

SHRI SAI LEELA

Official Organ of Shirdi Sansthan



With His own hands, Shri Sai Baba used to cook 'prasad' in a big handi. Shri Baba Himself did all the purchases required for the prasad from the local shops. Baba's handi consisted of rice, dal, vegetables and even meat with appropriately ground masala. All the devotees of Baba used to partake of the prasad irrespective of caste, creed or religion. Sometimes Baba was seen churning the contents of the boiling handi without burning his hand.

February 1983

Rupee One

श्री साईनाथ वाचनालय

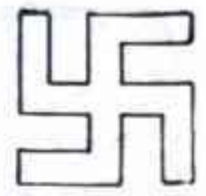
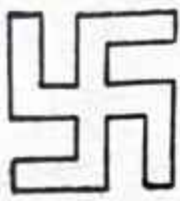
SHRI SAILEELA

FEBRUARY 1983

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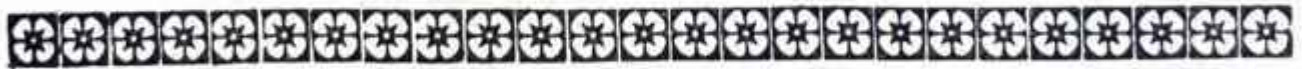
**Official Organ of
Shirdi Sansthan**

Editor :
Shri K. H. KAKRE
Receiver, Shirdi Sansthan
of Shri Sai Baba

Executive Editors :

Dr. S. D. Parchure
M. A., Ph. D.

Shri Sadanand Chendwankar
B.Sc, S.T.C. R.B.Pravin



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is the principal, aim of SHRI SAI LEELA**

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office :
Sai Niketan, 804-B, Dr. Ambedkar Road, Dadar, Bombay 400 014.

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MEDITATION

According to the Hindu religion there are four main objects of this life viz. धर्म, अर्थ, काम and मोक्ष. The Hindu religion wants that we should be religious, we should earn wealth, we should satisfy our sexual urge and ultimately we should get liberation from the cycle of birth and death. These four achievements are called पुरुषार्थाः; (i. e. achievements of every man). Out of these four achievements अर्थ and काम may be called mundane ones, while धर्म and मोक्ष may be called spiritual achievements.

In the spiritual line there are several steps which a person has to climb in order to achieve the ultimate goal of मोक्ष. जप (repetition of name), कीर्तन (singing praises of the God) and meditation (ध्यान or समाधि) may be mentioned as some of the steps in the spiritual line, which are often recommended to a devotee by the gurus or the sages. जप and कीर्तन are very common steps which are easily understood by all; but meditation is somewhat technical and is required to be explained in detail.

In the second canto of the Bhagwadgeeta while describing सांख्ययोग Lord Shrikrishna describes योग as follows :

योगस्थः कुरु कर्माणि संगं त्यक्त्वा धनंजय ।

सिद्धसिद्धयोः समो भूत्वा समत्वं योग उच्यते ॥ २ । ४८ ॥

(Oh ! Dhananjaya, leaving the expectation of the fruit of the acts committed by you and keeping your attitude neutral

towards success and defeat, be one with Yoga. This neutral attitude itself is known as Yoga)

Thus in the opinion of Lord Krishna a person with a neutral attitude towards all the pairs of opposite things like शीत and उष्ण, सुख and दुःख, लाभ and अलाभ, मान and अपमान is a 'योगी' and He has called him by this name while explaining all the Yogas during the course of the Bhagwadgeeta.

In the third canto of the Bhagwadgeeta, Lord Shri Krishna explains कर्मयोगी in the fourth He explains कर्मब्रह्मार्पण योग, in the fifth कर्मसंन्यासयोग and in the sixth canto the Lord explains अभ्यासयोग. In the Yogas described in chapters three, four and five the question of meditation has not been dealt with; but in the sixth canto Lord Shrikrishna has explained in detail the practice of meditation and there He gives clear instructions as to how a yogi should behave and practice meditation. The following instructions are noteworthy.

शुचौ देशे प्रतिष्ठाप्य स्थिरमासनमात्मनः ।
 नाल्युच्छ्रितं नातिनीचं चैलाजिनकुशोत्तरम् ॥ ६ । ११ ॥
 तत्रैकाग्रं मनः कृत्वा यतचित्तेंद्रियक्रियः ।
 उग्रविद्यासने युञ्ज्याद्योगमात्मविशुद्धये ॥ ६ । १२ ॥

(A Yogi should concentrate his mind and study yoga for cleansing his mind. On a holy and pure land he should spread 'darbha' grass and cover it with a deer's skin. After covering the deer's skin with cloth the Yogi should take a seat on a place which is not too low or which is not too high. He should then control his mind and senses and meditate after constant practice.)

In the above shlokas Lord Krishna has given very valuable instructions for a person who intends to meditate on God. He is critical about the place and the seat. He directs that the place chosen for meditation should be holy as well as pure. He instructs how the seat should be arranged by means of 'darbha'

grass, deer's skin and cloth. He further tells that the place on which the seat is located should not be too low nor too high. The final instruction about meditation is that concentration of mind is necessary as well as control over the mind and senses is also expected in order to get the fruit of meditation.

Lord Krishna does not stop here. He has given further instructions also in this behalf to the Yogi as follows :-

समं कायशिराग्नीवं चारयन्नचलं स्थिरः ।
 संप्रेक्ष्य नासिकाग्रं स्वं दिशश्चानवलोकयन् ॥ ६ । १३ ॥
 प्रशान्तात्मा विगतभीर्ब्रह्मचारिव्रते स्थितः ।
 मनःसंयम्य मच्चित्तो युक्त आसीत् मत्परः ॥ ६ । १४ ॥

(A Yogi should sit on his seat without moving. He should keep his back, neck and head in one straight line and he should concentrate his vision on the tip of his nose, without moving his vision in any way. He should keep his mind steady and free from fear. He should observe celibacy and having full control on his mind, the yogi should only concentrate on Me and think that I am the whole and sole)

These further instructions also give minute details of the position in which the Yogi should sit. The Lord does not only give instructions about the physical position of the yogi. He has always thought about the mind and the senses. Taking a mere physical pose without paying heed to the condition of the mind and the senses has no meaning. The body, mind and the senses should all go together and travel in the same direction then only meditation becomes fruitful.

Though the late Lokamanya Tilak has interpreted Shrimadbhagwadgēeta as the science of कर्मयोग and has pointed out that निष्काम कर्मयोग (doing all actions and deeds without hankering after the fruit) is the essence and the main burden of the song of that world famous book, still we find that human nature is the same everywhere. Therefore though in other cantos

Lord Krishna directs that our deeds should be done in the natural way as a duty without hankering after the fruit, He has Himself given at several places the fruit of our deeds. Of course the Lord might be thinking that these fruits will follow automatically; but no one should observe particular austerities or vows with the aim of getting certain fruit. In the following shlokas Lord Krishna has pointed out the outcome of the meditation which He has explained so far :-

युञ्जन्नेवं सदा ऽऽत्मानं योगी नियतमानसः ।

शान्तिं निर्वाणपरमां मत्संस्थामधिगच्छति ॥ ६ । १५ ॥

(A Yogi, who thus continues his yoga practices and keeps good control over his mind, gets moksha (मोक्ष) and he merges in Me)

As stated at the beginning of this article मोक्ष is the ultimate aim of human life according to Hindu philosophy and the Yogi also who concentrates on the Lord in the manner explained by Himself, finally attains liberation from the cycle of birth and death. Lord Krishna has thus explained the proper way of meditation and the fruit which a person would get on account of it.

The beauty of all our ancient books and scriptures is this that they always think about a problem from all the angles. Thus after explaining a thing in a positive way they would also view the same thing from the other side. They therefore also give the interpretation from the negative side. Therefore after explaining the benefits of the meditation Lord Krishna immediately states as to who does not get these benefits as follows:-

नात्यश्रतस्तु योगो ऽस्ति न चैकान्तमनश्रतः ।

न चातिस्वप्नशीलस्य जाग्रतो नैव चार्जुन ॥ ६ । १६ ॥

(Oh Arjuna, a person who is a glutton and who eats too much similarly one who does not eat at all (i. e. fasts) or sleeps too much or keeps awake late in the night, will not be able to observe these yoga practices).

These restrictions which the Lord has laid down for observing yoga practices are very simple and normally all persons are expected to observe them. Eating too much, fasting, sleeping for too long a time or keeping awake for long hours are all extremes and the Lord wants a yogi to avoid them all, fully. It will be observed here that in Chapter 32 of the Sai Satcharita Shri Baba told Mrs. Gokhale in clear terms about fasting as follows, "Where is the necessity of fasting? Go to Dadabhat's house, prepare the dish of Puran Polis (Wheat roti with gramflour and jaggery) feed his children and yourself too" (page 178 of Sai Satcharita 10th edition 1982). This is the speciality of the advice of Shri Sai Baba. He always gives His advice in clear terms; but he does not burden us with that. He gives it in His casual talk also and we see from the above instructions how Shri Sai Baba had studied our religious books very minutely.

In order to emphasise the observance of Yoga in a particular manner after telling in the negative manner, the Lord again tells who can attain this yoga in the following shlok :-

युक्ताहारविहारस्य युक्तचेष्टस्य कर्मसु ।

युक्तस्वप्नावबोधस्य योगो भवति दुःखहा ॥ ६ । १७ ॥

(He who is moderate in his food and deeds, who is moderate in his sleep and in keeping awake is only able to achieve this yoga, which destroys your sorrow)

Control over habits, deeds and actions as well as mind are very important things which have been emphasised again and again in the Bhagwadgeeta and here also the Lord has again reiterated the same.

Meditation, which is a very important and necessary step in the spiritual live, has been explained thus by Lord Shri Krishna in the sixth canto of the Bhagwadgeeta, Sai devotees also are often talking and thinking about meditation on Shri Sai Baba.

They should therefore bear in mind the instructions of Lord Krishna regarding meditation and observe them in practice. If they thus concentrate on Shri Sai Baba, the मोक्ष is not far away from them as promised by Shri Baba on various occasions ★



Two Religious Similarities of Truth

In the past, there were religious similarities in the life periods of two great society saviours of India. Of the two—One was Saint of Sabarmati—Shri M. K. Gandhi and the other was sage Shri Sai Baba of Shirdi. The former was a Karma Yogi and the latter was a Gyanayogi. Mahatmaji struggled for the independence of India from the British yoke in the spirit of service to humanity as a service to God. He was also of opinion that religion deals with the science of the soul, with the recognition that God is in the hearts of the dumb millions. Gandhiji's all round efforts for the removal of untouchability were creditable achievements towards the cultural progress of Hindu society. He tried for Hindu - Muslim unity and became a martyr at the end of his life.

Likewise Shri Shirdi Sai also made trails and paved way for Hindu - Muslim unity by converting the Mosque at Shirdi into Dwarakamai and set precedents for the observation of Hindu festivals on His Nirvana day. Shri Sai redeemed countless suffering humanity through His grace of benedictory blessings and continued His assurance of shelter and safety to His devotees and disciples even after His Mahasamadhi. Shri Gandhiji was a materialistic philosopher whereas Shirdi Sai Baba was a divine spiritualist. Both of them respected Gita, Quoran and the Bible in preaching and precept and showed religious tolerance, love, sacrifice, selflessness, non-violence and truth and also led Ashramite life of asceticism. Let us offer our salutations to these two saviours of society on this auspicious occasion of All India Shirdi Sai devotees' convention at Nellore (A. P.). ★

L. N. Panigrahi

Baruva 532263, Srikakulam Dist, (A. P.)

Inauguration of Ashram-cum-Temple Complex of Shri Sai Baba at Panvel

Shri Bhagawati Sai Samsthan (Regd.) situated at 92/4, Rly. Colony, Kurla, Bombay 400 024, with its numerous centres in India and abroad is well engaged in the fast construction work of the above Ashram. The picturesque site of the Ashram is situated at a distance of 60 kilometres from Bombay and it is very near to Panvel Rly. Station. A lively 4' 4" white marble Murti of Shri Sai Baba has been made by the famous sculptor Shri Talim for installing in the Sanctum Sanctorum of the above project. The prominent marble walls of the Ashram have attractive pictorial inscriptions of Shri Sai Mahima and popular teachings of Shri Sai Baba. The entire project is expected to serve all the devotees in general and the devotees of Baba in particular in many ways. H. H. Swamy Karunananda (83 yrs. old) the spiritual head of the Samsthan inaugurated the Ashram cum temple complex on Saturday the 1st January 1983 and blessed the Ashram and the devotees on the auspicious day. The head quarters of Shri Bhagawati Sai Samsthan, which are at 92/4, Rly. Colony, Kurla, Bombay 400 024 would finally shift to this Ashram at Panvel. The necessity for shifting the head quarters of Shri Bhagawati Sai Samsthan to a larger and a permanent place has been felt since a long time so as to accommodate the ever increasing number of Sai devotees. The new place is of scenic beauty surrounded by hills and natural greenery, away from the dust, noise and bustle of the city.

