A visionary and a humanitarian, Satguru Jaggi Vasudev was born in Mysore from where he began his journey to find his real self.

The Satguru recounts a conversation his mother had with a stranger when he was just a 3-month-old boy and says the mind is a powerful tool that people often do not use to the fullest extent. “It’s fascinating but that conversation still is recorded in my mind and the memories are still fresh,” he says.

For the Satguru, school curriculum never made much sense. “The idea of studying from school textbooks never excited me,” he says, “I am willing to listen to you if it matters to you.” The Satguru instead drowned himself in reading about plants and animals.

The New Age guru went on to describe his excursions to the jungle where he’d pass his hours on a treetop, looking at the trees and often sleeping there.

“When I was 10 years old, I’d skip school and run away to the jungle,” he adds. That was the time when he got into meditation. “It was much later that I recognised that what I considered a pastime, was actually meditation.”

It was during these wild excursions that the Satguru developed a love for snakes. He’d collect truckloads of snakes from the jungle and release them in his home garden. “I was 11 when I started doing this,” he says. “I could venture into the forest even at night without any light and collect snakes.” He had mastered the art of looking through the dark.

“You need to apply yourself a little bit more,” he says.

As a 12-year-old boy, the Satguru was exceptionally active and swift and could take up any challenge. “I went with my friends to my grandfather’s home in Bangalore where we played a game of jumping into a well and climbing out of it,” he recalls. “I was the quickest of the lot.” On one such day, the Satguru met a 70-year-old man who accepted the challenge of jumping into the well. “We thought he’d crack a bone but the way he climbed out of it, faster than me, left us all bewildered,” he says. It was then at that epiphany moment that he learned about yoga.

“The man didn’t tell us anything but to do yoga,” says the Satguru. The rest is history as they say.

Satguru Jaggi Vasudev says people who flaunt wealth to make others feel inadequate are sick. TODAY catches up with this New Age guru and finds out what drew him to spirituality.

The Bottomline

THE SATGURU SAYS:
Yoga is a technology and not philosophy.
You need to be in sync with your body to attain bliss.
God, the creator, is within you and not in a temple.
He’s a friend, a partner.
A happy body is a healthy body.
Stupidity always is passed off as spirituality.