Daksha Jani

Funeral Service

Saturday, August 27, 2011

Minister Steven Dambeck's Introduction

We are here to celebrate the life of our beloved friend, Daksha Jani, and to express our gratitude for her valuation, her sincerity and her strength.

The moment C Influence first touches one, the true significance of one's life is revealed: the transformation of a play, lovingly designed and guided by the Gods for a divine purpose.

At the death of a friend, we can see their play as a whole. We can see it as we cannot yet fully see our own: as a miraculous destiny, fully guided by a higher hand, perfect. Daksha's play has come to fruition, so that she might now truly say, "Krishna, I have accomplished thy words."

Let us stand and honor Daksha with our silent presence.

(Silence)

Reading: Elizabeth Blake and Christopher King

(In English, last 3 lines in Sanskrit): From the Uddhava Gita: Just as gold,
Which exists as itself
Before being fashioned into an ornament,
Remains gold once fashioned,
Even though it may be called a bracelet,
Or an earring or a necklace,
Is still gold when the ornament is meltedSo am I, the cause of this Universe:
I am what I am
Even when called creation.

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अर्थस्य साधने सिद्धः उत्कर्षे रक्षणे व्यये।
नाश उपभोगः आयासः त्रासः चिन्ता भ्रमः नृणाम्॥
2 2 1 2 1 2 2 2 2 2 2
arthasya saadyane siddhaha: utkarShe
2 1 2 1 2
rakshaNe vyaye
2 1 1 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
naasha upabhogaha: aayaasaha: traasaha: cintaa
1 2 1 2
bhramaha: nriNaam
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Eulogy: Jean Taylor

Daksha Jani, 1947-2011

Many of us did not know Daksha well because she lived in a center far away, where it is difficult to get a visa to Apollo. Yet we understand from Daksha's life that she did not need to be 'known' in order to go right here, right to the heart of the school. Physically, she could not travel to Apollo. Yet she travelled the distance, instantly, with her heart, in a moment.

In such a moment, Daksha looked upon her teacher. In such a moment, our teacher looked upon her. Between them, in that moment, there was no distance. With presence, all questions are answered, faith is confirmed, love is fulfilled, and the journey is made.

As a student, Daksha Jani was in the school for twelve years, completing her task at the age of 64. As a student, Daksha had many qualities: She taught by humility. She was a great giver, of time, of thought, of energy. She said 'Yes' unceasingly to opportunities for serving. She was a lover, of the school, of her teacher, of other great teachers. She loved Robert. She loved Shakespeare. She took her time to understand things, so that it seemed that she was slow, but she took her time, and she went deeply into things. She knew that the work was given to her by C-Influence, and that she embodied it. She said that it was important to work from within and not to be influenced by externals.

She tried 5 times to come to Apollo and she was denied 5 times. On the 6th time, it was her ashes that came here at last, to Apollo. In her center, she was known as 'the Lady of the candles' because she liked their light so much. In the photo that now we all know of her, she is facing east with the Sphinx, where the sun rises. She has the same ageless look; a human face with intimations of immortality.

Now she goes in the direction in which she was looking, leaving us with these words from her beloved Shakespeare, 'I go, I go, look how I go'.

As she flies into the heart of Forever, we say farewell, until we too can follow.

Music: Stephen Rice

Bach cello suite #1, Allemande.

Minister's Conclusion:

Let Daksha's play deepen our understanding of a great mystery in our lives: where nothing that pertains to the body is a limit to the soul. When all is said and done, it is the moments of consciousness, including the moments of consciousness that we share, that form the direction and growth of the soul. With Daksha's play, we verify as a School that physical distance is no obstacle. "Nimble thought doth jump both sea and land."

Let us bid farewell to Daksha with a line from Twelfth Night:

"We can no other answer make but thanks, and thanks, and ever thanks."

Urn-bearer (Christopher King) takes up the urn.

Minister douses the candle.

Joerg takes the kneeling position. The urn-bearer gives the urn to Joerg. Joerg places the urn into the ground.

Minster puts soil on the urn. Eulogist offers rose-petals to the minister. Minister offers rose-petals to urn-bearer and Joerg.

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The earth returns to the earth and a divine spark returns to its divine source. "Love comes from eternity, and returns into eternity". The circle of life is complete.

Rose petals are then offered to the guests. The leaving begins.