

Happy Birthday BABA!

Dear Friends:

Jai Gurudev!

Greetings and good wishes to you on Baba Muktananda's 103rd birthday. This year, in the U.S., Baba's lunar birthday coincides with his solar birthday on May 16, 2011.

On this auspicious occasion we have much to be thankful for. For many people, Baba's birth, and their eventual fortuitous meeting with him, brought great blessings.

Baba asked people to believe in and experience the divinity within themselves. He taught us that life's circumstances are always changing but the Self remains ever the same. He told us that everything that is perceived is a manifestation of the divine. By Baba's very presence many experienced their inner divinity naturally around him. Even today he guides his devotees from within.

One who has realized the Self will naturally manifest certain characteristics. Once, Baba opened his talk as he always did, by welcoming everyone with respect and love, but added:

"With great respect and love I welcome you all with all my heart. To welcome another person with respect is true humanity. This is knowledge. When a person perceives God within himself he starts perceiving God in others too. That's when he attains this knowledge, and starts welcoming others with respect. The great saint Mansur put it rightly. He said, "The heart is the very house of God, and God is effulgent and he lives right within it." The Gita says, "God shines in the heart in the form of knowledge." For this reason, to welcome another person is the worship of God."

Baba Muktananda

My wish therefore is that everyone welcome each other with great respect and love.

*Sadgurunath Maharaj ki Jai!
Paramgurudev Nityanandaya!
Sadgurudev Muktanandaya!*

With great respect and love,
Swami Prakashananda

