SAI LEELA
Official Organ of Shirdi Sansthan

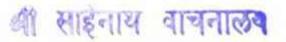


TWO LIZARDS

Once a lizard on the wall of Dwarkamai was tick-ticking. Hearing that a devotee asked Baba whether it was a bad omen. Shri Baba replied that the lizard was very glad and that she was singing because her sister was going to meet her very soon. Just then a person came from Aurangabad and put his luggage on the ground. Immediately a lizard jumped out and climbed on the wall. Both sisters met each other, kissed and embraced each other whirled round and danced. All this wonderful incident proves Baba's Omniscience

March 1984

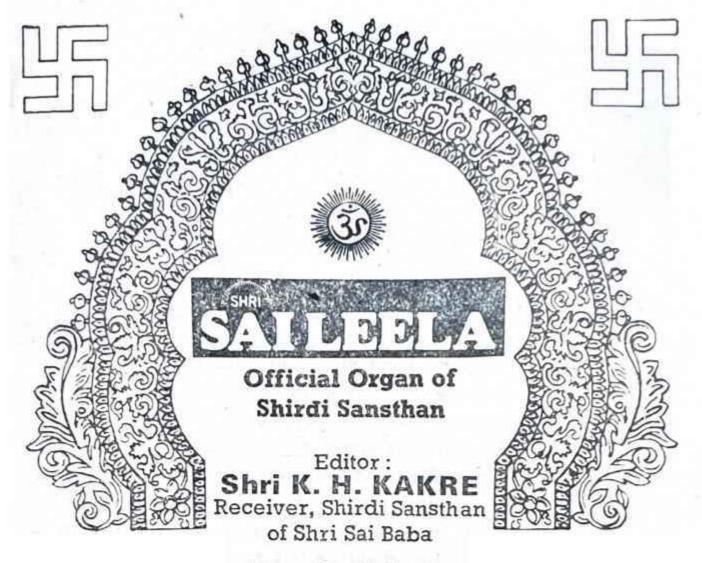
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SPIRITUALISM

Whenever we go to meet any saint, whenever we happen to listen to any religious discourse or whenever we listen to a Pravachan or a Keertan, we usually come across the following or similar advice, which is given to the common man.:— "Do not have too much addiction to worldly things because they are perishable. Think of the God and soul. Think of your well—being in the next world. Devote some of your time for meditation on God or for chanting His name because that is the real merit which is going to relieve you from the eternal cycle of birth and death."

During his spare time the common man no doubt listens to such advice as quoted above; but how far does he practise it?. During all his normal activities does he find time to behave according to the advice given to him by the saints and religious preachers?. Adya Shankaracharya was a keen observer of the behaviour of the common man. He had good command over the Sanskrit language, Therefore he could describe anything quite appropriately and in proper perspective. He had described the plight of the common man during his whole life in a single verse quite effectively as follows:-

बालस्तात्क्रीडासक्तः तरुणस्तावत्तरुणीरकः।

बृद्धस्तावर्चितामग्न: परमे ब्रह्मणि को ८ पि न लग्न: ॥

(When he is a child, a human being is addicted to play, as a young man, he is enamoured of a young girl, as an old man he

is overpowered with cares and thus nobody has time to think about the eternal Brahma.)

Thus this being the plight of the common man, he only listens to the advice of the saints and sages and just forgets it or decides to behave according to that advice after his retirement from service or business.

Some people however think about the practical value of spiritualism. If a person serves in any company or any government office, he gets a certain amount of pension after putting in service for fixed number of years. If a person opens a shop then he can acquire lot of property out of the profits that he may get from the shop. Similarly if a person opens a factory or a workshop or he opens a dispensary or a hospital, he can earn money and prosperity, but does spiritualism help him in any of the above ways? Will spiritualism give him prosperity in this life?. When we look at spiritualism from this point of view, we have to admit that it may not help you to get prosperity in the sense in which it is considered in the mundane world; but then we have to think about the so-called prosperous people and ask a question to ourselves are all of them quite happy?. For knowing that we will have to enter into the inner mind of such people, who seem to be having more than enough of all the coveted things in this life and then we will find that they are not quite happy. Along with their mundane prosperity they will appear to have acquired several responsibilities and cares which prevent them from getting peace of mind and thus the worldly prosperity proves in their case as a curse and not a boon. Thus spiritualism enters the life of a person at this stage and helps him to acquire real pleasure by giving him peace of mind.

The question may now crop up what is spiritualism?. It is not very easy to describe spiritualism in short. It comprises of philosophy, ethics, rules of good behaviour and various other principles enunciated in the different religious books, all over the

world. We may say that it is like the honey, which is deposited by God in every flower and a devotee of God has to collect it from different sources just as a bee collects the honey from different flowers. All the religious books of the world contain spiritual teachings and only if we have an eye for them then only we shall be able to spot them. It will therefore be seen that even to know the basic principles of spiritualism is a mighty task and only if one means to do it then only he will be able to do it; but under these circumstances we should not be discouraged and stand still on the shore of the vast sea of spiritualism. Just as a drop of poison is enough to kill a person similarly a drop of nectar also is enough to make a person immortal. Therefore even if we cannot drink spiritualism by cups, as we drink tea every day, we might attempt to drink it drop by drop like the Chatak bird, which is said to be drinking water only drop by drop when it falls into its open beak.

We are lucky that our various rishis, saints, sages and thinkers have left for us a vast legacy of spiritual writings. If we have enough time we may even try to study the holy books of other religions; but even our Indian philosophy is so rich that it can even help a person to cross the sea of mundane life. The Indian philosophy is spread far and wide in the Vedas, Upanishads, our epics like Ramayana and Mahabharat, our Purans, Bhagwat and a number of books written by our saints and sages during the past centuries. The impact of the philosophy contained in all the above books on a person is no doubt very valuable in shaping his mind; but keeping aside the philosophy of all the above books, even if we look at a part of the philosophy from shrimadbhagawadgeeta, we will see how it helps a person to develop his mind.

Death is an inevitable event in the life of a person. Every thing that is born is bound to perish some day or the other; but an ordinary man is not prepared to think in this manner. Most people are afraid of death and they are often worried

about their end; but see in how simple manner Lord Krishna has solved the riddle of death. After coming to know the sorrow of Arjuna in the first chapter of Geeta, Lord Krishna tries to tell Arjuna that the body is perishable while the soul is immortal and therefore the sorrow of Arjuna is not founded on proper ground. At the outset Lord Krishna describes the different stages of this life as follows:—

देहिनो 5 स्मिन् यथा देहे कौमारं यौवनं जरा । तथा देहान्तरप्राप्तिर्धीरस्तत्र न मुह्यति ॥ २ । १३ ॥

(Just as the body of a human being passes through the different stages of childhood, youth and old age, similarly the fourth stage of death follows and therefore a thoughtful person is never afraid about it).

In a simple way by explaining the three stages in which a human being passes viz. the childhood, the youth and old age after getting his birth, Lord Krishna says that the stage that has got to follow the old age is death and therefore a person who can think about the worldly life knows that from birth to death a person has to pass through the different stages and therefore he is not sorry that death overtakes a human being. A thoutful person is also not afraid of death because death is a natural event in everybody's life. Lord Krishna has therefore referred to the happening in nature and has explained that death is a natural event and therefore there is nothing to worry about it.

Lord Krishna asks his disciple Arjuna the next question as follows:-

अव्यक्तादीनि भूतानि व्यक्तमध्यानि भारत । अव्यक्तनिधनान्येव तत्र का परिदेवना ॥ २ । २८ ॥

(Oh Bharat, the human beings are invisible before birth. Only they become visible for the middle period and they again become invisible after death. Therefore for what are you sorry?) Here also Lord Krishna has put a question which any common man can understand easily. He asks Arjuna, "Do you know where a particular person was before his birth?" The reply to this question is naturally in the negative. Lord Krishna further states that the human being is visible only for his life-span which may be anything upto hundred years and asks the further question, "Do you know where he goes after his death?." and he therefore says "Why this sorrow?." Thus not knowing the stage before this birth and after this birth, it is useless to be sorry for things that are unknown to us, Lord Krishna has again told Arjuna that his sorrow is not founded on proper grounds and that he should not therefore be sorry for it.

In that same Canto (second canto) Lord Krishna has described death as

वासांसि जीर्णानि यथा विहाय नवानि गृह्याति नरो ८ पराणि ! तथा शरीराणि विहाय जीर्णा — न्यन्यानि संयाति नवानि देही ॥ २ । २२ ॥

(Just as a man throws away the old garments and wears new ones similarly the soul throws away old and worn out bodies and enters into a new body)

Thus death has been explained in so simple a manner in this verse by Lord Krishna. He compares the change of the body by the soul to that of the change of clothes by a human being. He says that when we find that our garment has been worn out, we never worry about it and throw it away as a matter of course and wear a new one. The soul also does not like to stay in a body when it gets worn out. He is in search of a new abode and therefore when he finds that the time is ripe for entering the new body, he leaves his old abode (i.e. his old body) and enters into a new one. Thus Lord Krishna has again reduced the gravity of death and told that it is a very simple event as simple as the changing of the clothes.

Taking into consideration all the above three verses, we know how philosophy trains the mind of a human being. Lord Krishna has referred here to a thoughtful person and therefore a person who can think turns to spiritualism and trains his mind in various ways. Happiness is sought for by all human beings in this life. Even after getting all mundane prosperity a person does not necessarily become happy. On the other hand even without acquiring much wealth or possessions a man becomes happy if he can look upon the worldly things in proper perspective as it is explained in religious books. Thus spiritualism trains the mind of a person and helps him to become happy.

As Sai devotees we have a special privilege because Sai Baba has simplified all philosophy and He had told His devotees to think about Him and remember Him. Those devotees of Shri Sai Baba, who can think about other books and scriptures are welcome to go through them and train their minds as explained above; but those devotees, who cannot do that might surrender themselves completely to Shri Sai Baba as that is also one phase of spiritualism. Just as there are nine ways of devotion to God, similarly there are various paths in spiritualism and any devotee may follow the path which he likes for training his mind and for ultimately getting liberation. Shri Sai Baba has shown us the simple way of chanting His name, which every one can do and which is the simplest to follow in this Kali Yuga as explained before by so many saints. If therefore it is not possible for the Sai devotees to follow any other path in spiritualism, they may follow this path and get salvation, Let us all then march earnestly at least on this path.



Baba's Blessings Know No Bounds

I was one of those millions unfortunates, who could not get college education to become a graduate. Consequently, I could not get a post more than a lower division clerk with practically no scope for further advancement in a government office. I thus had to face an inferiority complex before my own kith and kin, who happened to be much better off educationally and occupying prestigeous positions. One day, one of my good friends brought a newspaper cutting inviting graduates for competitive examination for the post of accountants in Govt. offices. The competition was also open to non-graduate Govt. servants subject to recommendations from their Heads of Office. My friend emphasised that I must take advantage of the golden opportunity to improve my lot. There were, however, two problems firstly, would my Head of Office recommend my case? And secondly, would I be in a position to compete with the graduates? My friend, who was a staunch devotee of Shirdi Sai Baaa, was confident that with Baba's benign blessings, I should be able to tackle with both the above problems. Both of us bowed before the gracious picture of the Lord and begged for His blessings. Next day, after getting the usual O. K. from my bosses, I gathered the courage to submit my application personally to the Head of my Office, who simply glanced over it and threw it angrily on my face challenging as to how I dared to even dream for a post knowing fully well that I had neither the capability nor the qualification for it. With tears in my eyes I returned to my Head Clerk, who after listening to my plight, not only endorsed the views of the Sahib but also advised me to go and mind my own business. I took his permission and with a very heavy heart I left the office for my home. The whole night I remained upset and begged Baba to pardon me if I had asked for something from Him which I did not deserve.

Next day, as soon as I took my seat in the office a peon asked me to see the Head Clerk immediately. The moment I reached his table, he greeted me smilingly and revealed how last evening after I had left the office in disgust, the Sahib had himself come down to his table and directed him to bring up my application to his chamber at once. He dictated his forwrading note containing his recommendations for me in very strong words and desired that the application be forwarded to the proper authorities, first thing in the morning. This must have, no doubt, been done under Baba's high command as otherwise the Head of my office could not be expected to change his attitude within such a short time.

