

SHRISAILEELA

January-February, 2004

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ANSTHAN, SHIRDI

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Mantras for Daily Prayers to Shri Ganesha

- Om Sumukhaaya Namaha
- Om Ekadantaaya Namaha
- Om Kapilaaya Namaha
- Om Gajakarnaaya Namaha
- Om Lambodaraaya Namaha
- Om Vikataaya Namaha
- Om Vighnaraajaaya Namaha
- Om Ganaadhipaaya Namaha
- Om Dhumraketave Namaha
- Om Ganaadhyakshaaya Namaha
- Om Bhaalachandraaya Namaha
- Om Gajaananaaya Namaha
- Om Vakratundaaya Namaha
- Om Surpakarnaaya Namaha
- Om He'rambaaya Namaha
- Om Skandhapurvajaaya Namaha

A Prayer for Shri Ganesha - using all His Names

Sumukhashcha E'Kadantashcha
Kapilo Gajakarnakaha
Lambodarashcha Vikataha
Vighnaraajo Vinaayakaha
Dhumrake'tur Ganaadhyaksho
Bhaalachandro Gajaanana
Vakratundaha Shurpa Karnaha
He'rambaha Skandha Purvajaha

A New Year Prayer

Bathed in Purity
Dressed in Novelty
Smiling with Hopes
Blossoming with Joys
Stands Ready this New Year
To Greet every one
O ! Dwarakamai Mata !
Prakriti Swaroopini !
Pray ! Sprinkle Your
Kind Guru Kripa with
Peace and Prosperity
Leading Your Devotees
Continually
On the Right Path.

– Saicharan
Rebbapragada V. Rajeshwar Rao
Kovvur, West Godavari Dt. A. P.



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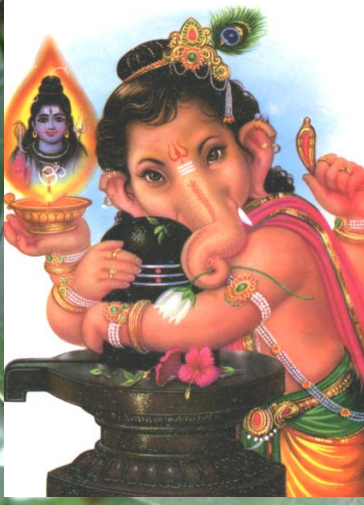
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Shri Ganesha Stuti

Shrikanto Maatulo Yasya Janani Sarva-Mangalaa I

Janakaha Shankaro Devaha Tama Vande Kunjaraanama II

**He for whom Lord Vishnu is the Uncle, Whose mother is the Universal auspicious one,
Paarvati,**

Whose father is Lord Mahaa Deva, to Him the Omkaara Faced One,

Shri Ganesha, I am doing the salutations.

**Vakratunda Mahaakaaya Suryakoti Samaprabha,
Avighnam Kuru Me' Deva, Sarva Kaaryeshu Sarvadaa.**

You, of the twisted trunk and the massive body,

With the dazzle and light of millions of suns;

Lead me on a path that has no obstacles nor hindrances

Clearing the way in all that I do, ever, and always !

Shuklamabharadharam Vishnum Shashivarnam Chaturbhujam,

Prasanna Vadanam Dhayaye't Sarva Vighnopa Shaantaye'

Mushaka Vaahana Modaka Hasta -

Saamara Karna Vilambita Sutra

Vaamana Rupa Maheshvara Putra-

Vighna Vinaayaka Paada Namaste'.

Agajaanana Padmaarkam Gajaananam Adharnisham,

Ane'kadantam Bhaktaanam Ekadantam Upaasmahe'.

Gajaananam Bhuta-ganaadi Sevitam,

Kapittha Jambu Phala Saara Bhakshitam

Umaasutam Shoka Vinaasha Kaaranam

Namaami Vighneshvara Paadapankajam



LORD GANESHA

Lord Ganesha is known by other names as well i.e. Lord Ganapati, Lord Gajanana, Lord Vinayaka and Lord Vighneshwara.

Lord Ganesha is the first son of Lord Shiva. Lord Shiva represents the supreme reality. The son of Lord Shiva symbolises one who has realised the reality. One who has discovered the Godhood in him, and is the Lord of all beings.

Lord Vinayaka means the supreme leader, literally on who has no leader himself. Lord Vighneshwara is the Lord of all obstacles, worshipped in the initiation of Hindu rituals and ceremonies. Lord Vighneshwara removes all obstacles, overcomes all challenges of life. There is a belief that no undertaking will meet with failure if the grace of Lord Vighneshwara is invoked. He has limitless powers; removes the obstacles; protects all worlds; and shows compassion by giving the highest knowledge.