The aims and objects of the project are :-

1. To spread the life and teachings of Shri Sai Baba.
2. To set up a primary school for the poor and needy students.
3. To provide free medical aid to the poor.
4. To conduct yoga classes.
5. To conduct meditation classes.
6. To have a well equipped library.
7. To provide adequate arrangements for visiting devotees to stay in the Ashram.
8. To conduct regular prayers, lectures and satsangs in the Ashram's temple hall. ★

Nishtha and Saburi

O ! My Lord Sai ! It is beyond me to utter even a single word without your will. Where Saraswati fails to find words in your praise, who am I to do such a thing ? But every thing is possible for you. You only initiated me to write Your wonderful Leela, which is beyond me to discern.

I still remember very clearly the date and year when Sai-nath came in my dream. It was early morning hour of 16 December 1974. He very tenderly kept His hand on my forehead and caressed me most lovingly and said, "You will get some shubh samachar exactly after fifteen days and everything will be alright after one month." I got up and felt shanti pervading my whole being and the balming effect of His loving and divine touch on my forehead. I was filled with divine ecstasy. I started counting the days in great expectation. On the 15th day, which happened to be 1st January 1975, my eyes were fixed towards the gate of our bungalow for the approach of the postman. While doing work inside the house, my ears were screwed for sound of the postman's footsteps. Alas, no news. I exclaimed to myself in the evening, when all hopes of getting any mail were over. "After all it was a dream. I am not so great that Baba will come to me." After that the whole episode vanished from my thoughts and myself and my husband went to visit our friends in a very good mood to wish them a happy New Year and to spend the evening with the family. My husband is a doctor and our friend is also a doctor and a great Sai devotee. We had a very good time with them and had our dinner too at their place. We started for home very late in the night and reached home at about 11.45 p. m. We found our daughter still awake, much to our surprise. As soon as we entered the house she said, "Dady there was a trunk call from Billy Aunty at about 10' clock. She wants you to come to her immediately." I was electrified. The message had come. We

could not sleep the whole night. Next day there was again a trunk call from her telling my husband to reach her the next day, as a growth had been detected in her abdomen and it was diagnosed as cancer and the surgeon wanted to operate on her immediately. She herself happens to be a top gynecologist in Rajasthan, Billy aunty, as called by my children, is my husband's sister.

I was dumbfounded. I could not understand the meaning of the whole message. Everything started moving at a fast speed. I stayed back as our children were small, and my husband rushed to his sister. On the day of her operation I sat in a most dejected state of mind and kept wondering as to what a way of getting a shubh samachar and what was shubh in it. Suddenly there was an inner voice in me that said of course it was a shubh samachar as this growth would turn out to be benign (non-malignant). I became very peaceful after that. But I dashed by night train to see her and was pleased to know that it really turned out to be a non-malignant growth, on fresh biopsy. I told everyone about this wonderful dream of mine. Everyone was filled with great reverence for Baba. My husband who was a non-believer in things like his, gave Udi to my sister-in-law in water to drink, and even applied some on her stitch-line. Because of the serious nature of the operation, she was kept in hospital and discharged exactly after one month. Again Baba's words rung in my ears. 'Everything will be alright after a month.'

Now starts the real drama. We had not got over the happiness and sense of relief after her operation, When we got another letter from her after two months of operation that she had again developed the growth, it was a big blow to us. We lost all hopes of her living. A growth reoccurring with such a fast spech in such a short time, was nothing but cancer and the previous biopsy must have been wrong. The growth started increasing in size and she started losing weight and became anaemic. Everyone started mocking my Baba and my dream.

I was speechless. I had no explanation to offer. I kept praying and worshipping Baba against all opposition and resistance in the house. My pooja and faith in Baba became a source of unhappiness between me and my husband. As the condition of my sister-in-law deteriorated more my husband became more restless and I started fearing that he might one day throw away the picture and statue of Baba. I started doing my pooja of Baba when he would go to the hospital.

She was again operated in April 1976, and this time also I went with my husband. I saw the operation. It was a very big and infiltrating type of growth very near the big blood vessel of the body. It was taken out as much as the surgeons could remove. It had multiple sub-divisions. She had a rough post-operative period and was ultimately discharged, in good condition. I all the time prayed my Sainath to save her and cure her. She got through with the major operation. This time pieces of growth were sent to different places. One piece was sent to U. S. A., which gave the report of slowing Sarcoma (a malignant growth).

I kept up my prayer of Baba. Again after two-three months of operation she developed the growth the third time. It was a very depressing situation for us, and more so as my faith was at stake. I stood all the sarcasm with a great heart and always asked Baba what was shubh in that samachar, and why He was deriving pleasure in seeing me let down, and becoming a laughing stock of everyone especially of my husband and sister-in-law. I was called a fanatic and what not.

She was again operated in Nov 1979. There was absolutely no hope of her survival. Everyone was very sad. I could not muster enough courage to face the situation. My father-in-law was seriously sick at home. I stayed back. My husband went to her. It was gloomy everywhere. We had stopped talking about her sickness as we knew very well that it was the end of her life.

We had helplessly surrendered to destiny. But no, see His Leela. She pulled through this operation again and was discharged well against our expectation. She regained her health slowly and started taking her professional work gradually.

I stopped asking about her health in my letters to her. I did not have the guts to ask and was definite that she had developed the tumour again. She was advised to go and get herself checked up as to whether she had cancer or not. She went to Madras and came back. I waited with my fingers crossed for the result. The letter arrived that the report was in the negative. It was a big news for me. I was electrified and bowed my head in complete surrender at the lotus feet of Baba. It was a great saving grace for me. I still did not ask anything about her health. My second daughter is staying with her and she wrote that my sister-in-law's very close friend, who happened to be an I.A.S. officer, was passing through Kanpur and I must see her at the station on 27th Dec. I reached the station to meet her. The train stopped and there she was. She hugged me and said "Shanti good news for you. Billy is fine and no growth anymore." I was wonderstruck and said, "Really, are you sure? She said Yes, touch wood no tumour any more." I became nearly mad with joy and bowed my head to Baba in great reverence. He kept up my faith and strengthened it a thousand times more. The string between me and Him which looked thin and delicate, was made strong and unbreakable. I cried in my quieter moments and thanked Him for saving my honour. Readers I find myself more bold and free in my pooja of Sainath without hiding from anyone. It took seven long years to understand the meanings of His message. Arn't His ways strange? His cure, has made the non-believing member of my family to think of Him as God.

Baba tested me, He wants His devotee to have nishtha & saburi in Him. Seven long years is a very long time and I sustained all doubts, hurt, sarcasm and mockery, surrendering and putting my faith in Him only. He is beyond human understanding. He

is wonderful and all in all merciful. I pray to Him to reside in my heart in every pore of my body, and in all my thoughts and actions. Whatever happens, He has to be with me and inside me. I want Him only. There is nothing which is beyond His power.

Isn't He loving and looks after His children? He is Sai Mata, so full of love and affection. ★

Dr. (Mrs.) Tarachandra

OBITUARY

We are very sorry to inform our readers that Smt. Taisaheb Nimonkar alias Laxmibai Nagnath Deshpande expired on 11-12-82 at the age of eightyfive years at Nimon, Tal. Sangamner, Dist. Nagar after a brief illness. She was the daughter-in-law of Shri Nanasaheb Nimonkar, whose story is narrated in chapter XII of the Sai Satcharit. In chapter VI of the same book, where the origin of the Ramanavmi festival is given, we find the mention of the flag that Shri Nanasaheb Nimonkar sent for the festival. Smt. Taisaheb also sent every year her flag with great reverence and called the Ramanavami festival as her own festival. We extend our heartfelt condolences to the members of the family of Smt. Taisaheb in their sad bereavement and pray at the feet of Shri Sai Baba that the departed soul may rest in peace.

Editor

Shri Baba Grants An Unselfish Wish

There is a small Shri Sai Baba temple behind our Head Office where I served for nearly six years. As I used to pass by that temple a thought that used to occur in my mind was that Shri Baba should somehow arrange to perform His Aarati. But this was not to be for some time.

Once I was posted for overtime work and as per our usual custom we i. e. myself and my colleagues left for evening tea at a nearby hotel. After tea we took the route by Shri Baba's temple and were informed by Public Notice that a Satyanarayan Pooja was being held on that day and so we enquired of the time for Prasad and were told that it was after 7.30 P. M.

I again went to the temple after my office hours and waited till Prasad time. I casually enquired of the organisers why they were not having Aarati of Sai Baba and they told that none of them knew the Aarati. I informed them that I knew it. They requested me to sing it that evening. I agreed to do so. Soon an announcement was made on the mike about the Aarati and people were requested to gather in front of the temple. Shortly, a good number of people gathered for the Aarati and some of them came with the cymbals, dholak, tal etc. I sang Shri Baba's Aarati to the accompaniment of this music. Thus Shri Baba fulfilled my unselfish wish of having His Aarati at the temple. ★

Anil K. Rasal

21/382, B. P. T. Staff Quarters, Reynolds Road,
Wadala (East) Bombay - 400 037



Wait Till He Says

We know that Sai is our supreme being Who has come down to this planet to reestablish Yoga consciousness. He was a great light which shows the way to the devotees. He serves the poor and rich without distinction. We can't express his deeds in words.

I would like to narrate my experience which indicates Sai's affection towards His devotees. I have been Sai's devotee since 1978. I go on fast every Thursday and spend two or three hours in chanting mantras daily. I wanted to see the picture Shirdi Ke Sai Bada. That picture was not exhibited at my native place i. e. Machilipatnam. After I waited for some time that picture came to my town. I went to the cinema theatre on the first day but no tickets were available. I went to the same picture the next day; but by that time the tickets had already been sold. I was disappointed and thought why Baba gives me no chance to see this picture. That picture was seen by all my family members except myself. They said that the picture had shown different miracles of Sai's devotees. These miracles are valuable to those who are willing to serve Sai as a God.

Returning home I came across my friend, who told me that Sai's picture had given him more delight, which he would never forget. I thought that Sai would give me permission to see His picture.

The next day, that is last day of Sai's movie, I went to the same picture and had a ticket. Having seen that picture I felt very happy. It should be noted that nothing can happen without Sai's order or grace. I thought that Sai gave me permission to see His picture on that day only. Sai had great power and rare qualities. Sai says, "whenever you seek My

Sai Baba, The Saint of Shirdi

(Continued from January 1983 issue)

CHAPTER XXIV

1. Dr. Pandit's worship (contd.)
2. Special characteristics of Sai Baba
3. Baba's advice regarding our behaviour
4. Encouraging good thoughts to fruition
5. Variety in Upadesh—slanderer condemned

Dr. Pandit did the same to Thee
As he did it to his Guru free
So, could Thou not take any objection
Pasting sandal to Thy forehead rejection

Dr. Pandit on enquiry told Dadabhat
He took Thee to be his Guru Puranik
And realised Thee as the same Puranik
So he marked Tripundra on Thy forehead

Though allowed Thou the devotees to worship
As they liked and pleased to Thee Thy Lordship
But still acted Thou in a way strange
A wrath incarnate being Thou range.

Sometimes became Thou harsh and scolded
Who stood before Thee with hands folded
The moment next became Thou softer than wax
A statue of peace and forgiveness lax

Though Thou seemed with anger shake
And Thine eyes red rolled round and round take
Thou wer't still a stream of affection
And a lone motherly vocation

Thou called out Thy devotees and said
 Thee knew never Thou wer't angry laid
 If mothers their children kicked
 Would Thou neglect the welfare devotees nicked.

If the rivers turned back by sea
 Thee the slave of Thy devotees be
 And by them stood always Thee
 And longed always for their lone fee

Many a saint their home leaving
 Stay in silence, in caves, forests creeping
 Self absorbed in themselves always
 Caring not for the people's life and ways

But wer't Thou not of type much
 Having no wife, home, progeny as such
 From door to door on food begging lived
 Sitting at the foot of the neem tree loomed

All worldly dealings being carried on by Thee
 Thou to all people taught; the ways of cree
 How to act and behave in the world mirage
 To gain the liberation in life garage

The saints as Thee are rare indeed
 Who strive for the people's welfare candid
 On getting the God vision who strive
 Not for themselves but for others dive

Says so the author Hemadpant
 Blessed the country is and the family of pant
 And blessed are the parents chaste there
 Thee the precious jewel pure born where

Thy words general and invaluable
 If kept in mind and acted upon lable

Will do good always to people all
Who live to the tune of Thy word call.