The second problem was also similiarly solved under Baba's care. In the examination hall I found myself amidst a large number of graduates possessing much better knowledge and much better preparation than I could be expected to have on account of my educational short-comings. It was only due to His guidance which I got by the feelings of His omnibus presence by my side that I could attempt all the papers to my entire satisfaction.

The result of the examination was, however, badly delayed. Perhaps Baba wanted to test the patience of His devotee once again. With the passage of about six months I had become disappointed though I always begged of Baba that my faith in Him should never be shaken. One fine evening, my friend suddenly came to tell me that a list of successful candidates had been displayed on the notice bord of the AGCR. Next day, early in the morning, I rushed to the AGCR office and, to my great pleasure, found my name in it. It was thus proved, beyond doubt that Baba's blessings were freely available to anybody, who just looked to Him. Within a short spell of time, Baba granted me the position which I could never think of getting had He not favoured me with His peerless blessings.

Not only that, it was through Baba's blessings only that I could, later on pick up courage to attempt and qualify for still higher examinations like S.A.S and finally retire from service as a Gazetted Officer (Pay and Accounts Officer), a position un-thinkable for a person of my educational and other calibre.

Baba's Blessings Really Know No Bounds.

*

J. R. Laroiya Retired Pay & Accounts Officer, S-19-A/475, Noida Complex (U. P.) 201 301

To Poojya Shri Kakrejee, Pranams,

I am extremely happy to learn from December issue of "Shri Sai Leela" about the 10th Annual gathering of the contributors of Shri Sai Leela at Shirdi on 29th & 30th January, 1984. It is quite essential to have a constructive review of the preceeding year and plan out for further improvement of the magazine. It has its own significance and utility, no doubt, shirdi Sai Mission is, justly, proud of some of the eminent Sai Bhakta contributors of "Shirdi Sai Leela," also closely associated with Shirdi Sai Mission, namely. Shri K. R. Gopinath, Shri Acharya Bharadwaja, Shri C, V. Bhasker Rao, Shri K. B. Grover, Shri K. Navin Chander, Shri M. Narasimha Rao, Shri M G. Gore, Dr. K. R. Ramaswamy Dr. M. Vijayakumar, Shri P, J. Reddy, etc.

They have been rendering excellent service by contributing articles to "Shri Sai Leela" for the benefit of innumerable Sai Leela readers, expressing succinetly and vividly their impassioned, impressive and intensely enchanting experiences. They helped to draw the attention of numerous Sai Bhaktas and present cogently

the divine Leelas of Sai the omnipresent and omniscient and focus significantly the Sai dictum "If you look to me I look to you."

May I offer my heartfelt felicitations to the contributors and importune more Sai Bhaktas to avail themselves of the golden opportunity of disseminating their mysteriously soul-stirring experiences through "Sai Leela" run under the commendably able editorial guardianship of Poojya Dr. Parchurejee and Shri Chendawankarjee for Sai Samsthan.

As per the stipulation for participation in the proposed gathering of a minimum number of published contributions, I do not fully satisfy for the reason that out of my conributions only two have appeared so for in April and December, 1983 issues. Nevertheless, my earnest desire for "Shri Sai Leela" to attain, erelong, unique position, par excellence, among the devotional and spiritual literature, prompts me to share the valuable suggestions and deliberations of the various contributors assembling at Shirdi.

My homegeful prayers to Sai Nath to Bless their deliberations, to be pragmatic in approach, elevating of spirit, infusing ethical credibility progressively leading to the coveted sanctum of Sai Krupa and bliss.

May Shri Sai Bless us all.



Yours Cordilly,

M. Rangachari

Sai Kateer 3.4-529/3/1 Narayanguda, Hyderabad 27 (A. P.)

[We are glad that the contributors of Shri Sai Leela magazine are appreciating the utility of the annual gathering of the contributors at Shirdi and that they feel that this gathering well help to improve the standard of the magazine. — Editor]

Fourth Aradhana of Shri Saipadananda Radhakrishna Swamiji at Shri Sai Spiritual Centre, Bangalore

On account of the fourth Aradhana of Shri Saipadananda Radhakrishna Swamiji, Shri Sai Spiritual Centre observed 15th January 1984 (Uttarayana Punyakala) as a 'Special Prayer Day' highlighting the paramount importance that Shri Swamiji attached to "Shrivishnusahasranama", There was incessant group recitation of Shrivishnusahasranama from 7.00 A.M. till 10.40 P.M. (the hour at which Shri Swamiji attained Mahasamadhi on Uttarayana Punyakala on 14th January 1980). Simultaneously, there was Abhishekam and Pooja to the idols of Baba and Swamiji at 8.00 A.M. This was followed by Shrivishnusahasranama Homa. After Poornahuthi and Mahamangalarathi at 12.00 noon, prasadam was distributed to the hundreds of devotees, who were present.

On 29th January 1984, the 'Punya Thithi' (Krama Aradhana) of Swamiji was performed with 'Theerthanarayana Pooja' and 'Narayana Seva' according to the prescribed religious rites. After Bhajan and Mahamangalarathi, all the devotees, numbering over a thousand, were sumptuously fed.

The evening programme commenced with a discourse on Shiva Dhanurbhangam', episode from Shri Tulsidas Ramayana by Gamaka Vidwan Shri Gangadhara Sastry.

The next part of the programme was 'Book Release'. Shri C,V. Bhaskar Rao, President of the Centre, announced that Shri B.S. Narayanamurthy, a staunch devotee of Swamiji, had compiled and got printed a booklet "Gems from Shri Saipadananda Radhakrishna Swamiji", with Kannada rendering, and donated the same to the Centre. He characterised the book as a valuable work and hoped that the 'Gems' would be an asset of immense spiritual value to the devotees. Shri Narayanamurthy spoke a

few words stating that he had undertaken this work as a labour of love and devotion under inspiration from Shri Swamiji himself and thanked the Centre for publishing it. At the request of the President, Prof. KS, Krishnaswamy (Retired Principal, B.M.S., College of Engineering, Bangalore) formally released the book after a brief speech making appreciative references. Copies of the book were distributed free to the devotees at the end of the programme.

Later, there was an 'Utsava' with lights, within the precincts of the Centre and the programme concluded at 9.30 P.M. after Mahamangalarathi and distribution of Prasadam.

C. V. Bhaskar Rao Shri Sai Spiritual Centre, Saibaba Mandir Road, Thyagaraja Nagar, Bangalore - 560 028

Fellowship With Sai

Miss Usha Hiremath's article 'Baba comes to our rescue' in the September 1983 issue of 'Shri Sai Leela' has inspired me to pen these lines, as we had a similar experience two years ago, unique in its own way.

It was April 1981. At that time, we were at Mundakayam, in Kottayam district of Kerala, where my husband, Dr. G. R. Vijayakumar was employed as a Medical Officer of a group of rubber estates, belonging to a sterling company. We planned to have the 'Chowla' (head-shaving ceremony of our younger son, master Sai Prabhu Vijayakumar, at the holy soil of Shirdi and a group of ten of us including my mother, mother-in-law, brother and his family made a trip to Shirdi on the 28th April 1981.

My mother-in-law, Mrs. Shantha Rama Iyer, who is at Bangalore had made our rail-reservations from Bangalore to Pune and had obtained return tickets also with the condition that the reserved accommodation was to be confirmed at Pune railway station at the time of the return journey.

We had a nice pilgrimage at Shirdi. We left for Pune in the forenoon of 1st May 1981. Soon after reaching Pune, my husband enquired about our accommodation in the Mahalaksmi Express, leaving that midnight. To our dismay, we were told that our names have been placed on the waiting list and confirmation of seats or berths is possible only an hour before the departure of the train.

At 11 P.M., we were told by the Coach Conductor that he is unable to give us any reserved seats/berths and we have to travel in the unreserved compartment. When we pleaded with him, he expressed his helplessness. The platform too was overcrowded.

We were all worried as to how we would undertake the journey with two infants and six ladies. It appeared impossible for us to get into an unreserved compartment in that crowd.

The only person in the group that was unmoved was my husband, Dr. Vijayakumar, who has implicit faith in Lord Sainath and who was confident that Sai is sure to find a way out for us, He showed us the big 'Dwarakamayi' photograph of Lord Sainath prominently displayed at the platform and said "Let us cast our burden on Him for He shall surely bear it". It is needless to say that I admired his equanimity even in that tense situation.

We all sat on the platform, all the time busy with the repetition of Sai's name. Soon, an elderly gentleman, dressed like a porter approached my husband and sitting beside him asked if he had the required reservation in the train, to which he, of course, replied in the negative.

"Well come on" the old gentleman said "I shall take you to a place where you all can get seats comfortably."

And then, he conducted us through a door to an open yard and then a short distance away from the platform, entered the shunting yard. Pointing a coach, he told us that it would be attached to the Mahalakshmi Express from Pune. There were already few people inside the coach. He took us inside the coach and made us occupy the seats comfortably.

He said "Look here, sir, you need have no anxiety about a comfortable journey,"

My husband replied "When Sai-nam is on the lips of Sai-devotees they are always far from such anxieties." Profoundly thanking the old gentleman, my husband offered him a tenner. The latter politely accepted it and left the place.

The onlookers inside the coach were surprised as each one of them had paid Rs.10- to Rs.15/- per head to different porters to get into the shunting yard and then into the coach. We were amazed that for all the ten of us, our friend had politely accepted a tenner without grumbling.

It was then that flashed on us that Lord Sainath, in the guise of a kind porter had placed us in that comfortable situation. For requesting my brother to be with us, my husband ran out in search of Sai in the garb of a porter. He said that he would get into the coach from the platform.

My husband's search for that kind porter was futile. He had vanished into thin air. In the next half an hour, our coach was taken to the platform to be attached to the main train of Mahalakshmi Express. From the window I could see my husband struggling to enter the coach from a crowd. We, ladies could never have accomplished it.

My husband informed us that he could not trace the kind porter and moreover he had come to learn that there were no elderly porters at Pune at that time. As the whistle went, the train rolled on.

O Sainath, what can we, your slaves, understand by this incident? When your omnipotent hands are at work, nothing can stop or obstruct us. O kind and loving protector of the Universe! Your name can change in a moment the entire face of the Universe! You came in the guise of a porter deliberately

breaking the railway rules to enter the shunting yard and providing us seats in the train. O Sai Ram, it is now beyond any doubt that you are seated in the hearts of all inducing the whole universe to act and move in strict accordance with your sovereign will. Sai Ram! You are the true lover of your devotees. Your slave cannot find words to express your greatness and your love! Tears, flow on! and this is the only way I can express my feelings.

Mrs. Seetha Vijayakumar

C/o Dr. G. R. Vijayakumar, Balanoor Estate Durgadabetta 577 118 Chikmagalur district (Karnataka)

Free Herbal Medical Camp

Shirdi Saibaba Premi Mandali (Regd.), Satyanarayanapyuram, Vijayawada-11 had organined a 2nd Free Herbal Medical Camp by the famous Doctor K. S. Veeranna, M. A., R. M. P., of Narayanpura (Karnataka State) on 22nd and 23rd January, 1984, as a part and parcel of our social service activity.

Free medicine was given for chronic diseases like B. P., Heart, Sugar, Skin, Polio, Leprosy, T. B., Asthma, Peralysis, Ladies diseases and for people who want issues. In all 2, 200 persons were examined and supplied with medicines,

The Honorary President of our Mandali, Acharya Ekkirala Bharadwaja presided over the inaugural function, with Shri Turlapati Kutumba Rao, Asst. Editor of 'Andhra Jyothi' (A Telugu leading daily) as the Chief Guest.

At the first camp conducted during September, 1983 about 5,000 people had the benefit of Such social service activity of our Mandali and it has been praised by one and all.

V. Ramamohanarao General Secretary Railway Quarters No. 180-D Satyanarayanapuram, Vijayawada - 520 011 (A, P.)

The Omniscient Sai

The presence of Sai is always felt by those devotees who always think of Him.

