



सबका मालीक एक

🕉 श्रीसाईनाथाय नमः ॐ श्रीसाईनाथाय नमः ॐ श्रीसाईनाथाय नमः ॐ श्रीसाईनाथाय नमः ॐ श्रीसाईनाः

# SHRI SAILEELA

# March-April 2006 R. S. M. Sisano Energi I. B. Walchure Executive Editor : Vidyadhar Tathe English Section \* Sai Shankar \* Shri Sai Baba \*Shree Dattatreya Sahsra Namma \*Is Baba Living & Helping now \* Lord Hanuman

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MARCH- APRIL2005

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# SHRUSABABA SAMSTHAM TRUST

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#### SHRI SAILEELA



# **SAI SHANKAR**

Megha was already a Shankar devotee. When he got attached to Sai's Feet, he looked on Sainath as Shankar! He was his Umanath.

Megha continuously chanted "Sai-Shankar" day and night, and his inner self was merged in this form. His mind was pure and free of sin.

He became a dedicated devotee of Sai. He felt that Sai was Shankar Himself. His chant of "Shankar - Shankar" reverberated. He did not believe in any other deity.

Worship of Sai was worship of God to him. Sai was his Girija Raman. With this idea firmly rooted in his mind, Megha remained always happy.

Shankar likes 'bel' leaves; but there were no 'bel' trees in Shirdi. Therefore, Megha went for a koss or koss-and-a-half to fulfil his desire of offering these leaves.

For him a *koss* or two was nothing. He was ready even to cross a mountain for 'bel', for he would have fulfilled his desire to do *pooja* as he wanted it to be done.

He would bring the 'bel' from long distances, get together all the pooja paraphernalia completely, and then worship all the village deities, one by one. He would offer to all according to the proper rituals.

After that, he would come immediately to the *masjid*, lovingly bow to Baba's seat, wash His Feet etc. and then drink the water as *tirth*.

Further stories about Megha will be delightful to listen. They will show Sai's all-pervasiveness and reverence for the village deities.

Till Megha was in Shirdi, he performed the noon *arati* regularly. But, before that he worshipped all the village deities and then went to the *masjid*.

This was his regular routine. But, on one day this pattern was broken. He could not worship Khandoba though he made the efforts.

He tried to do the *pooja;* but the door (of the temple) did not open inspite of his efforts. Therefore, he omitted that and came (to the *masjid*) to do the *arati*.

That moment Baba said to him, "To-day there is a break in your *pooja*. You have worshipped all the deities; but one has remained unworshipped.

Go and do that and then come here". Megha replied, "The door was locked, and would not open though I tried. Therefore, I was forced to omit that *pooja*".

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Baba said, "Go and see. The door is open now". Megha went immediately, without wasting a moment, and found that the words were correct.

He worshipped Khanderaya and Megha also got rid of his uneasiness. Then Baba allowed Megha to do His *pooja*.

Then, he did the *pooja* with great reverence with sandalwood paste, flowers and the other eight offerings. He offered *dakshina*, garlands, fruits etc. according to his means.

On one *Makar Sankranti* day, he felt like anointing Baba's whole body with sandalwood paste and then giving him a bath with Godavari water.

He pestered Baba for permission; so Baba said, "Go and do as you desire". So, immediately Megha took a copper vessel and set out for the water.

Early in the morning, before sunrise, Megha took the empty copper vessel and without an umbrella or *chappals*, set out to get water from the Godavari.

The entire distance, for coming and going, was about eight *koss*. It did not even occur to him to think of the exertion and strenuous efforts he would have to make.

Megha was not at all worried about this. He set out on getting the permission. When there is a strong determination there is a great joy in performing the task.

When he thought of giving a bath to Sai with the Godavari water, he was not bothered about the strenuous efforts or the exhaustion. His firm faith was his support.

So be it. He brought the water and poured it into a wide-mouthed copper pot. He began to persuade Baba to get up for the bath; but He did not agree.

"The noon *arati* is over and the people have gone to their homes. All the preparations for the bath have been made and it is afternoon," said Megha.

Seeing Megha's great insistence, then Sai in sport and as if in a mock fight, took Megha's hand in his hands and said,

"I do not wish to bathe in the Godavari waters? How immature can you be! Why does a fakir like me want Ganga water? What is it to me?"

But, Megha was not prepared to listen at all, since he believed that Baba was his Shankar. He only knew that Shankar is pleased with Ganges water.

He said, "Baba, to-day is the festival of *Makar Sankranti*. When Shankar is given bath with the waters of the Ganges, He is propitiated".

