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Delhi (India), February 4, 2019

Wonderful symbols seen in the divine deity – Ganesha

Kriyabans belonging to the dynastic lineage of Lahiri Mahashaya are familiar with the one profound symbol of Ganesha – rat at the feet of the deity. We know that a frightened and aggressive rat (representing thought) is constantly running in our head keeping us always in agitation and disturbance. Ganesha suggests that this rat may be kept at the feet as a servant because it is useful for doing our daily technical and practical tasks. When this happens then, in the head, there exists a calm, quiet and very strong elephant representing profound Energy of Understanding of “What Is” in the dimension of Life rather than wasting our energy in speculations of “What should be” of the mind giving rise to all kinds of ache and agony.

1. A small crown on the top of His head is not the shoddy little symbol of ego and power of a so-called king, but it is a sacred symbol of authority of tremendous understanding and strength.
2. A big forehead represents enormous Intelligence and wisdom of discrimination affirming righteousness.
3. Two half-closed eyes which represents meditative attention for looking inwardly towards the truth of “What Is” of Life without slipping into the trap of “What should be” of the mind.
4. A small lump at the forehead between the two eyes (*Kuthastha*) represents attention in the *third eye* which is known as the Wisdom Eye.
5. A very small mouth suggests us to talk less and precisely.
6. Two big ears like Winnows symbolizes the art of profound listening.
7. A long trunk turned towards the heart suggests us to be available to Life and Love of the Heart, rather than to the cunning calculations and mischiefs of the mind.
8. The *Amrita Kalasha* (nectar of immortality) in one of the hands, represents long life with enthusiasm and endeavors.
9. A single Tusk represents single minded devotion for performing a sacred task (like writing *Mahabharata* dictated by sage *Vyasa*).
10. Ankusha (hook) to keep the mind under control naturally, without becoming adamant and arrogant from time to time.
11. *Modak* (*Laddu* – the famous and popular Indian sweet) represents the sweetest blessings from the divinity – *Moksha*. This is natural consequence of Tapas (Kriya practice) leading to the joyful existence of Life and freedom from pleasure movements of mind. Pleasure and sorrow are the two sides of the same coin of the mind. *Ananda* (Joy) is not of the mind and thus outside the corridor of opposites. One is thus in the dimension Omniscience and Omnipresent. Moreover, *Laddu* is very nutritious and is called a *sattvic* (holy) food.
12. *Lambodara* – A big belly representing good digestive fire, ability to enjoy *sattvic* food and thus be available to holistic and healthy living.
13. Snake below the navel (*Nabhi*) symbolizes strength and sanctity of “no-mind” (freedom from the mind and flowering in Life)
14. *Yagnopavita* (Sacred thread) representing the fourth (*Gunatit*) state of Life, which is beyond the *tamasic*, *rajasic* and *sattvic* of mind.

Jai Ganesha! Jai Ganesha!! Jai Ganesha Deva!!!