The large ears and head of Lord Ganesha indicate that he had gained previous wisdom through *shravana* (which means listening to the eternal truths of Vedanta) and *manana* (which is independent reflection upon those truths). An elephant's head on a human body in Lord Ganesha is meant to represent supreme wisdom.

The trunk which springs from his head represents the intellect, the faculty of discrimination which necessarily arises out of wisdom. Man's intellect is of two distinct types, namely the gross and the subtle. Gross intellect is that aspect of his discrimination which is applicable to the realm of the terrestrial world, that part of the intellect which distinguishes between the pairs of opposites existing in this world i.e. day and night, black and white, joy and sorrow etc. Subtle intellect is the other aspect of his discrimination which distinguishes between the infinite and the finite, the real and the unreal, the transcendental and the terrestrial. The trunk of an elephant has the unique capacity of performing both gross and subtle activities. A trunk can uproot a tree. It can pick up a needle from the ground. Hence Lord Ganesha's intellect penetrates the realms of the material and spiritual worlds. That is the state which man must aspire to reach. A man of perfection is thus rooted in the supreme wisdom. He is not victimised by the pairs of opposites existing in this world. He has transcended the limitations of opposites in the world. He is beyond opposites. This idea is well represented in Lord Ganesha by having one of his tusks broken. The common man is tossed between the two opposites (tusks). When he has completely mastered the influence of these pairs in him, he becomes a Lord Ganesha.

Lord Ganesha's large belly is meant to convey that a man of perfection can consume and digest whatever experiences he undergoes. He maintains an unaffected grace in and through all these fluctuations of the world.

Lord Ganesha sits with **one leg** folded up and **the other leg** resting on the ground. The leg on the ground indicates that one aspect of his personality is dealing with the world, while the other is ever-rooted in single-pointed concentration upon the supreme reality.

At the feet of the Lord is spread abundance of **food**. Food represents material wealth, power and prosperity. When a man follows the high principles of living indicated above he achieves these material gains. He has them always at his command though he has an attitude of indifference towards them.

Beside the food is a **tiny rat** looking up towards Lord Ganesha. The rat does not touch the food; but waits for the master's sanction as it were for consuming it. The rat represents desire. A rat is the greediest of all animals. The rat looking up denotes that the desires in a perfect man are absolutely under control. The activities of such a man are motivated by his clear discrimination and judgement rather than by an emotional craving to enjoy the variety of sense objects of the world.

Among Hindus it is inauspicious to see the moon on the Vinayaka Chaturthi day, that is, the birthday of Lord Ganesha. The *pouranic* story says that the moon saw Lord Ganesha riding on his tiny rat and laughed..... For this reason the moon is condemned and people are forbidden to see it on this day.

Lord Ganesha riding on his rat indicates the superior intelligence that can keep the destructive ego, the mouse, under control.

Lord Ganesha has **four arms**. The four arms represent the four inner equipments of the subtle body, namely mind, intellect, ego and conditioned - consciousness. Lord Ganesha represents the pure consciousness, the *atman* which enables these four equipments to function in you.

In one hand Lord Ganesha holds **an axe** which symbolises the destruction of all

desires and attachments and their consequent agitations and sorrows. In another hand he holds **a rope**. The rope is meant to pull the seeker out of his worldly entanglements and bind him to the everlasting and enduring bliss of his own self. In the third hand he holds **a rice ball** which represents the joyous rewards of spiritual seeking. A seeker gains the joy of satisfaction and contentment as he progresses on the path of spiritual evolution. In the fourth hand he holds **a lotus**. The lotus represents the supreme goal of human evolution. By holding the lotus in his hand he draws the attention of all seekers to that supreme state that each one of them can aspire for and reach through proper spiritual practices. He blesses all his devotees to reach the supreme state of reality.

