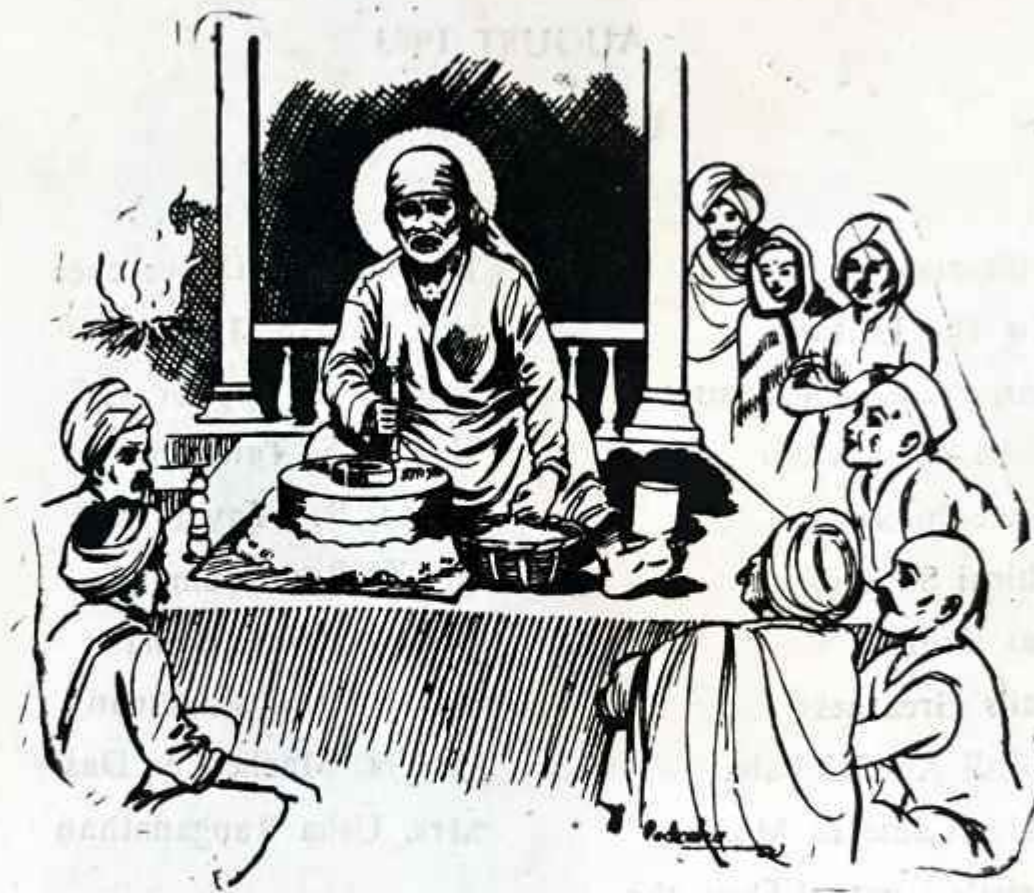


SHRI SAILEELA

Official Organ of Shirdi Sansthan



MIRACLE OF DRIVING AWAY THE CHOLERA EPIDEMIC

Once Cholera epidemic broke out in Shirdi. The helpless people ran to Baba for relief. Baba ground wheat in the grinding stone in Dwarkamai. The village women also lent Him a helping hand in grinding the wheat. Shri Baba was beckoning God all the time to save his children. Then He asked the village women to throw the wheat-flour on the outskirts of Shirdi village. The epidemic was thus ground by Shri Baba in the grinding stone and it was driven away.

August 1983

श्री साईनाथ वाचनालय
श्री साईनाथ संस्थान, शिर्डी.

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SHRI SAILEELA

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The Path of Deliverance

The Hindu philosophy essentially looks upon life not as means to enjoy the pleasures of this world, but as a means to get deliverance from the cycle of birth and death. In this connection we have also to remember that what is now known as the Hindu philosophy is really the Vedic philosophy inherited by the people, who are now known as Hindus, from the ancient rishis. The name Hindu was given to the people in India by the people staying in the Middle East and Europe. In those days the only approach to India by land for the aforesaid people was through the Khaibar pass. So the travellers, who came to India (Bharat) in those days by this route, immediately after entering Bharat saw the wide bed of the Sindhu river and the course of that river impressed them much. So all the people from the aforesaid nations called the people of Bharat as the people from the country of Sindhu river; but the word "Sindhu" was pronounced by them in their own way as "Hindu" and thus the people of Bharat, who were formerly known as Vedic Aryas or mere later on came to be known as Hindus and this name which was given to the Aryas by the foreign people got confirmed and all over the world the ancient Aryas are now known as Hindus. Even in early days, the country between the Vindhya mountain on the south and the Himalayas on the north was for a long time known as "Aryawarta" and not Hindustan as it is now known.

This Vedic philosophy forms a foundation of all the religions that have sprang up in India. Buddhism and Jainism are two

main religions that have a good religious literature and philosophy of their own. If we scan the philosophy of these two religions, then we come to know that they also do not lay stress on the enjoyment of pleasures; but they try to guide the people towards Nirvana or moksha. Bhagwan Buddha renounced all the pleasures of the palace in order to go in search of truth and real knowledge. He got enlightenment under the Bodhi tree and thus prince Siddhartha became Bhdha (the enlightened one). The teachings of Bhagwan Buddha are against falling a pray to sensuous pleasures and in favour of leading a simple life, which would lead to Nirvana. The teachings of the Jain Terthankars were also not in favour of fondling the body with pleasures; but they were in favour of torturing the body with fast and penance. In fact many Terthankars cast away their mortal coil with fasts lasting for months together. In order to avoid the killing of so many living beings, the Jains have been advised to suffer so many inconveniences in their daily life.

It will thus be seen that the ultimate aim of the Vedic philosophy was deliverance and all the religions that have the Vedic philosophy as their base have also given the same advice to their followers. In the western world also ancient philosophers like Socrates, Aristotle and Plato and modern philosophers like Mill, Spencer etc. have given a thought to the aim of human life in general and they have also never advised the human beings to waste their whole life after mere sensuous pleasures. Human nature normally wants to go after pleasures; but going after pleasures does not elevate the life to a high level. That is done by doing something else. This was realised by the western philosophers also and therefore they also cautioned the people against overindulgence in pleasures. Of course, as the theory of rebirth and the effect of good or bad deeds, done by the human beings in this birth, on the life in the next birth, was not conceived by the western philosophers in the same way in which it is conceived in the Vedic philosophy, the aim of life has not been quite identical in the west and east.

