

SHRI

SAILEELA

Official Organ of Shirdi Sansthan



MIRACLE OF LIGHTING LAMPS WITH WATER

Every night Shri Baba used to light earthen lamps in Dwarkamai with the oil given to Him by the grocers of the Shirdi Village. After giving the oil for some days, the grocers one day refused to give oil to Shri Baba. He therefore returned to Dwarkamai with the empty oil-tin and as if to please the God within, Shri Sai Baba put a little water in the oil-tin and drank it. Then He took more water, poured it in the lamps and lighted them one by one and lo ! The lamps kept burning for the whole night.

June 1983

श्री साईनाथ शचनालय
श्री साईबाबा संस्थान, शिर्डी.

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SHRI SAILEELA

JUNE 1983

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is the principal, aim of SHRI SAI LEELA**

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RE BIRTH

The Hindu philosophy is not concerned only with the present life of a person. It believes in series of lives for every 'atma'. Naturally therefore there is a belief in rebirth in that philosophy. Many things have been connected with the past and present lives of a person. It is believed that the status of our present life depends on the merits and demerits of our past life and that those who do good and meritorious things in their past life get happiness in their present life and vice versa.

As the Bhagawadgeeta is the essence of all the philosophy of the Upanishads, we find therein good many references to rebirth and the effect of merit and demerit of the past life on the present one. The mention of the cycle of birth and death is clearly stated thus in the Geeta,

जातस्य हि ध्रुवो मृत्युर्ध्रुवं जन्म मृतस्य च ॥ २ । २७ ॥

(One who is born is sure to die & one who dies is bound to be reborn.

Adya Shankaracharya has also referred to this belief in his चर्पटपञ्जरिका स्तोत्र as follows :

पुनरपि जननं पुनरपि मरणं पुनरपि जननीजठरेशयनम् ।

(Birth comes again, death again follows and you again lie down in the womb of your mother).

Though this cycle of birth and death is referred to in the Hindu philosophy as above, we have also to note how the Hindu

philosophers looked at death. The ancient philosophers considered the human body to comprise of five basic elements which pervade the whole universe. They are :- पृथ्वी (earth) आप् (water) तज्ज (lustre) वायु (wind) and आकाश (vacuum). Now the death is described as पञ्चत्वं गतः meaning that the body has disintegrated and that all the elements which had joined together to form the body have merged into the original elements and have become one with them. Death has been described as a so very simple happening. In one shloka of the Bhagawadgeeta it has been described that death is a natural consequence and that it follows a series of events, which start from the birth as follows :-

देहिनो ऽस्मिन् यथा देहे कौमारं यौवनं जरा ।
तथा देहान्तरप्रातिर्धोरस्तत्र न मुह्यति ॥ २ । १३ ॥

(Just as there are different stages in the human life like the childhood, youth and old age, similarly the next one is death. A philosopher does not therefore worry about it).

The Hindu philosophy has a distinct conception of the 'atma', who enters a body and leaves it when the body becomes useless for housing him. After describing the immortality of the soul at length therefore Lord Krishna describes death as follows :-

वासांसि जीर्णानि यथा विहाय नवानि गृह्णाति नरो ऽपराणि ।
तथा शरीराणि विहाय जीर्णान्यन्यानि संयाति नवानि देही ॥ २ । २२ ॥

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

When death is considered so simple as the changing of old clothes and wearing new ones, then how will there be any sorrow for inevitable death or how will there be any fear for death ?

Life after death also has been described in the ninth canto of the Bhagawadgeeta. The traditional belief in this respect is of

the heaven and hell. The persons who are wicked and do bad deeds during their present life are supposed to go to hell for undergoing punishment for their bad deeds, while the meritorious persons go to heaven for the good deeds done by them in this life. The future of the meritorious persons has been described as follows :-

त्रैविद्या मां सोमपाः पूतपापा यज्ञैरिष्ट्वा स्वर्गतिं प्रार्थयन्ते ॥

ते पुण्यमासाद्य सुरेन्द्रलोकमश्नन्ति दिव्यान्दिवि देवभोगान् ॥ १ । २० ॥

(Those, who observe the functions described in the three vedas viz. Rigveda, Yajurveda and Samaveda and who are free from sins, worship me by means of sacrifices and expect to go to heaven by virtue of their merit. They go (after death) to the city of gods and enjoy many pleasures, which are commonly enjoyed only by the Gods). These pleasures are not enjoyed permanently by the meritorious persons referred to in the above shlok. In the very next shloka see what the Lord has to say:-

ते त भुक्त्वा स्वर्गलोकं विशालं क्षीणे पुण्ये मर्त्यलोकं विशन्ति ।

एवं त्रयीधर्ममनुपपन्ना गतागतं कामकामा लभन्ते ॥ १ । २१ ॥

(After enjoying the pleasures of the wide heaven, those persons are reborn on the earth when their merit gets over. The people who thus observe the functions described in the three Vedas, go on travelling from heaven to earth).

Lord Shreekrishna has thus described the concepts of the Hindu people about merit, demerit and about the heaven and earth and the fruits that are obtained by the respective people after their death. It will be seen that the idea of rebirth has been clearly described in the different shlokas quoted above, which is the usual trend of the Hindu philosophy.

Having thus accepted the theory of rebirth, we become inquisitive to know whether we get some indication in the Bhagawadgeeta about the next birth. Can we say something about the next birth of a person after knowing his way of behaviour in

this birth ? Yes, we get some clue in this respect in the sixth canto of the Bhagawadgeeta where अभ्यासयोग has been described by the Lord to his disciple Arjuna. In the beginning of this canto, the lord has defined yoga and after that he has described how a person should sit and meditate so as to become a yogi. Though Lord Shreekrishna was a great scholar, his student Arjuna also was a perfect match. He was constantly expressing his doubts in many ways and the Lord was coolly replying to his doubts without getting vexed. These questions and answers are also much helpful to the readers of this philosophical book.

Thus after describing yoga and the way in which a yogi should meditate, the Lord has enumerated the different benefits that a yogi gets by means of meditation. Arjuna however noted in the speech of the Lord that the concentration of the mind was very essential for meditation. He however doubted how far concentration would be possible in view of the fickleness of the mind, which is its chief trend. He therefore raises the following doubt :-

चञ्चलं हि मनःकृष्ण प्रमाथि बलवद् दृढम् ।

तस्याहं निग्रहं मन्ये वायोरिव सुदुष्करम् ॥ ६ । ३४ ॥

(O Lord Krishna, the mind is ever changing, powerful, wayward and difficult to mould. I, therefore, feel that controlling it must be very difficult like having control over the wind).

To this doubt of his disciple Lord Shreekrishna gave a reply that it is no doubt difficult to control the mind which is quite fickle; but He added that by practice you can get control over your mind and therefore practice is essential.

After getting the above reply from the Lord, Arjuna raised a further doubt in this respect as follows :-

अथ ति : श्रद्धयोपेतो योगाच्चलितमानसः ।

अप्राप्य योगसंसिद्धिं कां गतिं कृष्ण गच्छति ॥ ६ । ३७ ॥

(O Krishna, if after having full faith in Yoga a person is not able to achieve the सिद्धि i. e. complete fruit of yoga due to lack of proper effort on his side, then what happens to such a person? What end is met by such a person?.)

As good deeds are never wasted, the Lord gives in the following shloka a straight reply to the above doubt that a person doing good deeds never comes to a bad state,

पार्थ नैवेह नामुत्र विनाशस्तस्य विद्यते ।

न हि कस्याणकृत्कश्चित् दुर्गतिं तात गच्छति ॥ ६ । ४० ॥

(Oh Arjuna, such a person, who has done good deeds will never perish neither in this world nor in the next. No one, who does good deeds, ever comes to a bad state).

Lord Krishna knew the way of thinking of his disciple Arjuna. He himself therefore thought that such a general reply will not satisfy his disciple. He therefore definitely tells in the very next shloka what happens to such people in their following birth.

प्राप्य पुण्यकृतान्छोकानुषित्वा शाश्वतीः समाः ।

शुचीनां श्रीमतां गेहे योगभ्रष्टो ऽमिजायते ॥ ६ । ४१ ॥

(Such a person, who is distracted from yoga, gets for a long time all the pleasures which all meritorious people get and is reborn in a family which is pious and rich)

The above shloka though meant for clearing the doubts of Arjuna, does not only clear his doubts. It helps we common people also to solve so many riddles that we commonly meet in our life. Whenever we come across some prodigies, we often get baffled and we do not know how to account for the high degree of intelligence noticed in some people and also their wonderful achievements in their very early age. The reply of this doubt is given above by Lord Krishna that the achievements of these persons in their past life are carried by them in the next

life and therefore they have not to start every thing from ABC. Their past achievements help them to come to a certain level from which they have to go ahead and make further progress, which other persons of the same age are not at all able to reach. In order to verify the truth of the above statement, we may just cast a glance at the biographies of three prominent personalities viz. Adya Shankaracharya, Dnyaneshwar and Shri Sai Baba. At a very early age when others start learning, all the above three personalities appear to have made a very remarkable progress and achieved much knowledge by which they stood head and shoulders above their contemporaries. It is not necessary to refer to the incidents in the life of these persons as they are commonly known by the devotees in the spiritual line; but if we remember them mentally we shall find a solution for their high achievements in a very early age and also for their wonderful knowledge in different branches. It is because of their penance, which they have done in their past life. We Sai devotees should therefore know that the achievements of Shri Sai Baba in the practices of yoga were therefore not achieved by Him all at once after coming to Shirdi; but there was a good penance of the previous birth behind His achievements with which he was born. Let us therefore try to understand all the achievements of Shri Sai Baba and as true Sai devotees let us all try to master them as far as possible because they are bound to do our good not only in this life but also in the next as told by Shri Sai Baba Himself.



HOMAGE



Professor D. D. Parchure, who worked as the Executive Editor of this magazine for some time succumbed to a sudden heart attack on 1st June 1973. Though he was a Professor of mathematics, he had keen interest in religious and philosophical literature in Marathi and he was also an ardent devotee of Shri Sai Baba. Through his Pravachans and Keertans he used to preach Sai devotion. For this purpose he also composed a series of eight keertans on the life of Shri Baba, which is published by the Shirdi Sansthan under the caption of "Sai Keertanmala". This book is found very much useful by 'keertankars' for performing keertans in Sai festivals at various places.

"Catch them young" says one saying in the English language, which implies that all sort of teaching to children should be imparted to them when they are quite young. With a view to spreading Sai devotion among the children Prof. Parchure therefore composed a book in story form embodying therein the biography of Shri Sai Baba. This book was originally published in Marathi and English and it is now being translated in other Indian languages. This book is found to be very useful for spreading Sai devotion among the children.

In view of the yeoman service done by Prof. Parchure for spread of Sai devotion through his books, Pravachans, Keertans and through this magazine, we pay him our homage on his tenth death anniversary which comes on 1-6-1983.

— Editor

SATISFACTION

Human beings are born with deep-seated craze for achieving satisfaction. All actions of a man are consciously or unconsciously aimed at achieving satisfaction. Around a man there are tremendous opportunities to achieve satisfaction. He is led by the quick impulses of five senses.

Taste of tongue makes him eat and drink varieties as frequently as he can. He has devised several preparations to satisfy his appetite. He would stimulate his appetite with some tonics to overeat the delicious dishes. He will then resort to other medicines to digest the overeaten food. Day in and day out he concentrates on this exercise of satisfaction of the tongue. As a result he swings between health and disease. He suffers pain to balance the pleasures, because by the law of nature all actions and reactions are equal in magnitude and opposite in direction. It has therefore been recommended to practice moderation in food habits. Purpose of food is to maintain the body vehicle in working order and to provide energy for doing work.

Tongue also helps him to talk endlessly. He would talk to express his personality, capacity, achievements, grandeur, ego, humility and so on. This exercise is aimed at achieving mental satisfaction. It is also a common experience that byproduct of this satisfaction is the creation of rivalry, confrontation, difference in opinion, misunderstanding and so on. Prophets and philosophers have therefore suggested occasional termination of this exercise by observing silence. To observe silence is almost as difficult as observing a fast. Those who can practise it, store energy for mental and spiritual strength. Silence applies brakes to unnecessary talking and permits reserve of energy for other useful purposes.

Physical pleasure of seeing sense objects is an automatic exercise in the waking state. It is so powerful that even while

asleep, he sees dreams. He wants to see the objects of beauty, the colour scheme, the vast variety of natural and artificial objects. He is attracted by the opposite sex. He is never tired of seeing the above objects and spends his time, energy and money. When he is unable to fulfil his desires, he gets restless. Therefore with the varying degree of intensity he occupies himself in this exercise of seeing for satisfaction. He is intoxicated to see more of it, deeper into it. This results in a mania to see films, dances, pornography etc. Satisfaction becomes evasive like a mirage. Net result is the degradation to shameless standards.

Sense of hearing also comes into play. In the first instance he wants to hear his own praise. Others, who are cunning, do it so well that the listener pays a high price of this praise. He wants to listen to music and songs preferably sex stimulants. He is not satisfied with repetition. There should be a change of subject matter, speed, volume, depth, etc. He swings like a pendulum between these different styles.

Pleasure of smell is yet another source of satisfaction. He loves to enjoy good smell of flowers, incense, scent, etc. He creates an atmosphere of added pleasure with these objects. He would virtually like to sleep on the bed of roses.