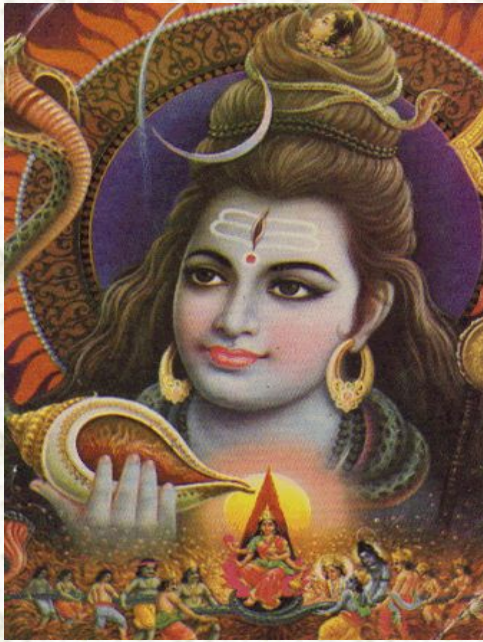
Compiled by Dr. Viraf Minocher Dhalla
Acknowledgement : The Symbolism of
Hindu Gods and Rituals
by A. Parthasarthy

When there is One God who is formless and Omnipresent, then why do we read all these stories and pray to the several forms of Gods ? Why not just read the philosophy and get all the benefits and good life ?

Prayers, Mythology and Rituals are more like a vehicle to support and carry our thoughts, (understanding our Faith and Philosophy) like Fire, a Utensil, Water and dry Rice are all needed to cook Rice suitable for consuming, though Rice is the only essential material for the food.

– Kanchi Paramacharya Pujya-

Sri Chandrashekhara Saraswati



LORD SHIVA

Lord Shiva is the third member of the Hindu Trinity representing Godhead in its aspect of annihilator, in charge of the 'constructive – destruction' in the continuous process of creation, preservation, destruction and re-creation or transformation. The divine consort of Lord Shiva i.e. Goddess Uma or Goddess Parvati, is the *shakti* or power, the kinetic energy that supplies the energy to static Lord Shiva.

Lord Shiva is said to be **seated in deep meditation** on the top-most point of the world on mount Kailas in the Himalayas, facing the south. In this aspect, he is known as **Dakshinamoorti** 'the auspicious God facing the south', the embodiment and dispenser of the supreme knowledge. His posture symbolises perfect inner harmony and poise, experienced by a man of realisation. He is rooted in God-consciousness. He maintains perfect serenity, equanimity and tranquility in all environments and circumstances. Meditation is the final gateway to self-realisation. **The snow-white** background symbolises the absolute purity of mind. In the *sattwic* state when the mind is absolutely pure and steady you recognise your supreme self. That is the state of Lord Shiva in Kailas.

Eyes are half-closed signify that his mind is absorbed in the inner self, while his body is engaged in the outer world. One aspect of his personality is ever-rooted in God-consciousness, while the other is dealing with his worldly duties and responsibilities.

His third eye : Lord Shiva is said to have a third eye (in the centre of the forehead), the eye of wisdom as well as annihilation. The eye whose vision reaches beyond that of the two mortal eyes. Lord Shiva has a divine vision of reality. Your vision is confined merely to perceptions, emotions and thoughts; but when you transcend the limitations of your body, mind and intellect you gain realisation of your inner self. That is by the opening of the third eye. Three eyes also represent his capacity to see in the past, present and future. Lord Shiva as the overLord 'sees' everywhere, everything taking place in his manifested system in the past, present and future and can bring about any result instantaneously.

Conquering ego : In the Hindu scriptures ego is represented as **a serpent**. The ego serpent harasses you with its venom of desires. Man suffers all his lifetime from the pressure of his own desires. When you conquer the ego the same ego that has degraded you into a limited existence now 'adorns' your personality. This idea is indicated by Lord Shiva coiling the serpent around his neck. He has total mastery over his desires, his senses, his ego.

Carrier of Ganga : Lord Shiva is said to carry the Ganges in his **locks**. Ganga stands for the ultimate truth, the ultimate reality, the knowledge of the *atman* or the divinity in man. The knowledge of *atman* is symbolically represented as being located above in the heavens. Lord Shiva is reputed for his great *tapas*, contemplation and meditation. Such a man alone can describe the great spiritual truths. The power to understand the higher truth is limited, hence the release of the Ganges from Lord Shiva's head in trickles. Thus by gradual and slow education spiritual knowledge is gained in this world. Ganges water stands for spiritual wisdom. Hence a dip in the Ganges is considered sacred, his union with the supreme reality.

Trishula : Lord Shiva is sometimes shown with his trident (*trishula*) in his hand. The *trishula* is a three-pronged weapon which symbolises the destruction of the ego with its three-fold desires of the body, mind and intellect. Lord Shiva with his weapon indicates his victory over his ego and attainment of the state of perfection.

The trident becomes in the hand of Lord Shiva not an instrument of cruel injury but an instrument for bringing people back to righteousness when they stray from the path of *dharma* and need a persistent reminder and a steady prodding for making them change their course.