Having thus come to know the aim of life as laid down in the Vedic philosophy, we naturally become inquisitive to know how this was put into practice through the ages. In the Sai Satcharita, written by Shri Annasaheb Dabholkar, it is stated how this goal of deliverance used to be achieved in the bygone ages and how we should move towards that goal in the present age. In chapter three Shri Dabholkar writes,

ऋतयुगीं जे प्राप्त 'ध्यान' । त्रेती 'यजने' द्वापारी 'भर्चने' । ते प्राप्त सर्व 'नाम संकीर्तने' । गुरुभजने कलियुगीं ॥ २७ ॥ ऋतयुगीं 'शमदम' । त्रेती 'यजन' द्वापारीं 'पूजन' । कलियुगीं 'नाम कथाकीर्तन' । स्वल्प साधन परमार्था ॥ ५३ ॥

(All that which was achieved by meditation in Krityuga, by sacrifice in Tretyuga, by worship in Dwaparayuga, is achieved in the Kaliyuga by chanting of name and bhajan of the Guru (27) The means for achieving religious merit in Krityuga was pacification and control, in Tretyuga it was 'sacrifice' in Dwaparayuga it was 'worship' and in Kaliyuga it is chanting of name and stories (53).

In the above two verses Shri Dabholkar has described the different ways that were being followed during the different yugas in order to achieve religious merit. He says that in the Krityuga it was obtained by ध्यान (Meditation) and शमदम (Pacification and control), in the Tretyuga it was earned by performing sacrifices, in the Dwaparyuga people used to perform worship and obtain religious merit and in the end he says that in the Kaliyuga the same merit can be obtained by the people by counting the beads (नामसंकीर्तन), telling or listening to the stories of God and singing the bhajan of Guru.

It will thus be seen that all along the goal viz obtaining religious merit with the ulterior aim of getting deliverance, remained the same; but the means of obtaining the merit have been different through the yugas. This is perhaps due to the change in the circumstances and the development of civilization by which certain more facilities were available or in later ages the daily life became

fast and thus the people at large were embarrassed by the shortage of time. Krityuga starts from the earliest day from which we started counting the years. In this yuga the civilization of the Aryans had not developed much. They were also a sort of a nomadic race. Hence they undertook some religious practices for realizing God, which could be observed anywhere without much paraphernalia. Meditation could be practised anywhere without much preparation. In the primitive stage of the human civilization the natural instincts of man are very powerful and the need for controlling them is felt the more in such a society. Hence the control over the natural human instincts was included in religion in order to have social prosperity. Thus ध्यान and शमदम were the means to achieve deliverance in the Krityuga.

In the Tretyuga we meet an advanced society, which settled down in the plains along the river basins. Agriculture had also advanced and along with that the rearing of the cattle was also being done by the society. Hence the former ways of propitiating God singly or in seclusion were substituted by the sacrifices. The former leader of a clan or a group had now become a king. He had good resources at his command and he could therefore make available all sorts of material and men required for sacrifices. An elaborate procedure of sacrifices was therefore developed by the priests and later on various types of sacrifices were contemplated to appease and please different Gods. Every sacrifice had a different sort of fruit and therefore for achieving different objects different sacrifices were undertaken. For getting children for having victory over an enemy, for getting rain and for many other such objects in view, different sacrifices used to be performed. Of course, ultimately the object of all these sacrifices used to be to please and propitiate some God and therefore while stating the main way of worshipping God in the Tretyuga Shri Dabholkar says that यज्ञ (sacrifice) was the watchword of this yuga. In this yuga the people fully believed that the only way of deliverance from the cycle of birth and death was performing a sacrifice and

thus pleasing God. The third yuga is Dwaparayuga. In this yuga अर्चन and पूजन (worship) was recommended to the people as a means for propitiating God. We have to follow the advancement of civilization through the ages. As the four yugas are described to follow each other in a serial order, we have to consider the progress of civilization along with the march of time. As civilization advances, the ideas of the people undergo a change. Their beliefs also similarly change and this results in the change of their practices. Therefore the ध्यान of Kritiyuga and the यजन of the Tretyuga was substituted in this Yuga by अर्चन or पूजन. With the lapse of time, civilization also advanced further in the Dwaparayuga than where it was in the previous viz. the Tretyuga. The kings that we met in the Tretyuga had now vast resources at their command. They had architects and artizans in their kingdoms. The priests, who were honoured much by the kings, found out different Gods with different powers, which they were ready to bestow upon a worshipper if he worshipped Them or if he built a temple for Them. In this manner many temples came to be built for different Gods and deities and their worship in public or private became very popular as a means of observance of religion, which would earn merit for the worshipper, who would ultimately get deliverance from the cycle of birth and death through this worship. It must be because of some such circumstances that the means of acquiring religious merit must have been concentrated on अर्चन or पूजन in the Dwaparayuga.

Kali Yuga

The last of the yugas is the Kaliyuga in which we are living. As the persons living in this yuga we are primarily concerned with the easy way of acquiring merit and achieving the goal of deliverance. If we follow the track of the advice which gives the different means followed in the past yugas, we see that नामसंकीर्तन, गुरुभजन and नामकथाकीर्तन have been described by Shri Dabholkar as the ways of bhakti, which should be followed in the Kaliyuga.

We have seen before how with the advancement of human civilization the resources of man increased. How his ideas changed with the lapse of time and thus how the means of travelling on the path of deliverance changed from time to time.