With reference to the above mentioned progressive pleasure stimulants, man is driven to the last lap of satisfaction, when the culmination takes place in the pleasure of touch (sparsh). His body becomes active for super-sensation of this pleasure. He starts with a mere handshake, advances to embrace and kiss and then drifts into the acts of sex. He loses control on the self and seeks pleasure with other women. Illicit affairs, divorce, remarriage and delinquent children are the consequences.

Nature provided him an opportunity to continue the human race. After death he is survived by his children. Unfortunately

this idea is not a primary consideration for indulgence in sex act. He abuses this act for his pleasure and pays a high price in the resulting dejection/frustration. Some philosopher has therefore described marriage as a legal prostitution.

In the craze for satisfaction there is a hurry to get quick results for instantaneous satisfaction. Therefore a man takes recourse to the pleasures of five senses. Whole life, precious part of his age, energy, talent, mental and physical forces are channelised into a series of exercises for satisfaction.

Academic exercise for satisfaction through higher education often leads to advanced ignorance. Craze of accumulating wealth drives him into dubious deals, corruption and exploitation. To cover his misdeeds he takes shelter of social work and protection from authorities. Mental distortion occurs if he is not able to achieve satisfaction through the accepted standards of society. Finally a thief, a robber, a scoundrel or a rapist are all keen to achieve satisfaction.

Period of struggle, dream of forthcoming results, curiosity, anxiousness are more interesting, rewarding, satisfying, compared to the actual benefits, advantages, comforts and the enjoyment of the results are achieved and the desires are fulfilled, satisfaction is not permanent. Satisfaction lasts for sometime. Maya comes into play. His attention is then drawn to other objects possessed and enjoyed by more prosperous persons around him. He then does not care for the comforts available to him and is driven to work more intensely to achieve all that which others possess. Exercise for satisfaction continues.

The above satisfaction is momentary. It does not result in a happy ending. There is invariably a feeling of sadness and disgust, a feeling of hatred and a deeper desire of not repeating this exercise of pleasure. Then why does he repeat the same exercise? Because he does not know any other alternative course

of achieving quick satisfaction. In fact there is no short cut to satisfaction. No quick satisfaction of lasting nature. What about the ultimate satisfaction. That remains a subject of theosophy and metaphysics. A subject which is widely scattered in different books of religion. It continues to remain around the man in the form of discussions, sermons, articles, etc.

Satisfaction is of a higher degree and of lasting nature if the patience can be practised. Sustained efforts over a longer period with hard work and sacrifice bring out results which give satisfaction of lasting nature. Here again if the gain is for the self, the satisfaction is for a limited period but if the gain is for others, satisfaction is of a permanent nature.

Our ancient heritage teaches us to be tolerant. It teaches us to engage in a constant activity without worrying for results. Philosophy is extremely helpful in overcoming the ego in case of success and frustration in case of failure.

Materialistic gains are a must for survival and growth of the human race. Problem in the real sense starts with the use and involvement in these achievements. Sense of satisfaction arising out of improved capacity and actual benefits available to a man is of the highest order. At this juncture he should exercise the self imposed discipline of not indulging in the exercise of pleasure. This will ensure ever-lasting cheerfulness. Efforts should be continued with greater vigour to achieve higher goals without harbouring jealousy with more prosperous people.

Any act physical or mental which does not end in frustration and pain and has its repeat value is the true act of satisfaction. These are the acts not to accomplish the sense pleasures. Satisfaction of feeding a hungry soul, speaking a kind word, recitation of prayers, looking into the divine beauty of nature, hearing the bhajans, kirtans and stories of Lord, to enjoy the divine fragrance in a place of worship, to touch the feet of Lord with one's forehead in a sense of total surrender are the acts of

repeat value. These are the acts which when repeated give more and more satisfaction.

Faith and patience are required to experience the above satisfaction. Devotees are fortunate to develop these qualities to overcome illusion of instantaneous satisfaction of sense pleasures.

Lord Sainath in his unique style solved Das Ganu's problem through Kaka's maid servant (Chapter XX Pages 106-110, Shri Sai Satcharita, 9th Edition).

"Next day she wore the new sari and out of great joy and merriment, whirled, danced around and played 'Fugadi' with other girls and excelled them all. The day following, she kept the new sari in her box at home and came with the old and torn rags, but she looked as merry as she did the previous day".

The feeling of contentment, based on the fact of possession or sari, is the central theme of the above event. The same girl in same old and torn rags under the two circumstances of not possessing the sari and possessing the sari created the opposite situations of dejection and satisfaction.

Lord Sainath thus unfolded complexity of metaphysics in a practical manner for the benefit of the common man. Sai devotees enjoy the divine bliss in accomplishment/achievement. They do not get attached to or involved in sense pleasures of physical achievements.

Physical conditions of those who are on fast and those who are starving for food are the same. Mental conditions in these two categories are poles apart. Spiritual strength is based on the capacity of abstaining from sense pleasures when they are at his command.

★

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Sympathetic Sai

My friend, a renowned business executive and an ardent Sai devotee, gave me an interesting account how sympathetically and mercifully Shri Sai Baba responded to the sincere craving of one Mr. 'X' and blessed him with grace and favour. I, herewith take the opportunity of narrating the same for the noble readers of Shri Sai Leela.

It is customary, according to our sanatani convention, whenever we pray or worship any god or goddess, we keep in our front the idol or the photograph of the respective deity or saint. In our meditation also we visualise the same figure in our memory with our eyes shut.

But the present illustration is quite a different one, where the person concerned neither had the opportunity of having darshan of Baba in flesh and blood nor he had the chance to see a photograph even. As such he was quite ignorant about Baba's appearance and figure and he was simply praying by repetition of Baba's name only.

Mr. 'X' was a high ranking Government Official. There was no dearth of men and money in his house and he was blessed with all the cherished amenities of life by virtue of his status and assignment. In spite of all these, he and his wife were not perfectly happy and they were feeling some gross deficiency, which ultimately marred their happy home. It was attributed to the fact that they were without any issue though they were leading conjugal life for quite a pretty long period of about fifteen years or so.

They were practically hankering after a child, as without it their house was appearing absolutely barren and void to them. They were praying to various deities, saints and fakirs and also underwent great penance for being blessed with a child. But

every thing was fruitless and they remained as unhappy as ever, inspite of all other amenities being so easily available to them.

At this juncture, they came across some person, who after perusal of their sad discomfiture, advised them to come to the shelter of Shri Sai Baba of Shirdi and pray to Him. He expressed his strong conviction on Baba and stressed that prayer to Him will never go in vain. He also narrated innumerable instances to his knowledge, where barren couples were blessed with children by Baba's grace and sympathy.

The advice was so appealing to them that they commenced working without spoiling even a single moment. Since the very day they started praying to Baba in right earnest for obtaining His grace. They were not at all knowing what Baba looked like as they did not see even a photograph of Baba.

After some days of such prayer, Baba's grace was showered on them and there prevailed a happy atmosphere as it was known that the lady had conceived in the long run. The news was greeted with great satisfaction and contentment by all of their friends, relatives and well-wishers. In due course of time a healthy baby was born in the house and there was great rejoicing in the family.

About six months after the advent of the new-comer in his house Mr. 'X' had an occasion to visit the office of my friend, where a lively picture of Shri Baba was hanging on the wall. Mr. 'X' was tempted to know about the name and particulars of the saint.

To his utter surprise, when it was revealed to him that the picture was of Shri Sai Baba of Shirdi, he burst into tears with profound gratitude to the great saint and bowed to Him with folded hands again and again. Thereafter he described at length how graciously and sympathetically Shri Baba saved his family from utter frustration.

It may not be out of place to mention it here that shortly afterwards when I had been to Shirdi to attend the ninth annual

conference this year, (1983) I brought a small ring and a locket with Baba's emblem to be presented to this little "Grace Baby" of Shri Baba on behalf of my friend. Similar rings were presented to the parents of the baby also. It is also a pleasure to note that Mr. 'X' was so happy to see a copy of Shri Sai Leela that he had immediately sent the requisite amount to the Sansthan for favour of being enrolled as a subscriber of the same.

May Baba grant a long life to the baby. ★

Dr. B. G. Das

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Baba Loves His Devotees

When I visited Shirdi in October 1981, I prayed to the Lord that having all the wordly desires, I should visit Shirdi every year, as long as I live.

During the year 1982, we had a mind to visit Shirdi in May, but my Lord never permitted, thereafter we tried in October but failed. It appeared that Shri Baba had not listened to my prayers. However His grace showered on me on 20th Nov, 1982, when we proceeded for Shirdi. During the journey I was thinking that there would be a rush of devotees at Shirdi due to Asiad holidays. We had programme to stay there for five days.

My husband is an asthematic patient and I was worrying for accommodation at Shirdi in such a rush. When we got down at Kopargaon, to my astonishment, I met Shri R. S. Sharma, secretary of Delhi Sai Samajas if Sai had sent him for our help.

At Shirdi by His grace Sharmaji, arranged for our accommodation and helped us in other pujas etc. We were given V. I. P. treatment by the respected head of Sai Sansthan. ★

Prem Kohli

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How I was Drawn to Shri Sai Baba of Shirdi

“Saints have no hankering for sense pleasures and are embodiments of amiability and all other virtues. They grieve to see others in distress and rejoice at the sight of others’ joy. They are even-minded and look upon none as their enemy; free from vanity and passion, they are conquerors of greed, selfish joy and fear. Tender of heart and compassionate to the troubled, they cherish full devotion to Me (Shri Rama) in thought, word and deed. Giving honour to all, they are modest themselves”-Tulasidas.

All the above sublime qualities can be safely and aptly applied to Shri Sai Nath. He is a saint in the true sense of the term. Besides, He is a Samarth Sadguru. I had the good fortune of receiving a photograph of the Samadhi Mandir of Baba from my eldest sister Smt. Ranganayakamma, two decades ago. She was a victim of sterility for a long time. Fortunately she came to know of Baba through a friend in Hyderabad and began to pray to Him for progeny. After some time she was blessed with a son by the grace of Baba and the boy is named Sainath.

Even though the picture of Baba came into my hands twenty years ago, I did not pray to Him or at least remember Him till 1979. I conveniently forgot Him as I was plunged head-long in mundane affairs. I was groping in darkness till the natural calamity of severe cyclone and flash floods of 1979 had opened my eyes and brought me to my senses.

Ten days prior to the occurrence of the devastating cyclone and floods, two big photos of Shri Saibaba were generously given to me by Sai devotee Shri J. V. Subbaiah. I got both of them framed. I kept the Abhayasnatam photo of Baba with me. The sitting posture photo was given to my sister Smt. Varalaxmi according to her wish and choice. Both the photos were displayed in the 2 portions of my residence in Santapet at conspicuous places

A few days later, the catastrophe occurred. Our Tobacco concern sustained heavy loss as tobacco stocks and buildings were completely destroyed and damaged. I was very much perturbed and the little faith I had in Baba was completely shattered; but I was not aware that one must deserve before one desires. During this crucial period, I was introduced to Acharya Bharadwaj, an Ankita child of Baba and got some mental peace and solace by reading his beautiful biography of Baba written in English and Telugu entitled Sai Leela Amrit. Since then Acharya has been a source of mental peace, inspiration and confidence to me. Without any sort of hesitation and reservation, I always think and feel that Shri Bharadwaj is an intellectual and spiritual genius like Swami Vivekananda, an excellent conversationalist and a speaker.

Soon, I was frantically trying to go to Shirdi, but I could not visit that holy place. Baba finally gave His gracious permission only in 1980. Baba's holy Samadhi Mandir is the source of infinite joy and solace to many a depressed and dejected person.

My first visit to Shirdi in 1980 needs further explanation as it involved certain mysterious happenings. In the beginning of 1980, I had to meet an official at Guntur concerned with my trade. The gentleman was about to proceed to Hyderabad on official work. I thought of accompanying him to Hyderabad, but was held up at Guntur. So I promised to meet him in Hyderabad the next day. While staying in the lodge, suddenly I rang up Mr. G. S. Rao of Ongole to accompany me to Hyderabad and the friend joined me at Guntur the next morning.

We reached Hyderabad by evening. During the journey, it flashed upon my mind that I should visit Shirdi. When I put forth the proposal, my friend did not evince any interest owing to his professional inconvenience. But in my heart of hearts, I was strongly desirous of proceeding to Shirdi. During my journey I was reading a book on Sai Baba. A fellow passenger noticed it

and asked me whether I was going to Shirdi. I said 'Yes'. The passenger gave me a hundred rupee note and requested me to give it to a devotee at Shirdi for poor feeding. I could not say that my trip to Shirdi was uncertain. I simply took the money and thought it a welcome sign of Baba's call to Shirdi. Then and there I made up my mind to proceed to Shirdi at any cost. My friend was witnessing this strange incident but he could not make up his mind.

The next morning we reached Hyderabad, finished my discussion with the said official and started for Secunderabad in an auto. After travelling a certain distance, my friend informed the auto driver to take a turn from the main road. The driver could not take the turn as directed, the breaks failed, the auto hit against the rear side of the car plying ahead of us and the auto turned turtle. By the sheer grace of Baba what could have proved a major accident, involving loss of either limb or life, had left us unscathed. We were dazed for a few minutes. As soon as we recovered from the shock, my friend decided to visit Shirdi along with me. We immediately telephoned to his son at Ongole to join us on our trip to Shirdi. There is another side to the whole incident. My friend had no son for a long time and his father prayed to Baba to bless him with a grandson and vowed that he would take the latter to Shirdi. Baba answered his prayer but the old man died without fulfilling his vow.

