

# Happy Birthday BABA!

Jai Gurudev!

Dear Friends,

I send good wishes and much love to you all on Baba Muktananda's 113th solar birth anniversary. This year the lunar date (full-moon day) falls on May 25, 2021.

*Throughout his life Baba's message was consistent. He constantly reminded us of our true divine nature, and how we should become established in that awareness. He took every opportunity to remind us to see that divinity existing within ourselves, and to see that same divinity within others as well. In a talk he once gave, Baba beautifully described what occurs when one sees that divine light of consciousness. He told the audience:*

*"After you see the inner light, you become steady and tranquil. And it's because of the existence of this light that we appear to be so beautiful to one another. And when that light leaves us we have to be carried away and buried in a cemetery. And it is because of its existence that we are able to love one another. There is so much love in this light. And there is no distinction of male or female in that light – that's the same in both men and women. And there is no east or west in it either. And there is no Christianity there. There is no Hinduism there. There is no Islam there. That light is pure blue consciousness. There is no religion, no faith, no creed, no race that can reach it. That is the God who transcends all religions. It's intensely beautiful, and when you see it in meditation you just say, 'wow!' And whatever we do we do just to see that light. And after I saw that, I was cured of my religious or racial or national distinctions. And then, after I saw it within me, I saw the same light in others too. Then I became aware that all these religions and racial ideas are just artificial distinctions, because those distinctions don't exist in that light, and that light is the same whether you are in the east or west or north or south. That light spreads downward and it always keeps shimmering. And it is because of its downward shimmering that we look so beautiful to each other, and we are able to love each other. And this then appeared to me to be a religion which gives an immediate result, it doesn't feed you on mere hope. Otherwise people make you do all kinds of worship and rituals, from the moment of our birth to the moment of our death, and yet, you end up with nothing. And that is not the kind of religion which I am interested in."*

With today's numerous conflicts occurring around the world in the name of religion, race, color or nationality, Baba's message of man's inner divinity is more relevant than ever. Therefore, let us honor Baba by seeing that shimmering blue light of consciousness within ourselves, then we will see it in others as well. Then we will give up all distinctions of race, color, nationality, religion, creed, or gender, and live joyfully with one another in the knowledge that we are all brothers and sisters of the same One God.

*Sadgurunath Maharaj ki Jai!*

With great respect and love,

Swami Prakashananda