We know from our own experience and from the information that we gather from abroad how the pattern of life has changed altogether with the advancement of the Kaliyuga. The modern civilization means a very fast life. There is no time to sit and think or meditate. Therefore the old ways of thinking of God by sitting in quiet meditation cannot be followed in the present yuga. We do not have time for performing sacrifices, which required a number of days. There is no time even for conducting worship which lasts for a long time. Taking into consideration these changed circumstances, more easy ways of propitiating God have been found out and prescribed in the Kaliyuga for the common man. Even now there are some blessed souls, who remain in secluded places in jungles, in mountain caves and go on meditating on God and propitiating Him in the ways in which it was being done in bygone yugas; but these souls are more or less exceptions in the the Kaliyuga. We have to think of the common man and the things which are within his reach. - Counting of beads, chanting the name, performing the bhajan of the Guru, singing the praises of God and telling and listening to His stories are the ways which a common man can follow very easily. It must be because of this that lord Krishna also has described (भक्तियोग) in the twelfth canto of the Bhagwadgeet after describing ज्ञानयोग, सांख्ययोग, सन्न्यासयोग, कर्मयोग etc in the earlier chapters of that book. Lord Krishna has described there that this yoga (भक्तियोग) is very easy to practise. It appears that the common man of the Kaliyuga might be before the vision of the Lord when he described this path of devotion with a note that it is simpler than the other yogas described by Him in the earlier chapters.

Shri Sai Baba has guided us how this counting of beads, chanting of name and bhajan should be done and has also described

the fruit that we will get from that. In chapter three of the Sai Satcharit Shri Sai Baba says, 'वरी एक सांगतो शामा । प्रेमें चेईल जो मन्नामा । त्याच्या मी सकल कामा । पुरवीं प्रेमा वाढवीं ॥११॥'. He further describes the result of chanting His name as follows :-

“साई साईति नामस्मरण । करील सकल कलिमलदहन । वाणीश्रवणगतपाप-भंजन । एक लोटांगण घालितां ॥२०॥” We Sai devotees thus have a clear indication from Shri Sai Baba that chanting His name is the sure way to do away with the sins of Kaliyuga and it will remove the sin that we may commit through our speech (वाणी) or hearing (श्रवण). Let us therefore follow this path of chanting the name of Shri Sai Baba which is the sure and certain path of deliverance from the cycle of birth and death in this Kaliyuga. ★



To
The Editor, Shri Sai Leela,

Accept my congratulations for the excellent editorial "Rebirth" in June 1983 issue of Shri Sai Leela magazine. Indeed, you have done full justice to the Hindu philosophy of life by publishing it the Shri Sai Leela magazine. Not only did I appreciate it but it has been liked immensely by other readers here.

I am glad that you are serving the noblest cause of Shri Sai Baba.

Every number of the magazine is replete with interesting and readable stories.

Please convey my personal regards to the members of the staff of the magazine.

With thanks.

Yours sincerely,

Vaman H. Pandit

Journalist/Writer & Contributor of Shri Sai Leela Magazine
17, -Khatipura Road, Indore City, (M. P.)

Sai, Peerless Saviour

Shirdi Sai Baba, the unique Godman, always responds to His devotees' genuine prayers. If spectacular progress is to be achieved, you have only just to turn to Him follow the Sai-ideals and pray to Him.

Sai Leela magazine also plays a role in that it inspires, informs, educates and guides the Sai-devotees by offering its pages for spread of Sai-ideals.

My first contact with Him was in 1979. Since then, He is my anchor - my Sadguru !

One day I silently literally wept before His photo and prayed to Him to re-establish my contact with His Holiness Shri Ganapathi Sachchidananda Swamiji, a Saint endowed with "Siddhi" and whom I had first beheld in 1975 and took him as my Family Guru. I was indeed overwhelmed when Sai had fulfilled my spiritual desire in no time. Since then, I'm in constant touch with Swamiji. By Saigrace, I had had even the Sailuck to perform "Pada Seva" to Jagat Guru Sankaracharya of Jyotirmath, presently Dwaraka peeth, through the Saiagency of Advocate T. C. Jainji.

Our Sai had perhaps felt that I should be put in touch with His devotees for my spiritual progress. For, one fine morning, I received 2 unsolicited letters from (T. A.) Ram Nathenji (Sarangabad) in appreciation of my articles published in the back-numbers of Sai Leela magazine. Through him, Sai set the ball rolling and now it has resulted in a longdrawn chain of Sai-Brothers almost encompassing the whole of "Bharat". To name a few notable ones, T. R. Anandji, Adya Prasad Tripathiji & Professor B. L. Giteji (Betul), K. Navin Chanderji & Reddyji (Hyderabad), J. P. Khannaji (Chandigarh), R. Radhakrishnanji (Hubli), A. N. Ramaswamji (Bangalore), P. L. Goyalji (Garkhal) and Junnarkarji of "Mission Divine"-fame.

This association has resulted in my receiving complimentary spiritual books and material help from them in pure devotion to our Sai Baba. This has also become a possibility because of the Editor's Policy of publishing the full addresses of the contributors to this magazine. Sai Leela thus promotes Sai-warmth. To cite a very recent example, I received unsolicited the Hindi biography of Shirdi Sai Baba, Mission Divine (Priced Rs. 45.00) from (T. A.) Ram Nathenji (Sarangabad) thro' Junnarkarji's good office. It is after reading this book, I have fully grasped the Sai-philosophy. How I wish, in due time, I also follow Nathenji in putting Sai-philosophy into practice by contributing a certain percentage of my salary for feeding the winged-friends, and helping the needy ones with spiritual books and material benefits.

Saigace, like the sunlight, showers on all equally. Only you have to free your mind from the clouds of doubts. My chum Khannji had a near-fatal fall some time back resulting in multiple fractures, not sparing his backbone either. Orthopaedic treatment failed. He was on the pangs of death and in deep anguish. He turned to me and I advised him to seek Saigrace. Who will not? His prayers were so earnest that he slowly and steadily recovered only to sing the Sai-glories morning and evening.

It is said misfortune visits one in tandem. I was informed that one of my sisters-in-law was experiencing difficulty in getting a suitable match for her elder daughter and also funds. Since she was gravely concerned, my suggestion to resort to our Sai worked and soon she achieved her aim. Her daughter and Sai-devotee son-in-law paid their obeisance to Sai Baba at Shirdi soon after their marriage was solemnised.

Only very recently, I had performed "Parayana" of Sai Sachcharita. It took me full 3 weeks and exactly on the closing day, a Sufi Fakir knocked at our door and requested my wife Satya for food, lungi and "dakshina". We were Saihappy to concede to all his requests and while parting he, in true Sai-style,

placed his large palm on my head, my wife's and daughter Rachna's head turn by turn and blessed us. Could he be Shirdi Sai Baba in disguise as He very often reveals Himself in disguise?