As per Baba's mysterious design we reached Shirdi, visited all the holy places there and stayed for a day and returned to Ongole.

During 1981, I visited Shirdi twice in the happy company of my music teacher Shri Y. R. Rao of Hyderabad who is also a "friend, philosopher and a guide" to me. Dr. R. P. Rao is my close friend, a talented doctor and an ardent devotee of Baba. My third visit to Shirdi along with Dr. Rao was quite strange and interesting. Together we first proceeded by bus to Manikya Nagar named after Shri Manikya Prabhu (believed to be the fourth incarnation of Lord Datta). Then we reached Pandharpur.

After darshan and pooja in the holy and ancient temple of Vitthal, we were informed by a pilgrim that H. H. Jagadguru Sankaracharya, the senior of Kanchi was camping on the other bank of the sacred Chandra Bhaga river and my joy knew no bounds. I was thrilled at the multiplicity of unexpected blessings which the call of Baba implied. Swamiji is considered to be one of the great living saints and an embodiment of the perennial wisdom of India.

A small group of devotees including us reached the other bank of the Chandra Bhaga river by boat. Then Swamiji was in deep meditation. We were blessed with his holy darshan for a couple of hours and the most generous and gracious blessings.

From Pandharpur we reached Shirdi and spent three days on the sacred soil. During my second and third visits to Shirdi, I visited Sakori, the sacred place of Shri Upasani Baba, a direct disciple of Sai Baba and had the darshan of Sati Godavari Mata, the disciple of Upasani Baba. On our return to Hyderabad, we had the darshan of Shri Samarth Narayana Maharaj, who belongs to the 'Guruparampara' of Samarth Ramadas (Shivaji's Guru).

My fourth visit to Shirdi in 1982 was the most significant one. On my routine visit to Hyderabad, on July 4, I was inspired to visit Shirdi and was pleasantly surprised to learn that I was on time to attend the most auspicious and important Gurupurnima day on the 6th. All this happened without my knowledge but by Baba's grace alone. Most fortunately, the penultimate day (7th July) of Gurupurnima festival was followed by Thursday which is considered sacred by all the Sai devotees round the world.

During my five days stay at Shirdi one mysterious leela of Baba came to my knowledge. I met one young and energetic Telugu man of Sholapur there. He told me that one of his ancestors suffered like hell from a dreadful disease. He was taken to Bombay for expert medical treatment which proved ineffective. All hopes of his survival were given up, On their way back to

Sholapur, the patient's kinsfolk learned about Shri Sai Baba of Shirdi and took him to Sai Nath as a last resort. The patient was put before Baba and His Yogic glances fell upon the diseased. Baba assured the patient that the disease would be cured in a short time. Besides He instructed the patient never to stir out of Shirdi if he wanted to live. The patient became hale and healthy after some time. He was meditating on Baba. To the great misfortune of the patient, certain relatives of his visited Shirdi after some time. They happened to see the man to be alive and also strong and sturdy. He was tempted by his relatives to return to his native place. Having acted contrary to the wishes of Baba, he paid the penalty of his own life after reaching his native place.

I had the immense, pleasure and good fortune of having the holy darshan of Shri Marthand Maharaj and Shri Rasne Maharaj, the two living contemporaries and devotees of Baba.

Of late, I began to think and feel that I am under the kind care and protection of Baba. This feeling of mine has been duly and rightly confirmed by Shri Rasne Maharaj during my recent meeting with him at Shirdi. He further declared to me that Baba has saved me from certain dangerous situations and averted possible entanglements. What is beyond the ken of knowledge and capacity of Baba? I was reminded of Oliver Goldsmith's lines.

OFFENCES ARE EASILY PARDONED WHERE THERE IS
LOVE AT BOTTOM

Baba expressly told His devotees that Nishta (implicit faith) and Saburi (courageous patience) will alone lead them to the destination in Spiritual life. Sai Nath is the very embodiment of all saintly virtues. With our tongues let us always chant His name, with the ears hear His glory and with the eyes see His manifestations.



K. C. Pandu Ranga Rao
7-15-1 (3), Lawyerpet Ongole (A. P.)

SAI GRACE

It was February 1979. I was then 30 years and was employed as an estate Medical Officer by an European firm in Kerala. When my wife Seetha conceived for a second time, we were in a dilemma, as our first son was not even a year old. To confirm her pregnancy, I took her to my colleague Dr. Mrs. Devaky Vasudevan, who advised us to continue the pregnancy and calculated the date of confinement as 15th September 1979.

On that night, my wife was almost in a trance. She is a sincere devotee of Lord Sainath and next morning she told me that she is going to have a son again and that she will name him 'Sai Prabhu'. I Just smiled and kept quiet.

In July 1979, we went to our hometown – Bangalore. Both of us went to Sai Mandhir to obtain Sai's blessings as well as that of that great apostle of Sai – Shri Radhakrishna Swamiji. Unfortunately he had gone out to perform 'Kumbhabhishekam' in a nearby temple and my wife could have only darshan of Lord Sainath in the mandhir and not that of his apostle. However I met the Swamiji next morning and when I sought his blessings, he stared at me and said, "My child, do not worry. Sai-grace is on you. You shall overcome all your difficulties".

Perhaps Radhakrishna Swamiji foresaw the dangers we were to pass through subsequently. A couple of days later, i.e. on the 5th August 1979, we left Bangalore for going back to our estate. Beyond Mysore, we had to cross a forest full of elephants and tigers. Since we were travelling by day we were confident that we will not have to face any danger. But our car broke down in the middle of the forest and we did not know what to do. Moreover a solitary elephant was grazing nearby. Our only help was 'Sai Ram'. With his grace, all of us hitch-hiked in a lorry back to a nearby town. I arranged for my wife and son

to return to Mysore by bus and returned to the forest in a taxi with a few people and a mechanic. I shuddered at the sight of my car, which was completely damaged. Somehow we towed it back to Mysore. I imagined for a while what our plight would have been if Lord Sainath had not come to our help in the form of a helpful driver of a lorry and helped us to escape death. The lorry driver refused to accept money also. Traffic on that road is almost nil during daytime. Next day we returned to the estate by bus.

Exactly twenty days later, i. e. on the 25th August 1979, my wife complained of pain in the abdomen since morning. She wore a desolate look also. I too did not bother much as the expected date of her delivery was only 15th September and on examination, I could not find any signs of delivery. After lunch, while relaxing, I suddenly gazed at the big photograph of Sainath, from which I felt as if Sai Baba is ordering me to take my wife to the nearby Mission Hospital, where facilities for x-ray/Surgery /Specialist care were available.

The Lady Obstetrician, Dr. Miss Gesualda received us in the hospital with a big smile. She chided me for being too frantic in bringing my wife earlier. That being a Saturday she was also in a relaxing mood. However for my sake she admitted my wife for observation. She was confident that my wife would not deliver for a couple of weeks more.

It was around 9 P. M. in the night that my wife got into labour pains. Dr. Gesualda and her staff put a valient struggle to get her delivered normally. Ultimately when the mother was exhausted, Dr. Gesualda called me aside and told me that my wife was in danger and that it was the question of either the mother or the child. She had decided caesarean operation for the delivery.

For a moment I was speechless. I was all alone. I had sent back my car with my parents-in-law to the estate which was 10 k.m. away. With no means of communication at that dead

night, I had to totally bank upon Lord Sainath. I was brooding over what the learned Obstetrician, Dr. Gesulda said about either the mother or the child could survive. I was recalling those early days of my wife's pregnancy in which she was so confident of Sainath's blessings to her for another son.

One more problem arose. The Anaesthetist of the hospital had gone out for a party and she was expected only next morning. When I saw the helpless surgeon, I offered my services to administer anaesthesia to my wife. Reluctantly Dr. Gesualda agreed.

As I was getting ready to enter the Operation Theatre, I was crying for Sai's help. Lo, He did come to our rescue.

We heard the noise of a car and soon from it emerged the Anaesthetist. She told us that some sixth sense prevailed on her to come back to the hospital and she had driven madly.

After an hour's suspense, Dr. Gesualda came out and announced, "Doctor Vijay, you are lucky. Seetha is safe. You are blessed with a bonny son".

This was around 3 a. m. on the 26th August 1979. Fortunately this coincided with the auspicious day of Ganesh Chaturthi and for us it was the birth of Sai-Ganesh. It was late next day that my wife regained consciousness and the first thing she uttered was 'Sai Ram' as if she was in a dreamy state.

True to Shri Radhakrishna Swamiji's words, we crossed obstacles through Sai grace and we aptly named our second son 'Sai Prabhu'. Unfortunately by the time we could take our children to Bangalore to be blessed by that great apostle of love Shri Radhakrishna Swamiji- had given up His mortal coil on the 14th of January 1980. However, on our visit to the Sai mandhir every time, we have felt his ever-blessing spirit there.

May Lord Sainath bless everyone :



Dr. G. R. Vijayakumar
 Medical Officer, Balanoor Tea & Rubber Co. Limited.,
 Durgadbetta - P. O. 577118 (Karnataka)

Report of the Ninth Annual Gathering at Shirdi

(Continued from May 1983 Issue)

Fourth session (Monday 31-1-1983)

After lunch and a little rest, the fourth and the last session of the gathering began at 3 p. m. Shri Subhash, the son of the executive editor Shri Sadanand Chendwankar, was attending the gathering for the first time after his marriage. He therefore distributed sweets. The son of Shri Kakresaheb was married last year at Shirdi before the 8th annual gathering. He also got a son this year and Shri Kakresaheb also therefore distributed pedhas to the delegates. Shri Subhash and his wife Sou. Shubhangi were then felicitated at the hands of the president on behalf of the delegates. The court Receiver, Shri Kakresaheb and both the executive editors Shri Chendwankar and Dr. Parchure were as usual felicitated by the delegates. The daughter of Shri Bipin Swadia gave a small programme of dance recital which was appreciated much by all the delegates and she was given cash prizes by many delegates in appreciation of her dance programme.

Presidential Address

The President of the gathering Dr. R. S Kapdisaheb then delivered his presidential address. At the outset he thanked the Court Receiver and the delegates, for having elected him as the president of this year's gathering and said, "There is a common complaint from the subscribers of Shri Sai Leela that very often their issues are lost in the Post Office. I would request the Court Receiver to take up this matter with the Postal Authorities once again. I find that people have come for this gathering from far off places. I should really congratulate all the delegates for having attended this gathering with the sole idea of improvement of Shri Sai Leela magazine. From the speeches of some delegates I felt that there is a doubt in their minds whether this gathering

would be continued or not; but let me tell them that this gathering is started with the blessings of Shri Sai Baba and it is held for a good cause, so it will be continued for ever. The delegates should have no doubt about the continuation of this gathering. I would suggest that if possible all the delegates may be given place to stay in one big hall, so that they will get still more opportunity to exchange their views. As a medical man I felt that though the premises of the Shirdi Sansthan have been maintained properly, the places in its vicinity have not been maintained properly. If possible the Court Receiver should try to improve the unhealthy conditions round about the Sansthan premises by approaching the Shirdi Gram Panchayat.

I have been attending this gathering for the last two years or so and I find that the two days duration is a bit inadequate. If possible the gathering may be held for three days in future. At present two separate issues of Shri Sai Leela magazine are being published and articles in English, Marathi and Hindi are being published therein. As the devotees would like to read all the experiences published in this magazine in different languages we should publish the articles in all the three languages in one issue.

I am really a museum of many diseases. Due to old age I have got them; but because of the blessings of Shri Sai Baba, I am still active at this age of eightysevenyears, I am attending to all my duties and recently I even played a role in one Marathi drama written by a great Marathi dramatist Shri Rama Ganesh Gadkari.

Shri Sai Satcharita is a very valuable and sacred book. I am reading that book every day with devotion. We find that during the life-time of Shri Sai Baba, He came into contact with two great devotees Dasganumaharaj and Annasaheb Dabholkar alias Hemadpant who were both sincere devotees of Baba. Out of these two devotees we find that like Mahipati Shri Dasganumaharaj has also written the biographies of modern

saints and that he had a versatile style. Though Shri Annasaheb Dabholkar had a good study of Sanskrit literature and the Marathi philosophical books like Eknathi Bhagawat, Guru Charitra etc. still he has no other books to his credit except the biography of Shri Sai Baba. From the achievements of both these devotees of Shri Sai Baba we feel that the task of writing the biography of Shri Sai Baba should have been entrusted to Shri Dasganumaharaj; but in view of his knowledge of the Sanskrit literature and his study of the other Marathi philosophical and devotional literature, the request of Shri Dabholkar for writing Shri Baba's biography, which was communicated to Shri Baba through Shama, was accepted by Shri Baba and I feel that this was the most appropriate decision of Shri Baba as I find that there is no other devotional book written in the ovi meter in Marathi which has such elegant style and which has great power to stimulate devotion in the minds of the readers.

In this connection the history of the book as mentioned in Sai Satcharita would be worth noting. In the Sathe wada there was hot discussion whether it was necessary for a person to have a guru for his spiritual uplift or whether a person could achieve his spiritual progress by himself without the guidance of any body. Shri Dabholkar had taken keen interest in this discussion and when Shri Baba referred to it and called him Hemadpant, Shri Dabholkar was taken aback and he was convinced of the supernatural power of Shri Sai Baba. Shri Dabholkar has mentioned that name given to him by Shri Baba at the end of every chapter of Sai Satcharita as the author of the book. The meaning of the grinding of the corn and the history of the composition of Sai Satcharita is very interesting and it should be read very minutely by all Sai devotees.