The tiger-skin apparel, the matted hair and the ashes are all symbols signifying supreme renunciation. He is the God of austerity. Supreme knowledge cannot; but be followed by austerity. The matted hair proclaims the length and intensity of his '*tapas*'. The ashes that besmear the body recalls to us that this body of which we are proud and obsessed is ultimately bound to end up merely as ashes, which realisation is really the starting point in the march toward the final emancipation. Also the complete dehydration of all the *vasanas* at the mental level. The tiger-skin apparel stands for *vairagya* and absolute unconcern for the body and its supposed needs.

The tiger's skin on which Lord Shiva sits Lord Shiva is the Lord of any manifested system, he is its base, the hidden source from which everything needed in the systems comes. This potential energy, like electrical energy in a charged battery, is ready for any kind of work and it is the fact of its being potential which is symbolized by the tiger's skin.

The blue colour of the neck symbolises the pervasiveness or *maya* or *vidya* up to the neck, and beyond the neck is the seat of *jnana* leading to eternity and immortality. Blue colour represents distance, the vast distance that we'll have to traverse from the realms of the body and the heart to the realms of the intellect and beyond.

Crescent moon : The moon is a very apt symbol of the phenomenon of time with its two important features : duration and periodicity. The crescent moon is an ornament of Lord Shiva's body and not an integral part of it. The unmanifest reality transcends time.

Compiled by Dr. Viraf Minocher Dhalla

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IS BABA LIVING AND HELPING NOW ?



DEVOTEES EXPERIENCES AFTER BABA'S MAHASAMADHI ON 15TH OCTOBER, 1918 FROM BOOK ENTITLED 'AMBROSIA IN SHIRDI' WRITTEN BY SHRI RAMALINGAM SWAMI, INSPIRED BY SRI SIVANESAN SWAMIJI OF SHIRDI

(Contd. from Nov.-Dec., 2003 issue)

62) BABA MANIFESTED HIMSELF AND HELPED SHRI CHANDULAL M. MEHTA AND HIS WIFE SMT. MANUBAI RESIDING AT KADIA KAVEESWAR POLE, NEAR BALA HANUMAN HOUSE NO. 579, AHMEDABAD, GUJARAT.....

In February 1953, my wife Smt. Manubai went to Sri Sai Baba Mandir at Therkanbhuvan along with her lady friends. Her friends told her that the Almighty Baba fulfils the wishes of the devotees irrespective of caste, colour or creed.

On the following Thursday, my wife went with our younger son Mukesh to the same Mandir with a coconut during the evening *aarati*. After the *aarati*, the temple *pujari* distributed *prasad* which was composed of different types of eatables. My wife received some groundnuts as *prasad*; but she was unhappy as some others got *pedhas*. Thinking that *pedhas* were given to selected persons, she was returning home via Kaveeswar Pole Naka. On the way, an unknown person approached her with a bag in his hand saying, "Your husband has sent this *prasad*. Please keep it in your bag !" He then put the *prasad* in her bag and went away.

At that time, I was in the office. When I reached home, my wife told me about the *prasad* I sent through an unknown person. I was surprised as I knew nothing about it. We realised it was Baba's *leela* to fulfil the wishes of my wife. We became devotees of Sai after this incident.

In 1948, I performed the marriage of my elder brother Shri Naveen M. Mehta for which I borrowed Rs. 50,000/-.

I was repaying the debt from my salary. Since he was not an earning member, nobody was willing to give their daughter in marriage to my elder brother and thus he was not married before me.

My wife used to solve the crossword puzzle in the Gujarati news-paper Jansatta. In April 1953, she solved the puzzle no. 6 as usual. At that time, I still had to repay a debt of Rs. 3,333/- out of the Rs. 50,000/- I had borrowed. By Baba's grace my wife won a prize of Rs. 3,333/- in the puzzle. Nothing less, nothing more ! Was it not a miracle of Sri Sai Baba to relieve me from my debt ?

In the Bhadrapad month of 1953, the annual *shraddh* ceremony of my father and father-in-law came on the same day. As I had to attend the office, I could not visit my in-law's house that day. My children were at school. At about 4 p.m., a man who perfectly resembled my father-in-law visited our house with a khaki coloured bag which he handed over to my wife and went away. The bag contained some raw vegetables, *udi* and Rs. 1.25/-. When I came home, my wife gave me this news. I wondered, how my father-in-law who had died in 1950 in Jaipur could visit my house in Ahmedabad in 1953 ! Was it not the wonderful *leela* of Baba to fulfil my wishes ?