Shirdi Sai Baba may not be with us physically; but truly He is with us spiritually! Jai Sai-Ram! ★

P. K. Kapoor,
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Baba - A Saviour

Shri Sai Baba declared to His staunch devotee, Shama, "If a man utters my name with love, I shall fulfil all his wishes, increase his devotion. It is my special characteristic to free any person who surrenders completely to me and who does worship me faithfully and who remembers me and meditates on me constantly. The simple remembrance of my name as "Sai Sai" will do away with sins of speech and hearing" (Chap. III of Sai Satcharita).

Only the simple remembrance of His name "Sai-Sai" in my mind, at all times, has saved me from the danger of death recently on 30-10-1982. When I even think over the scene, it looks quite horrible.

Usually, I pray to Baba everyday while leaving my residence, "to reach me safely to my destination and to bring me home safely".

On that day I went to my office and worked till the end of the day. Thereafter I went to the Radio station all the way to meet my friends as usual. After meeting my friends, I returned to go home.

While crossing a road near the Radio station on my cycle, a car unnoticably rushed up and dashed at the back side of my

cycle. I fainted due to sudden shock and fell down in front of the two tyres of the car. Noticing this the driver of the car suddenly applied the brakes. Otherwise, I would have died on the spot; but Baba saved me from the unnatural death. Due to my good fortune also, I was saved from the danger of fracture in this age (i. e. 44 years). Anyhow now I am alright by the grace of Baba.

I intended to go to Shirdi before Divali. But due to this unexpected accident my programme was cancelled.

Baba is my saviour. All the brother bhaktas of Baba are requested in this connection, to spare some of their valuable time to worship Baba, who is always with us and who is omnipresent, omnipotent and omniscient. He grants his devotees their wishes and appears even when a devotee just thinks of Him in his mind and heart with perfect concentration and devotion. ★

B. S. Tatapudi

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Tune In Sai

I just recieved a letter from Sai Brother, Mr. T. A. Rama Nathan from Sarangabad in which he had added a postscript :-

“Tune in 25, you get Radio Ceylon
Tune in Sai, you get Sai-grace alone”

How true a statement it is? I was just pondering over two incidents in the the year 1982 in which Sai-grace saved me in time.

I am working in Malnad area of Karnataka, which is known for rainfall, rich greenery, picturesque hills, beautiful natural scenery. June-July-August are the months when it rains cats and dogs and we sometimes do not see the sun at all.

7th July 1982 - was a fateful day for me. I was going on my Bullet Motorcycle from my residence in Yelemadlu estate to the hospital in Karkicondah, which is 4 kms away. I had to pass through a hilly road full of ups and downs, topsy-turvy curves and dense forest all around. As it was raining incessantly, even though I was wearing a helmet and a raincoat, I was almost drenched. Even though it was around 9 am, still mist was present.

After my marriage I have reduced my speed from 90 km to almost half of it and sometimes even less than that. As I was riding I suddenly heard a big sound - a tall hefty tree falling on me! The uprooted tree and the sound made me dazed and I lost control of the byke. I cried out for my saviour 'Sai Ram' and applied brakes unknowingly. I thought my end had come. Simultaneously the tree fell across the road with a big bang and my byke too hit the fallen tree-trunk with the engine getting off. It was all in a fraction of a second and I was thrown off the vehicle. It was all a razor's edge that I escaped being jammed by the tree.

Slowly I got up and looked around. I was practically unhurt and the byke was also damaged very little. I returned to the shop close by and from there rang up our Estate Manager to send a rescue team to remove the road block. It was an old tree and possibly it might have been uprooted by the fast wind and rainfall. A glance at its trunk, which had a diameter of more than five feet, made me shudder as I could imagine what would have happened if I was caught beneath it!

I am definite that it is Sai's ever-vigilant grace on me that timed my byke to stop suddenly which itself is a great miracle.

Three months later, I had a similar experience. It was the 13th October 1982. I wanted to meet one of my friends, Dr. G. R. Ganesha Rao, who is practising in Shanthigram - a village 20 km from our place. Since my motorcycle was out of order,

I took our Company byke (an Yezdi) and took my assistant, Mr. Mingely D'Souza to go to Shanthigram.

After meeting Dr. Ganesha Rao, I was returning. I had to get down a hillock and then to cross a small bridge. As I was riding downwards, suddenly the byke started going in a zig-zag manner (fortunately there was no traffic) and I lost control over it. I was also frantic and could hear my Assistant's yelling 'sir' 'sir'. I thought the vehicle would hit the culvert and both of us will have a watery grave in the stream 50 feet below. I cried out for Sai's help, before we were thrown off the vehicle.

The byke had a puncture of the rear wheel and this was the cause for its zig-zag running. We were on the right side of the bridge and the vehicle had just hit the culvert. Both of us were saved by Lord Sainath's grace.

Sometime later a forest guard, who was also riding an Yezdi byke, had a puncture of the rear wheel and hit the culvert and had an instant death.

Tune in Sai, you get Sai grace alone!

★

Dr. G. R. Vijayakumar, Medical Officer
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Shirdi Sai Vibhuthi Leela

Smt. P. Gauri, wife of Shri P. Hanumanth Rao is a resident of Warasiguda, Secunderabad. As there was great difficulty during her first delivery, Smt. Gauri had to undergo an operation. Unfortunately even after bearing the painful operation, the baby did not survive. The doctors then declared that even during her second delivery she must undergo an operation. Her first operation and the dead baby itself disappointed and frightened Gauri and the thought of a second operation was more shocking to her.

By the grace of God, in the year 1980, Smt. Gauri was pregnant for the second time. As her date of confinement was nearing, Smt. Gauri was grief stricken of undergoing the operation. Unable to see the melancholy state of her daughter, Smt. Gauri's mother approached Sadguru Dr. Sai Kumar and requested him to save her daughter from the operation. Consoling the lady, Sadguru said, "Don't worry, with Baba's blessings your daughter will have an easy confinement." Bestowing courage, Sadguru gave her a packet of Shirdi Sai Baba's vibhuthi and instructed her to apply a little of the vibhuthi on her daughter's forehead and stomach everyday chanting "Om Sai Shirdi Sai Dwarakamai" eleven times.