In the Sai Satcharita there are references from Vedas and Puranas and many quotations from those books have been translated into Marathi in it. In Dasbodh saint Ramdas has

described the good qualities of a book. He has stated that a good book should help a person to achieve a high spiritual level, it should add to his knowledge, it should generate in a person the love for God and it should show him the way to achieve 'moksha' and we find that Sai Satcharita is a book which promotes all the above things which are considered essential for a book by Saint Ramdas. Sai Satcharita is a book which should be read again and again. We should also constantly ruminate over the minute teachings of the book and assimilate them. This book describes very minute details of human nature. We might look to the story of the beautiful muslim lady from Vijapur who came to Shirdi for Shri Baba's darshan. When her veil dropped and her beautiful face was seen by Shri Nanasheb Chandorkar, his mind was momentarily upset. When Shri Sai Baba noticed this change on the face of Shri Chandorkar, He has given His advice which should be borne in mind by all Sai devotees as a golden advice of Shri Sai Baba for getting control over one's mind. The moral of the story of 'Harika beta, Jarika feta' and the moral of such other stories in Sai Satcharita should be constantly remembered by all Sai devotees. They should cast their burden on the broad shoulders of Shri Baba, who will bear it as told by Him and they will achieve all their progress in this life and the next.

I have great liking for drama. I have written dramas and I have played several roles in different; dramas written by me and by other authors. This liking for playing roles in dramas has percolated in my grand children and they are taking keen interest in drama. Once I had decided to stage my drama 'Kakacha Paisa', but I could not get a suitable actor for the role of the hero in that drama. Whenever I face such difficulties, I always approach Shri Sai Baba through chits on which a negative and an affirmative reply is written. Similarly I sought the advice of Shri Sai Baba and when He gave a reply in the affirmative, I proceeded further and a suitable person came forward for the

role of the hero and the drama could be staged without any difficulty. The 11th and 15th chapters of this book are found to be useful by me to bridge over any difficulty that comes into my way. There is much more that can be said about this great book as described by saint Ramdas and I would request all Sai devotees to read it every day. Saint Namdeo once said about Dnyaneshwari that every person should experience at least one verse from that great book every day. Similarly I also would advice every Sai devotee to experience some part of Sai Satcharita every day. I thank you all once again to have elected me as the president of this year's gathering and to have co-operated with me for taking this gathering to a successful end. I thank you all for having given a patient hearing to my long speech."

Every year all the presidents of the previous annual gatherings are invited to attend the gathering and some of them attend the gathering according to their convenience. This year the delegates were singularly lucky as four Ex-Presidents Viz. Dr. Dabholkar, Shri G. J. Chitamber, Mrs. Sarojinitai Muley and Shri Nanasaheb Rasane were present at the gathering. Out of them Shri G. J. Chitamber attended the two sessions on 30-1-83 and he left for Ahmednagar by the morning S. T. Bus on 31-1-83 as his wife was seriously ill.

Dr. Dabholkar is not able to deliver a public speech because of the paralytic attack that he had some time before. However Mrs. Sarojinitai Muley and Shri Nanasaheb Rasane were thereafter requested to address the gathering and both of them were pleased to address a few words to the gathering (These speeches will be reported in the next issue of this magazine).

The Court Receiver, Shri Kakresaheb, who is the convener of this gathering, then thanked Dr. Kapadi, the president of the gathering, all ex-presidents Shri Nanasaheb Rasane, Sou. Sorojinitai Muley, Dr. Dabholkar and Shri G. J. Chitambar. He also thanked all the delegates who attended the gathering and made it a complete

success. In connection with the suggestions made at the gathering he said, "The suggestion of holding the gathering for three days in future is nice; but I do not know how many of the delegates would be able to attend the gathering for three days. One more suggestion was made here that only one magazine containing articles in three languages viz. English, Marathi and Hindi should be published; but I do not think that it would be proper to do so in view of the composition of the readers of Shri Sai Leela magazine. We have got a large number of our subscribers in South India, who only know English and who want that there should be an issue only in that language as they feel that the sixteen pages of Hindi articles, which are included in the English issue, is a sort of a burden on them. One other suggestion was made about accommodating all delegates in one hall; but let me tell you that the delegates themselves do not like this sort of arrangement. In view of the arrangements in the new bhojagriha the arrangements for the lunch of the delegates as at present could be continued and the delegates could take their lunch together in each other's company. The suggestion regarding the increase in the subscription of the magazine will have to be given due consideration in view of the subsidy that is given by the Sansthan for the magazine. Hence this suggestion along with the other suggestions made by the delegates in their speeches will be discussed with the executive editors in a meeting and decision will be taken thereon in due course. The staff of the Shirdi Sansthan was given instructions to do all arrangements for the delegates. However in spite of these arrangements if some delegates have suffered some inconvenience then the Shirdi Sansthan should be excused for that. I thank you all once again and assure you to meet here again in the next year's gathering."

Dr. Parchure, Executive editor of the English issue, then thanked all the delegates for having come from long distances for the gathering. He said that he was gratified to note that this was a miniature all India convention as the delegates, present at the

gathering, were from all the four quarters of India. He thanked Dr. Kapadisaheb for having taken the trouble and come all the way from Kolhapur to attend the gathering in his old age. He also thanked all the Ex-Presidents to have responded to the invitation of the Shirdi Sansthan and attended the gathering. He thanked in the end Shri Kakresaheb, Shri D. C. Pathak the Office Superintendent and all the staff of the Shirdi Sansthan, who worked day and night during the days of the gathering and prior to that for making the stay of the delegates at Shirdi so very comfortable during the duration of the gathering. He also thanked Dr. Babaji in particular as he has his assignments in upcountry and abroad which he had to keep aside for attending this gathering.

Shri D. C. Pathaksaheb, Office Superintendent of the Shirdi Sansthan then thanked all on behalf of the Shirdi Sansthan and hoped to meet again in the next year for the gathering. Shri Nagesh Moglaikar then thanked the Court Receiver on behalf of the delegates for making all the good arrangements for the delegates. Mrs. Sushilabai Hajare thereafter thanked the Court Receiver and the President on behalf of the lady members of the gathering. Mrs. Hajare attended the gatherings from the beginning. However for the last three or four years it was not possible for her to attend the gathering due to her ill health. Shri Bappaji Ratnaparakhi, an old resident of Shirdi, then showed to the audience one quarter rupee coin given to him by Shri Sai Baba and therefore consecrated by Him.

On behalf of the Shirdi Sansthan every delegate was then offered Prasad, garland, cocoanut, a beautiful photograph of Shri Sai Baba and one calendar of Shri Sai Baba which was sent as a present by Shri. R. S. Chitnis from Delhi.

The gathering then concluded with the farewell song composed by Shri Nagesh Moglaikar, which was sung by Shri Satardekar in his melodious voice. Because of the Sankashti Chaturthi it is a practice to take the evening lunch after the rise of the moon.

Hence the Bhojagriha was kept open late on that day for the delegates to take their lunch according to their convenience.

The annual gathering at Shirdi is a long awaited yearly festival for all the contributors to Shri Sai Leela magazine and therefore they are very happy to attend the same. At night the poets were allowed to give their cultural programmes in the Samadhi Mandir upto 10 p. m. All the delegates thereafter took leave of each other with a heavy heart and assuring each other to meet again in the gathering for the next year.

(To be continued)

OBITUARY

We are very sorry to inform our readers that Shri R. S. Junnarkar succumbed to a heart attack on 14-5-83. He was a great Sai devotee and he had full faith in the spiritual power of Shri Sai Baba. With a view to spreading Sai devotion far and wide, he wrote a novel on the life of Shri Sai Baba in English and Marathi captioned "A mission divine" and मशिदीत प्रगटल परमेश्वर respectively. Recently Prof. Adyaprasad Tripathi from Baitul rendered the novel in Hindi and it was published under the caption "प्रगटे मस्जिद में साई भगवान" All these three books are very popular among Sai devotees and they have captured the market within a short time.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to the family members of Shri Junnarkar in their sad bereavement and pray at the feet of Shri Sai Baba that the departed soul may rest in peace.

— Editor

Baba's Divine Grace

Shirdi Sai Baba's grace showers on every devotee who surrenders to him whole heartedly having full faith in Him. How Baba showered his grace on a friend of mine is narrated below.

Shri Ashok Jadhav is having a laundry shop by name Anand Dry Cleaners at Hubli. In the year 1978 one of his neighbours by name Shri H. R. Naik, Industrial Law adviser, who is also a staunch devotee of Baba gave him Baba's Ashirwad Photo. Ashok framed and installed it in his shop and started worshipping it. From the day he started worshipping Baba He used to appear in his dream. Immediately Ashok visited Shirdi and offered Pooja etc., Till then Ashok was not knowing anything about Shirdi Sai Baba.

After returning from Shirdi, by the grace of Baba, he was able to purchase a plot of 2½ guntas in Bhavani nagar for the cheap price of Rs. 6,000/- and also got married within 15 days of his return from Shirdi. Ashok felt like visiting Shirdi again. This time with his wife and his widowed mother, he visited Shirdi. Ashok's mother was suffering from asthma and blood pressure and he was spending Rs. 300/- for her medicines every month. This time Ashok prayed to Baba with trust and faith to cure the disease of his mother.

After returning from Shirdi, Ashok's mother started taking only Udi, twice a day, after doing pooja with trust and faith. By the divine grace of Baba, gradually her disease disappeared and she says that Baba has cured her disease. After this incident Ashok's family members became staunch devotees of Baba.

In the year 1979 and 1980 Ashok printed Baba's calendars in his name and distributed them to all Sai devotees and to the customers of his shop. He was eager to spread Sai-cult. He used to tell Sai miracles to others and distribute Baba's photo.

In the year 1980 Ashok approached and requested Shri B. K. Hulliyappanavar, a contractor, to whom he had already told about Baba's leelas and also given one framed photo of Baba, to construct one shed in the abovesaid plot. The Contractor told him that he would construct the house and that the cost would be approximately 50 thousand rupees. Ashok told him that he was able to pay only 5000 rupees at that time. But the contractor told him not to worry and that Baba would arrange for the amount and he constructed the house. Ashok named the house "Om Sai Krupa".

Ashok Says that within two years he has paid 30 thousand rupees part by part to the contractor who told him not to pay anything further and that he had taken only the cost of the materials and labour. Ashok says that eventhough he had no money, only by the divine grace of Baba, he was able to construct the house. Now-a-days Ashok and his family members offer pooja etc., daily and conduct weekly bhajan in their newly built house "Om Sai Krupa".

★

R. Chandrashekar

619/C, Cement chawl, Gadag Road, Hubli - 580020



To

The Editor

I congratulate you for your clean editorial on Meditation (February 1983). I also appreciate the way you are managing to deliver the magazine within Rs. 10/- annually.

With regards,

Yours faithfully,

Vijay

76, Pataudi House, New Delhi 110001



Baba Comes to the Rescue of The Weak

There are innumerable helpless human beings, in this world who are unable to compete with others who happen to be much more stronger—physically or socially. They generally find that whatever they may try to do, they won't meet with success against such forces. In our day to day affairs, we come across instances where many a bright but poor students are ignored by their class teachers in favour of mediocres who are powerful. Physically weaker, law abiding and God-fearing persons have many a time to pocket many insults simply because they lack power to counteract.

What should such persons do? To whom to look to for relief? The answer is very simple—a complete faith in Lord Shri Sai Baba "**Jis Ka Koi Naheen Uskey Hain Sai Baba**" is not simply a slogan—it is a universal truth. If we care to look around us, we shall come across innumerable examples. During 38 years of my service, I have felt this supernatural force of Baba's kindly coming to rescue of His devotees quite unexpectedly. For example, in the matter of transfers from one place to another, when the resourceful officials managed to get stations of their choice, a helpless and poor friend of mine was virtually thrown out to a most unpopular station which, however, proved to be a real boon to him to the great surprise of one and all. A colleague of mine whose only fault had been straightforwardness and honest work, was falsely implicated in a serious vigilance case which would have resulted in the loss of employment as he, unfortunately was unable to build up a single favourable evidence. He simply depended on prayers to Baba with whose benign favour, he could establish his innocence and came out fully exonerated of all charges. My son, after doing his M. Sc. appeared at a competitive examination. Nobody thought of his success because of the alleged favouritism and vested interest in the administrative setup. The only backing which my son had was of Baba with whose

generosity he got it to the astonishment of one and all. A dear friend of mine left for his heavenly abode leaving behind him his wife and two young daughters to look after themselves. The elder daughter had to search some suitable job for the family to make both ends meet; but everywhere she was unsuccessful on account of reasons best known to the employers only. Disgusted she left all the hopes to ever get any job. She was not even a devotee of Shri Sai Baba. Yet one day, she fell at His pious feet in a temple. With tears in her eyes, she begged Him to help her. Within the next few days, she received, unexpectedly, a letter from a private Ltd. Firm (before whom she had unsuccessfully already appeared for interview long back) requesting her to meet the sole proprietor at her earliest. The sole proprietor turned out to be a staunch devotee of Sai Baba who during the meeting always addressed her as "beti" and was so much moved with her plight that he immediately appointed her in his firm against many other more competent and resourceful candidates. It was thus proved beyond doubt that Baba had himself managed to keep the post vacant for her only.