Then, considering his love and his adamant resolution, Baba said, "Fulfil your wish", as Megha was pure of heart.

After saying that He got up and sat down on the low stool made ready for the bath. He bent forward His head and said, "Pour just a little water!

Out of all the limbs, the head is the most important. Pour a little water on it. It is as good as having a full bath. At least listen to that much".

Agreeing to do so, Megha picked up the pot. He was so overwhelmed with love while pouring it on the head that he emptied it completely while shouting "Har Ganga", and poured it on the whole body.

Megha was greatly joyful. "My Shankar has bathed with his clothes on," he said, as he put down the empty pot. When he looked, he was greatly surprised.

Though he had poured the water on the whole body, only the head was wet. All the other limbs were absolutely dry. There was not even a drop of water on the clothes.

Megha's pride was crushed. Those who were around were surprised! Shri Sai thus gratifies the fond fancies of His devotees!

'You felt like giving Me a bath. Go ahead and do it to satisfy your desire. While doing that also, you will easily come to know My inner powers,' Baba seemed to say by this *leela*.

This is the principle of devotion to Sai. If only through good fortune you reach him, then nothing is impossible to achieve. Gradually, everything becomes easy.

Casually, while sitting, talking, going for walks in the morning and in the afternoon, if the devotee has faith and patience, he achieves whatever he desires.

But, any power or miraculous sign was shown in the course of normal routine. Gradually He created inherent interest and made them understand spiritual matters.

There is another story of Megha, which will please the listeners very much. Seeing Sai's love for His devotees, the listeners will be pleased.

A big picture of Baba, which Nana (Chandorkar) had newly given, was placed in the *wada* by Megha and he worshipped it regularly.

The real image at the *masjid* and the exact replica in the *wada*, were worshipped with *arati*, at both the places, day and night.

When about twelve months had passed in doing this divine service, when Megha was awake early one morning, he saw a vision.

Megha was lying in bed and though he had his eyes closed, he was fully awake and he saw Baba distinctly.

Baba, too, was aware that he was awake. He then threw consecrated rice on the bed and said, "Megha, draw a trident !", and then disappeared there and then.

Listening to these words of Baba, Megha opened his eyes with great enthusiasm. He was very surprised to find that Baba had disappeared.

Then Megha looked all around. There were grains of rice scattered everywhere on the bed. The doors of the *wada* were closed, as earlier. Hence he was confused.

He went to the *masjid* immediately. While taking Baba's *darshan*, Megha told Him the story of the trident and asked permission to draw it.

Megha related the vision with all details. Baba said, "How can it be a vision? Did you not hear My words? I told you to draw the trident.

Are you trying to test My words by calling it a vision? My words are always very profound and not a syllable is empty".

"I too felt this at first that You had woken me. But, not a single door was open. That's why I felt differently," replied Megha.

Listen to Baba's answer: "I do not need a door to enter. I have no form or dimension. I am always everywhere.

For the one who places his burdens on Me and has become one with Me, I manipulate all his actions like the actions of a marionette".

So be it. The subsequent marvellous narration about the purpose of the trident should be heard with great attention. The connection will become evident.

On one hand, Megha returned and began to draw the trident on the wall, near the picture in the *wada*. He outlined the trident in red colour.

The next day, a Ramdasi devotee from Pune came to the *masjid*. He did obeisance to Baba with love and presented Him with a '*lingam'*.

Just then Megha too arrived there, and did an eight-fold obeisance to Baba. Baba said, "Here Shankar has come! Now, you look after Him".

Upon getting the '*lingam'* in this manner, immediately after the vision of the trident, Megha kept on gazing at the '*lingam'* overcome with emotion.

Kaka Saheb Dixit too had another marvellous experience of the 'lingam'. Listen with reverence to everything. Your faith in Baba will become firmer.

While Megha set off from the *masjid* with the '*lingam'*, Dixit was engrossed in chanting the Lord's name, after his bath in the *wada*.

Wiping his body with a clean, washed cloth, a towel covering his head, he stood on a stone concentrating on Sai.

He was chanting the Lord's name, as per his usual practice with his head covered. He then had a vision of the 'lingam'.

Dixit thought: 'Why did I today get the *darshan* of the '*lingam'* when I was chanting the Lord's name?' There was Megha, in front of him, looking very gratified.

Megha said, "Look, Kaka! Look at the 'lingam' that Baba has given". Kaka was surprised and pleased to see this particular 'lingam'.

It was of the same shape, size and markings like the one that had appeared in his meditation, just a little earlier. Dixit was delighted.

