In July'60, there were anti Bengali riots again in Assam. Anirvanji wrote to me on 17th July.

My dear Gautam,

Your letter of the 6th reached me on the 11th June here. You must have read everything about the hell let loose in Assam by the Govt. & the opposition together. A repetition of what happened in Pakistan in every detail with the full connivance of the Govt. The wound is deep, it will take time to heal. I would call it high treason against India. I know Assam for fifty years. The seed of hatred was sown by some willy politicians fifty years ago with what results we now see. I hate to go into details. Let us hope and

see that this foolish madness goes.

I have not made my tour programme yet. It will be settled after my stay in Allahabad is over. I shall be three months in the plains. I hope to stay at least three weeks in Calcutta.

Dr. Bhattacharya had written about the bottle of jelly. Don't worry about it, it may reach me here some day!

I hope you are all ok. My love to you all. Ever yours,A.

As mentioned earlier I went to Almora-Haimavati in the end of July'60 for a spiritual retreat. It will be interesting, I hope, to give a picture of my mental and spiritual state of mind at this particular time. I am translating in English, a Gujrati letter, written to a friend in Ahmedabad from Almora which is still with me; preserved by me, as it describes vividly my state at that time.

Om Mother! Haimavati, Almora 2.9.60 Dear Sister Kali (Kali:Formerly Mamata

Dharmapal wife of Jayantilal Mehta – Deepak Dharmapal, who were in Calcutta from 1945 to 1951 & returned to Ahmedabad.), Received your letter of 22nd August on 26th August. Thank you for all the news. I have also received my fathers letter, to which I have replied in a general way. If he goes to you don't talk much or discuss things with him. Keep quiet and hear all that he says patiently. Automatically, he will be quiet.

By the grace of divine Mother, I am in blissful mood at present. When I started from Calcutta, my mind was in great turmoil. I was in a perplexed state of mind with thought about individual and collective Sadhana, about home, business, society and about the future of Mother India. Even and above all this, the intensity to realize the Divine Mother was so poignant that it did not allow me to remain quiet at one place. Thoughts of running away to some distant lonely place always tormented me. Under the circumstances I decided to come over to Almora. I wrote to Swamiji (Anirvanji) and he too gave me the same suggestion. So winding up all activities, I came over here. After coming here my sadhana took an intense form. By 6th August the day of Bandhu's passing away, it was almost like a conflagration - From 6th August to 14th August, I passed in the same intensity. Two three times I even thought of committing suiside! I even went to the top of a mountain and thought of jumping down. But some one from within stopped me from that! I thought "Suicide is cowardice and what will I get out of it? I might die, but I will have to take another birth and start everything again from the beginning! The same cycle to be repeated! It is much better to continue the sadhana patiently till the end, in this very life!" The Divine Mother was advising thus from within! And I would return! But the intensity continued. Sometimes I got angry

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with the Mother! I cried lot! I controlled myself and again & again continued with my japa and Dhyana – repetition of the name and meditation, sometimes till late at night, sometimes gathering up very early - by 3-00 am in the morning. Thus it continued till 14th August - the Janmastami - the day of Sri Krishna's birth! The whole day was passed in quiet meditation. I read the whole of Bhagavad-gita and after light supper sat for meditation at about 9:30pm. I went into deep meditation. That night I had a wonderful experience during meditation. A stream of bliss-ananda started flow from above my head, flowing enveloping my whole body and within the body, through all

my veins. The whole body was thrilled, was trembling with the feeling of bliss. It continued till 12:30am. Even after the meditation was over, the experience of bliss continued in the body and mind. I lied down to sleep at 1-00am. Got up at 4-00 am. It was a light sleep. Even during the sleep the feeling of bliss was as if continued. The morning of the next day was most wonderful full of bliss all around. The experience of bliss took the form of love and a stream of love as if started flowing from my heart towards- all things, all beings – torwards the yonder mountains, towards plants, trees, birds, animals, human beings! All and everthing appeared full of beauty.

—Sri Gautam Dharmapal