and food and clothes for all
Equal status for all
Health and home and school for all
A happy world for all (Peace for all)*

*Peace for plants and birds and beasts
For hills and streams and woods
Peace in Home - land and air and sea
Dynamic peace we see*

Peace for all, peace for all

Immortal Peace for All

Presentation of
Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati

11th May 1897 – 7th March 1990

The wise one to the cosmic age

Although more than 90 years old, in his school in the south of India, Kavi Yogi Maharishi (great divine visionary, wise poet), Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati worked like a young man of twenty. When he was asked his age, he answered: "My age is Courage!"

The Yogi wrote several hundred works in English, French, Tamil, Hindi, Telugu and Sanskrit; five thousand songs, and fifteen hundred poems in French. The magnum opus of the man conscious of the presence of God in him, *Bharata Shakti*, (in 50,000 verses) described his ideal: only One Humanity living in communion with only One God in a transformed world! *Bharata Shakti* is a monumental and unique work. The Yogi depicts the essence of all the religions, of all the prophets and saints, all the approaches of Yoga and all the cultures on

an allegorical fabric. It is a book for any age which all spiritual researchers and all nations should read and meditate on.

His commitment is summarized in his book celebrating his life, *Pilgrim Soul*.

The two poems mentioned in the opening express perfectly his ideal.

His mantra, *Aum Shuddha Shakti Aum*, nourishes our souls and guides our steps toward the inner joy Ananda. It means: the light of Grace and power of the pure supreme Almighty bless us with peace, happiness and prosperity!

Let the beauty and greatness of soul of Dr. Bharati Shuddhananda bloom and scent the entire Earth with its divine message and spiritual and unifying benefactor!

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Chapter I

Life of Mahatma Ramalingam

1. The call to life divine

When the voice was heard from the tower of the temple of Dakshineswar: "Come, my children, I am waiting for you!" another voice rang its message of love and light from the bosom of South India:

"The Supreme Light Divine – the inborn Eternal Light hath straight possessed my heart. I am full of That! I am immortal! Haste ye, men! I vouchsafe you the freedom of the path of pure Spiritual Truth-light! I shall lead ye to divine equality! That is the path revealed by my Father. He hath made me one with Him! These words are not mine! They are His! O my other selves, verily I speak unto you the Truth seen of me – The Supreme Spiritual Light hath might enough to restore the dead to eternal life. The Omnipotent Lord cometh! It is time! His play is imminent! Surrender unto Him! Love all His creatures! Pray and

meditate upon Him! His grace shall be with you! He shall raise the dead! Wake up and come; it is time!”

This was the beatific voice of Swami Ramalingam (the prophet of the Holy *Arul-pa*, the song of divine grace) – the voice that, with the fire of its heart-melting expressions, soul-awakening effect of its mellifluous sweetness of harmony, the tremendous magnetism of its master’s spiritual personality and the divine revelation of his ideals, thrilled the bosom of Tamil India only six decades ago. A happy few there are still that have heard that voice and been with its master. Its thrill still holds on, gaining greater and greater vigour day by day, fulfilling more and more the truth of its prophesy.

2. Tamil

Many are the living harmonies of divine truth that have echoed from the profound forest resorts, from the majestic hill solitudes, from the stately temples with the complexity of their rich art and grand rituals and the luxuriance of the river banks garlanding this sunny Tamil India. Many indeed are the saint-poets that have enriched this classical Tamil language with their jewelled words and songs flowing with milk and honey from the height of oneness with the All-Beautiful (Sundara), the Eternally Blissful (Sadasiva) and the Lord of the Universal Play (Nataraja). This ancient living language, Tamil, with its youthful grace and opulent melody, is a repertory and storehouse of devotional hymns, inspired songs and poems whose ecstatic thrill to this day mends and melts the hearer, transporting him into the ever-new radiance of life in the All-Love. Among these, the songs of Manicavachakar, Vagisa, Jnana Sambandar, Sundarar, Thayumanavar, Pattinattar,

Nammalvar and, last but not the least, the *Arul-Pa* of Swami Ramalingam are the marvels of the world's devotional literature, even as Kamban's art is the marvel of the empire of epic poetry.

Recent work as it is, Ramalinga's *Arul-pa* has won an exalted niche in spiritual literature. It is known as the Revealed Book, *Samarasa Veda*, Light of Spiritual Life, Universal *Bible*, etc. It has created several centres of life in its wake. The sage has put in it the intuitive experiences of his wonderful life, so infused with spiritual magnetism. The sage speaks to his Father as an endearing child and prays for His blessings upon humanity in a thousand ways. To unite the collective man in the Universal Lord and to immortalize human existence were his passion. Ramalinga is adored by the name of Arul Jyoti Vallalar, meaning the Seer of the Spiritual Light of Unbounded Liberality. Now let us have a peep into his life and teachings.

3. Chidambaram

Chidambaram (S.I.R.) is the holiest place for the Saivites of South India, who are worshippers of the All-Blissful Siva. The very build of its temple is an architectural representation of spiritual knowledge. There, God is worshipped as the spaceless, timeless, unconditioned Jnanakasa (the heaven of Wisdom). The impersonal aspect of Brahman is popularly known there as the Chidambara Rahasyam (the secret of the heaven of Wisdom). In the centre of the temple is the Hall of Wisdom (Chitsabai), where stands the commanding image of Nataraja, a delightful form of the Lord of Cosmic Play full of life, light, grace – a splendour of inner poetry. It is so inspiring that the devotee actually visions the Lord dancing with one foot raised. The image is a personal representation of the impersonal behind it. The universe of manifold becomings is the stage. The All-pervading Absolute by whose will every atom moves in space is the Lord of it,

commanding every minute detail of the world-play through His conscious force.

He has four hands. One right hand holds a tambourine (damaruka) representing the creative sound principle. The other right hand holds up its palm tokening protection and the bliss of ripe wisdom. A left hand points to the raised feet, meaning "surrender and be blessed." The other left hand holds the blazing fire of divinity. One foot is crushing the demon Muyalaka, the mental illusion, and near it is a deer representing the restlessly jumping mind. Another foot is raised in representation of the Turiya (Superconsciousness) to save the devotees. The Lord tore the tiger of egoism; He wears its skin. Upon His head is the Ganges, the energy of action and the moon, symbol of self-bliss. The field in which all the passions of the lower nature, all mental imperfections, dualities and vital desires have been burnt to ashes, is the crematory (Tillaivanam) upon which the Lord dances. Great saints of yore have attained at-one-ment with the divine by the worship of Nataraja with love and

knowledge. It was before His presence that Swami Manicavachakar and Nanda, the Harijan saint, disappeared bodily into the Brahmic splendour. It is this Nataraja who chose our Ramalinga as His son and whom the devotee loved as his Father.

Mahatma Ramalingam

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