I recollect an incident which involved me quite sometime back when I had to beg Baba for something at the spur of the moment; but after my request was granted, I felt so sorry that I couldn't help blaming Him for His indiscriminate action. I was new to a particular station where, somehow I fell in the clutches of a local evil person through my sheer simplicity. He was a source of great nuisance to me and had made my life awful. Once, when I was sitting in my house, he suddenly appeared and showed me some evidence he had cooked up to get me involved and threatened me for dire consequences if I did not accept his ill-conceived plans. On my refusal to oblige him, he went away uttering vulgar language. I prayed to the Almighty Baba rather agitatingly as to why he could not check the devil and teach him a lesson. Soon after, I learnt that his only son, about 10 years old, while flying kite fell down from the roof of his house and had been admitted to the hospital in a precarious condition. I could

not help crying before Baba apologising that I had not desired Him to take such a drastic action. Anyway, these are the ways of merciful but strict Baba, the God Almighty. Later, among others I also visited the hospital to see the boy where the same person, the father of the boy, embraced me weeping bitterly and taking a vow to give up wickedness once for all. With whose instructions, under whose orders? ★

J. R. Laroia

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Ram Navmi Celebration at Shri Sai Baba Mandir Garkhal (Kasauli) Himachal Pradesh on 20, 21/4/83

Ram Navmi was celebrated as usual with great enthusiasm and devotion at Garkhal. There was an Akhand Nam Jap (Shri Ram, Jai Ram, Jai Jai Ram, Shri Ram Sai Ram, Jai Jai Ram) from 9.00 P. M. on 20-4-83 to 9.00 A. M. on 21-4-83.

Sai devotees from outside began reaching here early on 20-4-83. All the Sai devotees took part in the programme with great zeal and devotion. They felt Baba's presence during the Nam Jap.

In addition to Nam Jap, there was Bhajan, Kirtan and discourse for three hours i. e. from 9.00 A. M. to 12.00 Noon. After that there was a regular Arti and distribution of Prasad. There was also free Langer (food) free to all which continued up to 5.00 P. M. ★

F. L. Goyal

President, Sai Sudha Sabha Garkhal Kasauli
(Himachal Pradesh) 173201

Baba's Blessings

Often it has been the experience of devotees that Baba creates storms and then controls them. Why so? Perhaps it may be, each time, an act of testing the depth of devotion of a devotee. For this matter, philosophy of any religion is an endless story of such instances. Every religion is confined to a community. But Baba's religion embraces entire humanity, nay, even the universe.

Coming to the point as to how Baba created a storm and then controlled it, I try to pen a few lines describing the instances hereunder.

In the last quarter of 1974, my wife, who had been hale and hearty started suffering from menopause. I got her treated by the best available specialists in Allopathy & Homeopathy. But it was all in vain. After treatment for about four months one specialist lady doctor advised her to undergo a minor operation. This minor operation led to a disclosure of a serious ailment. Then for confirmation of that ailment several medical tests were advised to be got conducted. On the basis of these reports, the suspected hazardous ailment was confirmed. The lady Surgeon, who had been very kind, cordial and sympathetic, because of my daughter also being a doctor, who is closely known to her, had been taking every possible care. She referred my wife to the concerned specialist, who is known for his high efficiency and unquestionable integrity. The Doctor went through the medical reports and a detailed note given by the lady Surgeon. Though he did not give tongue to his readings, his countenance did give vent to his reaction. At last, he prescribed a course of treatment to be continued for five weeks. Out of my anxiety, I ascertained about prospective response. He said that he would try his best. Such a serious expression with a perceptible note of uncertainty had acted like adding fuel to the fire. The Doctor, who is highly

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qualified, is a strong believer in God, the Almighty, Munificent and Merciful. He sounded me an obvious advice to believe in in God, as a last resort.

With the expiry of five weeks, the course of the prescribed treatment was over. The Doctor advised me to get her to the hospital after a month for a check up. Even after the course was over the Doctor was not hopeful of fruitful results.

While giving such treatment all the time, I have been relying on the use of sacred "Udi" to her forehead. She used to take for some time a pinch of "Udi" with a little water. After the expiry of one month, when I had taken her to the hospital for a check up by the Doctor, who, after having examined her, felt astonished to notice the unexpected improvement in her. He surprisingly enquired if I administered any other medicines than what he prescribed. Evidently my reply was in the negative from technical view point. But at the heart of my heart, I confessed before the mental image of Baba about the most miraculous effect of 'Udi' which is known to all the devotees of Baba, as the most efficacious medicine of all medicines. The Doctor, though reputed for his eminence, had no ego and in his frankness he admitted that the Almighty saved her. My faith in Baba deepened further. Devotion of my wife towards Baba knew no bounds. She maintains normal health with the kind blessings of Baba.

I would like to cite another instance of a storm created and suppressed by Shri Baba. In July 1981 I, along with my wife, started to visit Shirdi. Primarily we thought of getting the tickets reserved at Manmad for return journey to Hyderabad. But we could not however do so because of uncertainty about the date of return from Shirdi. After comfortable stay for three days at Shirdi, we could catch the bus for Manmad. When the bus reached the bridge near the Manmad Railway Station, the Conductor advised us to get down, as the shortest route to the

Railway Station started therefrom. But I was hesitant to get down for the mere reason that no cooli might be available at such an odd place. Nevertheless I just peeped out and found some one standing. So I ventured to alight. As soon as he found us with our baggage, he, who was not apparantly a cooli, offered his service to carry a part of our baggage to the Railway Station, even without indicating the charges for his service. Since I too did not ascertain the charges, before we entrusted him with the baggage to carry, my wife pointed it out as unbusinesslike, because of her apprehension that his demand would be on the high side. On our way, regardless of what she pointed out, I was anxious about securing the reservation from Manmad to Hyderabad as it happened to be a night journey. The moment we reached the station premises, I rushed to the reservation counter. To my utter disappointment, the clerk at the counter told me that all the berths were already reserved. When I informed the cooli of this position, he assured us that we would get accommodation. He left us at the platform, wherefrom the train for Hyderabad was to start in a short while and went away. Within fifteen minutes, he came back and suggested that I sould meet the Inspector, who was standing at a short distance. I had heard often from many friends that people generally secured reservations by resorting helplessly to the Inspector concerned in such situations. Since I have ever neither bribed any body nor allowed myself to be bribed under any circumstances so far, I got it vividly clarified that I would not be required to resort to any corrupt practice. The cooli then escorted me to the Inspector, to whom I explained my dismal plight and requested for help. The Inspector was so kind and considerate that he immediately asked me to occupy the small compartment with only four berths exclusively meant for the Railway employees, with a clear understanding that I should get adjusted with any Railway employees who might join on the way. For all this, I paid Rupees five only to the cooli who accepted the amount with pleasure and heartfelt thanks to the Inspector. Above all this, only two berths were vacant. So we

comfortably travelled from Manmad to Hyderabad with Shri Baba's blessings.

Towards my conviction that Shri Baba is the sole doer in the lives of his devotees, I would very much like to ventilate another 'storm', that Baba had caused and overcome. In January 1982, my wife met with an accident causing major fracture in her right elbow. Her condition was so bad that it was difficult to move her from the village to Hyderabad. Unexpectedly I could get conveyance without any difficulty to reach Hyderabad. When I along with my daughter, approached the Orthopaedic nursing home, the surgeon told us that there was no vacancy to admit my wife who was required to undergo a major operation. We therefore approached our relative, who was also an Orthopaedic surgeon working in a Government Hospital. He got her admitted and made arrangements for the operation. The Civil Surgeon concerned fixed the date for operation and got her fully prepared for operation. But he could not conduct operation due to the reasons not known to me. I felt sentimentally disappointed, though I did not lose my firm faith in Baba. I was questioning in my heart, as to why Baba should create such a storm. The very evening my son-in-law could arrange the operation by more eminent Surgeon with the assistance of his friend. By the grace of Sai, the reputed Surgeon did not charge even a paisa, though he conducted operation in a Private Nursing Home. The operation was successful. With Shri Baba's blessing my wife is now normal.

Baba always comes to the rescue of his devotees, who sincerely follow the twin path of 'Shraddha' and 'Saburi' as advocated by Him. ★

M. Ganga Reddy

'Sai Nilayam' - 3-4-1013/16 Barakatpura, Hyderabad -27

Om Sai Shri Sai Jaya Jaya Sai

Sai Mantra

When you have nothing to think, **THINK** of **SAI** only. Keep chanting Sai Mantra (Om Sai Shri Sai Jaya Jaya Sai) mentally, always, even while performing your worldly duties and living with your family. Gradual practice and full faith in Sai (Sai for Ram, Rahim, Christ, Nanak etc) would make it an automatic habit which would cleanse your mind of unwanted thoughts and you would have full control over your mind. Now maintain your recitation and enjoy 'Sai bliss' and when you find Sai within your ownself and everywhere in every mortal, consider yourself Baba's 'Ankita child' who is constantly under Baba's care. Such state of mind is also called 'Self Realisation'.

The road towards 'Self Realisation' is **OPEN** to all. Obstacles would appear if Kanth (throat) and Karma (Deeds) are not kept Pure. Kanth involves eating pure & simple food and speaking truth and Karma involves making honest living. No doubt it is difficult, in the present times, but Baba helps the seekers.

The beginner must put these Questions to self, "Who am I?" "Why was I born?," "What did I bring with me (when born), what shall I carry with me (after death)?" If the reply is received from **WITHIN** the questioner has a green signal to start his journey towards 'Self Realisation'.

'Sai Prachar Kendra' Chandigarh- 160019 offers to assist the beginners. Saldas, who is managing this Sai Prachar all alone, offers to send **FREE** Baba's Photos, Udi from Shirdi & Divine Sai Mantra. Queries from Sadhaks are welcome. Write your clear address with Pin Code and **DO NOT** send any donation or stamps. Spend part of your income for the suffering souls at your places before you donate through some organisations.

Follow Baba's teachings in this regard. Build 'Man-mandir' (मनमन्दिर) before you go to build one with bricks & cement ★

J. P. Khanna

SAIDAS

Sai Pracharak, Sai Prachar Kendra S. C. F. 15/19-D,
Chandigarh-160019



Shri Sai Blesses Those Who Surrender to Him

In the present days, when the people are being more materialistic in nature and are having little or no faith in the existence of God, Shri Sai Leela Magazine is doing the best of the service for the propagation of Shri Shirdi Sai Baba's divinity to various people of different mentalities. Though Shri Sai Baba had left the body in 1918, His devotees are experiencing His leelas even now in times of need and necessity. My entire family is devoted to Shri Sai Baba for more than three decades. With confidence that this simple experience would intensify the existing faith in Sai devotees, I am narrating this in the name of Shri Sai Baba.

My daughter Kum. Niveditha after passing her X Class, discontinued her studies. After a lapse of two years, I got her admitted in Intermediate course. She appeared for the first year Inter Annual examination in March, 1980 alongwith her dear friend Kum. Sri Devi. The results were published and Lo! Kum. Niveditha failed in all the five subjects while her friend passed in all the subjects. My daughter with grief and disappointment asked me to allow her to discontinue her studies as she could not face her friends with such a total failure in all subjects. I consoled her and convinced her not to give up studies on the cause of her failure. I encouraged her to go ahead with

immense devoted faith in Shri Sai Baba. I assured her of her success in the ensuing examination in September, 1980, in case she cast her burden on the shoulders of Shri Sai Baba with complete surrender coupled with 'Nishtha and Saburi' I also advised her to do parayana for seven days as prescribed in the sacred book "Shri Sai Babas, Jeevitha Charitha" in Telugu, readily available in our house. I also assured her that Baba is there to look after the needs and comforts of those who surrender even now.

Kum. Niveditha too is an ardent and sincere devotee of Shri Sai. She made a vow to visit Shirdi in case she passed in the ensuing examinations in September, 1980. Completely surrendering herself to Baba, and with firm belief and confidence in Him, she completed the parayana of the sacred book in seven days as prescribed. She was regularly studying the lessons of all the five subjects in which she failed, in addition to the regular class lessons of the current year.

In September, 1980 on the first day of the examination, casting her burden on Shri Sai, and with sacred Udhi on forehead, she answered the question paper to her satisfaction. This gave her enough of courage to answer the papers on other days.

It was a surprise for her to know that she passed in all the five subjects when the results were published, while many of her friends passed in one or two subjects only. After the Marks list was received, it was noticed that Kum. Niveditha got appreciable marks and in fact more marks than her friend Kum. Sri Devi, who passed in March itself. Our joy knew no bounds and our faith in Baba created abundantly.

To fulfil the promised vow of Kum. Nivedetha, we all the family members made pilgrimage to Shirdi and offered our humble pranams to Shri Sai Baba for His kindness. Eversince that day

Kum. Nivedithas faith in Shri Sai has been boundlessly increased. She is observing a complete fast on Thursdays to her own satisfaction and she is not experiencing any weariness on that day though she is attending the college for a continuous period of five to six hours. Has not Shri Sai come to her rescue and blessed her with a complete success? The consequences of her disappointed failure would have been fatal and quite unexpected. But Baba did not wish that. He never deserts the one who surrenders to Him. He with His ever blessing hands favoured her with a complete success and not only intensified her deep devotion and faith in Him but also made many a devotee of Him to be assured of safe and sure success if one ever casts his entire burden on Him with complete surrender.