Gauri was very happy thinking of what Sadguru had said. At last the day for Gauri's confinement arrived. It was on the 23rd February 1981 Gauri was admitted in "Sreedevi Maternity Home." Unfortunately, Gauri's happiness took an unfavourable turn. After checking up Gauri, the doctors declared that she must undergo an operation, Panic-stricken Gauri lost all hopes on Baba's vibhuthi and tears began to roll down her cheeks. Gauri thought that Baba was not coming to her rescue,

Gauri was made to wear the operation dress and was taken to the operation theatre. The thought of a dead baby which

kept whirling in her mind made her extremely sorrowful. Gauri was lying in the operation theatre, sobbing with grief, for Baba's vibhuthi being helpless to her.

To the utter amazement of all the doctors, Gauri forgot her sorrow. She had a vision of Baba laughing aloud on the wall opposite her. Never in her life time did Gauri have a vision of Baba before. As Baba kept laughing aloud, Gauri also kept laughing aloud and in her laughter she forgot all her labour pains and suffering. Gauri was swimming in bliss looking at Baba laughing on the wall. In her moments of extreme joy and laughter at exactly 8.30 p. m. Gauri delivered a bonny baby boy. All the doctors and nurses in the operation theatre were spell-bound. With joyful tears streaming down she told all the amazed doctors of Baba laughing. But the doctors neither saw anyone there not was there a picture of God on the four walls of the operation theatre. Gauri realized that it was the merciful Baba who saved her from undergoing the operation and even blessed her with a bonny baby boy.

Since then Smt. Gauri has firm faith in Baba her Saviour. Her child Sreedhar is now 1 year 5 months old. Both the mother and child are now in good health and happy.

Till today, Baba's vibhuthi is working wonders, Though Baba attained Maha Samadhi in 1981, he is executing the second part of his mission from his Maha Samadhi and vibhuthi. This mission of Baba will continue for ever and ever. The days have changed, man has changed and even the world has changed, but the Leelas of Sai Baba still continue to be the same. Never will they change, never will they cease.

Let us all bow unto the great soul Shirdi Sai Baba and pray for strength to keep ourselves away from evil thoughts and deeds and to ever remain at the service of His Lotus Feet. ✨

Dr. K. Ram Kumar

Lane Opposite Veterinary Hospital (Bhoiguda), Beside Thungabhadra Industries, Padmaraonagar Secunderabad 25 (A.P.)

SAI KRIPA

Sai is ever loving and showers His blessings on His bhaktas and knows when to fulfill their desires. When His grace falls on us our desires are fulfilled effortlessly. But we should continue to put forth our efforts and wait for His grace. Unless He desires we cannot have our wishes fulfilled. If we have firm belief in Him, He takes it on Himself to do the needful at the time He decides. Here is an incident in our life to prove this.

I am connected with the All India Sai Samaj, Mylapore, Madras for the last four years and I visit the Sai temple there every year and pray for His blessings. Shri Subba Rao garu of the Samaj encouraged me to visit Shirdi. I had decided to do so. My trials for the last three years did not bear any fruit. But with faith in Him I continued my efforts.

During April 1982, when we were contemplating the marriage of my son, we both decided to visit Shirdi. The marriage proposals came to a sudden halt, as we had received a negative reply from the bride's father. So we wanted to avail of the holidays for our proposed 'Shirdi yathra'. We went to the railway station on the 18th April and we could easily get accommodation by the Navajeevan Express on 5th May. We were preparing for our journey. On 20th we got a letter from the bride's father (Nellore) expressing his sincere regrets for his previous letter and requesting us to go over to Nellore to see the bride. As desired we went to Nellore on 27th and everything could be settled within a matter of minutes. We told them about our 'Shirdi Yathra'. It was decided to have further talks after our return from Shirdi.

Just two days before our departure we received a letter of 9 pages from Shri T. Kesava Rao, President, A. I. S. S., Madras describing the various important places of visit in and around

Shirdi. He was kind enough to enclose with it a letter of introduction to Shri Kakresaheb. This was in response to my letter requesting him to guide us in our 'Yathra'.

We started on the 5th May and reached Shirdi by 10-30 A. M. on the 6th (we travelled upto Manmad for our reservation to Hyderabad by the Ajanta express. Hence the delay) The Sansthan authorities were very helpful to us. See our fortune we could get a room just in front of 'Gurusthan'.

Dr. Shri Hari Rao of Tirupati closely known to a friend of mine had been at Shirdi for the last three months. (We had no personal acquaintance with him) We wanted to meet him there. After arati that afternoon we sat before Baba in the main hall. One bhakta was telling a group of people before him about Shri Sai Baba and Shirdi. He was talking to them in Telugu. We took him to be the Tirupati doctor. We made enquiries. To our surprise and happiness he was Shree J. V. Subbaiah, Lecturer Ongole who came there with his parents and they were our neighbours at Ongole. (Incidentally he is responsible for the construction and maintenance of Shree Sai temple in Kothapata, Ongole.) We could meet his parents in Dwarakamai that evening. As we were chatting, a woman with three children came to me and said, "Namaste Sir." I was taken aback. I did not remember to have seen her before. She was my student a long time ago. She came there from Chirala (Andhra Pradesh) with her husband and children for Shirdi Yathra. What a happy occasion! I could meet many Andhra devotees during my short stay there.

On enquiry Shri Subbaiah told me how to recognise our Tirupati Doctor. He said, "you can see him at Dwarakamai or at the Samadhi Mandhir during arati. You can easily recognise him. He always carries his Sai Saccharit wrapped in a Bhagwa (Safroon) cloth". The same evening we could easily find out doctor. Our attraction to him was like a piece of iron

to a magnet. We were attracted naturally. During our three days stay at Shirdi he was always with us and he introduced us to all the important people in Shirdi. He was our 'guide' at Shirdi. We had a brief but pious stay there for three days praying Shri Sai and performing poojas

On our way back we visited Hyderabad, Bhadrachalam and Vijayawada. The journey was memorabale for we had no difficulties at all and we could be back at Tirupati on 20th as scheduled.

Of course the marriage went on perfectly well without any hitch. The bride's family is also devoted to Shri Sai. We at present are preparing for a visit to Nellore to attend the Sai Devotees' convention at Nellore, to be held on 7th, 8th and 9th January 1982.