One Thursday in May 1983, after I returned from office and was getting ready to go to All India Sai Samaj, Mylapore, Madras for the Thursday. Arati, my daughter, Meena, aged 16 years, told me that she was having severe headache as she had gone to a matinee show. I asked her to take rest and proceeded to the Samaj. I participated in the grand arati and about the time the arati was coming to a close, my wife came running to me with the message that my daughter had developed high fever and was complaining at the same time of severe pain in the legs. I was completely aghast but immediately controlling myself, I told my wife to inform the doctor as I will be returning home. I stood before Baba's portrait and questioned him as to why this was happening. Then I took Udhi and proceeded to my house, which was of course very near and found that my daughter was being held down by two of my neighbours, as she had started trembling, about to get fits, though conscious. With sincere prayers to Baba, I applied His Udhi on the forehead of my daughter and dropped a little bit in her mouth. As I was applying the Udhi, I could feel the high temperature. When I asked my daughter whether she could accompany me in a vehicle to the doctor she said no. I rushed to the family doctor's clinic, who when advised of the situation, told me to bring her somehow to the clinic as emergency medical treatment could only be had there. When I returned home to take my daughter to the clinic, I found to my very pleasant surprise that Baba's udhi had worked wonders and she was willing to come to the clinic as her temperature had started coming down.

My daughter is herself a staunch Sai devotee and she expressed to me that due to her illness she could not do the 12

pradakhinas she used to do every Thursday. I consoled her that she could do it after she became alright and again went to Baba's temple to do the 12 pradakshinas on her behalf.

This is only one of the incidents in my life when Baba has shown his omniscience.

Another incident occurred recently. I was going to Cuddapah from Madras on official work and I had left for the station in an auto rickshaw with my son as I was carrying some luggage. Usually, I used to go to Baba's temple and apply udhi before entraining. This time, as I had little time to catch the train, I just stopped in front of the mandir and did not go in to apply udhi. Somehow I was feeling uneasy in my mind which I expressed to my son also. As soon as I reached Madras Central Station and kept my luggage in the compartment, I wanted to buy a newspaper for spending the time in the train. Suddenly I found that my co-tenant Mr. Raghavan was coming running and on seeing me, he asked me to cancel my journey. He did not tell me the reason for the same but I immediately had my luggage removed from the train and rushed to my house to find that a message had been received about the death of my father-in-law at 4 a.m. in Bombay and that both my wife and myself were required there. But for Baba's chamatkar, I would have been denied the opportunity of having the last darshan father-in-law. ★

K. Viswanathan

Secretary All India Sai Samaj, Mylapore, Madras. 4



Shri Sai Baba, the able refuge of His Devotees

While going through Shri B.G. Das's article, "Compassionate Mother Sai" in the current issue of Sai Leela (July 83) I felt great joy and tears gushed out of my eyes and prompted me to narrate my recent experience (Leelas) as below;

On 2-7-83 I, with my family members, left Hubli for Nagarcoil via Bangalore and Madras to leave my second daughter with her new born baby of 4 months at her husband's place there. For our return journey also, I had reserved well in advance to leave Nagarcoil on 10-7-83 and Madras Central on 12-7-83 by Madras Bangalore Express leaving Madras Central at 12.40 P.M. So, we boarded the train at Nagarcoil station on 10-7-83 and got down the next day i.e. on 11-7-83 at Mambalam. enroute (at my brothr-in-law's place) from Madras.

Next day i.e. on 12-7-83 at 11.30 A.M. we caught the electric train at Mambalam to get down at the Madras park station from where we have to proceed to Madras Central Station on foot by engaging porters to carry our luggage. But Alas!! Man proposes one way and God disposes the other (contrary) way. The electric train stopped at the Chetput Railway Station at 11.45 A.M. and we were informed by the guard of the train that the train would not move further as a terrible accident took place at the next station viz. Egmore Railway station (platform) itself. No porter or Auto Rikshaw was available at this small station. Readers will well imagine what my plight was at that time with my wife, last daughter aged about 16 years and myself aged 66 years with a lot of luggage. The distance was hardly 50 metres to catch the Bangalore Express at Madras Central Station.

I began to pray to our kind mother Sai fully believing that whatever happens in our life is fully known to Him and He can only save us from all our difficulties and none else in this world. Wonder of wonders!! Within a few minutes a young lad aged about 18 to 20 years, with well-built body, straightaway approached us and said, "You have to go to Central Station, Hurry up!! Give all your luggage to me and follow me without any anxiety." We took small things in our hands. He carried two big suit cases on his head, two big bags (hanging) on his shoulders.

We walked with him in the scorching sun. He engaged us in pleasant talk and we reached the bus stop near K. M. C. Hospital at 12.10 P.M. after walking nearly 3/4 KM from the Chetput Railway station. Then we got into the bus bound for Central Station 1 asked him what I should pay. He showed "two fingers". I immediately understood its meaning and paid two rupees to him viz." Nista and Saburi (Faith and patience) He went away smiling, after receiving the money. When we reached Central station, it was exactly 12.25 P.M. and my brothers and friends were waiting to receive us there since they were informed by me through letters about our leaving Madras on 12-7.83 by Bangalore Express.

So, mother Sai is ever watchful and comes to the rescue of his children at the appropriate time in some form or the other.

> R. Radhakrishnan No. 938/B Vidyaranyanagar, Railway Quarters, Gadag Road, Hubli (Karnataka)



To
The Respected Editor,
Shri SAI LEELA
Sir.

I am a keen reader of your editorials and feel that your pen is rendering the best for the readers of Sai Leela.

However, I feel that difference of opinion and doubts may arise for which a dialogue between the reader and the editor is the best way. I have a little doubt or opinion difference on your views which I read through the December 1983 issue of the magazine.

You have highlighted the demand and desire of young turks, who advocated for seva through medical help, schools, etc. as according to them the Sai cult has culminated into a culture and full energy of the devotees & sansthans should not be diverted for propagation of the cult only. You are correct to advise them for the devotion but the turbulent young blood with Sai devotion wants much more to do through seva and fulfiill the ideals of Baba.

I think Baba has also the same views as Swami Ramakrishna, passed to Swami Vivekanand when he desired to attain salvation through Samadhi, in his young age. Through a vision he advised him that Mukti does not mean Samadhi at the earlies. You can attain salvation by making patients free (Mukta) from disease, by making hungry free (Mukta) from hunger and making sufferers free from worries & sufferings, Ramakrishna Missions were started with the same spirit and even now they are rendering service compared with Christian Missionaries.

Will not it be appropriate for Sai missions to take a step forward towards the service of mankind in addition to Sai devotion and faith in Him?. Through seva itself Sai Cult can multiply otherwise sai devotees may soon reach to an idle point instead of ideal point.

It has so happened that people in general have a bad haste about temples, mosques etc. More and more temples are coming up through Sai devotees as a craze and even organisers are not aware of prayers and Puja. People doubt each other about the funds and material coming into the temples. There are fights in electors as large amounts of fund remain unspent and people do not plan for proper utilisation of funds and doubt the others.

I am of the opinion that more cultural activities like magazines, books, organised gatherings, lecturers and discussions should be encouraged. Sai Leela can propagate and advice the devotees for it. Sansthans can publish good writings of writers through their funds.

Temples in big cities have lakhs of rupees idle fund which can be spent in building hospitals in small rural areas and night shelters for homeless people as well as providing a part of funds to city hospitals for buying material without which services in hospitals are some times paralysed. An ambulance in each big city can give service from the Sai temple and Sai devotees.

Sai Leela can advise retired people from Sai Samaj to serve through educating poor children and helping through social contacts poor people who have been deprived of even basic requirement. Children of Sai devotees after becoming doctors, teachers, police personel can streamline the complete society if they are true devotees and their devotion is not limited upto getting their desires fulfilled by Him. One good example is "Dayal Bagh, Agra" built by Radhaswamis. Sai Leela can play a major role in organising Sai devotees showing them the path of devotion & service and in creating a true Sai culture.

With regards.

Yours sincerely

Vijay,

76, Pataudi House, New Delhi - 110 001

Second Anniversary of the Mahasamadhi of His Holines Swami Kesavaiahji

(Continued from February 1984 issue)

Shri Sai Baba Bhaktha Samajam (Regd) Shenoy Nagar, Madras, celebrated the second Mahasamadhi day of its Founder President, His Holiness Swami Kesavaiahji with solemnity and devotion on 18-8-83 with a day long programme of puja, poor feeding in the morning and a public function in the evening at Shri Shirdi Sai Baba Mandir, Shenoy Nagar, Madras, the great temple of peace bequeathed to the nation by the Swamiji in the name of Shri Sai Baba of Shirdi.

After Shri T. Kesavrao addressed the gathering, Dr. H. T. Vira Reddy was requested to speak on the occasion Dr. H. T. Vira Reddy, F.R.C.S., F.I.C.S., famous vascular surgeon of the country, Retired professor and Honorary Surgeon Madras General Hospital, is a great devotee. "What was Nehru to Mahatma is Dr. Reddy to Swamiji" Said late shri Panditaradhyula Nageswara Rao, Editor of "Andhra Prabha." Mr. Reddi who is the closest associate and follower of His Holiness Swami Kesavaiahji made the following humble speech which is highly thought-provoking. "I am not a regular speaker-especially on these matters which are highly complicated. Though I am also old, I am not in a position to advise on these subjects of philosophy. I can only say I am one of the earliest devotees of Shri Sai Baba by the grace of Swami Kesavaiahji. I did not believe in God. Those days in 1948, I used to ask Swami Kesavaiahji how he could blindly believe God so much. Had he ever seen Him?. Swamiji used to say that he saw Shri Sai Baba and talked to Him and that is why He got him into this Sai cult and asked him to serve the people. Swamiji used to say that he could see all these things (foreseeing, predicting, giving solution to problems of devotees

etc) as if they were written on a big screen board and that he was only the messenger carrying and conveying the messeages of Shri Sai Baba." Dr. Vira Reddy further observed "When Swamiji was building this huge building with almost no paise in his pocket, I asked Swamiji why he has taken up this huge sort of programme by begging money from many people. Somehow Swamiji said "It would come and I have decided to do it." Even if he was no more in this world, his soul would speak just as Sai Baba, Swamiji was saying before his Mahasamadhi in 1981. He was also saying that his soul would speak later on also." So Dr. Reddy concluded 1 hope most of you here will utilise this opportunity in getting-not only Shri Sai Baba's blessings but also his greatest devotee Swami Kesavaiahji's blessings and quietly spend some time here in contemplation and meditation, whenever you want to relieve yourself of tension after a day's strenuous work. This is a very quiet place. In a busy city like this, it is rare to get it".

Shri Uppuluri Kalidas, the Editor of "Swarajya" was a law graduate of Madras University and served his apprenticeship under late Shri S. Srinivasa Iyyengar, a former president of Indian National Congress. It was Rajaji who influenced Mr. Kalidas during his association of 35 years with him to enter journalism. Euologising the humanitarian services of Gurudev Swami Kesavaiahji Mr. Kalidas made the following observation: "As the latest disciple of Swamiji I salute that immortal spirit of H.H. Kesavaiahji as the sublime spirit continuing the Sai mission and helping the devotees, who surrender to Shri Sai Baba of Shirdi. Swamiji made every devotee feel as he is one who is the architect of the miracles He wants to perform by his surrender to Shri Sai and seek His grace for peace, health, and prosperity of the devotees. The great monument fashioned by Swamiji in the form of this temple and prayer hall with his historic will-power, indomitable faith and divine perception for the future of His devotees is the permanent place of peace of the Shirdi Sai Baba movement in this part of India. May the devotees deserve the miracle Swamiji performed by creating this great monument to provide peace by meditation, health by rightful living, prosperity by honest work and by surrendering to Shri Saibaba of Shirdi after doing one's duty." "Concluding Mr. Kalidas said "Let us salute to eternal spirit of the sage of Shenoynagar, His Holiness Swami Kesavaiahji, along with the master of the universe Shri Sai Baba of Shirdi for making our-lives sublime and meaningful investing with strength and glory of the Lord of the universe."

A programme of Bhajan followed the speeches. Many devotees also came from far off places. The day's programme came to a close with the distribution of Udhi and Prasadam to all the devotees that participated in the celebrations.

Shri Sai Baba Bhaktha Samajam, Shenoy Nagar,
Madras (Tamil Nadu)

The Perfume Of Life

Work I adore you like my mother;
You shelter me like my eldest brother (Father deceased in childhood)

You guide me, like my teacher; I accept you, like my Mister (Husband)

For, like a wife, I am devoted to you; Like a Mistress, I very much enjoy you; Wherever you want me I follow you; For like a slave, I obey you. Work! you are worship, we all know; (on paper)
Yet even from bounden duties, away we go;
Only name and fame, attract us, and towards them we flow;
Insult the spirit of work, and bring ourselves low;

Good, I was made to work hard by my superiors,
(From all walks of life)

Compared to them, I am still inferior.