Shri Sai is ready to shower His blessings on the trusted even now without any discrimination provided the appeal is sincere and faithful. ★

D. L. Kanta Rao,
Retired Deputy Tahsildar, Ponnapuram (Post)
Nandyal Taluk Kurnool District.(Andhra Pradesh)



Whole - Heartedness

While I commune with Thee, O God, let me enjoy the full measure of communion, and be absorbed in it entirely. And when I come to work and toil in Thy world, let me bear the full measure of hard labour and prove serviceable to Thee. But, while I pray, let not my mind be dissipated with the various thoughts of work and toil. Let me be entirely absorbed in Thy communion. ★





APRIL 1983

In this month the Ramanawami festival was celebrated as usual at Shirdi from Wednesday the 20th of April 1983 to Friday the 22nd of April 1983. Because of his previous experience, the Court Receiver Shri Kakresaheb, held a meeting of the heads of different depts. of the office of Shirdi Sansthan one month in advance and assigned all the duties to different persons. Hence inspite of the ever increasing rush of devotees during the festival days, all programmes went on smoothly and there was no chaos anywhere. The detailed progrmmes that took place during the festival are as follows :-

Wednesday 24-4-83. This was the first day of the festival. The Samadhi Mandir was opened as usual and the routine programmes in the Samadhi Mandir like Kakad Aarti, holy bath, Abhishek and other aarti-programmes went on at the usual timing. At 6 a. m. the photo of Shri Sai Baba and the pothi (Sai Satcharita written by Shri Annasaheb Dabholkar in Marathi) were taken in procession to Dwarkamai from the Samadhi Mandir Via Gurusthan. After the photo was placed in Dwarkamai the Parayan (continuous reading of Sai Satcharita) was started in Dwarkamai. Shri Kakresaheb the Court Receiver, read the first chapter and then other devotees continued the reading.

In the afternoon, Shri Manumaharaj from Nanded, who is the disciple of Shri Anantrao Athavlemaharaj, performed the Keertan in the Samadhi Mandir from 4-30 p. m. to 6-30 p. m. The melodious voice of Shri Manumaharaj and his knowledge of

religious and philosophical literature made the audience spell-bound during the keertan. From 7-30 p. m. to 9 p. m. and from 9 30 p. m to 11 p. m Shri Ajit Kadkade, Radio star and stage artist gave the programme of his vocal music in the Samadhi Mandir. This programme was appreciated much by the audience as they do not get an opportunity to listen to such artists in their places.

The palkhi (Palanquin) of Shri Baba was taken in procession through the Shirdi Village from 9-15 p. m. to 11-00 p. m. It was accompanied by music, bhajan parties etc. The palkhi was decorated well and the village people took darshan during the procession. After the palkhi returned, the local people and some devotees sung Garuds and Bharuds outside Gurusthan. The palkhi was ultimately taken to Samadhi Mandir at 11 a. m. and after the Shejarati was sung, the programme of the first day of the festival came to an end and the Samadhi Mandir was closed. Thursday 21-4-83.

This was the main day of the festival. As this year Ramanawami coincided with Thursday, which is considered as a very auspicious day by the Sai devotees there was heavy rush of devotees, who had come for darshan from the very early hours of the morning. The Samadhi Mandir was opened as usual in the morning and the usual scheduled programmes in the Mandir were being carried on at their usual timings. As the akhanda parayana of Shri Sai Satcharita concluded at 6 a. m. this morning, the pothi and photo of Shri Sai Baba were brought back in procession from Dwarakamai to the Samadhi Mandir via Gurusthan at 6 a. m.

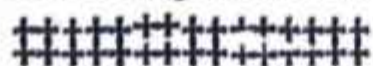
Kawadi Procession

The special feature of the Ramanawami festival is the holy bath given to Shri Sai Baba by the devotees with the water of the Godawari river. It is a practice of the devotees to go to

Kopargaon on the previous day and taking the water of the Godawari river in their Kawadis they return to Shirdi on the Ramanavami day on foot. At 6-30 a. m. all the kawadis were placed in the Samadhi Mandir and they were worshipped by the Court Receiver. Thereafter all the kawadis were taken in procession through the Shirdi village and they returned to the Samadhi Mandir by about 10 a. m. There were about 1000 to 1200 persons who had brought the kawadis from Kopargaon. Upto 12 noon the devotees were allowed to give holy bath to Shri Sai Baba by the water of the Godawari river brought by them in their kawadis.

Side by side with this programme in the Samadhi Mandir, Shri Manohar Vasudeo Koklegaonkar, alias Manumaharaj performed keertan on the birth of Shree Rama from 10-30 a. m. to 12 noon. After the keertan the noon aarti was sung and teertha and prasad were distributed to all who were present for the aarti.

At 4 p. m. the procession of the flags of Shri Sai Baba was taken out and at 4-45 p. m. the procession of the Ratha (chariot) of Shri Sai Baba was taken out from Dwarakamai and it went round the Shirdi village. The chariot was decorated well with flowers and electric lights and the procession was accompanied by band troupe, choughada, bhajan parties and various types of music. Thousands of people joined the procession. When the procession came near the Gurusthan the people sang garuds and bharuds. Shri Raghunath Sandbhor from Pune and Shri, Pardeshi, Shri Eknath Kote and Shri Ravindra Joshi from Shirdi took part in the singing of bharuds and their songs were outstanding. The Samadhi Mandir was kept open for the whole night and the artists gave their various programmes in the Samadhi Mandir from 10 p. m. to 6 a. m. on the next day (i. e. 22-4-83). Sandal programme was also conducted in the Samadhi Mandir at night as it was being done from the time of Shri Sai Baba.



(to be continued)

श्रीसाईलीला

हिंदी विभाग

अनुक्रमणिका

जून १९८३

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शिरडी के साईबाबा

शिरडी के साईबाबा बाबा को करो प्रणाम ॥ धृ ॥

शिरडी की गलियोमे बाबा की धून मचावो
मन्दिर जाकर प्रेमसे बाबा के गुण गावो
भजलो दिलसे नाम बाबा को करो प्रणाम ॥ १ ॥

बाबा सबके साथी दुखमे होते सहारा
भक्तजनोंकी सुनते सबके पालनहारा
बिगडे बनते काम बाबा को करो प्रणाम ॥ २ ॥

श्रद्धा और सबुरी जगमे मन्त्र महान
बाबाने सबको दिया भजले तू इन्सान
नही लगता दाम बाबा को करो प्रणाम ॥ ३ ॥

सबका मालिक एक रहता है शिरडी को
हिन्दु, मुस्लिम, पारसी, सब जाते शिरडी को
शिरडी मंगल धाम बाबा को करो प्रणाम ॥ ४ ॥

जीवन मे एक बार शिरडी को हम जाये
साई दर्शन करके हम पावन हो जाये
होगा सफल जनम बाबा को करो प्रणाम ॥ ५ ॥

रमेश डी. चव्हाण

१९९, साईनिकेतन गुजरलेन कॉर्नर मु. पो. ता. नवापूर, ४२५४१८
जि. धुले (महाराष्ट्र)



मेरा जीवन - साई जीवन

मई सन् १९७९ का प्रथम सप्ताह । मेरे जीवन की वह महत्व पूर्ण ट्रेन यात्रा । अपराह का वह आह्लादकारी क्षण । जब ग्रीष्म ऋतु के सूर्य की रश्मियाँ कुछ नमित होनेपर भी जनजीवन को अपने परिताप से विचलित करने में समर्थ थीं । पल्लु आ हवा के किंचित उष्ण थपेडे जन मानुस के कमल-पल्लववत् होठों को कुम्हलाने भर को पर्याप्त थे । मैं लखनऊ से अपने घर लौट रहा था । ट्रेन सीतापूर स्टेशन पर रुकी । मैंने खिडकीसे बाहर झाँक कर, ट्राळी में पत्र, पत्रिका एवं अन्य पठनीय सामग्री सजाये हाकर को चिल्लाते देखा । मेरी निगाह “ब्लिट्ज” के हिन्दी संस्करण पर पड़ी तो रुकी ही रह गयी । कमी न पढने वाला मैं फिर उस “ब्लिट्ज” को बिना खरीदे न रह सका - कारण, उसमें एक ऐसे सन्त-पुरुष का संक्षिप्त विवरण दिया था जिसके चित्र से तो मैं परिचित था लेकिन उसके क्रियाकलापो व जीवन वृत्त से बिल्कुल ही अपरिचित । मैंने पत्र लेकर तुरन्त ही उस सन्त पुरुष के क्रियाकलापो व उनके द्वारा दिये गये विभिन्न लोगों के अनुभवों को पढने में तल्लीन हो गया । ट्रेन द्रुतगति से अपने गन्तव्य की ओर बढ़ रही थी । मैं जैसे-जैसे उस संतपुरुष से सम्बंधित संस्मरण पढता जा रहा था उसी तरह उत्तरोत्तर उनके प्रति मेरी आस्था बढ़ती जा रही थी । वस्तुतः वे सन्त पुरुष और कोई नहीं अपितु समर्थ श्री साईनाथ ही थे ।

ट्रेन से उतर कर लखीमपुर स्टेशन से बाहर आने पर मेरे मन में श्री साईबाबा के चित्र को घर ले जाने की इच्छा हुई । मैंने सीधे बाजार जाकर ‘फोटो फ्रेमर’ से बाबा का एक आशीर्वाद चित्र बनवाया और उसे लेकर घर पहुँचा । घर में सभी लोगोंने बाबा के चित्र को देखा और सराहा । बाबा से सम्बंधित विवरण पत्र में पढकर सभी को बहुत आनन्द हुआ । मेरी पत्नी तो बाबा के चित्र व लीलाओं को सुनकर बहुत ही प्रभावित हुई और बोली “बाबा का चित्र यहीं बेड-रूम में लगा दो । रोज सुबह शाम दर्शन और धूपवत्ती होती रहेगी ।” मैंने अपनी राय उससे कुछभिन्न दी-‘नहीं । बाबा के चित्र को किसी पूजास्थान में स्थापित किया जावे । इस दृष्टि से अपने पैतृक शिवालय में ही इनके चित्र की स्थापना ठीक रहेगी । वहीं भगवान शिव के साथ ही इनका पूजन

आराधन भी विधिपूर्वक होता रहेगा' । उन्होंने मेरे मत की स्वीकृतिमें अपना सिर हिला दिया ।

प्रातः स्नान के बाद मैंने बाबाके चित्र को अपने शिवालय में ले जाकर स्थापित करके विधिवत् रूप से शिवजी के साथ ही उनका पूजन किया । तत्पश्चात् नित्य की भाँति अपने चिकित्सा व्यवसाय में व्यस्त हो गया । रात्रि में मंदिर जाकर बाबा की कुशल क्षेम पूजन आरती आदि की भी मुधि न रही । दूसरे दिन प्रातः जब मैं स्नान करके पुष्प, जल, घूपबत्ती आदि लेकर मन्दिर पहुँचा तो वहाँ देखा कि बाबा का चित्र नदारद था । मुझे बहुत दुःख हुआ । जैसे जैसे शिवजी का पूजन करके घर लौटा । मन बहुत खिन्न था । दिनभर बाबा के चित्र की चिंता में बेमन अपना काम करता रहा । मुझे यही आशंका थी कि किसी शरारती लडकेने बाबा का चित्र चुरा लिया होगा । राम जाने बाबा के चित्र की क्या गति हुई होगी । रात में जब घर लौटा । भोजन करने बैठा तो मुझसे अपने परिवार वालों से बिना पूछे न रहा गया । मैंने बहुत ही भारी मन से पूछा, "मैंने बाबा का जो चित्र शिवालय में लगाया था, पता नहीं कौन निकाल ले गया ।"

"अरे वो साईबाबा वाला ।" पिताजीने भोजन करते हुए कहा, "उसे तो मैंने ही कल मन्दिर से निकालकर बक्से में रख दिया है । तुम भी अजीब हो बिना सोचे समझे काम करते हो । उस यवन फकीर का चित्र कहीं शिवालय में लगाने वाला है । लगानेसे पहले मुझसे ही पूछलिया होता ।" अच्छा हुआ जो आपने ही उतारकर रख लिया । मुझे तो उनका चित्र वहाँ न देखनेसे बहुत चिंता हो गयी थी । अब मेरे मन में उठने वाली विभिन्न कुशंकाएँ शान्त हो गयी थीं । बाबा को यवन फकीर कहने वाली बात का स्पष्टीकरण देना उस समय मेरी बुद्धि व ज्ञान के परे था, क्यों कि उन दिनों तक मैं बाबा के सम्पूर्ण जीवनवृत्त से अनभिज्ञ था । इसलिए उस समय मुझे चुप्पी लगा जाना ही उपयुक्त प्रतीत हुआ । फिर भी मेरे हृदय में बाबा के प्रति श्रद्धा व भक्ति में कोई कमी या भ्रम नहीं हुआ । दूसरे दिन मैं बाबा का चित्र पिताजी से लेकर फिर चिंता में पड़ गया कि इसे कहाँ स्थापित किया जावे । शयन कक्ष में चित्र लगाने की बात अभी भी मेरे मनमें नहीं आ रही थी । अंततः मेरी पत्नी ने ही मेरे ऊन उद्घापोह के क्षणों में मेरी मनःस्थिति को समझते हुए सलाह दी, "ऐसा करो, तुम बाबा के चित्र को अपनी डिस्पेंसरी में लगा दो ।"

