

Book of Enlightening Laughters

Collection of Stories & Anecdotes From the Talks of
(Sri Swami Dayanandaji's lectures)

One Cannot Accept Eye-brows! (002)

You cannot be happy thinking that you are a mortal, thinking that you do not have money, thinking that you are losing the hair on your head, thinking the hair is turning grey, thinking about your height and weight, about your colour, the shape of your nose and eyebrows. People worry about even their eyebrows. There is no self-acceptance on our part.

One Indian woman built a house on eyebrows in Canada. She went to Canada just three years before. She learned some skills there and picked up a job and built her own dream house in three years. She invited me for a bhikṣā in her house and I went there. I asked her :

“What do you do?”

“Swamiji, I am a beautician.”

“What do you do? Do you cut hair or what?” I asked her. I did not know much about it. I had not seen a barber for decades. Here beautician means hair-cutter.

“You do not want to know,” she said.

“I want to know, what do you do?” I said. Once she said you do not want to know, naturally I wanted to know. That is how I get all these ideas.

She was very hesitant. Slowly I made her speak. She came up with this reply. Do you know what she told me? She pulls the eyebrows of people. She did not say it in words. But she indicated by the action of her fingers. I said, “My God! You built a house by pulling the eye-brows!”

You can understand how many eyebrows she must have pulled out to build a house paying taxes, etc. She further said that there are many on the waiting list. That means you can understand how many people suffer. Suffer, what for? Due to eyebrows.

You can understand how many eyebrows she must have pulled out to build a house paying taxes, etc. She further said that there are many on the waiting list. That means you can understand how many people suffer. Suffer, what for? Due to eyebrows. They do not like the shape of their eye-brows. Everybody, male or female, does not accept something or other about him/herself. Leave alone one's complex about one's knowledge and emotions. At the level of physical appearance itself there are varieties of complexes starting from eye-brows. Nobody likes his or her weight, height, colour and so on.

With all these complexes, one cannot accept oneself as one is. If there is one person who says, 'I love you,' then I become acceptable to myself. The whole person is accepted. At least in the eye of one person you are acceptable as you are and he has no judgement about you and he positively loves you. You need only one such person. What a great acceptance it is. Then you do not care anymore about your eyebrows and so on. Our self acceptance is so low that many times we cannot even believe that the other person loves us.

The struggle to seek acceptance from others is due to our love of being a pleased person. We can be that pleased person when someone loves us. If that person displeases you he is no more an object of love.

...to be continued

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Editor.