Be it so. Later, after the drawing of the trident was complete, Sai got Megha to establish the 'lingam' near the picture.

Since Megha liked to worship Shankar, by presenting him with the Shankar 'lingam', Sai strengthened his devotion. Such are the marvellous narrations about Sai!

- From Shri Sai Satcharita

Translated in English by Zarine

#### March -April 2005

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# SHRI SAILEELA

#### SHRI SAI BABA

# A UNIQUE JEWEL

#### M. Krishna Kumar

Each Saint or Prophet during His lifetime has manifested some aspect of Godliness. But, hardly has there been one so richly endowed as Shri Sai Baba in presenting to the world of human consciousness, the versatility of God. Shri Sai Baba is a Unique Jewel on the horizon of spirituality. Sitting on a rugged stone with an innocent face, eyes full of compassion and deeply concerned for the sufferings of the humanity, with a torn *kafni* on His body. He is a Unique Saint who had descended on this holy earth to shoulder the burdens and sufferings and answer the calls of His innumerable devotees irrespective of their caste, creed or religion.

Shri Sai Baba manifested first under a *neem* tree in Shirdi as a young lad of 16 years and stayed for 3 years and thereafter disappeared all of a sudden for some time. He returned to Shirdi with the marriage party of Chand Patil when He was about 20 years old. He stayed in Shirdi for an uninterrupted period of 60 years in flesh and blood, after which He took *Mahasamadhi* on the *Vijayadashmi* day (15<sup>th</sup> October), 1918 and continues to reside on this holy earth, midst of everyone i.e., with both human beings and animals. Baba loved and took care of animals since He treated animals on par with human beings without any distinction.

Nobody knew about the parentage and birth of Shri Sai Baba. Many quires were put to Him; but none got a satisfactory reply or answer. Those who tried were dumb founded and were captured by His unique and splendid personality. Nobody could get or gather any authentic information as to the caste, creed or religion to which He belonged. It is no wonder that He who had completely surrendered Himself to the Lord by getting rid of His egotism and thus became one with Him had nothing to do with the question of caste, creed or religion. For His food, He begged only from a few houses and shared it with both human beings and animals without any difference.

Shri Sai Baba preached and practiced harmony, love and universal brotherhood. He had descended on this earth to bridge the gap between the various communities. He preached that God in whatever form worshipped was one and the same. When it is so then why should we quarrel among ourselves? He celebrated the festivals of the Hindus and Muslims alike.

The life and teachings of Shri Sai Baba is wide and deep as the infinite ocean in which all can dive deep into it and take out precious gems of knowledge and *bhakti*. The teaching of Shri Sai Baba gives peace and happiness to the people who are afflicted with sorrows and miseries. If these interesting teachings and *leelas* of Shri Sai Baba, which are instructive as the *Vedic* lore, when listened and meditated upon, the devotees shall get what they long for i.e., bliss supreme, peace and eternal union with the *Brahman*.

### **Impact**

People who saw Him were immensely benefited both spiritually and temporal. He is known for answering to the prayers of His devotees by granting them boons and satisfying their wishes. He comes to the aid of His sorrowing and distressed devotees when in dire need and call Him through pure devotion and saves them from all

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impending calamities or difficulties like Draupadi praying Shri Krishna when the Kuaravas were disrobing her. By His mere looks and blessings incurable diseases were cured. For some leprosy was cured, the blind got their vision and the lame his legs. Many got their desires fulfilled by worshipping His Holy Feet for mercy and benevolence. *Sadguru* looks only to the intense feeling and devotion of His devotees who endows them with knowledge and eternal bliss. The easiest way to solve the riddle of life and death is the complete surrender to the Holy Feet of Shri Sai Baba and chant His name instead of filling the devils brain with evil thoughts.

For this *Kaliyuga* Shri Sai Baba's name should be recited by every religious minded persons for salvation from the impending perils which is causing great concern for our very survival and resulting in the destruction of our very existence before time on this holy earth sanctified by the Saints like Shri Sai Baba who had tread on it. Shri Sai Baba is a guide to all religious and God-fearing people and was considered as God-incarnate while in flesh and blood. Shri Sai Baba crossed the border of physical world by *Seemollanghan* and took *Mahasamadhi* on the *Vijayadashmi* day in 1918 only to remain midst of His devotees. Though He took *Mahasamadhi*, He transcends this universe and is fully aware of the wants of His devotees. His Bones are protecting, blessing and answering to the calls of His innumerable devotees today.