In 1954, I went to Shirdi with my family intending to stay for a day and return. But owing to heavy rains, I was forced to stay for three days in Shirdi. When I returned to Ahmedabad, I had the good fortune to meet His Holiness Sai Sharan Anand, Baba's intimate devotee. I used to visit him now and then and soon became his staunch devotee. My wife gave daily *bhiksha* (alms) to the Swamiji.

In 1958, when Swamiji had gone to Mumbai, my wife went to Shirdi via Dadar by herself. At the railway station, there was a big crowd and she was not in a state to get a seat. At that time, an old man came and asked her for her *chaddar* (bed-sheet). Though she was in doubt initially, she eventually gave it to him. The old man disappeared into the crowd. After a while he returned as the train came into the station and told her to get into a particular compartment. When she obeyed, she found her *chaddar* there and the old man helped her to put in her luggage in the compartment. When she turned towards the platform to pay him, he went away without asking for anything. Wasn't it indeed a miracle of Baba to help her in her hour of need ?

In 1980, between the 10th and 15th of March, a man wearing a silk shirt and *dhoti* came and handed over a packet to my wife, sometime between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. My wife asked him to wait; but he went away without saying anything. When she opened the packet, it contained four and a half railway reservation tickets from Ahmedabad to Manmad by Navjeevan Express with the names of all our family members. When I returned from the office, my wife handed them over to me. I was astonished to see them and upon inquiry at the railway station found them to be correct. I was sure that it was none other than Baba Who had given them. I asked His Holiness Sai Sharan Anandji. He advised me to proceed to Shirdi, as per Baba's wish. Accordingly we went to Shirdi utilising the tickets upto Manmad.

Once again in 1981, between the 10th and 15th of March, a man came and threw a packet in our house between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. My father opened it and there were four and a half railway reservation tickets from Ahmedabad to Manmad as well as *udi*. We once again visited Shirdi, as per Baba's wishes, utilising the tickets upto Manmad.

In 1982, for the third time, on 12th March, between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. a man like a rikshawala came and gave a packet to my wife and went away. When she opened it, she once again found four and a half reservation tickets from Ahmedabad to Manmad. We once again visited Shirdi by utilising the tickets upto Manmad.

On March 15, 1983, my wife and daughter went for *darshan* of the *Samadhi* of His Holiness Sai Sharan Anand, who had expired on 25th August, 1982. They offered *prasad* to the *pujari* (*sevak*) there. When he gave them *prasad* from a white plastic jar which was there, a packet came in his hand which he handed over to my wife. When opened, it was found that there were four and a half railway reservation tickets from Ahmedabad to Manmad with the date of journey 30th April 1983. Mentioned this time, instead of my name, my son's name was on one of the tickets viz. Nitin C. Mehta. I had utilised these tickets for the past three years i.e. in 1980, 1981, 1982. This time I decided to retain these tickets as Baba's *prasad* and came to Shirdi on April 30, 1983 of my own accord.

The following tickets were preserved by me from March 15, 1983. Reservation tickets from Ahmedabad to Manmad by Navjeevan Express, compartment no. S13, seats from 55 to 59. Journey to commence on 30.4.1983.

| Railway | Railway | Name | Compartment |
|-------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Reservation | Fare | | No. S13 |
| Ticket No. | Ticket No. | | & Seat No. |
| 1. 59083 | 3623 | Nitin C. Mehta | 55 |
| 2. 59084 | 3624 | Manubai Mehta | 56 |
| 3. 59085 | 3625 | Vihangini Mehta | 57 |
| 4. 59086 | 3626 | Chaki@Anita Mehta | 58 |
| 5. 59087 | 00453 child | Baba (Rachit) | 59 |

Dear readers, please think over the sort of help beloved Baba had given in this case.

63) BABA AVERTED AND HELPED TO OVERCOME THE FIRE ACCIDENT THAT HAPPENED TO SHRI DASTOORJI OF AHMEDABAD.....

Shri Dastoorji of Ahmedabad was a weaving master in the Sharanpur Cotton Mills, Ahmedabad.

One day he had gone to the mill for work as usual. At the commencement of work he heard a voice "Go home !" He suspected the voice. But again and again the same voice was heard, urging him to "Go home !" He then proceeded to his house with the permission of the mill authorities and saw that nothing had happened at his house.

But suddenly, his clothes caught fire, whereupon his wife cried loudly and removed the burning clothes from his body without worrying for her life. He was thus saved from the accident by the grace of Baba.

64) BABA SAVED THE LIFE OF SHRI ARVIND J. MEHTA, MUMBAI, FROM FALLING OFF A BUS.....