Any connection or relation without
None will be able to see Thee out
Whoever steps Thy Masjid to see Thee
Discourteously drive them from Mai

But thou always receive them well
And treat them with respect all
And taught all, pleased is the God
If one quenches thirst of thirsty lot

Pleased is the Lord of Lords always
If one satisfies the hungry bellys
And shelter to the strangers to rest
And a piece of cloth to the naked guest

Gave Thou all an advice precious all
Not to use words harsh and bark at all
To persons coming to them for begging
And to keep quiet if not inclined to giving

Any one if speaks things hundred to you
Resent not by replying in words bitter few
Tolerate you if always things such
Will you be successful and happy in life much ?

Topsy-turvy the world let go
Be you always where you are, now
Being in your own place calmly look on
The things all passing before you off

The wall of difference demolish if you
For meeting Thee the road clear will be
The barrier the sense of differentiation
The disciple and the master keep away inseparation

Unless the wall between us and Thee
 Is destroyed, impossible is the union with Thee
 Being God the only protector of all and none
 So shall we surrender to Him said Thee and none

Inscrutable are the ways of Thy work
 And Thou will act as Thy will lurk
 But to us Thou show the way, Sire
 And satisfy our heart's desires

Only by our relationship in life former
 We have now come together in life latter
 So thus Thou taught us the lesson better
 To love and serve each other and be happy later

Attains who the goal supreme in life
 Becomes happy and immortal in life
 Not who the goal supreme attain in life
 Merely live long as they breathe in life

Encouraged Thou the thoughts good
 With ease and happiness to have food
 The way Thou taught us interesting is
 Complete surrender to Thee the way is

If one with love and devotion to Thee
 Surrenders, he will see how him helps Thee
 In so many things off and on anon
 To bring peace and happiness anon

"Good thoughts immediately awakening after
 Sleep, develop the same during the day later
 Unfolded being one's intellect and mind faint
 One will attain calmness in life" said a saint.

To test the truth of a saint's say
 The author on night Wednesday lay

With a thought to spend the next day
Repeating Ramanama on Thursday

Thought so Hemadpant, The Shirdi
A place holy the day next being Thursday
The day next auspicious being
Slept to celebrate Ramanama singing

The morning next got up he when
Without efforts any, remembered then
The name of Rama and pleased much
Finishing his duties morning as such

The author with flowers in hand
Came to the Masjid to Thee to bend
On his way heard song fruitful
Near Booty's wada beautiful

The song was sung by Aurangabadkar
Before Thee in the Masjid clamper
The song meaning the eyewash by Guru's grace
That his vision opened to see Rama's face

Clear was the vision of the singer so
That saw he Rama in sleep and waking so
In and out and in dreams and so
Forgetting his self became one with Rama so

The singer could have sung songs various
But why sang he that song that day was curious
A coincidence curious adapted by Thee that day
To set the author to sing Ramanama during the day.

Saints all agree and stress say
On the efficacy of uttering and say
Helps Ramanama the ambitions to fulfil
Saving from calamities all the devotees dutiful

Thou required not any place special
 Nor time any the instructions give special
 An occasion any demanded whenever
 Wer't Thou ready to instruct freely ever

Once it happened so, a devotee of Thee
 Before others reviled another devotee free
 Behind his back in the presence of All
 Setting aside his merits dwelt on his faults all

So sarcastically spoke he of his brother
 Disgusted were the hearers and felt not to bother
 As tendency to scandalize others unnecessarily
 Brings on hatred and illwill necessarily

Scandal in another light the saints see
 Of cleansing dirt are ways various free
 By means of earth, water and soap cree
 But a scandal monger has his own way free

A scandal monger has his way own
 Of removing the faults of others bone
 By the tongue using words unnoble
 And clean the minds and hearts noble.

(To be continued)

M. M. Amingad
 Gulunche, Via Neera, Taluka Purandar District Pune



God and Cancer

During the year 1976, I started the study of a theory on divinity. It seemed wonderful and even practical. I was trying to go on in the subject.

Just then, one Mr. S, working in our office had cancer. It was described as 'galloping cancer' in as much as it ate away a part of the throat in just one week's time. Then he went for radium treatment.

This Mr. S. was a nice fellow and was less than thirty in age. I could not imagine him as a person going to die shortly. I tried to advise him about God's goodness in the way I was understanding then. I told him not to reveal it to others as they may not understand it and hence may comment on it in different ways.

Later, I was transferred to another place and I went away. I did not have any word about Mr. S. At the end of the year 1979 I visited my old station for a short while. When I went to the office, I enquired about Mr. S. and a colleague replied 'he is as strong as a stone !.' I was happy for the news. I could not meet him then as he was not on duty at the spot.

Many thoughts came to me. If he got cancer and was cured, only God must have cured him. Then, will he acknowledge it so? Not likely. I was almost sure that he would attribute his cure to something else than God. It is quite natural; it is the weakness of any man. After two months, I wrote him a letter, enquiring about his welfare without mentioning anything of my advice to him. He immediately replied. When translated into English, the gist of his letter is like this: 'I wanted to write to you, but I did not know your address. The cause of my cure is your 'Mantropadesa'. It gave me the alms of my life. It is

responsible for my comfortable life with wife and children. I have lost confidence in the doctors. The.....hospital doctors told me that I would not live. The 'Mantropadesa' you gave me, is badly torn. I request you to write it again and send it to me.

His subsequent letter conveyed that he begot one daughter and one son after the cancer attack.

For the benefit of those in need - suffering from not just Cancer but any so called incurable disease, I furnish hereunder the advice which Mr. S. termed 'Mantropadesa'.

Point. 1. You should not hate anybody or anything in this universe. Search your thoughts and reverse the hatred with thoughts of love, because God governs them also whom you have hated previously.

Point. 2. See your body (imagine) as made not of matter, but of brilliant light like that we see in lightning. This is possible as we practise.

Point. 3. Regularly read the following prayer earnestly, with a humble attitude towards the Lord.

(The name of the disease is to be substituted in the place of cancer, in the following prayer.)

Prayer

Oh God, all this universe is created by you. All creation is filled with you. You and your mind are full of purity and goodness. Neither evil nor any incompleteness is present in your creation and there can be no change in you.

I am also created by you. You love me supremely. You have been looking after me so that there is no lack in me. This body of mine created by you is not made of matter undergoing changes. It is made of pure light and so everybody is made of pure light. This body made of pure light is full of your love.

You are present in me. You are my life. The impure matter is an illusion and not real. An unreal thing cannot have any disease. No disease ever touches my body made of pure light. As you love me, you never give me any disease. As you are pure and good, you never created diseases. As you are the only existence, there is nobody else to create diseases. Cancer is a lie and is not created by you. It is not true. It is a blind belief. Disease is not a place, not a thing and not a person. It is Maya and never really exists. God, when all the power in the universe belongs to you, this unreal disease has no power. Acknowledging the reality of a disease means denying your everpresence when you are really everywhere, which I refuse to do. Cancer has no place in me or in you as it is nonexistent.

Lord, you are full with all good. You gave me this body made of pure light and have been lovingly protecting me. Hence there is no lack in my health or body and there is no failure in you. I am highly grateful to you for this. I live in you without fear. Since the beginning, I have been living in you and will live in you forever.

God, you are my life, you are my mind, my body and my power. You are my father, my mother and my all. I pray you to enable me to understand more of the truth about you. Guide me every moment in your footsteps.

Though this is not meant for discussion, I feel that I have to clarify some points.

1. Somebody may remark that, if it is cured, it is not cancer. This does not mean much except, 'do not believe the doctors.'
2. Is this confirmed by the scriptures? Yes. Especially this type of process is suggested in the parable included in the story of 'Chyavana Maharshi' in Devi Bhagavatham. And Chyavana regained his eyesight and youth. (I noticed this parable later in August 1980)

3. It was suggested to condense the prayer. It is better if it is not condensed.

4. Is it necessary to include the name of the disease in the prayer? Yes. It is very much necessary to mention the name of the disease as it exists in our thoughts and it must be denied existence specifically. This type of direction is stressed in Ishavasyopanishad.

A. Kanakaraju,
D No. 3-3-12 Narasingaraopeta Anakapalle Post,
Vizag Dist (A. P.)

Sai Baba Mandirs

Shri Sai Baba is one of the greatest sadgurus of modern India. He signified his mission amidst mankind by his very first famous leela at the Dwarakamai. Every day He used to beg oil from the grocers and keep lamps burning till, one day, they refused it to Him. He quietly returned to the mosque and lighted the lamps with water. The whole scene is symbolic and deserves close examination.

The title Dwarakamai is explained in Shri Sai Satcharita in a footnote (on the basis of a verse from the Skandapurana) as a place where the doors are open for people of all castes (and we may add, 'creeds') to accomplish the four objects of human life viz. dharma, artha, kama and moksha.

This material world is also such. Individual souls (jivas) will be reborn here again and again to work out their old karmic ties. Birth is thus an opportunity for them to accomplish these four objects. The Dwarakamai is symbolic of this world. And this world, like the mosque before Shri Baba's advent, in Shirdi was filled with the darkness of ignorance. He lighted the lamps in it i.e. He afforded light to the world by his avatara. How? It is by lighting the lamps of faith in their hearts by his leelas.

Who is to furnish the oil for the 'lamps' at the three levels—world, mosque and hearts of humans? The samskaras (in Sanskrit, 'samskara' also denotes oil besides the propensities derived from one's previous lives) in their hearts it offered to the godman and he turns it into light by burning it up with his divine power and selfless love.

In short, the mission of Baba is to light lamps of faith in the hearts of human beings and thus illumine this otherwise dark Dwarakamai. Faith is knowledge of the divine, rooted in experience. The function and symbolism of the dhuni or the sacred fire is very similar.

Now the three most holy things Sai Baba had bequeathed us are the lights, especially the one at Lendi baugh, the dhuni and his Samadhi (tomb). These symbolize the fact that Baba, true to his word, has been spreading light and fire of knowledge even today.

This fact is borne out by the ever increasing number of Sai devotees and by the large number of Sai Baba mandirs which were and are being erected all over India.

In this context, we have to bear in mind one vital fact. In securing oil for the lights from the local grocers and in leaving these and the dhuni for the devotees to keep up, Sai Baba has signified that we, his devotees, have to do our bit in spreading the light of his life and teaching and to set example to others by our practice of the same. In this, the Sai Mandirs and Sai devotee organizations can profitably consider the following suggestions.

The Sai Mandirs should, on the one hand, serve as institutions or colleges where people are educated in the spiritual values and truths that Baba had taught through his practice, words and leelas. To realize this goal, every mandir and Sai devotee organization would do well to systematically introduce the following items in their daily devotional programmes:

1. Reading out the life and teachings of Baba to the devotees that gather. Once all the available books on Baba have been read twice or thrice over, over a period of time, they can be made to listen to the large number of leelas that are being reported in the priceless magazines like 'Saileela' and 'Sai Kripa'. On annual festivals like Ramanavami and Vijayadashami, one or two weeks' special exposition of Sai Baba's life and teaching or playlets based on these for children may be arranged.

The consequences of this not being implemented by Sai pracharaks everywhere can be seen in our society as follows-

a) Those, who were inspired by apostles of Baba like late Shri B. V. Narasimha Swamy, who likewise inspired to read Baba's charitra are now passing out. The younger generation knows very little of Baba. In mandirs which were constructed at great expense and effort are looking almost vacant and the attendance of devotees is getting thinner except on festive occasions when many visit the mandirs more as a rational habit rather than through active, strong faith.

b) A few souls that take a little seriously to Sai faith soon end up by acquiring cheap powers like 'materializing' idols, lockets etc. Those who know Baba's charitra intimately must have noticed that Sai Baba specifically forbade Kusha Bhau from doing such things. In the long period of 60 years of Baba's stay at Shirdi, He has performed no such things. What else can be a more powerful directive to us? Even those who are managing Sai mandirs can be seen to-day rushing to the feet of such forbidden sadhus and yet believe that it is a part of their devotion to Baba'.