Bless their souls, they stimulated my interior,

And tried their level best, to bring me on frontier.

No matter physical, mental, domestic or social work you are;

For, God incarnate virtue, you all are; I am capable to do all, whichever you are; I love you all, as long as "Work" you are.

So far in my life, you kept me healthy (in body and soul)

Gave me enough comforts, though I am not that wealthy;
Showed your beam, and help smile at life radiantly;
Manoeuvred my life and made decent, decorous
and seemly.

Out of gratitude, I want to do justice to you;
I want to work, until the death separates me from you;
Pray God, on my behalf, that this comes true;
You are eternal, but me? When time comes, I will have to say 'Adieu'

8, Kadri Mansions, Veer Savarkar Marg. Prabhadevi, Bombay - 400 025



Golden Opportunity

God permeates every being and He is the life-principle, which fact is proclaimed by all the religions. Hence, basically all human beings are almost the same. The differences based on one's birth, colour of the skin, etc., are only superficial factors. In the face of this universally accepted truth, how can a truly religious person harbour ill-will towards others? It is impossible for a human being with a knowledge of the in-dwelling God to be inimically disposed to another human being with the same God dwelling in him. Keligions lay stress on love for others and fellow-feeling. One should learn to serve the God in human being and thereby please the supreme. Religions are meant to chasten a person's emotions and refine his sensibilities so that he can become better.

While a person should respect other religions, he should be firm and steadfest in his adherence to the tenets of his own religion. He should try to understand the significance of the hallowed traditions of his religion that have been handed down to him from the hoary past and follow them.

Many of the problems of modern society can be attributed to lack of faith in God and respect for the moral law. The parents have by and large, failed to inculcate proper values of life in the young ones. The elders should practise them and prove themselves a worthy model. Regular prayers and observance of religious rites help disciplining the mind. Boys and girls, who observe their elders offering prayers to God with earnestness and practising virtues in their lives, will gradually start following their example and healthy ideas planted in young and dear minds will be highly enduring in their lives,

"When wealth is lost nothing is lost; when health is lost, something is lost and when character is lost, everything is lost."

is a wellknown saying, "Character is something, extremely precious, to be held dearer than even one's life" says the celebrated Tamil Saint poet Shri Tiruvalluvar. What is the reason for according greater importance to a person's character than any of his other possessions?

Man claims superiority over every other thing in the God's creation i.e. animals, birds, etc. Even among human beings there are very few men who recognise women as equal to them and treat them properly in this workaday world. As the human being alone is endowed with intelligence, it is incumbent on his part to show and give reverence to these so called lower creations i.e. animals etc. Can he afford to fritter away his life, acting as an abject slave to the promptings of his instinct, as those interior beings do?

Scriptures emphasise the value of human life which, they point out, should be protected and preserved at any cost? Why? Because the human birth is "A golden opportunity" given to men or women to scale great heights in their spiritual ascent.

To forge ahead and achieve success in self-realization should be his life's mission on this planet. Hence, one's own character is most essential. The human birth is valuable only because of its potential for spiritual advancement and enlightenment. One may rather give up his life than turn away from the path of tighteousness by taking to questionable ways in life.

service to the poor and the needy is an important virtue that everyone is expected to practise in life. A wealthy man should understand that all his riches are not meant exclusively for him. He happens to possess his wealth not because of his efforts alone, largely, it is due to the grace of the Almighty. The more he spends on charity and worthy causes, the wealthier does he become. But, if he becomes tight-fisted, he is gradually being relieved of his riches since they are not used for the purpose

for which they are intended. Great devotees of God had been so large-hearted that they cried from house-tops to the multitude to join them and drink deep at the fountain of Divine Grace which, they said, was flowing abundantly.

Mere riches or worldly knowledge do not make one great and worthy of respect. It is the largeness of heart that really counts. Our venerable sages had lived a humble life in their small hemitages. But, powerful kings ruling over vast kingdoms revered them and sought their advice because the latter had always the interests of the people at heart. They were absolutely free from selfishness.

God has endowed man with the power of observation which should be used purposefully. He should look around, observe nature and learn valuable lessoue to improve the quality of life. For instance, an ordinary bird, the crow, had a message for man. Whenever a crow finds food, it calls out to other crows to join. Man is described as the crown of organic evolution. Should he not share his riches with the less-privileged?

One should cultivate and develop the quality of helping others without expecting anything in return. He should draw a lesson from the clouds that shower rain and bring about alround prosperity.

Why should a person continue to be reborn and pass through the travails of life? Is there no escape? The ancient seers of India, who could "see" through their spiritual insight beyond the psycho-physical man, have revealed the truth for the benefit of mankind

Man, full of desires, performs various acts, both secular and religious, to fulfill those desires. Naturally, he has to experience the consequences thereof. He has to consume the fruits of his actions, both good and bad. There is no escape from the cycle

of births and deaths till he exhausts the accumulated load of Karmas and also destroys the subtle propensity that lurks in him and goads him to various activities. How to free oneself from the effects of the Karmas since a person cannot be actionless for a moment. Scriptures also enjoin on the individual performance of various religious rites and mundane duties.

One should learn to perform all his acts, free from attachment, without expecting any rewards, as a mere offering to the Almighty. All acts done with a sense of attachment lead to bondage. "Punya" resulting from virtuous acts has also to be avoided as much as "Papa" resulting from vicious acts. Punya can be likened to fetters of gold and man has to be reborn to enjoy the fruits of his Punya. Hence, one should work for liberation from both.

Even exalted souls may have to be re-born to work out the balance of their karmas. Only spiritual enlightenment, namely, the awareness that the individual, in essence, is nothing but the all-pervading, all-illuminating Universal Principle and not the perishable body that can liberate him from the cycle of births and deaths.

H. No. 1-1-336/104, "Shri Saikrupa", Vivek Nagar, Hyderabad - 500 020 (Andhra Pradesh)



To Respected Dr, Parchureji:

Sir,

May I take liberty to express my deep sense of appreciation for the excellent, thought-provocating, stimulating and highly spiritually thematic editorials that you have been writing in the Sai Leela. I am a very new subscriber only from August 1983 even then I have personally been tremendously enlightened.

Admittedly, with Baba's grace only I could write four scientific books and more than 100 scientific articles in various Indian and overseas journals but the enormous satisfaction, peace, solace, encouragement and incentive that I could get after writing and publishing the article in the Sai Leela, under your editorship, cannot be explained through my words, I have learnt that my 30 years of professional writing and my successful vocation (all because of Baba) could be profitably accomplished when I saw my article in Sai Leela since I believe that getting my article published in Sai Leela is almost coming closer to Baba. Please let me have your blessings too. In the article to be published in Sai Leela I would prefer to remain as simply M. R. Chakravartti without any suffix or perfix. With deep personal kind regards.

Yours SAIBABALY *

M. R. Chakravartti
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Law College Road, Pune 411 004



Om Shri Sai Sarvahrunnilayayanamaha

The seventh 'Nama' in the Sai Ashtottarashathanamavali (108 names) is 'Om Shri Sai Sarvahrunnilayayanamaha' (के सर्वहन्तिलयाय नमः) which means 'Salutation to Pranvaswarupa Sai who dwells in the hearts of all creatures.' The sixty eighth nama is 'Om Shri Sai Sarvantharyaminenamaha' (के सर्वान्तर्यामिणे नमः) which means 'salutations to Sai who is all pervasive.' All pervasive Sai only can dwell in the hearts of all creatures. Our Geetha i.e., Shri Sai Satcharita gives a number of incidents to show the above attributes of Sai.

Sai Baba Himself declared "I am the inner ruler of all and I am seated in their hearts. All the insects, ants, the visible, movable and immovable world is my body or form". (Chap, III). A God incarnate only can declare that He pervades everywhere. Not only He declared so but He also proved it by His actions as discussed below.

One day Baba was sitting as usual in the Dwarkamayi (in the year 1910). Instead of pushing logs of wood in the ever burning Dhuni He pushed His arm into it, unmindful of burning of His arm to save a blacksmith's child, who slipped into the furnace at a far off place. Is it not an indication of His Omnipresence and bhaktaseva?

Once Mrs. Tarkhad, a close devotee of Baba, gave a piece of bread to a hungry dog before going to Dwarkamayi for the noon arati. Baba was pleased with this act of the lady and said to her, "Mother you have fed me sumptuously upto my throat, my afflicted pranas have been satisfied. First give bread to the hungry and then eat yourself. The dog which you saw before meals and to which you gave bread is one with me so also other creatures (cats, pigs. flies, cows etc.,) are one with me. I am roaming in their forms. He who sees Me in all creatures is my

beloved" (Chap IX). On another occasion Baba called Laxmibai Shinde and said, "Oh! Lakshmi I am very hungry" she immediately ran to her house prepared bread and vegetable and brought it to the masjid. Baba who was very hungry gave it to a dog. When Laxmibai was unhappy to see that Baba did not eat her bread, Sai said to her, "The appeasement of the dog's hunger is the same as Mine. The dog has got a soul as Mine. The creatures may be different but the hunger of all is the same. He who feeds the hungry, really serves Me with food Regard this as axiomatic truth." How wonderfully Baba has taught us, His children, to see Him in all creatures?

Are we feeding Sai by feeding hungry creatures? If we pose this question to ourselves we know how far we are implementing Baba's advice to Laxmibai Shinde. You all will agree with me that Baba taught this simple but great lesson to all His devotees for all time not to Mrs. Laxmibai alone. If we love all creatures we can have unlimited and unwavering love towards Him. When we love animals or human beings, we naturally take pity on the hungry souls and whole-heartedly part with our food to satisfy Sai's hunger through these hungry souls.

In Sahasranamas (1000 names) and Ashtottarashat namavali (108 names) we describe the attributes of God by whatever name we call Him. Will the repetition of these names without understanding the meaning help us? In Chapter XV of Sai Satcharita Omnipresent Sai declares "Though I am here bodily still I know what you do beyond the seven seas. Worship Me always who is seated in your heart as well as in the hearts of all beings. Blessed and fortunate indeed is he, who knows Me thus". Baba says that he, who knows that He is seated in all hearts, is blessed and fortunate one. We may add here that one can conquer lust, anger, greed, jealousy, hatred and egoism (six enemies of man), if one thinks that every other man's heart is Sai's abode. It is because we connot hate Sai, we cannot be jealous of Sai

so on and so forth. We have to respect and love every creature, who is a Sai Swarupa.

Let us pray to All merciful Sai to give us the eye-sight to see Him in all creatures.

D. Sankaraiah

H. No. 8-3-1113/2 Kesavanagar Hyderabad - 500 873 (A.P.)

My Sai

He is neither in the temple nor in the church

But He is present in the hearts of His sons on the earth,

He is neither of gold nor of silver

In love and faith He appears in every drop of tear,

When you wish, you can remember Him you can call Him

Time, Place, ocean or hill makes no difference to Him

Ruchir

Sector IV, R. K. Puram, New Delhi - 110 022

Shri Sai Baba's Miraculous Udi

I first heard of Shri Sai Baba's name and fame exactly eight years ago in December 1975. At that time, through a set of circumstances having to do with my then spiritual development, I came to know about Shri Sathya Sai Baba of South India. and through Him, Shri Sai Baba of Shirdi. Pictures and books on Shri Sai Baba were available to me, and I particularly remembered the book about Shri Sai Baba written by Arthur Osborne "The Incredible Sai Baba." In reading the life stories and leelas of Shri Sai Baba for the first time in that book, I was often moved to tears"

From that initial contact until September 1982, almost seven years later, Shri Sai Baba was constantly at the back of my mind, and, at the time of my story He decided to step forward and showed me His grace directly.

Basically, the problem was that I had suffered from asthma since childhood. In the earlier years, the disease would come and go, and when it would be very bad, a little proper medication would clear it away. From the time I was about 30 years old (I am now 56) the disease became chronic and settled down as a permanent part of my life. The only way it could be kept in check so that life was bearable was by medication. However, as is well-known, medication has the drawback that once you are on it, and the disease is under control, there is practically no way you can get off it. Thus it was for more than 25 years I depended on drugs to keep the asthma in check. In particular, I depended on a medicine which came in a small pessurized spray container which I had with me everywhere I went. On the average, for all those years, I would require at least 3 or 4 inhalations every day.

