## DEEKSHA/ SANYAS/ RENUNCIATION



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India has offered a most priceless gift to the world, which is encouraging the evaluation of mankind and instrumental in the elevating of our consciousness, and that is popularly perceived as BHAGWATI DIKSHA/renunciation. It is life's supreme and peak of experiences, by taking vows there is an commitment, Saints are established in this unparalleled elevation. Their state of being so-exalted, their life so noble, that they are exalted to the highest pinnacle and our heads bow down at their lotus feet, in faith and reverence.

Recently hundreds of young people belonging to Jain community or followers of Jainism, have been renouncing the material world to become Sadhus/monks who always walk bare foot, eat only what they receive as alms and never bathe or use modern technology.

"I will never be able to hug my daughter again "reveals "An father", his voice breaking, He looks away determined not to reveal emotion as he says, "I can never meet her eye again."

Resignedly, he watches friends and family drift though his home, decorating the living room with gold and Pink tassels to celebrate his daughter's renunciation of the world and entry into monastic life.

In the days ahead of ceremony, family gathers around to spend her/his "Last Days' doing things she/he enjoyed which she/he will never be able to do these things again.

As a Sadhu/Sadhvi he/she will never again address as mother and father. She will pluck out her own hair, always walk barefoot and eat only what she receives in alms. He/She will never use a vehicle, never bathe, never sleep under a fan and never speak on a mobile phone again, By undergoing the ritual of renunciation and taking deeksha, he/she is withdrawing completely from the world, to focus on the aatma.

He / she is not alone, hundreds of youths are following the same path, their numbers rising each year, with women outnumbering the men, as I recollect earlier in all sect of Jains their may be around 30 to 40 Deekshas in year, But in recent past the number is rising to around 300 Deekshas in year, and may shortly reach around 400 Deekshas in a year.

Following may be Some of the reasons other than destiny.

i) Growing disenchantment among the young with the pressures of a Modern world.

## ii) Gurus communicating religious ideas:-

They are good orators and offer young people a path which is simple, and understandable, until as recently as 15 to 20 years ago, Gurus relied literature written in the ancient Indian languages of Ardha Magadhi or Sanskrit, Now, the religious literature is offered in many Languages, Earlier or Previously the ascetics were more introverted and interested only in their own Self-purification," But recently they are more involved and are actively reaching out to young people in particular, Even discourse(Vyakhan) are published on youtube videos, making it convenient to all, to listen at their convenient time, "one Maharajsaheb who is a good orator and has published several Youtube videos that have had over a Million views," mentioned "If one wants to reach youngsters, it is easier to go to where they are rather than to try and bring them here.

## iii) The Religious retreats:-

UPDHYAN a 18/35/45 retreat under the presiding guru, the retreat allows regular sadhaks to experience a monastic life- without shoes, electricity and baths, Most novices point to this grueling retreat – "where gurus exhort them to renounce a world "Full of Sorrow"- makes one to decide that they want to be SADHU, Most attendees undergo a series of short retreats to "Slowly build the confidence that YES, I can live like this for a little bit longer next time", The fear of sadhus life, the fear of giving up everything, is removed during the retreat, It is the first step, a sort of training camp to become a SADHU",

However DEEKSHA YES DEEKSHA isn't about what you give up

TO BE CONTINUED/...

TREAT OTHER THEY WAY YOU WANT TO BE TREATED REMEMBER!!! THE SOUL IS ON JOURNEY

Thank you all.... Always in Gratitude

CA Dinesh Shah

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