2. Regular performance of Bhajan at the mandirs, followed by a few minutes of silent Sai nama japa and meditation.

3. Regular singing of Shirdi artis precisely at the same hours as at Shirdi. For this the devotees of various regions can

have the meaning of artis made available in their local languages. This serves a manifold purpose. (a) Those who visited Shirdi will immediately be made to feel that they are in the Shirdi Samadhi Mandir. (b) All the countless Sai devotees all over the country would be linked together into one spiritual family by this subtle spiritual power of Baba. The same principle is involved in our ancient rishis instituting the same pattern of Sandhyavandana for all people in the country at the same time of twilight every day

★

Acharya E. Bharadwaj
Ramkurivari Street, Santhapet, Ongole (A. P.)



Shri Sai Baba's Krupa

I heard about Shri Sai Baba and His krupa which showers on his bhaktas. I visited Shirdi in my childhood and also about 10 years back. In April 1981 Shri Chidanandji, President of Divine Life Society of Rishikesh, visited Sirpur-Kaghaznagar. I am a disciple of Swami Shivanandji Maharaj, who was founder of Divine Life Society, of which I am a regular member since 1967.

I attended morning prayers and satsang of Swami Chidanandji, on the same day of his arrival here. The very day, I had to leave for Ahmednagar for urgent personal work and as such I took leave of Swamiji, telling him that I will be deprived of his satsang etc. In conversation he said, "You are going to Ahmednagar. Shirdi of Shri Sai Baba which is near Ahmednagar is worth visiting for divine grace". This prompted me to get down on my way to Ahmednagar. I reached Shirdi around 12 noon next day and had darshan of Samadhi of Shri Sai Baba and attended arathi and was very much delighted. After this visit I prayed Shri Sai Baba for getting good match for my daughter, the talks for which were in progress and by His grace the engagement could be possible with the desired match.

And into what oceans of
Peace and tranquility, You are
Ferrying us O, Master Divine ?
Is it from the tangles of worldly sorrows
Into the freedom of the 'Sacchidananda'
And from the foibles of bleak tomorrows
Into the fathoms of 'Rinanubandha ?'
I know not why I am
Bewildered to the utmost,
Floundering and faltering at every step;
May be, my mind is circumscribed
And is not able to apprehend
Thy 'Leela' in their myriad facets;
Pardon me hence and shed
Thy incandescent radiance
Upon this humble soul;
Let that cleanse my obscure
Vision from all dross and debris
Of the by-gone 'Janmas' I have
Had, let me sing thy glory
Like the morning skylark
In the cool breeze full of the
Fragrance of the Brahmi—Muhoorat !
Erase, eject and drive away
All my 'Ego' into the abysmal
Depths of the 'never again' and
Bless my humble soul
To swing in Thy bliss eternal !

A. N. Ramaswami

J-36, Pipeline Malleshwaram P. O. Bangalore-3



An Edifice of Sai Fragrance

During March this year (1982) when I just returned from a visit to Shirdi I was suddenly asked by my officers to rush to New Delhi on an urgent official work. As the plane touched the Delhi tarmac, I resolved that at least this time I should not neglect to visit the Lody Colony Sai temple of which I have heard so much from the Sai devotees. So after completing my official work, I took the opportunity and started from the Andhra Pradesh Guest House at No. 1, Ashoka Road, where I was staying. When I reached the place, I was on the dot as the Noon Aarthi just commenced. I became emotional with a film of tears in my eyes, as I felt that Baba was welcoming me and exhorting me not to harbour any misgivings about the place but to come and receive Aarthi with a clean and receptive mind.

Once inside I felt charmed by the marble splendour and the dignified bearing everywhere. The stamp of a dedicated spirit was evident from the faces of the priests and in the efforts of the management. What struck me supreme was the fact that the entire spectacle inside was permeated with the image of a splendid discipline. Everything was arranged spic and span. The neat and clean appearance exuded an aura of divinity all round.

With difficulty I tore my eyes from the majestic resplendency of the marble splendour of our beloved Baba and turned my gaze at the pious men and women who were gliding into raptures of a heaven-bound happiness. I found some were singing with the lisp of a rhetoric while some with their eyes closed, hands raised and palms poised flat in deep supplication. Their mood of devotion bore the depth of their instinct. A majority of the devotees were, however, singing in the lilting refrain of the prevailing spirit of devotion. The entire hall, conscious of the rising surge of inspiration, was imbued with the intoxication in a saintly symphony.

After the Aarthi devotees started moving about in devotional dignity. There was no hurry and flurry and no bumping into each other despite the rush. All were at their ordained duties as though in a well-rehearsed drama. The scenerio inside was a pleasing pattern of activity without the strains of any superfluous actions. There was no jostling and pushing as the devotees organised themselves into a line to touch Baba's feet and shower petals on Him which were kept in neat patterns in allotted places. The entire process was a silent, dignified proceeding which amazed me most and tickled my admiration. The prasad giving at the door was also very well organised and nicely arranged. The preservation of the aesthetic value conspicuous everywhere. The entire place was more like an Ashram than a temple. So much of discipline was maintained everywhere. Discipline builds character and an orderly way for life. I am happy beyond words to have visited such a beautifully maintained temple.

My half-hour visit to the place has filled me with such longing nostalgia that I feel like visiting it again and again. I am not away from truth if I say that I am visiting and having darshan of Shri Sai Baba in Lody Colony temple everyday in my mind's eye. Such is the magnetism of that place. To draw people like that to the temple, the persons who took pains to build it must have poured their heart and soul into it and must be pristine pure in their hearts. Else such inspiring atmosphere is not possible.

Shri R. S. Chitnis I have no hesitation in stating that he is a prince among Sai devotees. The Sai temple in Lody colony is a shining example to what I dedicate in words.

The next day as a stranger I went to meet Shri Chithis at his West End Cinema with some trepidation. But he soon dispelled all my fears as he not only welcomed me without any reservation, but spent a glorious half-an-hour with me dilating on the glories of Shri Sai Baba even while he was so busy with his work—a film

distributor was sitting before him and the morning show was on with its rush and problems. His life bears the semblance of the ancient King Janaka Maharaj while living in luxury all around with the attendant mundane problems, was still not affected by those surges of wealth and problems. Even if he is, hypothetically speaking, suddenly shorn of all the sinecure surrounding him, I am sure, he will feel none the loser for he revels not in the material comforts but in the comfort of the nectar of Sai grace. When I realised that my further stay would affect his work, I made a subtle gesture and rose to go. Hospitality brimming all over, he walked with me upto the porch and bade farewell. I could not help the film of tears dimming my eyes.

I have great praise for SAI KRIPA edited by him as a quarterly. The contents and the get up speak volumes of the care and patience he takes in bringing out the magazine. The editorial efficiency, the quality of articles and the technical excellence are far superior and I have no second thoughts to recommend it to all Sai devotees to read it regularly along with SHRI SAI LEELA. When I asked Sri Chitnis why he does not run his magazine as a monthly, he just shrugged his shoulders and said, "Where is the time, dear one? But if only Sai endows me daily with a day of more than twenty-four hours" His words trailed into silence from there. But his silence was quite significant and eloquent enough to suggest how busy a man he is.

Whatever Sri Chitnis does in his Sai Mission, his efforts diffuse a fragrance which nobody can ignore to take notice of. A thing of beauty is a joy for ever. His efforts reflect that beauty. I salute to his munificence and pray to Sai to spare him for many, many years more to come -- to be the guiding light to the millions of Sai devotees. ★

K. Navin Chander

251/2 Rt, Vijaynagar Colony, Hyderabad - 500 457 (A. P.)

Another Miracle of Garland

(Shri J. R. Contractor is a wealthy businessman from Bhutan. He is a very sincere devotee of Shri Sai Baba and firmly believes that all his prosperity is due to Shri Sai Baba's grace. He therefore donates liberally to Shirdi Sansthan for its needs. During the time of the Ex Court Receiver Shri K. S. Pathak, Shri Contractor donated a sum of Rs. 1,50,000 for the construction of the Mangal Karyalaya at Shirdi and it was constructed out of that donation. As the rush of devotees to Shirdi is constantly increasing, the Mangal Karyalaya originally constructed was found to be inadequate for the people visiting Shirdi. Hence the present Court Receiver Shri Kakresaheb requested for a further donation from Shri Contractor, who after looking to the estimate of the construction of the first floor of the Mangal Karyalaya, donated a further sum of Rs. 2,10,000 for that purpose and the first floor was added to the Mangal Karyalaya and it was declared open on 30.1.82 at the auspicious hands of Shri Contractor when his family members also were present. It is therefore quite appropriate that Shri Sai Baba should show his Leela which Shri Contractor has described in the following article, to such a sincere Sai devotee.)

—Editor

This morning we received a copy of your Sai Leela Divali number. On seeing the magazine, I thought to myself, why not I also write something in the publication. I opened the page of contents and my eyes fell on the item 'Miracle of Garland' in which is described getting bigger of the garland on the photo of Shri Sai Baba at Dadar.

And I was reminded of the garland miracle that happened to me.

I am a devotee of Shri Sai Baba for the last more than 30 years and visit Shirdi more than once in a year. Many years back about fifteen-twenty years ago, I went up the Shrine for Abhishek in Shirdi. In the end I found that I had forgotten to bring at that time a garland for Shri Sai Baba. After finishing the puja, I got up and was thinking what to do. In the meantime, on my left, I saw a Chopdar bringing to me a big white garland for Shri Sai Baba. I told him that it was not mine. So he raised up the garland and announced if it belonged to anybody in the crowd. Nobody answered! So, I requested him to give me the garland and he handed it over to me. I put the garland round the neck of the statue of Shri Sai Baba and bowed to Him.

I sent round my nephew and others to enquire at each and every shop, if any of the shop-keepers had sent the garland to the Mandir and not received payment.

Every shop-keeper refused saying that he had not sent any such garland.

Next time again, I went up the Samadhi, bowed, got up and thought to myself if the miracle of the garland would happen again. Again, there I saw the Chopdar bringing me a big white garland, as if I had given it to him to bring it to me at the proper time. I put the garland round the neck of Shri Sai Baba and thanked Him for His miracles. ★

J. R. Contractor

C/o Mr. D. J. Lawyer, 106, Mansarovar, Mt. Pleasant Rd
Bombay 400006

Face To Face With Shri Sai Baba

I am a devotee of Shri Sai Baba since 1941. I have explained at length in my article to Shri Sai Leela Journal "My first pilgrimage to Shrikshetra Shirdi" detailing some of my experiences with Shri Sainath. On 19th September 1982 I had gone on a pilgrimage to "Keesaragutta" a very holy pilgrimage centre (A holy hillock called Keesaragutta) about thirty five K. M., from Hyderabad City with eight other Sai-devotees to offer worship to the presiding deities there i.e. Shri Ramalingeswara Swamy (Lord Shiva) and Goddess Shri Bhavani Devi. Many worship Shri Sai Baba as 'Sai-Siva' too. We reached that holy place which is of great historical as well as spiritual importance dating to 4th to 6th centuries (A. D.) Recently Archaeological Survey Team also unearthed lot of materials and their findings show that once upon a time this area was the seat of 'Vishnu Kundilin' kings dating back to 4th to 6th centuries (A. D.) After offering prayers to Shri Ramalingeswara Swamy and Shri Bhavani Devi, Shri Kashi Vishwanatha Swamy and Shri Hanuman and visiting 101 Shivalingas installed near the temple all of us got down the holy hillock Keesaragutta at about 1.30 p.m. We had to wait for the bus till 3.30 p.m. to take us back to Secunderabad and thereafter we had to reach Hyderabad by other city buses to our various placements in the city. Naturally all our thoughts were on Shri Sai Baba 'Siva-Sai and all of us being Sai devotees we were chitchatting about our varied experiences with Shri Sai Baba. When I narrated two of my personal experiences Messrs K. Navin Chandar, M. Hanumantha Rao, P. Krishna Murthy, Rajeswara Rao and others induced me to send an article on them to Shri Sai Leela Journal official organ of Shirdi Sansthan since 1923. I am glad to say that now I am a subscriber to this journal since 1981. It is known to all of us that this magazine is doing exemplary work of spreading the devotion to Sai Baba and may Shri Sai Baba bless it with a very bright future. In this context may I appeal to all

subscribers to this journal to emphasise to other Sai devotees to become subscribers to this journal and such of those who have adequate means to 'gift' this journal by paying annual subscription of Rs. 10/ to those who are dear and near to them in the cause of service of devotion to Shri Sai Baba as is being done in case of some other journals known to many of us.