Our long felt desire was fulfilled by the grace of Shri Sai without whose will and guidance we could not have gone there. He gave us an opportunity to meet His other devotees, who were known to us. We have a plan to visit Shirdi again during May this Year. We pray Shri Sai to bless us as usual and to have our desire fulfilled. ★

K. Ramakrishna Sastri
Tirupati (A. P.)



Sai's Greatness

At the invitation of Shri Sivanna, owner of Sai Mandir at Arsikere (Karnataka), Sai devotees from Hubli were attending the annual functions of "poor marriages" conducted in Sai Mandir there every year. By Baba's grace, I attended the same alongwith other Sai devotees from 21-12-82 to 22-12-82.

Elaborate arrangements were made by Shri Sivanna and his dutiful sons, grand-sons etc. to conduct the functions on a grand scale as usual (as is done every year). Before going to our lodgings, we went to the Mandir to take darshan of Shri Baba. As soon as I entered the Mandir, I found that I was actually at Shirdi as the marble statue of Baba, installed there, resembled that of Baba at Shirdi with the healthy surroundings. I was surprised to find huge crowd waiting in queue to draw water from the well situated within the Mandir. Shri Sivanna told me that he keeps the Mandir open day & night for the people to take water from the well as the water in the surrounding areas is salt and unfit for drinking. This is Baba's Mahima!! I immediately remembered how our Bhagwan Shri Sai turned brackish water into sweet one by throwing flowers into 'Lendi Baug well' in Shirdi. All praise to our Sadguru Sainath Maharaj.!!

As announced in the papers, Sai Maha Mandal, Hubli did 'Bhajan' from 7 PM to 9 PM on 21-12-82. When I was in a high pitch (at the top of my voice in singing Bhajan) first I looked at the left corner where I saw a poor Fakir with chimta in his hand enjoying the Bhajan. I was attracted to him very often and wished that he should remain there till the end. But, I saw him going away from the 'auditorium'. I felt sorry and I thought in my mind that he is going away because nobody respected him, including myself as he was clad in poor and dirty clothes. As soon as I saw him, I should have gone and prostrated at his lotus feet. But the ego and prestige in me prevented me to do so. Alas! A golden opportunity is lost in life!! Throughout the night on 21-12-82, I was in a sorrowful mood brooding over for not recognising Baba in the Bhajan, having failed to follow Baba's advice, "See God in all beings, both animate and inanimate".

Next day on 22-12-82, Baba's photo was placed in a well decorated palanquin and a procession was taken out throughout Arsikere town from 11 A. M. to 2-30 PM. After passing two streets, a Hindu Sadhu appeared and shouted "Shri Sai Baba ki

Jai" in a loud voice. I immediately fell at his feet and he was moving away quickly from the crowd. I followed him and in a second he entered a nearby restaurant and disappeared. I was looking inside all over the restaurant but he was not found. (This happened when other Sai devotees of Hubli left me and went to drink water in a hotel). So Baba fulfilled my desire by giving me 'darshan' again on 22-12-82 and blessed me. I wish to share this joy and happiness alongwith other devotees. I am sure every Sai devotee is being blessed by our Sadguru Shri Sainath in one way or the other.

Another happy event that took place on 22-12-82 was as follows :-

As announced in local news papers - A Sai Bhajan party from Davangere was to perform Bhajan from 7 P. M. to 9 P. M. on that day. But, Shri Sivanna received a telegram from the Davangere party stating that some of the party members fell ill and could not be present. Shri Sivanna came at 6-30 PM and requested us to help him. We immediately responded and did Bhajan from 7 to 9 PM. The Hubli party had to stop the Bhajan half heartedly on 21-12-82 at 9 PM. as we were prepared to do Bhajan at least for 3 to 4 hours on that day having three to four good singers in our midst. So Baba fulfilled our desire 22-12-82 by this Leela (miracle) i.e. the Davangere party not being able to come over there on 22-12-82 as previously announced in papers.

To conclude for the present, let us, Sai devotees, always remember Baba with love and devotion and always chant His name to get His darshan off and on, ★

R. Radhakrishnan

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Shirdi Ke Sai Baba

I had seen the Hindi film "Shirdi Ke Sai Baba". This picture does not depict in it the whole life history of "Lord Shri Sai Baba". No doubt some miracles, performed by the Lord are exhibited in the film; but this does not shed sufficient and required light on all the miracles and various incidents that occurred during the life-time of Baba.

Since mythological films are very important and powerful means to educate people on divine aspects, I request the film producers to gather full and complete literature on Shri Sai Baba by way of collecting the required particulars from various authentic contributions and the official organ of Shirdi Sansthan. Just like "Sampoorna Ramayana" there should be a complete picture of Lord Shri Sai Baba, right from the inception to the date of taking Samadhi. This way would not only meet the aspirations of Sai devotees in particular but would attract a good number of audience who heard about Baba but who could not visit Shirdi due to their poor financial status. For such people a complete biography of Baba through a film may serve very useful and informative guide at a very nominal charge.

The film to be produced should in one scene include all the Sai devotees who actually served Baba during his life. These devotees are available at Shirdi and other places. In another scene apart from "Samadhi Mandir" other worth seeing places at Shirdi such as "Gurusthan", "Dwarakamai", "Lendi Bag", "Sai Prasad Bhojan Hall" etc. should be shown.

My special appeal to the film producers is that the title of the picture may kindly be chosen as "Sai Leela" just like "Rama Leela" and "Krishna Leela".

I hope the above suggestions of mine may prove valuable to one and all. ★

N. Machender Das

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Baba Came To Me

A Guru never fails his devotees. After all human life is full of challenges - pain and pleasure, as a result of one's past prarabdha. Steadfast faith in the Guru certainly helps the devotee to overcome obstacles in life.

At no time, as present, has there been so much need for the uplifting presence of great men amongst us and for their guidance in our affairs. While all may not be fortunate enough to be in continuous contact with such great souls, nevertheless even a report of their lives and sayings is often enough to lift our thoughts towards the higher verities of life and to restore the scale of values, which we have left crumbling in our trivial pre-occupations. The continuity of the fundamental values of our civilisation has been maintained through the ages because of the presence of such saints in our midst and the reverence and attention with which they have been received. One such great saint was Shri Sai Baba, who adorned Shirdi till October 1918.

In January 1983, I was presented with a coloured picture of Sai Baba the very sight of which had fascinated me. I was inspired to read books and hear more about Baba and this has impressed my outlook on life for good. Since then Baba has been my saviour and hope, and has unfailingly come to my rescue in times of crisis.

