A Humble Dialogue with the Almighty (*Prabhu se Vinay vaarata*)¹

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Oh! Eternal Blissful Consciousness, Immortal, Imperishable Almighty! Oh, Supremely Merciful, Compassionate, Kind Hearted Almighty! We are sitting in Your Divine Court. We prostrate before You – please accept our salutations! Be Merciful, be Compassionate on us. It is true that we are not worthy of showing our faces to You, not worthy of presenting ourselves in Your Presence, but have mustered the courage to come in Your Presence. Oh Almighty! Accept our countless salutations, please accept them.

Oh Almighty, Your Glory is endless which makes the impossible possible. Your Blessings are limitless, Almighty!

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They are indescribable and incomparable. We are all indebted to You, oh Lord! Oh Almighty, Your servant of servants comes with a humble request with the hope that - as sages and great souls say – Whoever comes to this Divine Door, bows here, the Almighty fills him with bounties. Nobody leaves Your Divine Court empty-handed. We shall also not go empty-handed because giving is in Your Nature. It is said that You do not tire of giving, we keep taking and forgetting You, Almighty! We are ungrateful. We do not even know how to thank You properly.

We are beggars, oh Almighty, at Your Divine Court. We have come to beg. In the eyes of the world, we are wealthy, but in Your Eyes we are absolutely poor and impoverished. Inspite of worldly wealth, we are poor. Oh Almighty, only those are wealthy who have earned *Ram Dhan* (the Wealth of the Name of Lord Rama) the wealth of contentment, who have built up the capital of good *karmas* – only they are wealthy in the true sense. We are wealthy only in outward appearance. We eat in excess, drink in excess, sleep in excess and think excessively. Oh, Almighty! There is no discipline in our lives. There is only one routine - to leave the house in the morning and return exhausted at night – to eat before going, to come back home to sleep – such is our life. If only You could be contented with this!

The world appears to be moving along smoothly, oh, Almighty! However, there is no thought about the next life (parlok). We are in this world briefly; in reality we have to return to our real home which is afar, we have to go there. There is no thinking about that oh, Lord! Please send some Saint-Great Soul who can enlighten us, who can explain

help us intelligently understand Your ways — 'Where are you wandering, lost? All these grand mansions, so much of everything — all these luxuries and conveniences have been granted by Me, so that you do not feel inadequate of anything, so you perform the *Jaap* of My Name as much as possible. All this you are taking from Me, but you are forgetting Me. What kind of being are you?' This is the Almighty's admonishment. This is His complaint towards us. Blessed are those who, despite having all these worldly pleasures, are performing *Jaap* of the Name of God, who are performing adoration of the Name of the Saviour of the Downtrodden (*Patit Pavan*). Almighty! this servant bows his head at the feet of all those who are earning the Name of the Lord, he is the servant of all of them and Your Servant.

My Almighty! Grant us wisdom. Take away our intoxications, which are more dreadful and worse than alcoholic addictions - the intoxication of fame and honour, of superiority. My house is bigger than another's; I have more cars than others. These intoxications can be ruinous. Almighty! no one except You can do this task. All other things are available in the market, they are available in a shop, but all this is only available at Your Divine Door, no where else. Placing the dust of the Lotus Feet of a Saint -Great Soul on one's forehead can make all this happen, otherwise it cannot happen. Your Devotion (bhakti) is not available in the market place, detachment is not available in the market, love for the Divine is not available in the market. Almighty! You are the Giver for all of us. We beg from You, the Supreme Giver. From today may we never forget Your Name, may we never forget You. Almighty, the manner in which You remember us, it is our ultimate duty to remember You even

more. Our welfare lies in this and You always think of our welfare. You cannot think of anything except our welfare. How does it matter to You – whether anyone remembers You or not? What difference does it make to You? If You desire that we remember You, then Almighty there is no one as Benevolent as You. No one. That is why I say again and again – my Almighty! Your Deeds and Kindness can never be repaid. You are the Ultimate Benevolence (*Param upkari*) oh, Almighty! Even parents are not so selfless, they too expect something or the other. You are the only one who wants our welfare, our salvation, and expects nothing in return.

Glory be to You, my Lord Ram! Be merciful upon us. We do not know how to do bhakti, do not know how to love, do not know how to perform jaap of Your Name. We have only given unhappiness to others in life. We are repositories of grief. Not about others, but I know about myself and can say with certainty: 'Oh, Almighty! there is no crime in this world, no mistake, no sin which I have not committed. Even then, it is Your Glory that You accept us. How can we forget You? How can we forget our debt to You? How can we forget Your Greatness, Your Compassion, Your Benevolence, Your Forgiveness. Almighty! if there is someone else like me, please accept that person also as You have accepted all others. If there is someone worthless like me, grant him too refuge at Your Lotus Feet, make him chant Your Name, take away his sorrows, bestow upon him virtuousness.

Oh Lord Ram! The intoxication of liquor goes after some time, but that of pride, wealth and honour does not go so easily and the intoxicated person stumbles, sometimes this way and sometimes the other way. This is the reason why we commit sins. Almighty! the intoxication known as ego does not allow us to submit before You. Neither does it allow us to bow before Your devotees. We are men, we are husbands – this intoxication does not allow us to forget all this. If we cannot be rid of this, oh Lord Ram! how will we imbibe humility in this life-time. Oh, Almighty! help us rid these intoxications. All of us are sitting in supplication before You. Grant us the boon. Oh Lord! crush this pride, fame and honour. Protector of the poor (Dina naath) there is none other than You who can do this. Once this pride breaks we will learn to bow both before You and before those who are Your Creatures. This is pride oh, Almighty, due to which we suffer from bouts of anger and anxiety. These are the attacks which pave the way for attacks of the heart. What is the intoxication about? Oh, Almighty! everything is Yours, nothing belongs to me. If we understand this Truth, then with Your Blessings this intoxication will end, no virtue is mine, nothing is mine. Everything belongs to You.

Mera mujh mein kuch nahi, jo kachu hai so tor

Tera tujhko saumpate, kya lagat hai mor

Nothing is mine, whatever there is, is thine

To give all that is Yours to You, what is there for me to loose!

My Almighty! All is Yours. You are the Doer of Everything. You are the one who does everything!' – make us realize this truth. We have asked for a lot. Prabhu! From who else can we ask? Who else will give? Bless us, be merciful upon us oh, Lord, The Supreme Jewel (*Daata Shiromani*). Be Compassionate, be Merciful. Supreme Giver! Be Merciful upon us. We worthless beings may forget You, but You should

never forget us, my Lord Ram! There could not be a more unfortunate day, there cannot be a more tragic day than that when You forget us.

My Almighty! see your children at Your Divine Court are standing with folded hands in supplication, they are standing in front of You. From today, we are no one else's, the world does not belong to us, we do not belong to the world. We are Yours, You are ours. Whatever we may be like, accept us — oh Lord! Never forget us.

Pray forgive us Almighty! Be merciful and compassionate (*Kripa karo*), be merciful and compassionate (*Kripa karo*) my Lord!

Glossary

Satchidananda: Eternal blissful consciousness/the infinite Supreme Soul

Dandvat Pranam: Bowing in salutation with hands, legs, knees, chest, head, mind, sight and speech

Patita Pavan: Saviour of the downtrodden

Dina Naath: Protector of the poor

Daata Shiromani: Lord, the Supreme Jewel