Coming back to the incidents i.e., (Leelas) I have experienced in the twin cities of Secunderabad and Hyderabad which I recollected on 19th September' 82 at Keesaragutta and narrated to other Sai devotees and now sharing all the Sai devotees are as follows :

In August, 1979 when I happened to visit an automobile workshop at the fag end of the Tank Bund at Secunderabad to enquire whether a vehicle given for body building were attended to and as to when they will be able to send it back to Mahaboobnagar (a district headquarters place) in Telangana Region of A. P. when I was working as a Joint Director of Agriculture, Mahaboobnagar, an old "Fakir" clad in black clothes was seen by me walking on that road simply called me to him and informed me that he was going to Shirdi. I offered him Rs.5/- He blessed me with his hand and handed over to me a small metal coin bearing Sai Baba's picture in sitting posture. Many people on the road were gazing at Him. He did not call any other person going on the road and disappeared into the side gullies in that locality. I felt that by his grace I was face-to-face with Shri Sai Baba in his guise as an old fakir on that wonderful day for few seconds. Blessed are those who take refuge in Shirdi Sai Baba.

The second 'Leela' experienced by me was in November 1980 when an old Fakir clad in pure white clothes was just going in front of my house in Hyderabad. I was tempted to call him to my house. He obliged me and I offered him a chair in which he

quickly sat. I called my wife, grand son, and introduced them to him. I could not contain myself on that occasion and I explained to the Fakir my difficult situation in life. My health was not sound and I was also on long leave waiting for a transfer to Hyderabad for which I had requested the higher authorities. The old Fakir coolly listened to what I said and blessed us and told us that Shri Sai Baba will drag us out of all these difficulties. He took tea. When I gave him a Kannika of Rs.5/-he demanded Rs.10/- and did not accept anything short of it. I gave Rs.10/- with all reverence and highest regards. He told us that he was on his way to Shirdi. We all guided him to the gate of my house and he soon briskly left that street leading to Hanuman temple in Viveknagar.

Slowly my difficulties are getting solved and by His grace after expiry of my leave I was posted to Hyderabad in April '81 and I felt it is due to His blessings. "Those who cannot go to Shirdi for reasons beyond their control may have darshan of Shri Sai Baba right at their house." This seems to have happened to me as narrated above and I am sure that this old Fakir was none else than my Lord Sainath, who appeared in that form before us on that day. I am highly grateful to Shri Sai Baba for His blessings to me at all the time in my life.

By His grace I could visit Shirdi for the first time on 12 th August, 1982 with my family which, happened to be a Thursday and also it coincided with 'Krishnashtami', an auspicious day and therefore I felt that my life's mission has been fulfilled by His divine will and call. ★

M. Narasimha Rao

Joint Director of Agriculture, House No. 1-336/104,
"Yadagiri" Viveknagar, Hyderabad. 500020. (A. P.,)



Miracle of Our Sai Baba

I have been a devotee of Shri Sai Baba since 1975. I always seek His blessings and help.

It was in the month of October, 1981, that a match was proposed to my daughter through a relative of mine. In fact I did not then think of celebrating the ceremony of my daughter's marriage as she was continuing her studies and I also felt the difficulty of managing the financial resources. My wife was in a fix that we cannot celebrate the function at that moment. And my relatives also encouraged me for its postponement.

But having full faith in Shri Sai Baba and leaving everything to Him, I firmly proceeded with the negotiations with the parents of the bridegroom and within a very short time everything could be settled satisfactorily. The date of the marriage was fixed for 6th November 1981 and the same could be celebrated successfully by Shri BABA's Grace. The couple is very happy and they developed a keen desire to see Shri Sai at Shirdi.

Is not it a great grace and miracle of Baba, who helped us for the marriage ?

My thousand pranams to God Sai Baba of Shirdi. ★

M. Satyanarayana

B- 27/F-I Madannapeta Colony, Hyderabad-500659. (A. P)



Shri Sai Baba Fulfills My Desires

It was in the year 1947, when I was studying in VI standard at Belgaum, that one of my relatives took me to the Railway Station Master's house, where the pooja of great Saibaba was going on. Prior to that I had no idea of Saibaba of Shirdi. It was my good luck that the portrait of Baba attracted me and I bowed my head to Shri Saibaba. Baba blessed me with a sweet smiling face. From that time I became Baba's devotee. He is my "Ishta-Devata". Except Baba I cannot accept any body as my "Ishta-Devata".

I am proud to say that Baba is guiding me and protecting me in every walk of my life. I am very lucky to have the opportunity of becoming the "Sai-Das" (Servant of Baba) Though I am born in a poor family, I am very rich in the grace of Sai Baba. By his blessings I am leading a decent life with a dutiful wife, intelligent children and helpful friends.

I will narrate here a recent incident of Baba's help to me, which I cannot forget. During April 1982, all of a sudden, my wife expressed her desire of performing the thread ceremony of my two sons, one 15 years old and other 12 years old. As it was a first big function in my house, my wife insisted that the function should be a grand success with all relatives and friends attending it. I roughly estimated the expenses at Rs. 5,000/-. At that time, actually I had no extra money except my monthly salary. I accepted the challenge on condition that Baba should permit me to hold the function. Then I straight away went to Mr. K. R. Gapinath's house where a big sized Baba's photo is installed, and it is known as a place of 'Sanctity'. I bowed to Baba and placed chits in front of Him asking permission. Further I received the permission from Him to proceed with the performance of the function. On getting the permission from Baba, within a week's time I got a loan of Rs. 1,500/- from my friend (a Baba's devotee) and Rs. 1,500/- as an advance from

my officer and Rs. 1,300/- as my leave salary which had been pending since five months. Though I got the financial help, the place for the function was not available, as the Karyalayas were engaged before. Knowing our inability to find a place, one of the big merchants had given us his big vacant bungalow free of rent which was very convenient with all the facilities. A cook was also found in no time and the Muhurat was fixed on 27th May 1982, which was a Thursday. Invitation cards were printed and distributed. I had sent an invitation card to Shri Baba at Shirdi also. Relatives had come and the atmosphere of my house was changed. The celebrations were started with the "Gana Homa" and the "Pooja" of Lord Sai on 25th May 1982. I had a confidence of Baba's arrival to the function in some form and that He would grace the function and help us to make the function a successful one. I entrusted the management and supervision of cooking and lunch arrangements to my co-brother. And, I also instructed him to keep a watch and find out whether Baba comes. To his surprise, all of a sudden one Sadhu directly came to the dining room without asking anybody and stood silently. Guessing that the Sadhu was Baba himself, my co-brother offered him food very gladly. Soon after getting the food, the Sadhu went off with a smile. I had actually invited about 250 persons for lunch and had arranged for food upto that extent. But really double the number attended the function and had their lunch. No doubt Baba had stood behind me and unknowingly guided me at each and every step in performing the function. I am proud to say that Baba came to my rescue.

If we have firm faith in Baba and surrender to Him completely He will certainly help us and protect us. May His choicest blessings shower upon all of us. ★

V. G. Vaidya

Sai Krupa 3/2 S. R. H. S. Bldgs K. H. B. Colony Vikasnagar,
Hubli - 580021 (Karnataka)

Miracle in Vibhuti Casket

Dear Sai devotees, You might have learnt from the article "divine grace" in Shri Sai Leela of July 1982 issue, how a widow school mistress with a very meagre income was blessed with Shri Baba's grace in solemnising the marriage of her daughter in great pomp and show. It was also evidently clear how sympathetically Shri Baba responded to her sincere prayer in wiping away in no time the fantastic demand of hard cash as dowry from the mind of the would-be in-laws of her daughter, which stood as a great bar in finalising the marriage for a couple of years or so.

Now, the present article will tell you how the school mistress was further graced by Shri Baba in her smooth progress on "devotional path" with utmost thrill and inspiration. It has already been reported that she started regular worship of Shri Baba a few days prior to her daughter's marriage about five years back.

At the very out-set, after installing the portrait of Shri Baba in her house, she came to me with a small tin casket to fetch vibhuti for her daily use, But as the stock of vibhuti with me at that time was quite inadequate, she could be spared with a very small quantity, which practically lay at the very bottom of her container. She was, however, advised to start working for the time being and was promised more supply of the same as early as possible.

A good many months passed in between, but she never turned up to fetch vibhuti any more. When we met next, I was tempted to enquire how she had been managing with that small quantity of vibhuti, which she initially took from me long ago.

I was simply stunned to get her reply that she had all along been using the same vibhuti, which she got from me. To

my utter surprise she further revealed that her casket was always full with vibhuti, though it was being consumed in adequate quantity every day by all members of her family.

I was still more stunned when I heard from her that once she went out-station for a couple of days only and on her return she found to her utter surprise and disappointment that the casket was almost empty. Bewildered as she became, she immediately enquired into the matter and came to know that during her absence, her daughter-in-law handled the casket of vibhuti. She, however, cautioned her not to touch the casket any more in future with unclean hands and advised her to ask for the same whenever she required. Thereafter in course of time she was very much contented to notice that the bulk of uibhuti inside the casket went on increasing day by day and there had never been any dearth of it. And as such there was no occasion for begging it from others when the ever-kind and gracious Baba Himself had been meeting her requirements.

In conclusion, I put forth my humble submission that the foregoing small instance is a concrete example of "profound dedication", which could only be recognised and prized by our beloved Baba, the omniscient. This also depicts how Shri Baba Himself inspired a sincere devotee to march on unflinchingly on the path of devotion. Such examples make our hearts spontaneously filled with high praise for our Lord Sainath. Let us bow at His lotus feet. ★

Dr. B. G. Das

President, A. B. Vidyalaya Intermediate College Management
Committee, 305/1, Mirpur Cantt, Kanpur-208004 (U. P.)





NOVEMBER 1982

The schools and colleges had vacation in this month on account of Diwali. The devotees therefore visited Shirdi in large numbers along with their wards. The staff of the Shirdi Sansthan had therefore more work than normal though it was the month of Diwali Festival. The following artists gave their various programmes in the Samadhi Mandir during the course of the month:-

Keertan :- Smt. Krishnabai Yewalekar, Satara.

Pravachan :- 1. Shri Raghunath K. Karkhanis, Pune 2. Shri Deshmukh maharaj, Shirdi 3. Shri Laxman maharaj Wakchoure, Shirdi.

Vocal Music, Instrumental music, Dance, Bhajan etc.

1. Shri Hari Om Sharan, Bombay 2. Smt. Nandini Sharan, Bombay 3. Shri G. J. Sharma, Bombay 4. Shri Tapan Bhat 5. Shri Budda Ramayya, Vishakhapattanam 6. Smt. Godawari Ramkrishna Gaokar, Pune 7. Smt.-Leelawati Kotkar, Kalyan 8. Shri Annasaheb Katre, Gautamnagar 9. Sou. Chandraben V. Bhate, Wadala 10. Shri R. T. Tikku Kashmiri, Bombay 11. Shri K. T. Sanjivrao, Hyderabad 12. Miss. Vandana M. Shiroadkar, Bombay 13. Shri Mohan V. Shiroadkar 14. Shri. Vishwanath Mohan Shiroadkar 15. Shri Kashi-nath L. Kadnekar 16. Shri Vasant K. Kadnekar 17. Shri Gopinath N Walke, Vikhroli 18. Sou. Hemalata Shrihari Khobragade, Nagpur 19. Smt. Malini Kapileshwari, Bombay 20. Smt. Sujata Kapileshwari 21. Shri Ulhas Yashwant Nochankar 22. Shri Ashok B. Jadhav 23. Shri Pintar B. Koli 24. Shri Siman F. Maruche

25. Shri Mohan N. Banmali 26. Memon Mahomed Rafi 27. Sayed Mahomed Arman 28. Smt. Sulabha Samant 29. Smt. Meena N. Samant 30. Abhinav Vidyalaya, Vasai 31. Shri Bhagawati Sai Sansthan, Kurla, Shri Narayanswami 32. Shri Pandurang Waman Bhosale 33. Shri Shantarambuwa Pabalkar, Bombay 34. Sou. Nirmala Pabalkar 35. Shri Phirangai Talim Datta Bhajani Mandal, Kolhapur 36. Shri Vasant Dattatraya Phulambrikar, Bandra 37. Sou. Asawari Waykul, Ghatkopar 38. Shri Shiwaji T. Dhumal, Shirdi.

Kartiki Mahaekadashi. :- On 27-11-82, The Palkhi of Shri Sai Baba was taken in procession through the Shirdi village on account of Kartiki Mahaekadashi. The procession returned to the Samadhi Mandir at 11-30 P. M. and the Shejarati was sung on that day after that.

Tulsi Vivaha :- As usual Tulsi Vivaha was celebrated on a grand scale. The devotees attended the function in large numbers. Prasad was distributed to all, who were present at the function.

One stitch amily planning operation camp for ladies

Under the joint auspices of Sai Baba Sansthan, Shirdi, Taluka Panchayat Samiti, Kopargaon and Primary Health Centre, Rahata, a Camp for one stitch family planning operation for ladies was held at Shirdi, in the Sainath Hospital on Monday the 29th November, 1982.