Since two years, myself and my husband (Dr. R. J. Ranganathan) are staying at Koppa in Malenad of Karnataka. My husband is a Medical officer of Koppa, Chikmagalur.

Baba came to me on two occasions in April 1983 and I am recounting them here with His grace, for the benefit of 'Shri Sai Leela' readers.

It all happened on the 7th of April 1983. I was invited to attend a 'Naga Prathista' ceremony at a village 20 miles from

our place. Since my husband could not come, I attended the function along with a friend of mine, Miss Vani.

The function was in the evening and arrangements were made for a car to pick me and my friend back. Due to some confusion, the car, which should have taken us back, left a little early, leaving behind myself and my friend.

It was getting dark and there was no bus service at that time. We had to pass through a dense forest also. Our hosts were also helpless. They implored us to stay back that night and leave next morning; but my presence back home was essential as my husband was proceeding to Bangalore that night and I had to arrange his kit. Moreover my friend had also informed her mother that she would positively return before dark.

Not knowing what to do, I sincerely prayed to Sai Baba to help me out of that situation. Our position was delicate, as my friend was almost frantic to go back. In the heart of heart I was definite that Baba would answer my prayers.

Baba did rescue us! In a few minutes, a lorry came along and stopped near us. We expressed our difficulty. The lorry was transporting buffaloes and there were already six people seated in the cabin. The driver expressed his helplessness and was about to start leaving us behind. I once again mentally called out to Sai Baba to make the driver take us. Baba did reply.

Out of sympathy, the driver and his co-passengers adjusted. Both myself and my friend squeezed in. It is needless to say that we reached our homes safe. Incidentally it was a Thursday -Baba's day.

Two weeks later Sai Baba came to me again on a Thursday in the form of a serpent. I had been to my cousin's place in a tea estate which is 20 km from our place. They are sincere devotees of Lord Sainath and in fact the couple (Dr Vijayakumar and Mrs. Seetha) are regular contributors to Shri Sai Leela magazine.

It was 28th April 1983. I went to my cousin's estate in the morning itself to spend the entire day there. After lunch,

Sai-brother Vijayakumar, a firm devotee of Sai Baba, was telling me as to how Sainath appears to his devotees in several forms and in fact, quoted Raghu Patil's experience in 'Sai Satcharita' (9th edition - Page 198) for whom Sainath appeared in the form of a serpent in the cow-shed. He also related a few other instances to impress me that Sai is present in all beings.

I had a nice time there in the estate from morning till evening. I was to catch the last bus to return to my place. Dr. Vijayakumar performed the Thursday pooja, distributed the prasad and then got ready to leave me at the bus stop.

Around 6.30 p. m. we left on his motorcycle as we had to cover a 3 km distance to reach the bus stop. On the way, Sai-brother Vijayakumar slowed down and pointed to me something that was hissing.

When I looked, it was a big serpent over four feet long. On seeing us, it raised its hood. It was a cobra and I was quite frightened and did not know what to do. Sai-brother Vijayakumar was not afraid in the least and he said that it was Baba who was giving them darshan and that there was no need to be frightened. Accordingly the serpent did no harm and just passed away.

As we continued our trip, Dr. Vijayakumar narrated to me the incident where Baba appeared as a serpent at Coimbatore on Tuesday the 7th January 1943, where the serpent heard the bhajan accepted flowers and milk, allowed itself to be seen by thousands of people and also photographed.

I heard him patiently and returned home safe. Even hours after I saw the serpent, I was still frightened and on that night, I was dreaming of cobras only!

I indeed feel the grace of Lord Sainath on me. I feel, I am blessed that in spite of my troubles, physical and otherwise-the Guru himself has come to his devotees. ★

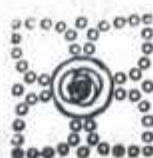
Mrs. Usha Ranganathan,
c/o Dr. R. J. Ranganathan, Medical Officer,
Primary Health Centre, Koppa, Chikmagalur 577126, (Karnataka)

Baba's Control Over The Elements

One evening a terrible storm struck the village
Shirdi in a terrific way,
Followed by violent gale and torrential downpour
in a highly furious way;
The village was over-flooded and serious disaster
was sure on its way,
The so many local deities in Shirdi were just
spectators in helpless way;
Residents of the village flocked to Dwarakamai
in a panic-stricken way,
And implored Baba to protect them from the impending
doom in an obeisance way;
The meerciful and omnipotent Baba came out of the
Masjid in a chuckling way,
Looked up at the sky and shouted at the elements
in a commanding way,
To stop their furies at once and get back to
their normal way;
In obedience of Baba's orders the turbulent
elements came to a halt in
miraculous way;
The powers of Baba are phenominal not bound by
the law of nature in any way.

P. J. Reddy

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The Ever Loving and Omnipresent Sai Baba

It is only since two years that I came to know that Sai-Leela Magazine is being published for the benefit of Sai-devotees and I have been a subscriber of this magazine since two years. Previously I have narrated about Sai-Leela and miracles experienced by me to many of my friends. By looking at the magazine, I am inspired to write about my experience of the Leela Of Sai Baba. A friend of mine by name Shri Seshadri, is a lecturer in the University Law College at Dharwar. He is a staunch devotee of Sai Baba and he always used to narrate about Leelas of Sai Baba experienced by him. Due to his company I started developing devotion to Shri Saibaba since 1963 - 64.

I was practising as an advocate at Hubli in Dharwar District, in the State of Karnataka along with my father, who is now about 85 years old and who has lucrative practice even now. In 1968, I had applied for the post of Munsiff and Magistrate and at that time my elder brother who is Depot Manager in K. S. R. T. C. was working at Hubli and all of us were living together. In the meanwhile, my brother was transferred to some other place and he had to shift his family. Then I thought that there will be none to look after my father during his old age and as a result, I decided, not to appear for the examination, for the post of Munsiff and Magistrate. After some time, in the month of October 1968 or so, I received an intimation that a written examination is being conducted for the post of Munsiff-Magistrate in the Banquet Hall, in Vidhan-Soudha Bangalore and my examination seat no was 18. In spite of it, I did not prepare myself for the examination as I had already decided not to appear for the examination. Then about two days prior to the date fixed for the written examination, a friend of mine, Shri Ladkhan (who is also a Civil Judge now) who had also applied for the post of Munsiff-Magistrate, at my instance, came and asked me

as to when, I was going over to Bangalore for the examination. Then I told him, "there is none to look after my father due to transfer of my brother and that therefore, I have decided not to appear for the examination." In spite of my telling, he insisted on me, to come to Bangalore to keep company with him, so that both could spend some time together at Bangalore. Then I reluctantly went to Bangalore, just to keep company with him, under the guise of appearing for the examination.