मुझे उनकी बात भा गयी। बाबा के चित्र को अपनी डिस्पेंसरी में ठीक अपनी सीट के ऊपर दीवार में लगा दिया और उसी दिन से नियमित रूप से प्रातः सायं बड़ी श्रद्धा से अंगरवत्ती व फूल लगाने लगा।

एक वर्ष आनन्दपूर्वक इसी तरह बीत गया। बाबा के सम्बन्ध में अधिकतम जानकारी के लिए मेरा मन उत्कण्ठित था लेकिन कार्य की व्यवस्थावश मैं कोई राह नहीं ढूँढ पा रहा था कि बाबा के सम्बन्ध में प्रामाणिक एवं अधिकतम जानकारी किस तरह प्राप्त करूँ। अक्सर लोग मेरे चिकित्साकेन्द्र पर आकर बाबा के चित्र को देखकर उनसे सम्बन्धित प्रश्न पूछते। मैं उन्हें सामर्थ्य के अनुसार जानकारी देता। योंह तो मैं स्वयं ही बाबा के बारे में बहुत कम जानता था। तो दूसरों को क्या बता पाता। उन्हीं दिनों मुझे आर्थर ऑसबर्न लिखित "दि इन्क्रेडिबिल साईबाबा" नामक एक अंग्रेजी पुस्तक मेरे मित्र के द्वारा प्राप्त हुई जिसे मैंने बहुत ही ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ा लेकिन मेरा चातक मन अतृप्त सा इधर उधर भटकता रहा।

एक दिन बाबा की ही अंतःप्रेरणास्वरूप मैंने मन से ही कल्पित साईबाबा शिरडी संस्थान, शिरडी को वहाँ से सम्बन्धित जानकारी हेतु एक पत्र भेजा तथा उन्हीं की प्रेरणा से अपने चिकित्साकेन्द्र को भी सुन्दर व आकर्षक बनाने का विचार आया। तुरन्त ही चिकित्साकेन्द्र को सुन्दर व आधुनिक सज सज्जा से सवारने का कार्य आरम्भ कर दिया। इसमें बाबा की ही प्रेरणा काम कर रही थी। चिकित्साकेन्द्र के सज सँवर जानेपर बाबा के छोटे चित्र के स्थान पर बाबा के शिलापट पर आसीन बड़े चित्र की स्थापना का भी विचार आया। मैंने शहर लखीमपुर जाकर अपने मन की बात फोटो फ्रेमर को बतायी। इस सम्बन्ध में एक बड़ी ही रोचक व प्यारी घटना घटी। मैं बाबा के बड़े चित्र का आर्डर देकर घर चला आया। लगभग एक महीना बीत गया। बाबा का जब चित्र नहीं मिला तो अपने एक अभिन्न मित्र को फोटो फ्रेमर के पास चित्र लेने भेजा। वे एक सरकारी कर्मचारी थे। वे अपने स्टाफ का वेतन और विभागीय सामग्री के साथ रिक्शे द्वारा फोटो फ्रेमर से मिलने गये। मार्ग सँकरा होने के कारण रिक्शा मुख्य मार्ग पर ही छोड़कर वे पैदल खाली हाथ ही फोटो फ्रेमर के पास बाबा का चित्र लेने गये। उसने लगभग आधा घण्टे बाद बाबा का चित्र प्रेम करके उन्हें दिया। जिसे लेकर वे खुशी खुशी मुख्य मार्ग पर

आकर रिक्शा ढूँढने लगे ! रिक्शे वाले का कहीं पता नहीं था । अब उन्हें ध्यान आया कि स्टाफ के वेतन वाला ब्रीफकेस तथा अन्य सामान भी उसी रिक्शे पर था ! मित्रवर बहुत परेशान होकर रिक्शे वाले को बड़ी ही अधीरता से इधर उधर रोड पर तलाश रहे थे । बगल में समर्थ श्री साईनाथ का चित्र दबाये वे कभी बाबा से रिक्शा मिला देने की प्रार्थना करते तो कभी अपनी असावधानी पर क्षुब्ध होते । तभी रिक्शे वाले ने उन्हें दूर से देखकर आवाज लगायी :-

“बाबू, कहाँ चले गये थे ?”

“अरे तुम यहीं खड़े हो ।” मेरे मित्र ने उसे पहचानते हुए आश्चर्य-मिश्रित स्वर में कहा ।

“और क्या ? आप तो मुझे यहीं छोड़कर गये थे । मैं अकेला कहाँ जाता ?”

मेरे मित्र को अपनी भूल का तुरन्त अहसास हो गया । उसे अब तक स्पष्ट हो चुका था कि वह भूलसे उस रिक्शे वाले को अन्यत्र ढूँढ रहे थे । रिक्शा वाला उन्हें बिठाकर बस स्टेशन की ओर लेकर चल दिया । मित्रवर कभी रिक्शे वाले की इमानदारी और कभी बाबा की आशुक्रपा का अनुभव करके पुलकित हो रहे थे । उन्हें तत्क्षण ऐसा लगा जैसे कि बाबा ने अपने प्रियजन को जैसे अथाह विपत्ती - सागर में डूबने से बचा लिया हो ।

सायं जब वे बाबा का चित्र मुझे देने को आये तो उन्होंने बाबा के चित्र को बार-बार दोनों हाथ जोड़कर अपनी उक्त घटना सुनायी । बाबा की यह लीला सुनकर मैं और उस समय उपस्थित सभी लोगों को बहुत ही प्रसन्नता हुई । मैं ने उसी समय उन्हीं मित्र के द्वारा बाबा के छोटे चित्र के स्थान पर बाबा के बड़े चित्र की स्थापना कराई । चित्र की स्थापना के बाद प्रसाद वितरण हुआ । हमारे मित्र जब तक हमारे नगर में कार्यरत रहे बराबर सुबह शाम बाबा के दर्शन करते रहे । अब भी जब कभी वे बाहर से साल में एकाध बार यहाँ आते हैं तो बाबा को नमन अवश्य करते हैं । बाबा इस तरह न जाने कितने भक्त हृदयों को पारस पत्थर की तरफ झूकर उनमें स्वर्ण सदृश शुद्ध प्रेम और भक्ति का बीजारोपण करते रहते हैं ।

कुछ दिनों बाद शिरडी संस्थान से मुझे विवरण का भी प्राप्त हुआ जिसेके अनुसार मैं "श्री साईंलीला" का पाठक बना और "श्री साईं सच्चरित" का नियमित अध्येता। अब बाबा की कृपा स्वरूप मुझे बाबा की भक्ति में असाधारण प्रगति दिखायी पड़ने लगी ! नित्यप्रति "साईं सच्चरित" के एक अध्याय का पाठ तथा बाबा के स्मरण आदि ने उनका अमिन्न सेवक बना दिया। लोग मुझसे बाबा के सम्बन्ध में भाँति भाँति प्रकार के प्रश्न पूछते लेकिन अब मैं उनसे सम्बन्धित प्रश्नों के उत्तर देने लगभग समर्थ था। बाबा के सम्बन्ध में फैली हुई बहुत सी बेबुनियाद भाँतियों को भीजब मानस से निकालने का प्रयास मैंने आरम्भ कर दिया। यथा अक्सर लोग मुझसे पूछते क्या बड़े बड़े वालों वाले युवा सत्य साईंबाबा क्या साईंबाबा के अवतार हैं या वे दोनों एक हैं। मैं स्पष्ट रूपसे कहता नहीं। इसी तरह लोग बाबा के जीवित व यवन होने के सम्बन्ध में मुझसे पूछते। मैं उन्हें नम्रता पूर्वक बताता कि बाबा यद्यपि अब इस असार संसार में शरीरसे नहीं हैं फिर भी वे अपने वचन के अनुसार इस ब्रह्मांड के कण कण में व्याप्त हैं। सच्चे हृदय से जो भी उन्हें पकारता है, बाबा तत्काल वहाँ पहुँचकर उसकी सहायता करते हैं। बाबा इस भूमण्डल पर एक व्यापक व सुस्पष्ट दृष्टिकोण के साथ जिये उनका जीवनवृत्त एक खुली किताब की तरह सभी के लिए अध्ययन और मनन का विषय है। उनकी दृष्टि में हिन्दू-मुसलीम तथा विभिन्न धर्मोवलम्बी तथा विभिन्न विचारधारा वाले मनुष्य ही नहीं अपितु पशु-पक्षी, जीव-जन्तु सभी समान थे। वे सभी के दुःख-सुख से समान रूपसे सम्बेदित होते थे। वे सभी में एकही जैसी आत्मा में परमात्मा का दर्शन करते थे। उनका सम्पूर्ण जड और जीव जगत के लिए एक ही सन्देश था, एक ही वचन था कि सभी प्राणी समान हैं सभी में एक ही जैसी सम्बेदता है। सभी में एक ही ईश्वर का अंश है अतः एवं प्रत्येक मनुष्य को प्रत्येक प्राणी से निस्पृह प्रेम करना चाहिए। यद्यपि वे बाह्य वेशभूषा व आचार से यवन लगते थे। फिर भी वे एक पवित्र ब्राह्मण कुल की सन्तान थे। वास्तव में वे हिन्दू-मुसलिम की एकता व सामंजस्य की एक सजीव प्रतिमा थे।

समय अपनी गति से गुजर रहा था। एक दिन पड़ोस में रहेवाला बिजली मिस्त्री रोशन मंरे पास आया। वह मुझसे कुछ देर विभिन्न विषयोंपर, वार्तालाप करते हुए श्री साईंबाबा के लघु चित्र के विषय में पूछते हुए बोला, "दादाजी! वो साईंबाबा का आशीर्वाद वाला छोटा चित्र कहाँ है?"

“अंदर केबिन में है।”

“क्या आप उसे मुझे देंगे?”

“हाँ! दे सकता हूँ।” मैंने सहज भावसे कहा “लेकिन एक शर्त है। बाबा के चित्र को पूजास्थान में लगाना होगा और नित्य प्रति धूपबत्ती और नैवेद्य अर्पण करना होगा।”

“ठीक है, मुझे आपकी बात मंजूर है।” रोशन ने हँसी खुशी हामी भर ली। मैं तो स्वयं ही बाबा के नित्य प्रतिदर्शन पूजन के लिए उन्हें लेने आया हूँ।

मैंने सहर्ष बाबा का चित्र उसे दे दिया। उधर जब से मैंने बाबा का बड़ा चित्र अपनी डिस्पेन्सरी में लगा दिया था तब से मैं उसी का पूजन कर पा रहा था। बाबा का लघु चित्र दवाई वाले केबिन में उपेक्षित सा पड़ा रहता था। मैं जब दूसरे तीसरे दिन उसे देखता तो किंचित दुख और आत्मग्लानि का अनुभव करता था। मोचता कि बाबा का यहा वही चित्र है जिसकी मैं नित्यप्रति प्रातः सायं पूजन, धूप व नैवेद्य लगाता था आज उपेक्षित सा पड़ा है। इस चित्र का अब क्या किया जाय जिससे इसकी सद्गति व सदुपयोग हो सके। कभी सोचता कि इसे अपनी नगर के समीप प्रवाहिता पुण्यतोया सरजू नदी में विधिवत् पूजन के साथ विमर्जित कर दूँ और कभी सोचता यदि कोई श्रद्धालु भक्त इन्हें अपना ले तो उत्तम होगा। बाबा ने मेरे शुद्ध हृदय से निकले मनो-भावों को जानकर ही शायद वे रोशन को उत्प्रेरित करके मेरे पास लाए और फिर सहर्ष उसके साथ चले गये। मैंने उस चित्र को जब रोशन को एक अखबार के पन्ने में लपेट कर सौंपा तो मेरा जी भर आया और ऐसा लगा कि जैसे मैं अपने किसी प्रियजन को किसी दूसरे के घर में रहने के लिए विदा कर रहा हूँ। अब भी जब कभी मेरी मुलाकात रोशन से होती है, तो सबसे पहले मैं बाबा की कुशल-क्षेम पूछता हूँ। जब कभी उनके घर जाता हूँ, तो बाबा को वहाँ देखकर अतिशय प्रसन्नता होती है।

बाबा की कृपा व प्रेम उत्तरोत्तर बढ़ता गया। बाबा की पुण्य कर्मस्थली शिरडी देखने की इच्छा बलवती होती गयी। दो-तीन वर्षों से बाबा के यहाँ जान का इच्छा थी लेकिन समय और दूरी एक स्थायी बाधा बने हुए थे। मैंने

स्वयं अपनी शिरडी यात्रा को उनकी इच्छा पर डाल रखा था। बाबा कहा भी करते थे, "तुम अपने को कत्तापन का बोध क्यों करते हो? कर्ता तो मैं हूँ। मैं जिससे जब और जैसा काम करवाना चाहता हूँ, करवाता हूँ। तुम तो निमित्त मात्र हो। तुम विश्वास करो मैं तुमसे प्रेम करता हूँ और जब तुम्हें सत्संग के उपयुक्त समझूँगा, बुला लूँगा। मेरी शिरडी भगवान कृष्ण की बदारावती से भिन्न नहीं है। मेरी मसजिद बदारकामाई अपने प्रियजन का स्वागत करने में सदैव तत्पर है। तुम जैसे ही मेरी मसजिद की सीढियाँ चढ़ोगे तुम्हारे पाप श्राप सभी नष्ट हो जावेंगे। तुम्हारे त्रयताप यह बदारकामाई तुरन्त हर लेगी। तुम्हारे मन में प्रेम, भक्ति का संचार होगा। तुम मेरे सबसे प्रिय जन होगे।" बाबा के ये वचन मेरा सम्बल बने। कुछ ही समय बाद मुझे शिरडी संस्थान द्वारा अयोजित श्री साई लेखक सम्मेलन में सम्मिलित होने का सौभाग्य मिला। बाबा के प्रेम निमन्त्रण को पाकर मैं कच्चे धागे से बँधे पक्षी का तरह शिरडी खिंचा चला गया।