In all fiftythree operations were performed in the camp. All the ladies were served tea, lunch etc. free by the Shirdi Sansthan. One steel plate, 2 waties and one blanket was given to every patient by the Shirdi Sansthan and the Taluka Panchayat gave rupees one hundred in cash to each patient. Rs. 10/- were also given to each person who prompted the lady to undergo the operation.

Dr. P. S. Deshpande and Dr. M. Y. Deshmukh from Sainath Hospital, Dr. Gunjal from the Primary Health Centre, Rahata,

Dr. S. K. Patil, Dr. Dodhiwalla, Dr. Swami from Puntambe, Dr. Kshirsagar from Chasnali mainly performed the operations and Dr. Barde, Dr. Gulbani, Dr. Inge and Dr. Namdhari gave their valuable help to the doctors, who performed the operations. B. D. O. Shri Shinde, Shri Kalwaghe, Sabhapati of the Taluka Panchayat, Kopargaon, Shri K. H. Kakresaheb, the Court Receiver of the Shirdi Sansthan, strived very hard for successful culmination of the camp.

At the end of the one-day camp a function was held under the presidentship of Shri K. H. Kakesaheb when all who helped for the success of the Camp were thanked and felicitated at the hands of the president.

Weather :- The weather at Shirdi was quite cool in this month. There was no disease of any sort present either in the Shirdi village or in the Sansthan premises.

DECEMBER 1982

In this month the schools and colleges had Xmas holidays. Therefore excursions of schools colleges and factories came to Shirdi in large numbers with the result that the rush of devotees visiting Shirdi, was constant. The staff of the Shirdi Sansthan had therefore lot of work during this month

The following artists gave their various programmes in the Samadhi-Mandir :-

Keertan:- Shri Sadashivbuva Puranik, Alandi, Dist. Pune

Pravachan:- 1) Shri Deshmukh Maharaj, Shirdi, 2) Shri Jagannath Maharaj Wakchoure, Shirdi 3) Shri N. K. Kulkarni, Pandharpur, 4) Shri Nivrutti Atil Gondkar, 5) Shri Laxman Maharaj Wakchoure, Shirdi.

Vocal and Instrumental Music, Dance, Bhajans, etc. :-

1) Shri Vitthal Vishnu Manjrekar, Shirdi 2) Shri Ashok P. Sonarikar, Dahivar, Amalner, 3) Sou. Meena Chitrakumar Rele, Bombay 4) Shri Kushal C, Rete, Bombay 5) Shri A.

V. Gupta, Andhra Pradesh 6) Smt. Vishalakshi Sachay 7) Shri Vasantryao Pawar, Kharsundi 8) Smt. Suneeta Sharadchandra Kawade, Ahmednagar 9) Shri Nandkishor Purohit, Baroda 10) Shri Vitthal Rukmini Prasadik Bhajani Mandal, Karale 11) Shri A. Manuja, Khar 12) Smt. Jyoti A. Manuja, Khar, 13) Shri Murli Manuja 14) Smt. Maneesha Manuja 15) Shri Vasudeo Bhoovar, Bombay 16) Sou. Nirmala Balaraj Naidu, Shirdi 17) Miss Vijaya V. Patil, Bombay 18) Shri Dattatraya Tukaram Dayal, Satara 19) Shri Prabhakar Dinkar Panchal, Bombay 20) Shri Chandrashekhar Manohar Deshpande, Hadapsar 21) Shri Chandrashekhar Gadgil Orchestra Party, Pune 22) Sou. Rashmi Chandrashekhar Gadgil 23) Shri Mukesh Dedheya 24) Shri Sanjaya Bhide 25) Shri Dattatraya Khedkar 26) Shri Rajkumar S. bnani 27) Shri Gopal Thakur 28) Dr. Vijaykumar M. P. Hyderabad 29) Shri Anurag Shrivastav, Kandivali, Bombay 30) Smt. Saguna Chandavarkar, Bagalkot 31) Shri Ashok Kashinath Katdade Bhagur.

Dattajayanti :- On Wednesday the 29-12-82 Dattajayanti was celebrated as usual in the Samadhi Mandir, A large number of devotees attended the function. Shri Sadashivbuwa Puranik, Alandi, performed the Keertan in the Samadhi Mandir about the birth of Shri Dattatraya. The Rath of Shri Sai Baba was illuminated with electric lights and was also decorated and taken in a procession through the Shirdi village, accompanied by music, bhajan etc. The Shejarati was sung on that day after the Rath procession returned to the Samadhi Mandir.

Weather :- The weather at Shirdi was free from disease during this month. The nights were quite cool.



श्रीसाईलीला

हिंदी विभाग

अनुक्रमणिका

फरवरी १९८३

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साईचरणप्रेम

वरदान दो ऐसा कि आपके चरणों में प्रीति सदा बनी रहे ।
आपके नित पूजन अर्चन में श्रद्धा हमारी बढ़ती रहे ॥ १ ॥

स्तवन, पाठ, कीर्तन भजन से आपको रीझाते रहे ।
आपके प्रेम की आशिष गंगा से हम पावन सदा रहे ॥ २ ॥

नित पंचज्योती आरती कर सुरक्षा आपकी पाते रहे ।
आपकी ज्योतीर्मयी आभा से पंथ उदात्त चलते रहे ॥ ३ ॥

प्रतिपल श्वास श्वास नाम रहण साईं साईं गूंजता रहे !
नाम जपन की पावन धारा में प्रेममग्न हम बहते रहे ॥ ४ ॥

जहाँ हो, जैसे हो, साईंतीर्थ के सत स्मरण में रत रहे ।
मुरत आपकी हम सब भक्तों के उरमें रमती रहे ॥ ५ ॥

प्रभु जगकी हर कृतिमें आपका रूप देखते रहे ।
आपही हमारे हैं, हम है आपके, आपके ही रहे ॥ ६ ॥

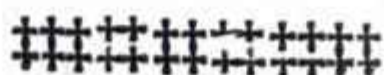
ना कोई चिंता, ना कोई पीडा, बस सदा ही हसते रहे ।
हम आपके चरणों की धूल और उदीसे आवाद रहे ॥ ७ ॥

आपके प्रताप से संसार सागर की लहरे शांत रहे ।
सदा आपही के प्रसाद से जीवन नैया को पार लगाते रहे ॥ ८ ॥

हर जनम में आपही की संनिश्रा में चलते रहे मुहब्बत पाते रहे ।
वरदान दो ऐसा कि आपके चरणों में लौटते रहे ॥ ९ ॥

महेशभाई वैष्णव

“साई मंगल” ३ पूर्वी प्लॉट्स, आंबावाडी, सी. एन्. विद्यालय के पीछे,
कोजी कॉर्नर, अहमदाबाद ३८०००७



पांच पैसे का कमीशन

१ अक्टोबर १९७९ के दिन विजया दशमी का पर्व था। उस दिन से श्री बाबा का ६१ वाँ पुण्यतिथी आरम्भ हुई थी। इस महापर्व पर श्री बाबा ने मेरे हाथ से तीन घण्टे पारायण की पोथी, पूर्ण करवा लिया था। उन पोथियों की प्रतियाँ लेकर मैं ३० सितम्बर को श्री शिरडी क्षेत्र को हाजिर हुआ। पुस्तक के साथ विजया दशमी के दिन समाधी का दर्शन लिया, समाधी पर पोथी रखकर, बुकस्टॉल पर पहुंचा, और पुस्तक बिक्री के लिए वहाँ बैठ गया।

श्री बाबा की कृपा से मैं पुस्तक लिख सका और उनकी कृपा से ही वह प्रकाशित भी हुआ, एक तरफ यह आनन्द था, दुसरी तरफ लेखक होकर भी स्वयं पोथी बेच रहा हूँ, दुःख भी हुआ, परन्तु मन को यह समझाकर, शान्त किया, के श्री बाबा के गुणवर्णन की यह पोथी, बेचना भी बाबा का ही सेवा-कार्य है।

पुणे में भी भेंट स्वरूप उस पोथी को प्रसाद के साथ बांटना था, प्रातः यहाँ शिरडी में संस्थान के अनेक पदाधिकारियों को पोथी की प्रती भेंट स्वरूप देते रहा। अनेक सन्त सज्जनों तथा मित्रों को भी यह पोथी भेंट स्वरूप प्रदान किया। साथ ही बुकस्टॉल आकर पोथी बेचने लगा। मैं गिन्हाइकों को पोथी देता था और मेरे पुणे के परम मित्र श्री जगन्नाथराव कुलकर्णी पैसे का लेन देन करते थे।

कुछ लोग पुस्तक पर कमीशन मांगते थे, हमने किसी को रुपया किसी को दो रुपया तक कमीशन दे दिया, हमारा हेतु था के आज किसी न किसी प्रकार अनेक पोथियोंकी बिक्री करें, यहाँ तक के कुछ लोग पुस्तक उधार भी लेकर गये पर हमने इन्कार नहीं किया, आज तक फिर उनकी सूरत कभी नजर तक नहीं आयी।

लाभ हानी की तरफ मेरी सोच नहीं थी, केवल इस कारण आनन्द में था के श्री बाबा ने मेरे द्वारा इस महान कार्य को करा लिया।

एक दिन गुरुवार का दिन था, बुकस्टॉल पर मैं अकेला था, क्या देखता हूँ के एक विलकुल सफेद कपडे पहने हुवे जिन्होने सफेद रुमाल भी सर को बांध रखा था, गिन्हाइक के रूप में मेरे सामने प्रकट हुवे। श्री बाबा के पोथी

को हाथ में लेकर अपने मस्तक को लगाया, फिर अपने छाती को लगाया, इस प्रकार उन्होंने उस पुस्तक को तीन बार अपने मस्तक को लगाया, पुस्तक का गुणगान किया और आनन्द के उद्गार निकाले ।

उस व्यक्तिने कहाँ के “देवा, इस पोथी को हम खरीदेंगे हमें पाँच पैसे का कमीशन दिजीए” ।

मैंने कहा के आप जितना चाहे कमीशन ले सकते है, इस पर उन्होंने कहा के हमें पाँच पैसे से अधिक कमीशन की आवश्यकता नहीं । हम तुम्हे सात रुपये देंगे तुम हमको पाँच पैसे दे दिजीए ।

मेरे पास पाँच पैसे नहीं थे इस कारण मैंने दस पैसे दे दिये, उन्होंने उसे नहीं लिया, विरुध में उन्होंने पाँच रुपये की एक नोट, एक रुपये की एक नोट और उपर पचांनब्बे पैसे दे दिये, पोथी को लेकर चल गये ।

दूसरे दिन, नित्य की तरह मैं स्नान करके प्रथम समाधी मन्दिर का दर्शन लेकर बादमें द्वारकामाई दर्शन हेतु पहुंचा । भक्ति और श्रद्धा से पूर्ण मन लगाकर बाबा की प्रार्थना की और उस पत्थर पर सर रखा, जिस पर बाबा बैठते थे, उन सगंमरमर के पादुकाओं पर सर रखा तो आश्चर्य, कुछ फूलों के फखन्डीयों के साथ एक वस्तु मेरे मस्तक को चिपक गया, उसे निकालकर देखा, तो वह पाँच पैसे थे ।

मन कहने लगा के, कल कमीशन ले गया था, वही आज कमीशन दे गया । इस प्रकार श्री बाबा बतलाना चाहते थे के मेरे ध्दारा रचित पोथी बाबा को पसन्द आ गयी ।

ध्यान में स्वयं ही आ गया के कल के कमीशन एजन्ट, सफेद पोथी श्री बाबा स्वयं थे । श्री बाबा ही थे ।

(प्रसिध्द साईभक्त लेखक और कवि प्रा. र. भी. पुजारी पुणे ३० का उपरोक्त लेख, श्री साईलीला मराठी, दिपावली विशेषांक में प्रकाशीत हुआ (१९८१) । इस लेख का अनुवाद प्रा. गुन्डेराव पटवारी, विदर ने किया है ।)