It was a Thursday on 31.8.1978. Early that morning my wife and I had gone to the Harkisandas hospital to see our ailing relative. Later we went to the Income Tax office to submit some papers and from there to Lalbaug, Parel to board a bus going to Santacruz (where we lived). It was noon time and the day was very hot.

A double-decker bus came and my wife boarded it. I too was about to board the bus catching hold of the handle at the rear side, when I lost my grip and was thrown on the road. Even then I prayed to Baba. Fortunately, by Baba's grace, though I lay sprawled on the road my head had not dashed against it. By the time the bus stopped, on hearing the shouts of my wife and other passengers, it had gone ahead by some twenty feet from where I fell. My wife and some passengers came running by my side, expecting to see me either dead or with multiple injuries on the head and other parts of the body. But with the grace of Baba, I was lying there alive and without any injury anywhere. By Baba's grace, not a single vehicle was following the bus or else I would have been crushed badly under that vehicle.

That day was a great day for me and my family. It was the day I got a new life by the grace of Sri Sai Baba. It is not a great grace of Baba Who gave me another life on 31.8.1978 ?

65) BABA SAVED THE LIFE OF THE SON-IN-LAW OF SHRI A. J. MEHTA, 56, TAGORE ROAD, SANTACRUZ (W), MUMBAI.....

After attending the L.I.C. officers' training programme at Nagpur in September, 1962, my wife and I had been to Shirdi to offer prayers at Baba's *Samadhi*. My wife joined me at Manmad. At that time, we decided

not to visit in October (It was our practice to visit Shirdi in March and October every year), since we had done so in September. Though this was our decision, Baba's wishes were different. It was His desire that we should visit in October too, as per our practice.

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The following incident reveals, how this came about. It was Sharad Pournima day in October, 1952. My son-in-law and some of his friends had taken three cars and gone on a picnic to enjoy Sharad Pournima night. First they went to Juhu Beach and then to Khopoli, near Khandala. After enjoying themselves in both places, they were returning to Mumbai from Khopoli in the early hours of the morning of the next day.

When they neared Thane, their car skidded and fell into a *nala*. Fortunately a police van which their car had overtaken, saw the car in the *nala*. The police immediately rendered the necessary help, and all the injured were first taken to the Thane civil hospital and later to Harkisandas hospital, Mumbai.

The news was conveyed to us by my son-in-law's brother at around 10 a.m.; but he could not provide any details. Upon hearing this news, I became very nervous. My wife asked me to overcome my nervousness and said, "Let us start praying to our Baba. He will surely listen to our prayers for the life of our son-in-law, as Baba always cares for the happiness of His devotees."

And to our greatest surprise, when we reached the Harkisandas hospital we found that our son-in-law was free from any major injuries and he recovered within a week. This was nothing but Baba's grace; because one of his friends, who was at the wheel, unfortunately met his death and most of the others sustained major injuries. Only my son-in-law's recovery was miraculous by the grace of Baba.

Within a week of our son-in-law's recovery we went to Shirdi to offer our gratitude to Baba for saving our son-in-law's life and thus His wish for our usual visit to Shirdi in October was fulfilled.

66) BABA SAVED THE HUSBAND OF SMT. ANANTHULA PADMAJA FROM FALLING UNDER A MOVING TRAIN.....

It was near midnight, dark and gloomy. Chilly breezes of January welcomed us, when our train steamed into Kopergaon station. As the train came to a halt we hurried on to the platform with our belongings. We had come here on our second visit to Saint Sai Baba's Shrine.

This visit was of a special significance to Seenu's parents who had a great desire to have another child. Their fervent hope to have the child was fulfilled, when they first visited Sri Sai Baba's Shrine just a year after World War II. But that visit had been disappointing for Seenu's mother Smt. Padmaja, as she could not have *darshan* of Baba, since she was having her periods. Seenu's father had come on a short leave and could not oblige his wife with an extension of their stay. Seenu's mother had returned home with tearful eyes and without *darshan*. But the Saint answered their prayers and Seenu's mother bore signs of motherhood. This visit was to give first '*darshan*' to mother and child.

Everyone tried to get down on the platform hurriedly. But while the train puffed out it was noticed that Seenu's grand-mother, who was carrying his infant sister, was left behind in the train. "Pull the chain !", shouted Seenu's father. But as the train gathered speed, the old lady panicked and bailed out of the train without pulling the alarm chain. Someone snatched the baby from her arms. Seenu's father tried to give a helping hand; but both slipped under the moving train. Some bogies were still behind and everyone waited with a bated breath. Seenu's lean and sickly mother ran along the train and pulled out her hefty husband in the next few seconds. What happened to Seenu's granny ? Two more carriages were yet to pass and everyone of us thought that she must be dead.

