## दिनचर्य DINACARYA: the ĀYURVEDA daily routine

- santasha
- **1) Waking see the sunrise!** Kapha 5 am Pitta 6 am Vāta 7 am (all vary by daylight and season) if you want to change your life, change your morning by the night people are too tired to make new habits
- 2) **Prayers or chanting** to Mother Earth, to one's Ishta Devataa (Personal connection to Divine) One can say "Great! God, It's morning!" :) or "oh God it's morning" :( choose the first
- 3) **Cleaning mouth, face, eyes** water as if you are at a mountain creek. rosewater directly in eyes, or use eyecups
- 4) Drink 1 glass of room temp. water glass covered bedside overnight; or copper vessel warming, silver cooling
- 5) **Brushing teeth** be gentle on gums. Use bitter or astringent toothpaste, not sweet.
- 6) Swishing/Gargling sesame oil cool seasons. coconut summer. saline if congested, puff cheeks, swish in mouth
- 7) **Scraping Tongue** back to front several times, cleaning the beginning of the pipes of the GI tract
- 8) **Chewing** with 1 tbsp. white unhulled sesame seeds
- 9) Herbs that are taken without food (if taking)
- 10) **Evacuation** squatting is better than sitting. wash with warm water, not just dry TP
- 11) \*Oil Skin at least primary areas scalp, feet, dry spots, tight spots, or entire body. Use medicated oils for primary imbalance or constitution (vata, pitta, kapha). Especially good for vata disorders, winter. Or do at night before bed protect sheets then.
- 12) \*Oil Ears 5 warm drops either side, or a small amount on the pinky finger applied to the orifice. Or do at night before bed
- 13) \*Oil Nose supernasya from ayurveda.com is tridoshic
- 14) **Exercise (yogāsana)** Vāta slow, steady, warm, fluid. Pitta playful, joyful, soft focus, change routine, twists. Kapha \*vigorous, active. Exercise can be at any time of the day, but this is a great time for those who are busy.
- 15) **Bathing/Showering** minimize soaped areas. put shampoo in oiled hair before wetting hair
- 16) **Natural scents** Vāta: grounding, eg. amber. Pitta: cooling, sweet, eg sandalwood. Kapha: energizing, eg cinnamon, cloves
- 17) **Breathing Techniques** alternate nostril breathing if nothing else. Vāta: alternate nostril, bhramari, udgīta; Pitta: shītali, chandra bhedana, bhramari; Kapha: \*bhastraka, \*kaphalabhāti, agni sāra
- 18) **Meditation** at least 15 minutes. preferably 30-40
- 19) **Dressing** colors by day/planet: M white, T pink/red, W green, Th orange, F purple, Sa black/blue, Su gold/yellow
- 20) Eating Breakfast Ideally before 9a. Light protein if any. Carbohydrates. No cold milk!
- **21) Herbs** that are taken with food (if taking)
- 22) **Work or Study** "Environment is stronger than will" Paramahansa Yogānanda. Work should be pleasing, uplifting, and meeting your needs for contribution.
- 23) **Lunch 11a 1p** Main meal of the day and the most protein. Take 30 min to slt down to eat with good company.
- **24) Herbs** that are taken with food (if taking)
- 25) Nap not Kapha. others especially during summer, moms with young kids, Vāta predominant
- 26) **Work or study** The people we work with are as important as the work we do.
- **27) Herbs** that are taken without food (if taking)
- 28) **Re-energize** breathing techniques or nasya (supernasya) around 3pm
- 29) **Meditation** at least 15 minutes. preferably 30-40. Before dinner in the early evening. See the sunset!
- 30) **Supper** light meal, pleasing company. Bitter taste included.
- 31) **Herbs** that are taken with food
- 32) **Heart time** evening is for singing, socializing, connecting with the heart. Limit the amount of information processing, electronic exposure, and focusing required. TV is not relaxing, it requires a tremendous amount of processing. Include activity that provides absorption and brings out the joy of the inner child.
- 33) **Clean feet** and massage all the way up to the knee. Legs-up-wall posture is good for leg relief if standing job.
- 34) \*Triphala for keeping GI tract clean
- 35) Clean teeth, face, mouth, eyes, and nose bitter mouthwash
- 36) **Nightly prayer** or loving, devotional singing is also great for non-religious go to sleep
- 37) **Sleep** by 10pm (varies by daylight and season) Vāta on back, Pitta on right side, Kapha on left side and can stay up a bit later. Head so that feet are facing East or West, not South. FULL MOON EXCEPTION stay up later, be in the celebration

\*not done during menses

Health is our natural state. Unhappiness and disturbed bodily humors are not healthy. Our lifestyle and diet are our primary tools for wellness. Once dis-ease has set in (most of us), our natural cravings (which promote balance) have been replaced by perverted cravings (which sustain imbalance - example caffeine addiction / vata disorder). An ayurvedic physician (or other gardening health care provider) is to be seen seasonally or monthly to work on ever-improving health, rather than waiting for dis-ease to set in.