प्रा. गुन्डेराव पटवारी
एन्. एफ्. जे. कॉलेज, विदर

क्या लेना क्या देना

लेना चाहते हो	तो आशिर्वाद लो
देना चाहते हो	तो नीची निगाह से दो
जीतना चाहते हो	तो तृष्णा को जीतो
सुनना चाहते हो	तो गरीबों की पुकार सुनो
पहनना चाहते हो	तो नेकी का जामा पहनो
पहचानना चाहते हो	तो आत्मा को पहचानो
चलना चाहते हो	तो सतसंग के लिए चलो
बोलना चाहते हो	तो मीठे वचनही बोलो
तोलना चाहते हो	तो अपनी वाणी को तोलो
पढना चाहते हो	तो महा पुरुषों का जीवन पढो
जानना चाहते हो	तो परमेश्वर को जानो
करना चाहते हो	तो दुखियों की सहायता करो
मारना चाहते हो	तो बुरी इच्छाओं को मार डालो
छोडना चाहते हो	तो झूठ को छोड दो
दर्शन चाहते हो	तो देव दर्शन करो
बनाना चाहते हो	तो अपने मन को पवित्र बनाओ
खाना चाहते हो	तो क्रोध को खाओ
पीना चाहते हो	तो प्रभु चिन्तन का शर्बत पीओ
देखना चाहते हो	तो अपने अवगुणों को देखो
बनना चाहते हो	तो सदाचारी बनो

हर बच्चों बूढ़ों और बवानों से यह सब कुछ हमने लेना देना है
दुनिया का हर प्राणी ही मानों प्रकृति की एक अनोखी सेना है

एम. एल्. खन्ना

साई व्हिला, मकान क्र. १५७७ फेज-५, मोहाली पंजाब १६००५५

बाबा की महिमा अपरम्पार

आप ठीक तो है ना : आपको चक्कर तो नहीं आ रही है? उल्टी तो नहीं हो रही है ? डॉक्टर को बुलाना है क्या ? इस प्रकार के असंख्य प्रश्नों की चौछार आप पर होने लगी थी । सब घबराये हुये थे, उस समय रात के ग्यारह बजने वाले थे ।

आपने शान्त स्वर में जवाब दिया, “मैंने अभी अभी बाबा की उदी का प्राशन किया है, उन पर पूरा भरोसा है । आप बिल्कुल चिन्ता न करें, मुझे कुछ नहीं होगा । ”

यह बात अक्टूबर १९८२ माह के उस रात की है जब माताजी इन्दौर म. प्र. से बड़ौदा गुजरात भाभीजी को मायके छोड़ने गई हुई थीं । हम सब इन्दौर में ही थे ।

ट्रेन का सफर दिनभर रहा । आखिर रात के दस बजे बड़ौदा के दर्शन हुये । काफी दिनों बाद सभी रिश्तेदार आपस में मिलें थे, सो इधर उधर की सुनने-सुनाने में ग्यारह बज गये । दिनभर की थकान ने भूख को मिटा दिया था । जरूरत थी तो सिर्फ आराम की । लेकिन भाभीजी का मायका जो ठहरा, आखिर ना ना करते बात खिचड़ी चावल-दाल की पर आ सकी ।

बिजली को भी उसी समय जाना था । जैसे जैसे खाना बनकर तैयार हुआ और थालियां परोसी गईं । माताजी ने तीन-चार कौर खा लिये थे । भाभीजी ने भी भोजन शुरू करने के उद्देश्य से हाथ में एक कौर लिया ही था कि उसे थाली में छोड़ वे कुछ घबराई सी खड़ी हो गईं । अब लालटेन का मंद प्रकाश उनकी थाली में एक लम्बी सी मृत छिपकली दिखा रहा था । खिचड़ी के साथ उबल जानेके बाद छिपकली पर हलदी-मिर्च की एक पर्त चढ़ी दिखाई पड़ रही थी । माताजी के अलावा अभी किसी ने भोजन शुरू नहीं किया था । बाद में सारा भोजन फेंक दिया गया । घटना मामूली सी थीं लेकिन परिणाम के बारे में सोचने से शरीर पर रोंगटे खड़े हो जाना स्वाभाविक था ।

भाभीजी और परिवार वालों ने माताजी पर प्रश्नों की बौछार कर दीं आप ठीक तो हैं ना? आपको चक्कर तो नहीं आ रही है? उल्टी तो नहीं हो रही है? डॉक्टर को बुलाना है क्या वगैरे वगैरे। इस प्रकार के प्रश्नों ने अपना मनोवैज्ञानिक असर प्रभाव छोड़ना आरम्भ कर दिया था। माताजी का "जी" सचमुच घबराने लगा था। वे २५० मील दूर इन्दौर में छोड़े अपने बच्चों को याद करने लगी। आखिर उन्होंने पास में रखी पुड़िया खोल कर बाबा की उदी प्रार्थना करते हुये उनसे प्रार्थना की कि बाबा मुझे सकुशल इन्दौर पहुंचा दें ताकि अपने बच्चों से मिल सकु। आपने सभी से बाबा पर श्रद्धा रख सबुरी के लिये कहा।

रात लम्बीसी मालूम हो रही थी। परिवार के सभी सदस्य चिंतित थे। भाभीजी अधिक परेशान दिखाई पड़ रही थी मानो इस घटनाके लिए अपने आपको जिम्मेदार समझ रही हो। शेष रात करवटें बदलते गुजर गई।

आखिर सुबह हुई, सूरज की पहली किरण माताजी के शब्दों में नवजीवन का सन्देश लेकर घर पर पहुंची थी। होनी ने अनहोनी पर विजय पाई थी। बाबा की उदीने अपने प्रभाव से छिपकली के तथाकथित ज्वर को बेअसर कर दिया था। माताजी का स्वास्थ्य एकदम ठीक था।

इससे एक बार फिर यह सिद्ध हो गया था कि यदि भक्तों की बाबा पर सच्ची श्रद्धा हो तो वे संकट के समय उनके साथ हैं। बाबा के सामने सभी नतमस्तक थे।

एक दिन रुककर माताजी इन्दौर सकुशल लौट आयी। घटना का विवरण सुनते समय उनकी आंखों में आसू दिखाई पड़ रहे थे। उन्हीं के आग्रह पर यह अनुभव अपनी कलम से "श्री साईलीला" के पाठको तक पहुंचाने का प्रयास मैंने किया है।

सचमुच बाबा की महिमा अपरम्पार है।

प्रकाश प्र. कर्षे

२४, रामबाग, इन्दौर (म. प्र.)

शिरडी के सन्त

हिन्दि में प्रथम बार दोहा, सोरठा, चौपाई छन्दो में श्री सच्चिदानन्द सद्गुरु साईनाथ महाराज का चरित-काव्य श्री ठाकुर भूपतिसिंह द्वारा रचित प्रकाशित हुआ है। इसकी भूमिका मध्यप्रदेश उच्च न्यायालय के न्यायमूर्ति मा. गोवर्धनलाल ओझा द्वारा लिखी गई है जो यहां प्रस्तुत है। — सम्पादक

भारत भूमि की यह एक विशेषता रही है कि यहां समय के अनुसार हमारी समस्याओं के निराकरण के लिये समय समय पर अवतार या महान आत्मायें हमारा मार्गदर्शन करने हेतु अवतरित होती रही हैं।

भारत में विदेशी राज्य तथा विशेष कर अंग्रेजी राज्य के प्रभाव के कारण हमारा धर्मान्ध समाज संकुचित भाव से पीडित तथा क्षुद्र भावना से ओतप्रोत था। भारत में विभिन्न धर्म विशेषकर हिन्दू और इस्लाम तथा इन धर्मावलंबियों के पारस्परिक वैमनस्य से विदेशी शासक जो लाभ उठा रहे थे उसका राजनैतिक असर तो इस देश के इतिहास पर अपना प्रभाव रखेगा ही, पर आपसी वैमनस्य एवं धार्मिक विरोध यदि समाप्त हो जाये तो सारी समस्या का समाधान सम्भव है यह शिरडी के सन्त के अतिरिक्त कोई और सोच नहीं सकता था।

दोनों धर्मों के मानने वाले आपस में सहानुभूति तथा सौहार्दभाव पैदा करते यह तो सोचा जा सकता था, पर दोनों का समन्वय हो जाये यह शायद कल्पनातीत था, भारत की समस्या का सही निराकरण दोनों के समन्वय से ही पूरी तरह सम्भव था, यह हमारा इतिहास तथा संस्कृति दर्शाते हैं।

बौद्ध तथा जैन क्रांति तथा उसके तीव्र विरोध के बाद इनका हिन्दु धर्म में समन्वय तथा भगवान बुद्ध को अवतार मान लेना इसी समन्वय की संस्कृति का प्रतीक था। और ऐसा लगता है कि इसी दिशा में इस समाज को हिन्दु-मुस्लीम विरोध से बचाने के लिए शिरडी के सन्त का अवतार हुआ। दोनों धर्मों के विरोध को समाप्त कर एक व्यक्तिगत, एक विचार, एक मार्ग पर समन्वय का एक नया तथा विचित्र प्रयोग इस अवतार के माध्यम से हुआ।

शिरडी के सन्त का जीवन चरित्र, विचार तथा मार्गदर्शन समाज के लिए आज भी उतना ही सत्य है जितना कि बाबा के जीवन काल में था । ऐसे विषय पर एक काव्य, जो दोहा, चौपाई तथा सोरठा में हो, अवश्य ही बाबा के व्यक्तित्व, विचार और दर्शन को जन जन तक पहुंचाने में सफल होगा ।

हिन्दी साहित्य में दोहा, चौपाई और सोरठा हमेशा ही धार्मिक चरित्र के चित्रण हेतु चुने गये और महाकवि तुलसीदासजीने "रामचरित मानस" की रचना कर दोहा-चौपाई को भक्ति-काव्य का प्रभावी माध्यम ही बना दिया । उसी माध्यम को अपनाकर ठाकुर भूपति सिंहजीने शिरडी के साई बाबा के चरित्र तथा उनके दर्शन को जनमानस तक पहुंचाने का यह शुभ प्रयास किया है, इस हेतु वे साधुवाद के पात्र हैं ।

यह काव्य शिरडी के साई बाबा के सर्व-धर्म-समन्वय के सिद्धांत को देश-विदेश के हिन्दी भाषी लोगों के जीवन तक पहुंचा सके, यही मेरी कामना है ।

गोवर्धनलाल ओझा

न्यायाधीश, मध्यप्रदेश उच्च न्यायालय, जबलपुर

आर्त पुकार

जय जय साईनाथ भगवान ।

जल से दीप जलाने वाले ॥

दुखियों का दुख हरने वाले ।

भक्त हृदय में बसने वाले ।

अभय - प्रदायक हे शिर्डीश्वर ।

तुम हो कलियुग के परमेश्वर ।

तेरी लीला अपरम्पार ।

भय - भय - व्याधि मिटाने वाले ।

जय जय साईनाथ भगवान ॥ १ ॥

जो भी शरण तुम्हारी आता ।
मनवांछित सब कुछ पा जाता ।
तुम विश्वास - भक्ति - श्रद्धा से ।
बन जाते सबके अपने-से ॥

तुम हो भक्त सखा भगवान ।
बिगडा भाग्य बनाने वाले ॥
जय जय साईनाथ भगवान ॥ २ ॥

घट - घट व्यापक रूप तुम्हारा ।
तुमसे पूरित जग - जग सारा ।
भूत - भविष्य वर्तमान के ।
ज्ञाता तुम जन - जन जीवन के ।

जय हो महाविष्णु भगवान ।
उलटा चक्र चलाने वाले ।
जय जय साईनाथ भगवान ॥ ३ ॥

भवसागर के तारक तुम हो ।
पतितों के उद्धारक तुम हो ।
शरणागत के पालक तुम हो ।
दुष्टों के संहारक तुम हो ।

सुन लो मेरी आर्त पुकार ।
नैया पार लगाने वाले ॥
जय जय साईनाथ भगवान ।
जल से दीप जलाने वाले ॥ ४ ॥

प्रो. आद्या प्रसाद त्रिपाठी
अध्यक्ष, हिन्दी विभाग, ज. ह. शासकीय महाविद्यालय, वृन्दा, (म. प्र.)