As the entire train passed out, all of us peeped under the platform anxiously. "The devil is alive", I said. The old lady stood erect and complained of no injury. What a miracle ! A double miracle indeed ! Seenu's mother was asked, how she could pull out the hefty 240 lb man within seconds with such ease although she was weak and sickly; and she replied, "It is Baba's *maya*."

67) BABA CURED THE LAMENESS OF A WIDOWED SCHOOL TEACHER'S SON.....

In 1956, the son of a widowed school teacher appeared for the SSC examination. When he returned home after the last paper, he was suffering from high fever.

Proper medication cured him of his fever; but he was left with lameness in his legs. The boy had to be lifted and carried to be taken anywhere. After all possible remedies proved futile, hearing of Sri Sai Baba's powers, the school teacher took her son to Shirdi.

On account of his lameness, the boy felt so shy, that rather than going to Baba's *Samadhi* on the shoulders of a coolie, he preferred staying at the Shirdi *wada*. The mother alone went to pray for her son's cure at Baba's *Samadhi* for two days. They were to leave Shirdi on the third day and so she went to the *Samadhi* to attend the *aarati* and offered her last obeisance before leaving.

Meanwhile, Baba appeared before the boy and said, "Have courage !" He then lent him His hand, led him to the temple and kept him standing against the temple pillar.

When, upon returning from the *aarati*, the mother did not find the son in the room, she approached the *Samadhi Mandir* once again with tears in her eyes and piteously prayed for the recovery of the boy. While returning from the temple her eyes fell on the boy standing against a pillar. She asked the boy, how he had managed to come there. The boy narrated, how Baba had helped him to come; but the mother could not believe it. However when she saw that with her support the boy was able to walk up to their room, she was very pleased.

The boy recovered completely within a month and was able to move and walk freely by the grace of Baba.

68) BABA BESTOWED SPEECH ON THE DAUGHTER OF SHRI MANI IYER, KUMBHAKONAM, WHO WAS DUMB SINCE BIRTH.....

The daughter of Shri Mani Iyer of Kumbhakonam, Tamil Nadu, was born dumb. All possible means to cure her dumbness proved futile. Mr. Mani Iyer took to worshipping Baba.

A few days later Baba asked him to bring his speechless daughter to Shirdi and make her place flowers on Baba's *Samadhi* and pay her respects to Him.

As soon as she did this, she uttered the words "Sai Baba !" fluently. The parents were naturally pleased to see the instantaneous cure of their daughter.

69) BABA ENABLED SHRI KASHINATH LATHI, POLAN PETH, JALGAON, MAHARASHTRA, TO SPEAK AGAIN.....

My business went into a loss in 1953, when my partner deceived me for about Rs. 5 lakhs. I became very nervous and lost the power of speech.

My father tried all sorts of medicines. But since no medicine seemed to cure me, my father said, he would send me to any place, where I would like to go to cure my dumbness, and asked me to select the place.

I had been to Shirdi in 1927 on my way to Tirupati, when I was in better times. I unhesitatingly replied that I preferred Shirdi.

I went to Shirdi in 1954 and stayed there for three months. During this period, I prayed fervently to Baba. "Baba, I have suffered both financially and physically. Please make me speak !" Baba heard my prayer and granted my request.

I was able to speak fluently once again by the grace of the omnipotent Sri Sai Baba and I returned home. Everyone was astonished.

In recognition of Baba's grace, I built a Sai Baba *Mandir* in Jalgaon in 1954 and am serving Him till today.