About 1980 it became clear to me that the medicine and I must part company if my spiritual development were to continue.

An, but the question was how to do it? I am not exaggerating here when I say that I tried everything. Prayers, japa, meditation, fasts, exercise, diet, etc.

Nothing worked. The maximum length of time that I could manage without the medicine was 72 hours. After which it was back to the spray container. It could be said that I did not have enough faith in God, but as anyone, who has suffered from chronic asthma can tell you the question in the final moment of truth is not whether you have enough faith, but whether you can draw the next breath of air. It was after all these failed attempts at dissociating myself from the medicine that Shri Sai Baba stepped forward and performed His miracle.

In the afternoon of September 3, 1982, I was reading the book "The Incredible Sai Baba" and I happened to come across the story on PP. 33-34 of Babu, the young son of M. W. Prahdan, and their family priest Madhava Bhat. This story brought tears to my eyes when the family priest, who was not a Shri Sai Baba devotee, ran to the picture of Shri Sai Baba and cried out; "If the child improves enough to be brought downstairs by four o'clock this afternoon, I will agree that you are Datta." Strange to say, the boy's temperature began to go down and by four o'clock the boy himself asked his mother to take him downstairs and let him play.

At that time something made me close my eyes and say inside; "Sai Baba, if you cure me of asthma, then I will agree that you are an incarnation of God." From that moment until now I have not once used the spray container (or any other medicine) for asthma.

So, after 25 years of depending on this medication, how did Shri Sai Baba effect this miraculous cure? He did it with His udi! At that time, we had in our home a small quantity of udi given to us by a friend, who went to Shirdi from America and brought some back. The quantity of udi was such that if I had started to take some each time when I felt an oncoming asthma attack, it would have been exhausted in a short time and where was I to get more udi from halfway around the world? As it turned out, Shri Sai Baba graciously permitted me to meditate on the little udi that we had each time I felt an obstruction in my breathing. Strange to say, it worked!! As I meditated on the udi, the obstruction to my breathing would gradually dissolve and sooner or later normal breathing would be restored. By sooner, I mean it could be a minute or two, and by later I mean it could be several hours. Nevertheless, when this is compared with all my earlier efforts, it must be considered nothing short of a miracle.

Thus, gradually the asthma has been held in check, controlled, and almost completely eliminated. It is by His grace and leela that I was cured. So, I am now offering this account of His leela at His lotus feet.

I pray that God in the form of Shri Sai Baba will continue to help the millions of sufferers in this world and give them peace.

Dr. C. C. Chang Professor of Mathematics 26332 C North Oak Highland Drive, Newhall, California 91321 U. S. A.



Shri Sai Baba

God is materially seen through Shri Sai Baba and realised perfectly through Shri Sai Treating the fellow beings in the creation lovingly is the highest form of worship Shri Baba has taught his disciples. To me He is a saint of a very high order, answering to the call of millions all over the world and fulfilling the wishes of his ardent devotees as well as those who have heard his name. He is full of compassion, love and affection and no one wishes to divert his sight from Him if he had the opportunity of looking into his kind motherly affectionate face. He lived a very simple life at the holy place called SHIRDI, in Kopergoan Taluka of Maharashtra State.

Shri Sai Baba's name is spoken all over the world now. Many Indians living overseas have carried over him message of "Love" to all corners of the world.

As far as Andhra Pradesh is concerned, people remember the services of Shri Subramanya Swamy, Shri Swamy Kesavaiahji. Shri Basheer Baba, Shri Narayana Baba and other great men, who strived hard to spread the message of Shri Sai Baba to rural Andhra by undertaking door to door, village to village, town to town yatra. There are many other great men in the service of Shri Sai Baba who remain unknown and spread the message of "Love And Service".

From my very early days I have known the name of Shri Sai Baba and read books on his life and teachings. One such book is the one written by Shri E. Bharadwaja of Nellore and the other Sai Satcharita lent to me for reading, the first by my office colleague Shri G. V. Suryanarayana and the other by Shri K. Sai Narayana Baba of Hyderabad. Whenever, I met Shri Narayana Baba, he used to tell me about one or two incidents that happened during the life-time of Shri Sai Baba. He used to

tell me several times that he will take me to Shirdi and then he used to go back to his early days spent with Shri Sai Baba. All those moments I have noticed him lost in the memory of Shri Sai Baba, First of all the idea of visiting the holy place of Shirdi was put to me by Shri R. V. Subba kao, well-known advocate of the Andhra Pradesh High Court, in October, 1981 when he invited me to the "Sai Arti" in his house at Narayanguda. Then he insisted on my meeting a Sai devotee Prof. Basheeruddin, now Indian Ambassador to Quater and my visiting Puttaparthi and Shirdi. Accordingly, I met Shri Satya Sai Baba at Puttaparthi on 4-12-1981 and visited SHIRDI on 24-11-1983. My friend Shri M. Nanjappa, his Mrs. Sarojamma, and his daughter Kum, Satyadevi were the other persons, who came along with me to Shirdi. On that 24th November, 1983, Thursday night so many people from all corners of the world visited the holy Shirdi. It looked as though a human stream is flowing towards Shirdi Sai Mandir. During the journey in the train, I have seen people talking merrily about the grace and favours of Shri Sai Baba. Really, Shri Sai Baba is the great divine force. The Manager at the Reception Office in Shantinivas at Shirdi was so kind that he took pains to go personally and bring the keys of a room in the Gurusthan Building and provided accommodation for us. The 24 hours I was at Shirdi I spent it in the Sai Samadhi Mandir, the Chavadi, the Dwarakamai, the Samadhi of Abdul Baba, Nanavali, Bhau Maharaj, Tatyakote, temple of Shri Khandoba, the Gurusthan, the water well and Nandadeep in Lendi Bagh and the Mosque. On the night of 24th November, 1983 (Thursday) when I was offering "Fateha" at the shrine of Shri Abdul Baba, some Muslims, who came to Shirdi, asked me a very difficult question, "Who is Sai Baba? Whether he is a Hindu or a Muslim?." To them, I replied "A man, who looks in a mirror, sees his own image. So you, who are Muslims have found a Muslim saint in Shri Sai Baba. To me also he is a great saint and a Muslim, to others he is a Hindu, a Christian, a Jain and everything. He belongs to every one and every religion. He is dear to everyone'r heart. He belongs to the religion of love. He is on ocean of love and divine light. One should see Him through Inner Sight and realise His divinity." Realising the divinity in Sai and the love of Sai for mankind above the barriers of religion, caste, and creed, they went with their hearts filled with joy. I wished them the blessings of Shri Sai.

Once when I proposed to Shri Narayana Baba to conduct a door-to-door, village-to-village "Sai Prachar Yatra" like the one undertaken by Shri Subramanya Swamy in early days, at once he agreed to the proposal. When this programme takes its reality, I think we will be able to spread the message of love and service of Shri Baba to the rural masses once again.

The promise of Shri Sai Baba is that whoever climbs the steps of Dwarakamai his sufferings will come to an end and whoever looks to Him, He will look unto him.

May we all have His blessings and His grace.

N. M. Yousuf Ali Khan IC-19 Erramanzil Colony, Hyderabad - 500 004

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To,
The Editor,
Sir,

Words fail me when I wish to record my gratefulness to you for the eloquent manner in which you are writing the editorials of Sai Leela-particularly co-relating the important festivals with Baba and Indian philosophy.

Yours in Sai Service,

K. Viswanathan Secretary All India Sai Samaj, Mylapore, Madras

Report Of The Tenth Annual Gathering At Shirdi

The tenth annual gathering of the contributors to Shri Sai Leela magazine was held at Shirdi on the 29th and 30th January 1984 under the presidentship of Sai devotee Shri Laxmanrao Sadashiv alias Balasaheb Naik from Indore.

Apart from being Sai brothers and Sai sisters, as the devotees of Shri Sai Baba, the contributors to Shri Sai Leela magazine have an additional relation of being the contributors of a magazine spreading Sai devotion far and wide. They are therefore quite anxious to meet each other at Shirdi at the annual gathering. Naturally therefore they are watching the issues of Shri Sai Leela from the months of October onwards. All contributors were therefore pleased to find the announcement of the gathering, proposed to be held at Shirdi in January 1984, in the issue of Shri Sai Leela for the month of November 1983. The announcement was repeated in the issue for the month of December 1983 as some devotees, who may have missed the issue for the month of November 1983, may not be incovenienced. The ball was thus set rolling and the wheels of the machinery at the Shirdi Office started moving as the contributors started sending their proformas duly filled in, to the Shirdi Office. The accommodation was allotted to the contributors, who had communicated their intention of attending the gathering. The streamers were painted and they were hung in the precinets of the Shirdi Sansthan. It was decided to hold the gathering in the hall on the ground floor of the dormitory, near the Mangal Karyalaya and therefore the staff of the Shirdi Sansthan decorated that hall nicely and made all other preparations for the gatheing. As per invitations sent to the delegates, they started coming to Shirdi by 28-1-'84 and the president Shri Balasaheb Naik along with Sou Sarojinitai Mulye, Ex-President of the gathering also

personally supervising the work of the preparations of the gathering and he inspected the hall in the evening of 28-1-'84 along with the two executive editors and gave some last minute instructions in order to provide some further facilities.

SUNDAY - 29-1-184.

Morning Session At 9 a.m. in the morning, when the venue of the gathering was reveberating with the sweet and auspicious tunes of Shahanai and the hall was crowded with the delegates, the president Shri Balasaheb Naik entered the hall along with the Court Receiver, Shri Kakresaheb, Shri D. C. Pathaksaheb and the two executive editors, Dr. Parchure and Shri Sadanand Chedwanakar and Sou Sarojinitai Mulye. The president was given an ovation with a warm applause by clapping, which marked the beginning of the gathering.

The president lighted the lamp in front of the photo of Shri Sai Baba, which was placed in the hall and Sou Asawari Waikul sang the welcome song composed by herself. The sweet tunes of Shahanai and the melodious voice of Sou. Waikul produced a very serene atmosphere which is quite essential for such a conference.

In his inaugural speech, the Court Receiver, Shri Kakresaheb said, "I am very giad to welcome all the delegates, who have come here for this tenth annual gathering of the contributors to Shri Sai Leela magazine. This is simply a gathering of all the persons who take interest in the publication of Shri Sai Leela magazine and who wish to enlighten the Sai devotees in various ways by contributing their articles to this magazine. This is not a literary conference or a political session where people fight vehemently with each other for carrying their own point. As in the gatherings of schools or colleges the participants carry on the entire show in an atmosphere of joy and mirth similarly I

would request you all to Co-opetate with each other and think about the ways and means to improve the quality and standard of our magazine. We have made all the arrangements for you and hope that you would not have to face any inconveniences. However if any delegate has any difficulty, he may kindly meet either Shri Pathaksaheb or any other Officer of the Shirdi Sansthan and get the difficulty solved. I now declare open this tenth annual gathering of the contributors."

A condolence resolution expressing sorrow for all the Sai devotees, readers and contributors of Shri Sai Leela, who passed away during the last year, was then passed by the gathering by standing for two minutes. As Sou, Tarabai Chendwankar passed away in October last, a special mention of her name was made while passing the resolution and all the delegates were specially moved by the mention of that name.

Then Shri Sadanand Chendwankar told the delegates about the arrangements for their stay, lunch, tea etc. for the days of the gathering and read cut in short the programme chalked out for the gathering.

The next item on the agenda was the introduction of the president. As Shri Naik, this year's president, came from Indore and as he was known closely to Shirdi Bapusaheb Niikhe, a delegate from Indore, he we requested by Dr. Parchure to introduce the president to the audience. In his speech delivered in Marathi, Shri Nirkhe told how Shri Balasaheb had the occasion to come to Shirdi along with his father. He also told a brief history of the father of Shri Balasaheb, who was a sincere devotee of Shri Sai Baba.