हरदम साया साई का

श्री साईबाबा की बहुतसी किताबों में मैंने पढ़ा था, संकटकाल में जो कोई साईबाबा को पुकारता है, बाबा उसकी मदद करते हैं, उसे बचाते हैं। और जो कोई उनकी तरफ एक कदम बढ़ता है, तो साई उसकी तरफ दस कदम बढ़ते हैं।

पहली बार मैंने भी श्री साईबाबा को ऐसे संकट के समय पुकारा जहाँ बहुत बड़ा जनममुदाय प्रधान मन्त्री का भाषण सुनने एकत्रित हुआ था। बहोत देर इन्तजार करने के बाद रात बारा बजे प्रधान मन्त्री आयीं और पांच दस मिनट का भाषण सुनाकर चली गयीं। उनके चले जाने के बाद कॉलेज के छात्रों ने गुंडागर्दी शुरू कर दी। उनके असार ठीक नजर नहीं आ रहे थे। तभी पहली बार मुझे बाबा की याद आयी। मैंने दिल में बाबा को याद किया और कहा हे बाबा हमारी रक्षा करना। बस और कोई मौका मुझे बाबा को याद करने का नहीं मिला। लडके समन्दर की लाट की तरह औरतों में घुस आये। पुलिस भी कुछ न कर सकी। लेकिन इतनी भयानक परिस्थिती में हम कुछ औरतों की हिफाजत कुछ पुरुषों ने की! मैंने बाबा की इस करनी पर उनको धन्यता अर्पित की और बार बार प्रणाम करती रही।

इस घटना के विरुद्ध की एक घटना भी बताती हूँ। मेरे भाई के घर शादी थी। दो चार दिन पहले जाना था। पहले जाऊँ या न जाऊँ इस बात का निश्चय मैं नहीं कर पा रही थी। साईबाबा के चित्र के पास जाकर मैंने उन्हें देखा लेकिन कोई प्रार्थना या विनन्ती नहीं की। और मैं बच्चों को लेकर भाई के घर गई। वहाँ मुझे बहुत अपमानित होना पडा। इतना कटु अनुभव मेरे जिन्दगी में मुझे पहली बार मिला था। इस घटना से यह सबक सिख लिया। गरीबों की जगह सिर्फ भगवान की चरणों में होती है। वो ही गरीबोंका रक्षक है।

इस घटना से साई ने मुझे यह सबक सिखलाया की जब भी कोई उलझन होगी तो उसे मैं उन पर सौंप दूँ। पुरा भार उन पर डाल दूँ। बस, जब भी कोई कठीन प्रसंग आता है तो मैं पुरा भार उन पर डालकर निश्चित हो जाती हूँ तो बाबा ही मेरी रक्षा करते हैं।

यह घटना सीदी सादी सी है। फिर एक बार साई ने मुझे बचाया। मैं अपने बहन को एक अच्छी साड़ी भेंट स्वरूप देना चाहती थी। और थोड़ी ज्यादा किमती साड़ी मैंने पति को पूछे बगैर ले आयी। अब मुझे डर हो रहा था की, कहीं वे इस बात से नाराज तो नहीं होंगे। मैंने दिल में बाबा को बार बार याद किया। मेरी बहन से वे कह रहे थे, देखो पद्मा अब तो तुम्हारी बहन की पगार बढ़ गयी है। इस महिने से १२०० रुपये मिलेंगे। यह सुनते ही मैंने कह दिया, “तुम तो खालीपीली तनख्वा बढी सो सुनाते हो। उससे साली को क्या लाभ? ऐसे समय साली के लिए कुछ तो भेंट ले आते।” मेरी बात सुनकर वे कहने लगे “मैं तो बुदु हूँ मुझे कुछ नहीं समझता तुम खुद अपनी बहन को कुछ तो ला देती”। तभी उसी मौके पर मैंने उन्हें साड़ी बताया तो बड़े खुश हूये। इस तरह बाबाने बातों ही बातों मेरी उलझन सुलझा दी।

इसी तरह की घटनाएं हैं जो मुझे बाबा साथ होने का एहसास दिलाती हैं। ऐसी ही एक छोटीजी घटना है। इस साल के दशहरे की यह घटना है। नवरात्री के प्रथम दिन घटस्थापना में भवानी की एक प्रतिमा की और दुसरे घट में साईबाबा की प्रतिमा की। स्थापना मेरे पतीने की। रात में मुझे नींद लगी थी की, विछीने आकर बाबा की प्रतिमा गिराकर खोपरा ले गयी। आवाज से मेरी नींद खुल गयी तो मैंने देखा बाबा की प्रतिमा गिर गई है। यह देख क्षण भर के लिए अशुभ लगा। लेकिन झट से विचार आया, नहीं नहीं अशुभ जब होता माँ भवानी की स्थापना की प्रतिमा गिर जाती। बाबाने तो स्वयं गिरकर माँ भवानी को बचाया है याने अशुभ होनी को टाला है। कितने महान है मेरे साईबाबा। उनकी महानता के कारण मेरी आंखें भर आयीं।

यह घटना तो बड़ी मामुली है लेकिन फिर भी बाबा की कृपा का अच्छा उदाहरण है। एक बार बछडीने गाडे हुए खुटे को लेकर भाग गयी! और दो चार दिन वापीस नहीं लौटी तो मुझे शक होने लगा की किसीने बांध डाला होगा। मैं बाबा से प्रार्थना की “बाबा सोनी (बछडी) को कोई न बांधे। अगर गांव में कहीं नजर भी आयी तो मैं तुम्हे मिसरी का नैवेद्य चढाकर बांटूगी”। और सचमुच दुसरे दिन बाजार में घर के नौकर ने बछडी को देखा। मैं निश्चिंत हो गयी। बाबाने मेरी एक मामुली बात को भी मान लिया है। मिसरी का नैवेद्य जिस दिन चढाया वह दिन था गुरुवार। सुबह ८-३० बजे नैवेद्य अर्पित किया और महान आश्चर्य गाय अपने आप घर तक आयीं।

बताओ इसे क्या कहें साईबाबा का साया या साथ ? साया कहुं तो भी कोई फर्क नहीं होता, साथ कहुं तो भी कोई अन्तर नहीं आता । कारण मैं और मेरे घर के सभी सदस्य साईबाबा के परम भक्त हैं । जैसे तो भगवान सभी का भला करते हैं । फिर भक्त तो विश्वास के साथ उन्हें पुकारते हैं तो क्या साईबाबा उन्हें ठुकरा देंगे ? वे तो हरपल अपने भक्तों की रक्षा की चिन्ता करते हैं । ऐसे महान बाबा को मेरा बार बार प्रणाम ।

श्रीमती मथुराबाई हिबारे द्वारा डाँ. वायू. एन. हिबारे
मकान क्र. १-८-२५ सिंगार विदर मु. पो. जि विदर (कर्नाटक) पिन ५८५४०१

बाबा का दरबार

बाबा के दरबार में दुखदर्द मिटाये जाते है ।
गर्दिश के सताये लोग वहां सीने से लगाये जाते है ॥
ये वो दरबार है जिसकी शान ही निराली है ।
आते हैं रोज बाबा तेरे दरपे सवाली हैं ॥
ये वो दरबार है जो सब द्वारों से न्यारा है ।
यहां पर तो शहनशाह तक भी आके हारा है ॥
ये वो दरबार है जहां मुरादें पूरी होती है ।
वे औलादो की झोली यहां बल्दी भरी जाती है ॥
ये वो दरबार है जहां पर बाबा को मनाना है ।
बाबा को मनाके मन साफ बनाना है ॥
ये वो दरबार है जहां सब दुखडे हरते है ।
बिगडे हुये मुकद्दर यही पर तो संवरते है ॥
ये वो दरबार है जहां से भक्त खुश होकर जाते है ।
हम आके दरबार की महिमा तुम्हे सुनाते है ॥
ये वो दरबार है जहां बन्दे तरह तरह के आते है ।
हिन्दु मुस्लिम सिख ईसाई यही पे शीश नमाते है ॥

रानी द्वारा श्री हरिश्चन्द्र

४/१६९ धर्मपुग बहादुरगढ १२४५.०७ (हरियाना)

शिरडी के कृष्ण कन्हाई

वृन्दावन के ज्यो कृष्णकन्हैया
ज्यो शिरडी के बाबा साई
कान्हा की थी जसुदा मैया
बाबा की मां बाज्या वाई,

शिरडी लीलाभूमि बनाई
साई, धूनी अलख जगाई.

गोकुल में लीला दिखलाई
वैठ कदम की शीतल छाई
नीम तले अवतरे चिदानन्द
सगुण दिगम्बर शिरडी साई,

लीला अमित दिखाई
साई, धूनी अलख जगाई

राम नाम से गूंजी अयोध्या
भोला नाथ को काशी माई
मस्जिद में ही दास गणू को
तुमने गंगा-यमुना नहाई

अभिनव ज्योति दिखाई
साई, धूनी अलख जगाई

कान्हा ने गोवर्धन साधा
रवालवाल का बनके भाई
शिरडी में आकाश था बांधा
सटका भर दिखलाके साई

ओ शिरडी के कृष्ण कन्हाई
साई, धूनी अलख जगाई

विजय

७६, पटौदी हाऊस, नई दिल्ली - ११०००१

प्रति,

श्री संपादक जी महोदय,
श्री साईलीला, बंबई ।

महानुभाव,

यह अत्यंत प्रसन्नता की बात है कि भगवान सच्चिदानन्द सद्गुरु श्री साईनाथ महाराज के दिव्य सन्देश का चतुर्दिक प्रसारण करती हुई "श्री साई लीला" पत्रिका मानवता की बहुमूल्य सेवा कर रही है । आपकी नवीन सृजानोन्मुख सूझ बूझ एवं संस्थान के रिसीवर श्रीयुत के. एच. काकरे साहेब के सदप्रयासों से पत्रिका नई सजधज एवं आकर्षण के साथ उत्तरोत्तर रूप से आध्यात्मिक जगह में लोकप्रिय होती जा रही है । श्री "साई लीला" का अन्ग्रेजी हिन्दी संस्करण अन्ग्रेजी जानने वाले तथा हिन्दी भाषी साई-भक्तों में और भी लोकप्रिय हो सकती है एवं उसके प्रसार में वृद्धि हो सकती है यदि पत्रिका का प्रचार अधिक व्यापक रूप से संस्थान के अधिकारियों द्वारा किया जावे । ऐसे कितने ही साई भक्त हैं जिन्हें यह भी ज्ञात नहीं है कि "श्री साई लीला" नाम की कोई पत्रिका प्रकाशित भी होती है । इस हेतु कुछ विनम्र सुझाव निम्नान्कित रूप से प्रस्तुत कर रहा हूं । आशा है उसकी ओर समुचित ध्यान दिया जावेगा :-

१. शिरडी में श्री साई बाबा समाधि मन्दिर के सामने या जहां अम्बिषेक के कूपनों की विक्री होती है वहीं एक सुस्पष्ट बड़ा सूचना पट लगाया जावे जिसमें श्री साई लीला पत्रिका मराठी / अन्ग्रेजी / हिन्दी का परिचय हो तथा साई भक्तों से उसके वार्षिक ग्राहक बनने की अपील हो ।

२. "श्री साई लीला" पत्रिका के ग्राहक बनने के लिये शिरडी संस्थान में पृथक कक्ष हो जहां पत्रिका के अंक अवलोकनार्थ एवं विक्रयार्थ उपलब्ध हों ।

३. संस्थान को विशिष्ट दान देने वालों को "श्री साई लीला" चालू-गत अन्क भेंट किया जावे ।

४. "श्री साई लीला" पत्रिका के आजीवन सदस्य एवं मानद संरक्षक बनाये जाने का प्रावधान हो, इस हेतु विशिष्ट दान-राशि निश्चित की जावे ।

५. रेल्वे स्टेशनों पर व्हीलर के जो बुक स्टाल हैं उनमें "श्री साई लीला" पत्रिका अवश्य विक्रयार्थ उपलब्ध कराई जावे। इस हेतु ए. एच. व्हीलर अलाहाबाद से सम्पर्क किया जावे।
६. "श्री साई लीला" पत्रिका सर्वधर्म समन्वय, मानवीय ऐक्य, प्रेम, सत्य, धर्म, शान्ति, अहिंसा, नैतिकता एवं चारित्र्य निर्माण की भक्ति प्रधान पत्रिका है जिसे सरलतापूर्वक सार्वजनिक पुस्तकालय-वाचनालयों एवं शिक्षण संस्थाओं हेतु स्वीकृत कराया जा सकता है। राज्य सरकारों के शिक्षा विभागों को पत्रिका मान्यता हेतु पत्र-सहित प्रेषित की जावे।
७. श्री साई लीला पत्रिका में बिन्दु क्रमान्क ६ के अनुसार अच्छी सामग्री प्रकाशन हेतु आध्यात्मिक विद्वानों के विचार एवं रचनायें भी आमन्त्रित की जावे इस हेतु वर्ष में एक विशेषांक श्री साई नाथ पुण्य तिथि पर प्रकाशित करना उचित होगा।
८. "श्री साई लीला" के वर्तमान पाठकों से कम से कम ५-५ वार्षिक सदस्य बनाने की अपील की जावे।

जय साई नाथ ।

विनीत

ठाकुर भुपतिसिंह

प्राचार्य शासकीय आदर्श उच्च माध्यमिक विद्यालय

पाटन, जिला जबलपुर (म. प्र.)

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