SHRI SAIBABA SANSTHAN, SHIRDI**LIST OF BOOK**

| Sr.No. | Name of the book | Language | Price+Postage |
|---------------|------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| 01 | Shri Sai Satcharita(Pothi) | Marathi | 55.00+Postage |
| 02 | Shri Sai Satcharita | English | 20.00+Postage |
| 03 | Shri Sai Satcharita | Hindi | 25.00+Postage |
| 04 | Shri Sai Satcharita | Gujrati | 40.00+Postage |
| 05 | Shri Sai Satcharita | Knnad | 24.50+Postage |
| 06 | Shri Sai Satcharita | Telugu | 25.00+Postage |
| 07 | Shri Sai Satcharita | Tamil | 37.00+Postage |
| 08 | Shri Sai Satcharita | Urdu | 31.00+Postage |
| 09 | Shri Sai Satcharita | Sindhi | 50.00+Postage |
| 10 | Shri Sai Satcharita (Pothi) | Gujrati | 72.00+Postage |
| 11 | Shri Sai Satcharita (Pothi) | Kannad | 88.00+Postage |
| 12 | Shri Sai Leelamrit | Marathi | 15.00+Postage |
| 13 | Shri Sai Leelamrit | Hindi | 15.00+Postage |
| 14 | Shri Sai Leelamrit | Gujarati | 16.00+Postage |
| 15 | Avtar Karya | Marathi | 07.00+Postage |
| 16 | Stavan Manjiri | Marathi | 1.25+Postage |
| 17 | Stavan Manjiri | Hindi | 3.00+Postage |
| 18 | Stavan Manjiri | Gujrati | 3.00+Postage |
| 19 | Stavan Manjiri | English | 2.00+Potage |
| 20 | Stavan Manjiri | Kannad | 1.80+Postage |
| 21 | Sagunopasana (Arati) | Marathi | 2.00+Postage |
| 22 | Sagunopasana (Arati) | Hindi | 3.00+Postage |
| 23 | Sagunopasana (Arati) | Gujarati | 3.00+Postage |
| 24 | Sagunopasana (Arati) | Telgu | 6.00+Postage |
| 25 | Sagunopasana (Arati) | Sindhi | 7.00+Postage |
| 26 | Four Adhyayas(Dasganu's) | Marthi | 3.70 +Postage |
| 27 | Pictorial Sai Baba | Marthi/English | 8.00 +Postage |
| 28 | Childern's Sai Baba | Marthi | 3.00 +Postage |
| 29 | Childern's Sai Baba | English | 4.00 +Postage |
| 30 | Childern's Sai Baba | Hindi | 4.00 +Postage |
| 31 | Childern's Sai Baba | Gujarati | 5.00 +Postage |
| 32 | Childern's Sai Baba | Telugu | 4.00 +Postage |
| 33 | Childern's Sai Baba | Kannad | 5.60 +Postage |
| 34 | Rudradhyaya(A-11) | Marathi | 2.00 +Postage |
| 35 | Sai the Superman | English | 12.00 +Postage |
| 36 | Sai Baba of Shirdi(Bharucha) | English | 7.00 +Postage |

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| 37 | Sai Baba of Shirdi(Pradhan) | English | 6.00 +Postage |
| 38 | Raghunath Savitri Bhajan Mala | Marathi | 30.00 +Postage |
| 39 | Khaparde Diary | English | 11.00 +Postage |
| 40 | Khaparde Diary | Marathi | 15.00 +Postage |
| 41 | Khaparde Diary | Hindi | 20.00 +Postage |
| 42 | Vishnusahasranamavali | Marathi | 2.50 +Postage |
| 43 | Sainath Shodashopachar Pooja | Marathi | 2.25 +Postage |
| 44 | Ashtottar Namavali | English | 4.00 +Postage |
| 45 | Dainandin Saibodh | Marathi | 70.00 +Postage |



SHRI SAIBABA SANSTHAN, SHIRDI**LIST OF PHOTOS**

| Sr.No. | Name of the Photo | Size | Price+Postage |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| 01 | Baba Sitting on the Stone(B & W) | 14"X20" | 02.40 +Postage |
| 02 | Baba sitting on the Stone(colour) | 14"x20" | 03.00+Postage |
| 03 | Baba sitting on the Stone(colour) | Postcard | ---+Postage |
| 04 | Baba sitting on the Stone(colour) | 4"x 3" | 00.25 +Postage |
| 05 | Dwarkamai(colour) | 14"x 20" | 03.00 +Postage |
| 06 | Dwarkamai(colour) | 10"x 14" | 02.00 +Postage |
| 07 | Dwarkamai(colour) | 7"x 10" | 01.00 +Postage |
| 08 | Baba Sitting in Dwarkamai | 14"x 20" | 03.00 +Postage |
| 09 | Baba Sitting in Dwarkamai(colour) | 10"x 14" | 02.00 +Postage |
| 10 | Baba Sitting in Dwarkamai(colour) | 7"x 10" | 01.00 +Postage |
| 11 | Face Photo (colour) | Postcard | -- +Postage |
| 12 | Palanquln Photo (colour) | 7"x 10" | 01.00 +Postage |
| 13 | Statue Photo (colour) | 14"x 20" | 03.00 +Postage |
| 14 | Statue Photo (colour) | 10"x 14" | 02.00 +Postage |
| 15 | Statue Photo (colour) | 7"x 10" | 01.00 +Postage |