Shri Nirkhe further narrated how the worship of Shri Sai Baba is done at the house of Shri Balasaheb and also how his whole family is devoted to Shri Sai Baba and how they feel that all their prosperity is due to the blessings of Shri Baba. In the end he said, "We are very lucky that we have such a sincere

Sai devotee, who had occasion to receive the blessings from Shri Sai Baba Himself, as the president of our gathering. We shall be very happy to hear his experiences from his own mouth".

Dr. Parchure then stood up to introduce the president. He Said, "In the minds of the contributors to the English and Hindi magazine there is a feeling that they are being neglected in this gathering as the deliberations are mostly carried on here in Marathi; but let me tell them that they should not have any such complex. In the Sai Darbar there is no distinction in man and man on account of his cast, creed, religion or language. All are alike here and all have equal opportunity.

Our this gathering is now tending to be a gathering of people from all over India, like the All India Sai Devotees' convention. In that convention though people are coming from all the states of India, no language problem crops up there. The deliberations of the convention go on into the local language while every one is allowed to speak in his own mothertongue for which no one raises any objection or feels any inferiority complex. For example when I attended the convention at Pune, the speech of the president of the convention, which was printed in English, was first read out and then I was directed to read out full translation thereof in Marathi as the audience was mostly Marathi knowing. The deliberations in the convention held at Bangalore were carried out in Kannada and I delivered my speech there in English which was received well by the audience. Last year in the Nellore Convention though the deliberations were mostly in Telugu, I had an occasion to address the gathering in English and nobody felt it anything out of the way. Now the next convention is proposed to be held at Calcutta and therefore the deliberations in that convention are bound to be mostiy in Bengali. Similarly as we are meeting in Shirdi, which is in Maharashtra state and in which gathering there are more than seventy per cent delegates, who are contributing articles to the Marathi edition, we have to take it for grated that there will be more speeches in Marathi; but this should not discourage other people in any way. They may address the gathering in whatever language they want to. Their speeches will always be welcomed."

Readers of the English edition will remember that I have already published in the issue for the month of January 1984, the life-sketch of our president and I hope that you might have already read it. However I will again introduce our president formally."

After this Dr, Parchure narrated the life-sketch of Shri Balasaheb Naik in terms of the article already published in Shri Sai Leela. He told how the father of Shri Balasaheb used to come to Shri Sai Baba during the former's young days and how Shri Balasaheb used to accompany his father and receive udi and prasad from the hands of Shri Baba Himself.

(to be continued)



Twentyfirst All India Sai Devotees' Convention

The twentyfirst All India Sai Devotees' Convention will be held at 39, Jatindas Road Calcutta 29, from 20-3-84 to 23-3-84 under the joint auspices of Shirdi Sai Baba Mandir Society, Calcutta 29 and The All India Sai Samaj, Mylapore, Madras 4. Shri Sai Baba's idol will also be installed at the Sai Baba temple at 39 Jatin Das Road on 22-3-84. The delegate's fees will be Rupees 25/- per head. The intending delegates may write to Smt Sarojini Devarajilu at Shirdi Sai Mandir, 39, Jatindas Road, Calcutta 29.



NOVEMBER 1983 (Continued from February 1984 issue)

Eye Camp - Shirdi Sansthan is arranging various types of camps for the benefit of the people from the villages round about Shirdi, as the residents of those villages do not get any medical aid. The sixth eye-Camp was accordingly arranged at Shirdi from 27-11-1983 where eminent opthalmologists examined the patients and gave treatment,

Weather 1- The weather at Shirdi was free from any sort of disease and it was quite healthy. The nights were very Cool

DECEMBER 1983

Because of the Christmus holidays at the end of the month, there was extra rush of devotees at the end of the month. Schools, colleges and factories came to Shirdi in groups and therefore the staff of the Shirdi Sansthan was required to be alert for attending to the needs of the devotees, who visited Shirdi during this month.

The following artists gave their various programmes in the Samadhi Mandir in this month.

Keertan: Keertans were arranged on Ekadashi days and other days of religious importance. Shri Jagannathbuwa Wakchoure, from Shirdi, performed Keertan during this month.

Pravachan: - 1) Shri Murlidharmaharaj Deshmukh, Shirdi.
2) Shri Laxman Ananda Mirajkar, Islampur.

Vocal Music, Instrumental music, Bhajan dance, etc.,

1) Shri Kisan Shreepati Paigude, Bhor 2) Shri Vasantrao Keshavrao Gaikwad, Pune 3) Shri Yewatkar Bhajani Mandal 4) Dr. M. K. Kirtikar 5) Shri Vasantrao Phulambrikar 6) Shri Ram Dixit, Dombivali 7) Shri Dattaram Viththal Ghag, Bombay 8) Shri Pannalal Jain, Zashi 9) Shri Gopal Satsang Mandal, Bandra 10) Shri Arun Somani, Sangamner 11) Shri Shivram Bidwe, Sangamner, 12) Shri Ramchandra Gajanan Deshpande, Ambarnath 13) Shri Abaji Pandharinath Dange, Kankuri 14) Shri Jayram Vaman Chowdhari, Nandurkhi 15) Shri Shantilal Mehara Shankar, Bombay 16) Shri Suresh Mavinkurve, Bombay 17) Shri Swami Krishnadas, Vrindavan 18) Shri Arvind Narayanswami Kopare, Oundha Naganath 19) Shri Vinayak Mahadev Vevekar, Bombay 20) Shri Vikas Kasalkar, Bombay 21) Shri Purushottam Gangurde, Bombay 22) Sou. Padmavati Shripad Otri, Bombay 23) Shri Chandrashekhar Manohar Deshpande, Hadapsar 24) Shri Ashok Holkar, Hadapsar, 25) Shri Manohar Leshpande, Hadapsar, 26) Shri Babasaheb Sawant, Hadapsar 27) Shri Kamal Mujumdar, Jamshedpur 28) Shri Saidham Devalaya Bhajani Mandal, Bombay 29) Shri BapuJoshi, Poospoorkar 30) Smt, Vedavati Chaitanyapuri Hyderabad.

Shri Datta Jayanti:— On Monday the 19th December 1983, Dattajayanti was celebrated in the Samadhi Mandir. There was great rush of devotees, who had come for darshan on that day. Shri Jagannathbuwa Wakchoure, from Shirdi, Performed Keertan in the Samadhi Mandir on the topic of the birth of Dattatraya. The chariot of Shri Sai Baba, illuminated by electric lights and decorated with flowers was taken in procession through the Shirdi Village when many devotees took darshan of Shri Sai Baba.

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

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I. Kanhayalal Hiralal Kakre, hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge

and belief.

K. H. KAKRE

Receiver.

Shri Sai Baba Sansthan, SHIRDI,

(Signature of the Publisher)

श्रीसाईलीला

हिंदी विभाग अनुक्रमणिका मार्च १९८४

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कुछ तो बोलो साई बाबाजी

क्यूं तुम चूप हो सांई बाबा जी हुओ क्या गलती हम से बाबा जी

आँखे क्यूं है आसुं भरी हुई देखने में क्यूं दु:ख चिन्तित हुई

विचार क्या है बोलो न कुपा करके आँखे खोलो न

तुम से प्रार्थना करते है बाबा जी क्यूं तुम चूप हो साई बाबा जी

हम सब भक्तों के हो मालिक तुम आये है तुम्हे शिरडी को देखने हम

कितने भक्तों का मन चुराये हो तुम इम सब भक्तों की अभिलाषा सजाये हो तुम

कहाँ खो गये मांडे बांबा जी कुछ तो बोलो ना मांई बाबा जी

हमसे इतने नाराज क्यूं हो बाबा जी इमारे दु:ख को दूर करो बाबा जी

अपने बच्चों का स्वंय रक्षा करो बाबा जी हमारे सभी कष्ट दूर करो बाबा जी शिरडी के सग्दुरु सांई नाथ बाबा जी

> नरेंद्रकुमार सालियन स्वान मिल्स लिमिटेड, बम्बई नं-४०००२१

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साईनाथ और चमत्कार

संसारसागर के दोनों छीरी पर निराशा का निबीड अन्धःकार छाया हुआ था। जनता उस निराशारूपी गत्री में भ्रमित होकर इतस्तत्तः भटक रही थी। वह भ्रांत पथिक की भाँति एक ऐसे आलम्बन की खोज में थी, जो उनका मार्गदर्शन और राजनीतिक आन्दोलनों की द्वेषमयी आन्धी भोली भाली जनता में नष्ट होना चाहती थी। ऐसी स्थिति में भारतवर्ष के अन्दर धीरे धीरे शीतल और पांवत्र वायु की लहरीं मे एक महान आदर्श त्यागी महात्मा सिन्चदानन्द साईनाथ महाराज का इस जीवन में उदय हुआ।

महाराष्ट्र का अहमदनगर जिला उनके पवित्र अवतार से कृतार्थ होकर आज भी एक पीडितों को मानवता के लिए तीर्थ बना हुआ है।

महान तपस्वी विद्वानों द्वारा यह माना जाता है कि ऐसी अधर्म और विचित्र परिस्थितियों में स्वयं भगवान त्रिलोकीनाथ ने तरह तरह के अवतार लिये है, जिनका एकही उद्देश रहा। अधर्म न होकर धर्म हो, पाप न होकर निष्पाप हो और विशेषत: पीडित मानवता के लिये शाश्वत स्नेह एवं प्रेम का सदावर्त वितरित हो सकें।

इंदौर के सन्तिशिरोमणी नाना महाराज तराणेकर ने इस सम्बन्ध के अपने विचार प्रकट किये है, ''श्रद्धा व भाव दोनों आवश्यक है जो सेवा का प्रमुख लक्षण है। जहां पर सेवाभाव और पीडित मानवता क लिय प्रेम है वहां पर आनन्द ही आनन्द है।''

सन्तिशिरोमणी सिन्वदानन्द साईनाथ महाराज के जन्म एवं प्रकटीकरण के सम्बन्ध में परस्पर मतभेद है। प्राचीनकालीन ग्रंथ के अनुसार साईनाथ महाराज का जन्म एवं प्रकटीकरण १८७३ से माना जाता है। जिसके सम्बन्ध में इस घटना का आरम्भ होता है।

महाराष्ट्र में औरंगाबाद जिले के धूप ग्राम का मुखिया, जिसे महाराष्ट्र में पाटील कहा जाता है, अपनी घोडी की तलाश में चमचमाती धूप में जंगल की ओर जा रहा था । अचानक रास्ते में उसकी दृष्टि एक वृक्ष की छाया में बैठे हुए अलौकिक प्रकाश से युक्त एक महापुरुष पर पड़ी । उनके पास एक चिमटा एक फटी सी झोली शरीर पर कुरता जो दो तीन स्थानों से फटा हुआ, पैरों को डकने के लिये मलीन सा तहमत, और सिर पर कपनी थी । वह मुखिया उनके करीब आया और चेहरा देखते बराबर पैरों में लिपट गया, क्यों कि मुखिया के लिये एक चमत्कार सिद्ध हुवा और उसे एक आलम्बन की प्रचीती हुई और भावुकता और अद्धा के साथ हाथ जोडकर बोलने लगा । मुखिया ने प्रश्न किया ।

"क्या आप मेरी घोडी जिस का तलाश मैं कर रहा हूं उसे मुझे मिलवा देंगे?" इस पर सिंघ्द पुरुष बोल उठे। "क्या उसका नाम बिजली है?" "जी हां" कहते हुए मुखिया अत्यंत भावुक हो गया। सिध्द पुरुष ने कहा, "बाजुके नाले में दुंदो।" तब चांद पाटील को अपनी घोडी वहां मिल गयी। और उसका विश्वास बढ गया।

आखिर सिध्द पुरुष ने अपनी चिलीम निकालते हुये उस मुखियासे कहा, "चिलीम पी के जाना" । सिध्य पुरुष ने अपना चिमटा उठाकर जमीन मे घुसा दिया और जलता अंगार निकाल दिया । वह चमत्कार देख कर मुखिया बाबा के चरणों लिपट गया ।

मुलिया के घर शादी होने के कारण बरात के साथ चलने का आग्रह उसने बाबा को किया। एवं शिरडी चलने के लिये वह सिध्द पुरुष तैयार हो गये। शिरडी की ओर बरात का प्रस्थान हुआ। बरात के साथ शिरडी आने के बाद बाबा शिरडी में रहने लने।

शिरडी में खंडोबा का एक प्राचीन मन्दिर है। उसके पुजारी म्हालसापती ने उन सिध्द पुरुष को देखते ही "आवो साई" करके प्कारा। इसी नामसे ही वह सिध्द पुरुष मशहुर हुआ। श्री साईबाबा के अनेक भक्त प्रसिध्द है। दास गणू. बायजाबाई, तात्या कोते, म्हालसापति, लक्ष्मीबाई, अबदुछा, नानासाहेब चांदोरकर, उपासनी महाराज इत्यादी भक्तों का नाम प्रमुख है। शिरडी के पास साकोरी स्थान के संस्थापक उपासनी महाराज थे।

साई बाबा नै शिरडी में रहकर धर्म की ज्योति जलाकर नास्तिकों का मतपरिवर्तन किया । सभी दीन दुखियों का भरण पोषण किया । सन १५ अक्टूबर १९१८ को साई बाबा ने अपना देह त्याग कर समाधी ली । साई बाबा के बारे में मेरा व्यक्तिगत अनुभव कहने में मुझे बहुत खुषी होती है। पाच वर्ष तक कोई सन्तान मुझे न होने के कारण मैने बाबा से प्रार्थना की। और बाबा के आशीर्वाद से मुझे सुन्दर सा पुत्र है। ये ही मेरे लिये बाबा का प्रसाद है जो मैं जन्मभर उसे देखता रहुंगा। और बाबा की याद में इबा रहुंगा।

> सुभाष नारायण भालेराव भाऊसाहेब चव्हाण का बाडा, गोविन्द आश्रम के पास, चिटणीस की गोठ, गवालियर (म. प्र)

!! तारा चले गये !!

