Book of Enlightening Laughters

Collection of Stories & AnecdotesFrom the Talks of Swami Dayananda Saraswati.
(Sri Swami Dayanandaji's lectures)

(003)CINE FANS ARE JNANIS!

The role that an actor plays is different from the actor. Without the actor there is no role. Role is mithyā. Actor is satyam. In fact, we all understand this very well.

In Tamil Nadu there are many cine magazines. In these magazines they announce a contest. The contest is: Just one eye, the right-eye of the actor would be there. You have to guess whose eye it is. The whole Tamil Nadu is sold out to the movie world. So, they get thousands of entries. They are able to figure out the answer.

Whatever be the appearances of the actors, the fans know them. They are so well informed about the person. That means, they are able to sift. No matter in what form the person appears in the movie, still they are able to find out who the actor is. In all these movie hoardings which you find all over, I wonder, "Who is this actor?" If I get some name, I can use it in my talks. That is my nature.

When I look for the names of the actors in the hoarding they are not there. The name of the producer is there, the name of the director is there, and many more things. But not the names of the actor/actress. Do you know why? Because it would be an insult to the fans, because they know better. Even though this actor appears as a sādhu in this movie and the hoarding is showing him as a sādhu, the people are able to sift, go beyond the sādhu-robes, and find out Mr. Actor A. They can go beyond it. Let the actor appear in any form. Still he is discerned.

This is called discerning. You see through all the persona, all the costumes. The person is seen through the persona. Persona means a costume or a mask. And the person comes through the persona. That person is not missed by anybody and that is why they are called fans (from fanatics). Now these fans, great devotees of actors and actresses, are able to see through the masks and never lose sight of the person.

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