# **His Healing Touch**

Shri Sai Baba always sat near the *Dhuni* – Sacred Fire that was lit when He was in flesh and blood and continues to burn even to this day and shall continue to burn till such time He wants it. The *Dhuni* yields the sacred ash – *Udi/Vibhuti* which is all 'powerful' due to the grace and omnipresence of Shri Sai Baba. In the first, as a *Hakim* He prescribed herbs and later dispensed with this and instead gave every one the sacred and blessed *Udi* with His hands at the time of the devotee's departure from Shirdi. *Udi* which cured many physical and mental maladies shall work only when the devotees have explicit *bhakti* and surrender completely onto His Holy Feet. In short *Udi* is panacea for all the problems, which the devotees shall face in this *Kaliyuga*.



# Why Shirdi is so sacred?

In our land there are many holy places, which were treaded by Saints during their lifetime. But, all these holy places do not get sanctified even if the Lord wants it; because only a few such Saints get the land in which they treaded and sanctified one such is Shirdi and its Presiding *Yogi Raja* Shri

Sai Baba.

The earth on which a Saint treads gets sanctified and the mother earth feels happy; because He is walking upon it. The dust on which a Saint sets His foot is just sacred. When such a Saint walks in the street Lord Vishnu Himself follows Him closely behind. Do you know why? The dust, that flies up from the tread of the Saint's feet to fall on His holy body and purify Him. Therefore, the land of Shirdi is sacred as Shri Sai

Baba has set His Foot here. Today thousands visit Shirdi daily shows how sanctified is the soil of Shirdi for which we are fortunate to visit His *Samadhi*. Shri Sai Baba drags all His devotees into His fold and later makes all arrangements to visit Him at Shirdi and welcomes us from the *Samadhi* in order to solve our problems and remain with His devotees forever.

Shri Sai Baba is the God-incarnate for this *Kaliyuga* and He shall protect all His devotees from the *Samadhi* through His Bones who earnestly surrender to His Holy Feet and sing the wonderful glory and *leelas* and thus He shall draw out all His devotees from the impending calamities. All our relatives and friends shall forsake us at some point of the time or the other, specially when calamities have knocked or knocking at our doorstep which is sure to be a passing phase in one's life and also which is inevitable; but never shall Shri Sai Baba forsake us. Shri Sai Baba shall test us as how much *Shraddha* and *Saburi* have we attained during adverse times by chanting and reciting His name and singing His glory. How much ever difficulties one may undergo if we surrender to His

Feet; He shall only lead us to *shubhra marg* for us to a happy life later. *Bhagawan ke ghar me der hai, par andher nahi hai.* 

We should remember Sai's commitment and promise to His devotees "Why fear when I am Here" and lead a life by surrendering ourselves to His Holy Feet as Shri Sai Baba is Omnipotent, Omnipresent and Omniscient.

Once the Dhulia Tahsildar Magistrate's Court had sent one Nana Joshi, 1st class Magistrate, Assistant Collector, as a Commissioner to take Sai Baba's evidence in a theft matter. The Commissioner came to Shirdi and began Sai Baba's examination at the mosque.

Commissioner: What is Your name?

Sai Baba: They call Me Sai Baba.

Commissioner: Your father's name?

Sai Baba: Also Sai Baba.

Commissioner: Your Guru's name?

Sai Baba: Venkusha.

Commissioner: Creed or religion?

Sai Baba: Kabir.

**Commissioner: Caste or race?** 

Sai Baba: Parvardigar (i.e. God).

Commissioner : Age, please ?

Sai Baba: Lakhs of years.

Commissioner: Will You solemnly affirm that what you are going to say is

the truth.

Sai Baba: Truth.

Commissioner: Do You know the accused so and so?

Sai Baba: Yes, I know him and I know every one.

Commissioner: The man says he is Your devotee and that he lived with You.

Is that so?

Sai Baba: Yes, I live with every one. All are Mine.

Commissioner: Did You give him jewels as alleged him?

Sai Baba: Yes, I gave him. Who gives what to whom?

Commissioner: If You gave him the jewels, how did You get them and

become possessed of them?

Sai Baba: Everything is Mine.

Commissioner: Baba, here is serious charge of theft. That man says that You

delivered the jewels to him.

Sai Baba: What is all this? What the devil I have to do with all that?

The Commissioner was floored by such answers. He did not know what to take down. Baba was mostly in a mood to say yes to every question.

- From the experience of Das Ganu Maharaj narrated in 'Devotees' Experiences of Shri Sai Baba' written by H. H. Narasimhaswamiji.

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