घर सुनसान करके, चले गये तारा,
हमें वेघर करके, अनाथ कर चले गये तारा ॥
बहन होकर भी तुमने मां का प्यार दिया था,
हमारे दिल को दुखा कर चले गये तारा ॥
क्या करूँ, के से करूँ, अब तो रहा नही जाता,
साई के साथ रहने, हमारा साथ छोड़ दिये तारा ॥
सदानन्द को तुम, सदा आनन्द ही देते रहे,
क्यों हमें दु:ख देकर, छोड़ गये तारा ॥
जाना था चले गये, हमें आना है आके रहेगें,
समय से पहले, दिया बुझा कर चले गये तारा ॥
रहो साई के साथ हमें भूल न जाना बहन,
जन्म जन्म के हम साथी, साई को कह दो तारा ॥

प्रा. गुन्डेराव पटवारी "साहित्य रत्न" एन. एफ. जे. कॉलंज बिदर (कर्नांटक) ५८५४०१

निशदिन जपूं में भाईनाम तेरा

निशदिन जपूं में साई नाम तेरा नाम तेरा गुणगान तेरा

सिर पर है मेरे पापों की गठरी आयी में शरण तेरी

नैय्या पार पहुचाँदे मेरी तू ही हैं रखवाला मेरा

नाम तेरा गुणगान तेरा निश दिन जपु मैं साई नाम तेरा

साई तू बुलाले द्वार अपने मुझे करदें सारें दुःख दूर मेरे

भूल पाऊ न मैं कभी तुझे बस जाये नाम तेरा

इस दिल में मेरे बन जा पालनहारा मेरा

नाम तेरा गुणगान तेरा निश दिन जपू मैं साई नाम तेरा

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साई बाबा की विचित्र लीला

बात अनुभव की बड़ी विचित्र किन्तु सत्य है। मुझे सत्य साई बाबा के फोटो की तलाश थी। पर वह बाजार में उपलब्ध नहीं थी। दुकानदार कहते कि "पहले शिरडी साई बाबा की फोटो है खरीद लो" परन्तु मैं कहता कि "इस मुसलमान बाबा की फोटों क्यो खरीदूं ? मैं ठहरा हिन्दु और शंकर का भक्त।" कई साल तक इसी प्रकार चलता रहा। ३०-७-७४ को हरदा दौरे पर गया वहाँ पर कुछ प्रेरणा हुई कि मैं शिरडी जाऊँ पर पता नहीं माछ्म कि शिरडी कहां हैं। मनमाड का टिकट लेकर पठानकोट की गाड़ी में बैठ गया । सोचा गाड़ी रात्री २ या ३ बजें मनमाड पहुचेगी मैं आराम से सो गथा। ठीक रात्री को १२ बजें आल खुली । घडी देखी फिर स्टेशन का बोर्ड दिखा मनमाड स्टेशन जल्दी से उतर आया। फर्स्ट किलास वेटिंग रूम में घुसा। पूछा कि शिरडी कहाँ हैं। वताया गया बस स्टेंड से बस में जाओं। बाहर चाय वाले से पूछा ''शिरडी जाना है कैसे जाऊँ?" उसने उत्तर दिया "बरसात हो रहीं हैं। बस स्टेंड दूर है। गाडी से कोपरगाव जाओं । वहाँ से बस मिलेगी ।" टिकट लेकर मैं गाडी में बैंठ गया । नीद लगी और कोपरगाव स्टेशन से पहिले आख खुली । मैंने पूछा कि स्टेशन आ गई और उत्तर हाँ में मिला। स्टेशन से बाहर बस में बड़ी भीड थी। बाम्बे से महाराष्ट्र की बसों का अनुभव था अधिक सवारी नहीं लेते इसलिए दूसरी बस का इन्तजार करने के लिए खडा हो गया। अचानक कन्डक्टर ने पूछा कहाँ जाना हैं। मैने उत्तर दिया शिरडी। उसने कहा गाडी में चढो। मैं भीड में घुस गया शिरडी बस स्टेंड से बिना किसी से पूछे साठे वाडा में रिसेप्शनिस्ट के पास अपने को खडा होते पाया। इससे पता लिखकर एक लडके को साथ भेजकर दीक्षित वाडे में पहुँचा दिया।

चाय पीते समय एक अनजान बूढे आदमी ने पूँछा कि अमिषेक करोगे ?
मैनें हाँ कहा तो वह टिकट घर का रास्ता बता कर गायब हो गया। मेरा अमिषेक करने का पहला अवसर था। खैर, सामान लिया और अमिषेक भी किया परन्तु मन बड़ा खिल्ल कि यह क्या दिखावा है। चढावा फूल, मिठाई वगैर। सुना या कि बाबा एक पुरानी मस्जिद में रहते थे। मुझे दिखावे से बहुत घृणा है इसलिए समाधि मन्दिर में अजीब सा लगा। अचानक शाम को सिक्का निकाल

कर समाघि मन्दिर में उछाला आज्ञा पाने को कि भोपाल जाऊँ अथवा नहीं क्यों कि दूसरे दिन रक्षाबन्धन का त्यौहार था। सिक्का उछालना जीवन में पहली बार किया था। किसी अन्जान प्रेरणा से जाने की अनुमति नहीं मिछी। न जाने क्यों रुका और दूसरे दिन सुबह संगमनेर के गायक का भजन समाधि मन्दिर में हो रहा था । तो मेरे पास में बैठे हुए एक अधेड आदमी की आखों में अश्रुधारा होने लगी। उसका नाम मिश्रा था जो कि मुवनेश्वर का रिटायर्ड इन्जीनियर था। सत्य साई बाबा के कहने से शिरडी आकर बिजली का काम देखा करते थे। मैनें उससे कहा कि यह यहां पर क्या दिख रहा है। सुना है कि बाबा तो एक फकीर थे जो टूटी हुई मस्जिद में रहते थे। उसने फिर मुझे बताया कि यह बाबा की समाधि है। बाबा जो वस्तुए प्रयोग में लाते थे वह वहाँ पर रखी है। बड़ी मस्जिद दूसरे तरफ है। मैंने उससे और पूँछा कि आपका यहाँ का और सत्य साई बाबा का क्या अनुभव है क्यों कि मुझे सत्य साई बाबा देः दर्शन की ज्यादा इच्छा थी शिरही बात्रा की बिल्कुल नहीं। मिश्रा ने कहा कि वह पुष्ट पर्ती में एक साल रह कर बाबा की आज्ञा से शिरडी आया है और जब बाबा पुट्ट पर्ती में रहते है तो वैसी ही शांति मिलती है जैसी कि यहाँ शिरडी में फिर उसने अपना अनुभव बताया कि एक दिन समाधि मन्दिर में आरती के समय वह गिर पडा। डाक्टर ने सलाइ दी कि एक माइ नहीं चलना फिरना। रात को सोते समय रोते रोते बाबा से प्रथीना कि । अगर उनकी मृत्यु हुई तो एक इजार मेल की दूरी भुवनेश्वर में वीबी बच्चों को कौन खबर करेंगा। मुबह उठा तो रोज के अनुसार नित्यक्रम किया और डाक्टर ने उससे पूछा कैसे हो तो उसने जवाब दिया कि डाक्टर साहब आंपकी दवा से ठीक हूं डाक्टर ने आइचर्य के साथ कहा कि उसकी दवासे तो दो माहमें भी उठ नहीं सकते थे। ह्रदयविकार का तीव झटका था। कैस जीवित बचे यही अचम्भा की बात है। उन्होंने कुछ पुस्तक पढ़ने को दी नरसिंह स्वामी की । घर आने के बाद माल्म हुआ कि रक्षाबन्धन के दिन मेरे चचेरे भाई का अन्त्यसंस्कार हुआ और हमारे यहाँ प्रथा के अनुसार रक्षाबन्धन हर वर्ष के लिए निषिध्द हो गया है जिस त्यौहार को मनाने को बाबाने भोपाल जाने की अनुमति नहीं दी।

३० अक्टुबर १९७४ को फिर शेगाँव होते हुए शिरडी को खाना हुआ।
मनमाड स्टेशन से रेलगाडी में मुबह सवार हुआ तो आँख लग गई और
कोपरगाँव स्टेशन पर पहुँचा तो अजीब हाल। ब्रीफक्स रेल में गायब हो गया।

केवल पहिने हुए कपडे और पास के रूपये रहा। मन बडा खिल हो गया समाधि मन्दिर में प्रेरणा किया कि बाबा अब कभी शिरडी नहीं आऊंगा क्यों कि मैं किशी कार्य से नहीं आया हूं। केवल दर्शनार्थ। अन्य लोग नरक्की, विवाह, बीमारी आदि के लिए आते है। फिर मेरा सामान न जाने क्यों अपने लिए अगर कुछ नहीं दे मुकते हो तो। मैं शिरडी अब कभी नही आऊंगा। दीक्षित वाडे से जाने को तैयार हुआ तो पास बाले सज्जनों ने कहा कि जो हुआ है अच्छा हुआ है कोई बडी विपदा आपके ऊपर आने वाली थी। ब्रीफकेस चोरी होने पर ही बीत गई। आगे उसकी कही हुई बात सन्य निकली और मुझे अब विश्वास हो गया है कि बाबा मुझे हर काम में सहायता देते है और छोटी छोटी बात पर बाबा से सिक्का उछाल उन की आज्ञानुसार कार्य करता हूं। चाहे बच्चों का विवाह या जमीन जायदाद या आफिस के कार्य आदि हो और अनुभव से यही पाया है कि बाबा संदेव सही सल्लाह देते हैं जो कि हमारे हित में ही होती है। श्रद्धा और सन्तोध आवश्यक है बाबा की कृपापात्र होने के लिए।

एम. एम. शर्मा ३८/५ ताजमहल, भोपाल (म. प्र.)

श्रीमान सम्पादक जी,

मुझे साई लीला पत्रिका पढ़ने पर बड़ी श्रद्धा और उत्साह मिला है। यह साई की कृपा है और आप भी इसका संचालन बहुत अच्छे ढंग से कर रहे है इसके लिए धन्यवाद। मुझे पत्रिका से बढ़ी प्रेरणा प्राप्त हुइ है।

भवदीया

कु. विभा भटनागर

क्वार्टर नं एक ३/२९ (२२८ क्वार्टर्स) साउथ दी.दी. नगर, भोपाल (म. प्र.)

