

AUM SHANTHI

Saint vs. Emperor

Points to Ponder - 004

Few centuries before the Western calendar, Alexander, after conquering most of the Middle East, arrived in the Sindhu State. He was an ardent gatherer of literary works and had great thirst for knowledge. As usual with any conqueror, he asked his troops to find any thing valuable in that area. His minister investigated for a few days and told him the result.

"My Lord! Everyone in this land respects and reveres only one person, more than their possessions, even more than themselves. His name is Sathu."

"What kind of a King is he? I have to know everything about him; his army's battle strength and capacity immediately" the Emperor ordered.

"No my Lord, he is seated under a bo-tree all alone, wearing only a loin cloth" minister humbly replied.

"Then what is special about him" Alexander inquired.

"He is an enlightened soul - they say."

So the Emperor with his ministers went to see Sadhu.

The Emperor, " I am Alexander. I am the Emperor of Persia. Now I have conquered this Sindhu Area. So I am the master of this land as well. Every body is saying you are the greatest spiritual master of this century. I want you to explain to me clearly, the meaning of **Soul and Enlightenment.**"

The saint seated silently and glanced at him.

"I am the uncontested emperor of the century. I am ordering you to reply to me."

The proud Excellency while saying these words, experienced some unknown fear within him, and felt compelled to get off his horse and stood stunned in front of the saint.

The sage looked into king's eyes and softly muttered, "To understand all those explanations, come after I die."

King's mind was going wacky. His Greek minister and philosopher, realizing the situation volunteered to elaborate the saint's words.

"My Lord, in order to become a disciple of this sage, you have to renounce your **ego- "I"** then and only then, you will have a chance to know the true meaning of **Soul and Enlightenment.**"

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