

**Guru Nanak - Sabad 41**  
**pavan guroo paanee pitaa maataa dharat mahat ||**  
**Jap, Guru Nanak, Guru Granth Sahib, 8**

salok ||  
pavan guroo paanee pitaa maataa dharat mahat ||  
divas raat dui daiee daiaa khelai sagal jagat ||  
cha(n)giaaieeaa buriaaieeaa vaachai dharam haduur ||  
karmee aapo aapnee ke neRai ke duur ||  
jinee naam dhiaaiaa gae maskat ghaal ||  
naanak te mukh ujale ketee chhuTee naal ||1||

**Summary:** Every element of creation is intertwined; hence, their survival thrives in collectivity. From an evolutionary perspective, relationships are at the very core of our existence. Our being is based on the connection of two individuals to procreate, and the offspring can only be sustained with the support of other forms of creation in nature. This interconnectedness calls for respect and responsibility towards every element, not just as a moral duty, but also as a means of sustaining the world we live in. In this verse as an example, air, vital for our physical being, is equated with a teacher who is important for our spiritual existence. Water, a sustainer of life, is compared to a father who is a provider. Similarly, as earth bestows nourishment, it is likened to the womb of a mother that nurtures.

salok ||  
Verse.

pavan guroo paanee pitaa maataa dharat mahat ||  
Respect air as the teacher who facilitates spiritual life, water as the father who provides life, and earth as the mother who nurtures life.

divas raat dui daiee daiaa khelai sagal jagat ||  
Respect the interchange of masculine and feminine attributes, the two nurturing forces, which collectively support the operation of the world like the transition of time from day to night.

cha(n)giaaieeaa buriaaieeaa vaachai dharam haduur ||  
As a moral duty positive actions and negative actions are assessed in one's consciousness.

karmee aapo aapnee ke neRai ke duur ||  
On account of one's actions, some become close and some distanced from Divinity.

jinee naam dhiaaiaa gae maskat ghaal ||

Those who have contemplated on the words of wisdom their perseverance has felicitated spiritual progression.

naanak te mukh ujale ketee chhuTee naal ||1||

Nanak says such personalities are enlightened, and many in their company have been spiritually liberated. (1)

**Essence:** Guru Nanak's words of wisdom illuminate the profound impact of our choices and deeds on our spiritual journey. Our interconnectedness with creation underscores the influential power of our actions, shaping our environment to progress or regress. Our actions have the ability to bring us closer or further away from Divinity. Through self-reflection and seeking guidance from enlightened mentors, we can embark on a path of spiritual growth for the greater good of all.

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**Website:** [OnenessInDiversity.com](http://OnenessInDiversity.com)

**Email:** [onenessindiversityfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:onenessindiversityfoundation@gmail.com)