श्री सांई दर्शन

मुझे साई बाबा के दर्शन कैसे हुवे । मेरे माता पिता पहली बार शिरडी गये करीब २० साल पहले । मेरी उम्र उस समय करीब ७-८ या १० साल होगी । मैं नहीं गया था । लेकिन तब से हमारे यहां पूजा होने लगी भी बाबा की । मेरे मन में भी इच्छा हुई कि मैं शिरडी जाऊं । सो हमारे यहां घर से दूर एक छोटा सा साई बाबा का मन्दिर है सो मैं वहां जाया करता था । एक दिन वहां से शिरडी के लियं ट्रिप जा रही थी बस द्वारा । मैने कहा मैं भी जाऊं । मगर बस फुल हो गई थी । सो मैं घर पर झुठ बोला कि मैं बस द्वारा ही जा रहा हुँ । मगर मैं उसी दिन शाम को इन्दौर से ट्रेन द्वारा शिरडी के लिये निकल गया । उस समय मेरी उम्र १२-१४ साल होगी । सो पहली बार बाबा का नाम लेकर सिर्फ १०० हा लेकर शिरडी पहुच गया । पुरे ८ दीन शिरडी रहा फिर घर आ गया । बस तब से लगन लग गई । इस तरह मैं साल में ५-६ बार दर्शन कर आता हूँ शिरडी जाकर ।

एक दिन की बात है। मैं मेरी दुकान पर बैठा था। रात के करीब जा। बजे होगें। दुकान का नौकर बोला "मुझे घर जाना है। छुट्टी दे दो।" मैं बोला "कुछ देर रक जा। ८ बजे चल जाना!" वो जीद करने लगा "नहीं मैं जाऊंगा" इस तरह बात करते करते ८ बजने में सिर्फ ५ मीनीट रह गये। वह कहने लगा "अब जाऊं"। मैं बोला "देख ५ मीनीट और रक जा"। बस घडी ने ज्योही ८ बजाये सामने से हमारे मोहल्ले में एक चाचा रहते हैं वह पेटी लेकर आ रहे थे। मैंने पूछा "चाचा कहां से आ रहे हो।" वह बोले "शिरडी से आ रहा हूँ। लो प्रसाद लेलो"। उन्होंने पेटी खोली और प्रसाद दिया। मैं धन्य हो गया। मैंने नौकर से कहा देख तुझे बाबा का प्रसाद लेकर जाना था इसलीय रकना पड़ा। इस तरह हमें घर बैठे साई प्रसाद मिला ऐसे मैंने कई चमत्कार देखे बाबा के।

अभी अभी करीब १०-१५ दिन पहले की ताजा घटना है। रात को सपने में मुझे शिरडी दिखाई दी। मैं क्या देखता हूँ कि समाधि—मन्दिर में कई लोग भजन कर रहे है। मैं भी समाधि के पास हाथ जोडकर खडा हूँ। अचानक ममाधि में बाबा उठे और खड़े हो गये। में भी उनके हाथ जोडकर खडा रहा । उन्होंने मुझसे कहा डर मत और दीवार कि तरफ हाथ लम्बा किया। उनके हाथ में एक प्याला आ गया। मेरी तरफ बढाया कहा "रू पी जा फीर हाथ पीछे खीच लिया। फीर दिया बोले "अच्छा ले पी ले मैने देखा उसमें दूध में मीला हुवा दलीया था। मै पी गया मैने कहा बाबा मै प्याला धो लाऊं । में बाहर नल पर धोने गया । मगर वहाँ क्या देखता हूँ । पानी की जगह वहीं दूध और दलीया आ रहा। मै पी गया। जब मेरा पेट भर गय। मैं कहने लगा "बाबा अब नहीं। बस मेरा पेट भर गया है। फिर पानी आया । मैने प्याला घोया । वापस आया । बाबा सोये टूवे थे । मैंने प्याला बाबा के सिरहाने रखा। वह एक दम गायब हो गया। बाबा कहने लगे ''य मेरा लेट्रीन जाने का डब्बा भी धोकर ला" जो उनके करीब रखा था । मैं उठा और डब्बा धोकर लाया । रख दिया । फिर बाबा के क्षेनों पैर पकडे चुमे बाबा का सिर चुमा और उनके पाल बैठ गया । वह कहने लगे "बेटा मै अभी नहीं मरा हूँ। मै जिन्दा हूँ। मैं यहीं पर हूँ। जा तू खुश रहेना। मेरा आशीर्वाद है। इतना कह कर बाबा अन्तर्धान हो गये। वहाँ जो लोग मन्दीर में था वह सब कहता रहा 'अभी बाबा नही मरे बाबा जिन्दा है। बाबा जिन्दा है। इस तरह मुझे बाबा के दर्शन हुवे ।

भाईयो सही बात है। मेरे बाबा बहुत गरीब और फर्कार है। मगर दिल बहुत बड़ा है। भाईयो उनके गुणो को देखो। और सिखो। इमेशा सच बोलो। गरीबों पर दया करो। जानवरों पर दया करो। बाबा से मांगो। बहुत देगा। फर्कीर होते हुवे भी उसके दिल की झोली भरी है। सन्न रखो इमान दारी, दया, बाबा के चरणों की सेवा कभी मत भूलो। बस विश्वास रखो। तुम्हारे हर काम मुसीबत के बाबा का नाम लेते ही दूर हो जायेंगे। अन्त में एक बार फीर श्री साई बाबा के चरणों मे प्रणाम।

किशौर कुमार सियोटा ८२, जुना राजमोहछा (मालगंग चौरहा) इन्दौर (म. प्र.) ४५२००२

साई जी मैं करूँ प्रार्थना

''साई जी मैं करूँ प्रार्थना, सभी सुखी हो जायें। ऐसा जीवन जियें, जिन्दगी स्वयं प्रभाव बन जाये॥

आदर्शों के आयानों की, परिवर्तित परिभाषा।
अब यथार्थ की देखि स्थिति, सचमुच हुई निराशा॥
पर मलयज पवन प्रेरणा बनकर, गन्ध-सुमन बिखराये।
साई जी मैं करूँ प्रार्थना

विरह-वेदना से युग-राधा कब तक व्यथित रहेगी!

इयाम प्रीति में पगली बन, मीरा कब तक भटकेगी ॥

सम्बल हेतु ब्रजेश-बासुरी, स्वर-संगीत सजाये।

साई जी मैं करूँ प्रार्थना

मृग-मरिचिका भांति, कामना कब तक करना होगी!
रेगिस्तानी धूल, धूप यह, कब तक मिलना होगी।।
मृग कस्त्री गंध कहां है, पता कौन बतलाये
शांर्ड जी मैं कहाँ प्रार्थना

अहंकार यदि शेष रहा तो, बार-बार भटकेंगे। सदाचार से चलें तभी, जीवन में सफल बनेंगे॥ अक्षर-अक्षर साई जी के पूजा-गीत सुनाये। साई जी मैं करूँ प्रार्थना॥

> बालगोविन्द रार्मा 'निर्मल' वीणार्चना कक्ष, इन्दरगड, जिला दितया (म. प्र.)

परम पुरुष श्री साईनाथ जी

बंदऊं सन्त समानचित्त, हित अनहित नहीं कोई ॥ (रामचरित मानस)

श्री गोस्वामी तुलसीदास जी ने कहा है कि सन्त-महात्मा सदैव बन्दनीय है क्योंकि उनके चित्त सदैव ही एक समान रहते है तथा वे किसी के हित अथवा अहित के विषय में कभी भावना नहीं रखते। फिर एक स्थान पर उन्होंने पुन: कहा है कि :-

> सन्त सरलचित्त जगत हित, जानि सुभाऊ सनेहु॥ (रामचरित मानस)

अर्थात् सन्त-महात्माओं का हृदय सरल होता है तथा वे संसार के लिये सदैव ही हितकारी होते है।

इसी प्रकार दैवजों ने भी स्वीकार किया है कि पृथ्वी पर सन्त-पुरुष तथा आकाश मण्डल के ग्रह सदैव ऐसे कार्यों में संलग्न गहते है जिससे सबका कल्याण हो। अतः सन्त अथवा ग्रह की प्रसन्तता सांसारिक इच्छित वस्तुओं को देने की क्षमता रखती है। इसीलिये महर्षि पाराशर, नारद आदि ने भी मानवमात्र को ग्रहों के प्रतिकृत होने पर उनकी अनुकृतता प्राप्त करने के लिये ग्रहों को सदैव पूजनीय बतलाया है और यही कारण है कि श्रेष्ठजन सदैव शुभकार्यों में जहां सर्वप्रथम श्री गणपतिपूजन करते है वहीं नव-ग्रहों की पूजा भी करते है तथा दैवजों ने उस निराकार सुष्टिनियन्ता की रचना में इन ग्रहों को साकार देवगण के रूप में स्वीकार किया है।

जैसा कि ऊपर वर्णन किया गया है कि ग्रह और सन्त समान रूप से पूजनीय है तथा सन्त-महात्माओं का हमारे जीवन में समागम भी हमारे पुण्यकमों का ही फल है। इसलिये जीवन में श्री साईनाथ जैसे सद्गुर की कृपा हमारे मात्र सांसारिक कामनाओं की पूर्ति का साधन न होकर उस परम-पुरुष की उपासना इस असार-संसार से मोक्ष अथवा मुक्ति का साधन भी है, क्यों कि

परम-पुरुष सद्गुरु श्री साईनाथ ऐसे हे जो अपने चित्त से सारे संस्कारों का नाश कर लेने पर भी समस्त प्राणियों के कल्याण का संकल्प अपने चित्त में बनाये रखते है, तथा उनके चित्त को बनाने वाले गुण कारण में लीन न होका वरन् चित्त को अपने विशाल, सात्विक, शुद्ध स्वरूप से ईश्वर के विशुध्द सत्वमय चित्त में जिसमें बेदों का शान और सारे प्राणियों के कल्याण का संकल्प विद्यमान है, लीन रहते है तथा वह असम्प्रज्ञात समाधि की अवस्था के सृदृश शुध्द व चैतन्य परमात्मस्वरूप में अवस्थित रहते हुए ईश्वरीय नियमानुसार संसार के कल्याण में जब-जब उनकी आवश्यकता होती है तब-तब वे अपने शुध्द स्वरूप में इस भौतिक जगत में अवतीर्ण होते है। दूसरे शब्दों में अवतार लेते है।

श्री सद्गुरु साईनाथ जी का समस्त जीवन एक जन्मजासिध्दि, तपोजासिध्दि और समाधिजा—सिध्दि प्रांत की खुली पुस्तक है। धन्य है शिरडी के वे समस्त प्राणि जिन्होंने ऐसे सिद्धि परम-पुरूष का दशाब्दियों तक दर्शन एवं आशीर्वचन पाकर अपने को कृतकृत्य किया और शिरडी की पांवत्र भूमि भी श्री साक्षतधाम तथा श्री बृजधाम की भांति युग—युगान्तर के लिये तीर्थधान बन गयी। अष्ट-सिध्दि और नव—निधियों के प्रदाता परमगुरु, नित्यसिध्द, योगिराज ओकार प्रभु के संकल्पानुसार सदैव अपने संकल्पों को प्रकट करते रहे तथा समाधित्य होने के परचात् आज भी करते रहते हैं। उनकी लीलायें विघ के प्राण लेने की शक्ति को निवृत्त (खत्म) करके उसमें जीवनीशिवत का सम्पादन कर देना आदि-आदि इमारे सबके जीवन में सुलभ भिन्त का मार्ग अपनाने की प्ररणा देती है कि हम भी अपने को अमृतमय बनाले।

आरत जग की सुनो पुकार, प्रकटो फिर से साई नाथ। हर पल इम तेरे गुण गायें, दीन-दुखी को करो सनाथ॥

> डा. दुर्गाप्रसाद शुक्ल ४८०, कुम्हारमण्डी, कानपुर छावनी – २०८००४

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साई सुन मेरी पुकार

शिरडी के साई बाबा ये बालक खड़ा है तेरे द्वार।

सुन बाबा इस बालक की पुकार दे बाबा इस बालक को आशीर्वाद ।

बाबा यें बालक है नादान दे इसको थोडा ज्ञान ।

इर्घ्यां लोभ जैसे दुर्गुण इस बालक में न आने देना देना इसको ऐसा आशीर्वाद ।

वे बालक करता रहे आजीवन भक्ती तेरी।

बाबा हर संकट पर रक्षा करना इस बालक को कभी न भुलना।

हे शिरडी के साई बाबा जला दे इस बालक के मन में ज्ञान की ज्योति हे शिरडी के साई बाबा।

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