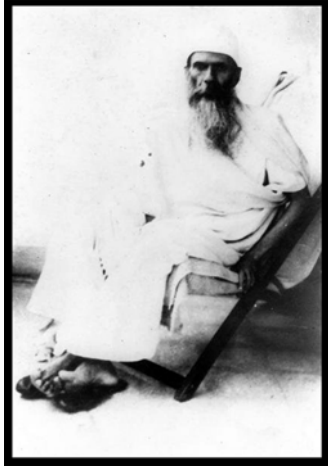


## My Life With Anirvan

### Part - XIV

Here, I have a quote from Sri Anirvan's letter in Bangla dt 16.7.61

"Man is only a symbol, the goal is God. However great a man may be, never place



Sri Anirvan

him on the seat of God. If you want to see God in man, you should see Him first in your heart. The person who inspires you to see God is your own heart, may be a supra human person – a mahamanava – but he is not God! Keep God

above all and everything. Therein lies the Good!"

Here I am reminded of a Urdu couplet!

*Adam ko khuda mat kaho, adam khuda  
nahi hai,*

*Lekin khudake noorse adam juda nahi hai.*

Dont call man a God! Man is not God! But (again) man is not different, separate from the Light of God!

The first volume of Veda Mimamsa – the Vedic Exegesis – the magnum opus of Sri Anirvan, was published in May-June 1961. He started the work on Veda Mimamsa in 1958, after Dr. Gourinath Sastri's visit to Shillong. It was then that Dr. Shastri, the Principal of Sanskrit College, Calcutta, had met Sri Anirvan and requested him to write something on the Veda for their Calcutta Sanskrit College Research Series. As soon as the book was published it was highly applauded by the learned and the West Bengal Govt. welcomed it by bestowing Rabindra Puraskar for it.

During this period I was beset with many problems and decided to pass a few quiet days at Shillong in the silent company of Anirvanji.

After getting the consent from Sri Anirvan, I embarked on the journey on 12<sup>th</sup> August. This time my journey to and from Shillong was a bit hazardous.

I reached Pandu rather late at night on 14<sup>th</sup> August. Then the train line from Calcutta to Gauhati was not direct. We had to cross the river Padma at Sakarigalighat and the river Brahmaputra between Amingaon and Pandu on the side of Gauhati by steamer disembarking from one train and embarking on the other side on another train! To find out your reserved seat was great problem!

With Great difficulty I found out the quarters of my friends Navanita and Pranab Ray in the Railway Colony of Pandu, passed the night there and took the bus to Shillong from Pandu in the early morning. I should have reached Shillong before noon, but our bus met with an accident on the way. There was a landslide on the slippery mountainous road and a big tree fell just on the front hood of the bus! A few seconds more and the tree would have crushed the roof of the bus and left many injured. Fortunately no one was injured, not even the driver and the machine too was unhurt! remained in good working condition! But it took 3-4 hours to remove the tree trunk, cutting it at several places and start the journey again! By the time I reached Sri Aurobindo Path Mandir it was almost evening, the evening programme of the Path Mandir was over and refreshments were being distributed at the end of the programme – it being the Day of Sri Aurobindo's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday!

**-Sri Gautam Dharmapal**