मथुरा, काशी, अयोध्या, हरिद्वार, जगन्नाथ पुरी और बदरीधाम की तरह मुझे शिरडी बहुत प्यारी, स्वच्छ और भक्तिमय लगी। शिरडी नगरी के कण कण में व्याप्त बाबा का विराट रूप मुझे देखने को मिला। शिरडीवासियों का प्रेम, मुझे विश्व के प्रेम से भी अनूठा लगा। मैं जब स्थान-स्थान पर बाबा के चित्र व मूर्तियाँ के दर्शन करता तो मुझे लोगों द्वारा जस्टिस रेगे के सम्बन्ध में सुनी हुई यह उक्ति याद आ जाती कि कहते हैं जब माननीय रेगे शिरडी की पावन भूमि में उतरते तो वे बिना पदत्राण के नंगे पैर ही घूमते रहते थे। जब लोग उनसे इस सम्बन्ध में पूछते तो वे हंसकर कहते, "भाई! यह तो बाबा की पावनलीला स्थली है जहाँ की गलियों व मार्गों पर नंगे पैर ही विचरते थे। उनके पावन चरणस्पर्श से ही यह जड़ शिरडी अहिल्या की शिला की तरह सुन्दर और सजीव हो उठी है। यदि मैं जडमति; बाबा की एक चरणरज का पावन स्पर्श पा सका तो पारस पत्थर की नाई मैं भी कृतकृत्य हो जाऊँगा और इस तन की सार्थकता पा सकूँगा।

मेरे साईनाथ! मैंने आपकी शिरडी देखी। खंडोबा का मन्दिर, गुरुस्थान समाधिमन्दिर, लेण्डी बाग, बदारकामाई, चाबडी सभी कुछ सुन्दर व शांतिप्रद लगे। शिरडी के सम्पूर्ण स्थल कल्पनातीत लगे। बाबा तुम धन्य हो! तुम्हारी शिरडी धन्य है। और धन्य हैं यहाँ के वासी, जो इस नगरी में जन्म लेकर

बाबा के रमणीय स्थलों का नित्य प्रतिदर्शन करते हैं, तथा देश-विदेश से आने वाले, विभिन्न भाषा भाषी व भिन्न वेशभूषा वाले साई भक्तों के दर्शन करते हैं ! उनका आदर सत्कार करते हैं ! मेरे साई नाथ ! मैं तुम्हें पाकर धन्य हो गया । तुम्हारे मिलते ही मुझे तो हे सद्गुरु साई नाथ ! सब कुछ मिल गया है । अधिक क्या लिखूँ ? अधिक क्या कहूँ ? कविवर तुलसी के शब्दों में :-

नाथ आजु मैं काह न पावा ।

मिटे सकल दुख दारिद दावा ॥

बहुत काल मैं कीन्ह मजूरी ।

आजु दीन्ह बिधिना भरपूरी ॥

नाथ कहू न चाहिय अब मोरे ।

दीन दयाल अनुग्रह तोरे ॥

डॉ. ब्रजमोहन मौर्य

सिंगाही-खीरी (उ. प्र.) पिन २६२९०५

प्रति : श्रीमान के. एन्. काकरे जी

सम्पादक, साईलीला,

मान्यवर महोदय,

आपके द्वारा सम्पादित पत्रिका साईप्रेमियों तक विविध विचारवन्तों के सन्देश पहुंचाने का सर्व सुलभ साधन है । आपके कार्य की प्रशंसा करना मैं अपना कर्तव्य समझता हूँ ।

आपका : गोपाल सिंह

५।३।३३७।३ राष्ट्रपति रोड, सिकन्दराबाद ५०० ००३



श्री साईबाबा को प्रणाम

साई मैं हाथ जोड़कर ।

करती हूँ तुझे प्रणाम ॥

मेरी अखरी बिंती है तेरे पास ।

अब मुझको बुलाके अपने घाम ॥

इस नकली दुनिया में ।

सब मतलब के साथी है ॥

कठीण समयपर वे मुँह मोड़कर जाते है ।

छुटे है सब रिश्ते नाते और संसार ॥

अब तेरे सिवा नहीं है !

मुझको किसीका आधार ॥

जब मैं दुख से बेचैन होती हूँ ।

उसी समय केवल तू ही ॥

मेरी रक्षा करता है ।

अब मुझमे सामर्थ्य नहीं है ॥

जो ए छुटा संसार करूँ ।

मेरी अखरी इच्छा है ॥

तेरे चरण की दासी बनकर ।

हमेशा तुम्हारे पास रहूँ ॥

और जबतक आंस मे श्वास है ।

अखण्ड तुम्हारी सेवा करूँ ॥

सौ. वसुंधरा रामराव चोरे

८०३ सी, लक्ष्मी भुवन, डॉ. आंबेडकर रोड, दादर मुंबई ४०० ०१४



तुम्हारे बगैर साई

तुम्हारे बगैर साई

क्या मेरी जीन्दगी है ।

तुम्हारे बगैर साई

जिन्दगी मेरी लाक है ।

तुम्हारे बगैर बेजान जिन्दगी

कैसे जीऊँ साई ?

भटक रहा था बेसहारा

तुम्हीने सहारा दिया साई ।

तुमही बन गये मेरे,

माता पिता बहन भाई ।

सखी सहेली बनकर साई

दुख दर्द मिटाया दिलका ।

लगा दी धून साई साई की

डगमगाती कदती संभाली ।

जब भी होता हूँ अबेला साई

तो होती है खुशी जी को ।

याद करके तुम्हे अकेले में

पुकारूँ दिल से तुम्ही को ।

रहे साया तुम्हारा साई

तो डर किस बात का मुझे ।

बस चाहता हूँ यही हरदम

याद तुम्हारे चरणों की रहे साई ।

डॉ. वाय्. एन्. हिबारे

सिंगार बाग मकान नं १-८-२५ बीदर,

पोस्ट और जिला बीदर, (कर्नाटक) ५८५४०१

भजन

कब दोगे दर्शन मोहे साईं, आस लगी है मुझको भारी
दिन रात लगान लगी मोहे, करम करो अब मोरे भाई
सबूर रहा ना अब जरा भी, छाई है चारों तरफ उदासी
विश्वास है मेरा तेरे चरणों मे, करता धरता सब ही मोहे
रुठो ना अब मोरे बाबा साईं, मैंने सबही हिमत हारी
तेरे बिना नही कोई सहारा, कोन देगा मुझको दिलासा
बिगडी के बनाने में मोरे, देर करो ना अब जरा भी
अच्छा भला करेगा कह दो, बेडा मेरा पार लगा दो
तेरे भरोसे जीवन बीत गया, हर समय पर दौड के आया
जब भी मैं ने पुकारा तुझको, एक ही क्षण में मदद को आया
अब क्यं नजर फेरली तुमने, कोई बात भी बन ना पावे
भूल अगर कुछ हुई हो मुझसे, माफी मांगता हूँ कान पकड के
तुम तो होना बाबा मोरे, बच्चे को अपने क्षमा करोगे
नही तो मैं रोऊंगा जोर से, सर पटकंगा चौकट पे तेरे
भगवन हो तुम मोरे बाबा साईं, बच्चों के मेरे तुम हो माई
रहम करो अब इन बच्चों पर, रुठो न तुम कभी भी इनपर
मैं ने तो यूं ही उमर गमाई, श्रद्धा बिना भक्ति मे तेरी
पत्थर बनू मै तेरे व्दार पे, छूते रहे जीसे चरण भक्तों के
यही अभिमान मुझको भारी, पडा रहूँ मैं चरणों में यूंही
साईंदास लक्ष्मण की यही आस है, पत्थर न हटे कभी व्दारसे

लक्ष्मण बापूराव रापतवार
रिटायर्ड ड्राफ्ट्समन किल्ला, वाटर वर्क्स नांदेड



साईं के शेर

साईंनाम का चमका सुरज धरती हुई आबाद
भूतल का तम दूर हुआ कोई नहीं फरियाद
जाग उठा कणकण धरती का भी साईं का नाम लिए
'अमन' गाए जा तूं भी गीत शब्दों का शृंगार लिए ।

विगुल बज उठा भी साईं का टकराएँ शब्द सितारों से
रौनक सी छाई शिडीं में भी साईं के आने से
ढोल, झांज, मृदंग भी गाएं उमड उठा है प्यार
हृदवीणा के आज 'अमन' झंकृत हो गए तार ।

कितना सुन्दर कितना पावन साईं का दरबार
बरसों से यहाँ हुआ है लाखों का उद्धार
चांद, सूर्य जबतक जीवित है, तबतक जीवित साईं
कोटि-कोटि सन्तन में पावन एक सन्त है साईं ।

दिया साईं ने मन्त्र अनोखा 'सबका मालिक एक'
'श्रद्धा-सबूरी अपना ले फिर होता है क्या देख
'भक्त मेरे-मैं भक्तों का' मन्त्र अनोखा सदा पढो
कर साईं की मानस-पूजा जीवतपथपर सदा बढो ।

साईंनाम का घोल के अमृत पी ले प्याला एक
मिट जाएगा दर्द तेरा मन्त्र यही बस एक
साईंनाम की शक्ति अद्भुत लाखों में है एक
'अमन' सन्त ना साईं सा किया सभी का नेक ।

डा. बी. जगत्पुरिया
पोस्ट विंचूर, जिला पुले ४२२३०५



धूप सरकती जाए

आंगन धूप सरकती जाए

मानव उमर न जाके आए ॥ ४ ॥

पल जो बीते राग रंग में या काटे मदिरा पी तूं ने
रीती रही हथेली तेरी ज्यों तूं गया था सरसों बोने

मानव क्या खाए क्या पाए

आंगन धूप सरकती जाए

मानव उमर न जाके आए ॥ १ ॥

पंचभूत के इस पुतले में क्या खुद तेरा है कुछ इस में
फिर क्यों इंद्रधनुष कह अपना खोज रहा सपना अम्बर में

प्रतिपल मोहजाल बढ जाए

आंगन धूप सरकती जाए

मानव उमर न जाके आए ॥ २ ॥

नीमतले इक रूप मनोहर आया घरती पे देह घरकर
शिरडी वाले जपते उसको प्रतिपल साईं-साईं कहकर

जो भजता वो आशीष पाए

आंगन धूप सरकती जाए

मानव उमर न जाके आए ॥ ३ ॥

अल्लाह और ईश्वर को लेके मानव क्यों वैमनस्य बढाए
एक ही मालिक है हम सबका मुख क्यों कर रार बढाए

साईं प्रीत की राह दिखाए

आंगन धूप सरकती जाए

मानव उमर न जाके आए ॥ ४ ॥

विजय

७६, पटौदी हाऊस, कैनिंग रोड, नई दिल्ली ११०००१

साई बाबा तुझे प्रणाम

हे शिरडी में रहने वाले,

साई बाबा तुझे प्रणाम ।

विपदायें जब सम्मुख आती,

लव पे आता तेरा नाम ।

विपदाओं को दूर भगाने वाले,

साई बाबा तुझे प्रणाम ।

नैया फसी मंझदार में जब,

साई तेरे भक्तों की,

उन भक्तों की नैया पार लगाना,

साई तेरा है ये काम ।

भवसागर से पार लगाने वाले,

साई बाबा तुझे प्रणाम ।

अपने भक्तों की रक्षा का,

अवसर कभी न खोते साई ।

दीन, दुःखी और रोगी का,

सहारा है यह शिर्डी धाम

हे भक्तजनों के रक्षक साई,

तुझको बारम्बार प्रणाम ।

हे शिरडी में रहने वाले,

साई बाबा तुझे प्रणाम ।

कु. बिन्दु त्रिपाठी

कोठी बाजार, नैतूल (म. प्र.) ४६० ००१

साई बाबा तुझे प्रणाम

हे शिरडी में रहने वाले,
साई बाबा तुझे प्रणाम ।
विपदायें जब सम्मुख आती,
लब पे आता तेरा नाम ।
विपदाओं को दूर भगाने वाले,
साई बाबा तुझे प्रणाम ।
नैया फसी मंझदार में जब,
साई तेरे भक्तों की,
उन भक्तों की नैया पार लगाना,
साई तेरा है ये काम ।
भवसागर से पार लगाने वाले,
साई बाबा तुझे प्रणाम ।
अपने भक्तों की रक्षा का,
अवसर कभी न खोते साई ।
दीन, दुःखी और रोगी का,
सहारा है यह शिडी धाम ।
हे भक्तजनों के रक्षक साई,
तुझको बारम्बार प्रणाम ।
हे शिरडी में रहने वाले,
साई बाबा तुझे प्रणाम ।

कु. बिन्दु त्रिपाठी
कोठी बाजार, बैतूल (म. प्र.) ४६० ००१

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