You believe it or not, I never opened a book, nor studied for the sake of the examination. After reaching Bangalore one thing was worrying me very much, as to how should I sit idle, without writing anything for three hours in the examination hall, while answering question papers as I had not prepared for the examination. I have strong faith in Sai-Baba and I remembered Sai Baba to help me before I could commence writing the first paper of the examination. Surprisingly, thoughts started flowing and I answered all questions due to my experience at the Bar while practicing as an advocate, though I never studied and prepared for the examination. It is only due to the grace of Sai Baba that I answered all the questions. As I had gone to Bangalore reluctantly for the examination, naturally I was not interested in the result and it was out of my mind that I had appeared for the examination. Then as usual I was attending the Court and was very busy in my practice as an advocate. Then on one day, in December 1968, when I went to Court as usual, our Bar president at Hubli, Shri H. K. Patil, told me that the results of the written examination have appeared in the newspaper and asked for my seat number. You believe it or not, I had forgotten my seat-number and I told him that I am not sure, whether it is 8 or 18. Then he compelled me to fetch the hall ticket from my house. Then I went home in a riksha and got my hall-ticket and my seat-number was 18. What a surprise, when we saw the result? The passing number had commenced from 18 onwards and the candidates from serial numbers 1 to 17 had failed. Not

that I am happy about the failure of others, but this shows how Sai Baba loves his devotees wherever they are and always looks to their welfare and success.

In all 150 candidates had appeared for the examination and only 23 candidates were successful in the written examination and I was one of them. Then after a fortnight or so, the successful candidates were called for viva-voce test to the Karnataka Public Service Commission Office at Bangalore. I was not well acquainted with the roads at Bangalore then and did not know the road to reach the office of the K. P. S. C. The other two colleagues of mine by name Shri Javali and Shri Kanchi, who were also successful in the written examination, had come to Bangalore for viva-voce and I told them that we all should go in a Taxi to the K. P. S. C. to reach in time. Then one of them suggested that there is sufficient time and so we can reach the place on foot. We three of us went on foot till Maharani college Cross at Bangalore. Then we tried to find out the road to the K. P. S. C. office. In the mean time, it started drizzling and none of the pedestrians was ready to wait and guide us to the K. P. S. C. office. In fact, we tried to stop the Taxies and Rikshas; but all of them were engaged and none stopped. It may be noted that viva-voce examination was to be held at 10 A. M. in the K. P. S. C. office and only 20 minutes were left when we were near Maharani college and still we were unable to find out the road to K. P. S. C. office. So, I became anxious that it would create a bad impression on the members of the public Service Commission if we reached last and then I again remembered Baba to help me. Then to our great surprise, a private car voluntarily stopped near us and the driver asked us as to where we intended to go? Then I told him that we are unable to locate the K. P. S. C. office and that we have to reach there, in time. Then the driver of the said car, to our surprise told us, that he was also going by the same road and asked us to enter the car. Then we all three of us jumped into the car and he took us in time to the

K. P. S. C. office. I am still unable to know and it is a mystery for me as to who is the person who voluntarily stopped the car and gave us a lift to the K. P. S. C. office. I am sure that it is none else than Baba who came to our rescue and made us to reach the place in time. One can see how Baba loves his devotees.

I feel I should narrate a recent incident which can be said to be a miraculous escape from death. In the month of October 1981 or so, I along with Shri S. S. Nagarale (Munsiff Magistrate Banhatti in Jamakhandi Taluka) went to Bijapur in a van along with our families and children. After finishing the sight-seeing at Bijapur, we were returning to Jamakhandi, where I am presently working as a Civil Judge. Then on the way at about 8 P. M. or so, near the village called Yekkundi, the excel of the van broke and the driver could not control the vehicle and it dragged us with the broken excel for nearly 300 to 400 feet. It was dark and all the inmates of the vehicle started shrieking as the vehicle was out of control. There was water on the left side of the road and it was appearing like a big lake and the van dragged to its left. The van would have fell in the water, but due to miracle of Sai Baba, the broken excel of the van dashed at the guard stone which is fixed by the side of the road near curving and the movement of the van was obstructed and it stopped. When I asked the driver as to what was wrong, he said that the excel had broken and that the brakes would not apply and he could not control it. He further said that it was only a miracle, that the van stopped by the excel hitting at the guard stone. You believe it or not, it was only a few inches from the water that the van stopped. I even now shiver, if I remember the incident. It may be noted here that I was narrating about the Leelas of Sai Baba to my friend Shri Nagarale and his family when this incident occurred. This is my another experience which shows as to how Baba takes care of his devotees and avoids calamities. It should be none else than Sai Baba who saved us from disaster.

May Lord Sai-Baba shower His love and affection on His devotees at all time and protect them from all calamities. ★

N. R. Goodwala,
Civil Judge, Jamakhandi District Bijapur, Karnataka State



Shree Sai Kripa

I am a devotee of Shri Sai Baba since 1947. When I was a boy of 13 I was a frequent visitor to Shri Sai Baba temple at Nellore. While working in Government service I used to frequently visit Shri Sai Baba temples at Guntur, Kurnool and Nellore. Later I happened to visit Shirdi Sai Baba temple at Mylapore in Madras. During all these years till 1981 I had an ardent desire to visit 'Shirdi' and worship Shri Sai Baba there. It did not however materialize till 1982. A friend of mine, Shri K. Subba Rao, Hyderabad Government Press employee and an ardent devotee of Shri Sai Baba at Hyderabad was responsible to advise me and he insisted that I must go to Shirdi and worship Shri Sai Baba. I therefore had the good fortune to visit Shirdi for the first time on 12-8-82.

The second occasion I had visited Shirdi and worshipped Shri Sai Baba by His divine grace was on 30-9-82 when Arathi was going on in Mahasamadhimandir to Shri Sai Baba at (12,00 noon).

All the land at Shirdi had become most holy to Sai devotees because His divine feet have touched that land and one can feel the presence of Shri Sai Baba at Shirdi at every step and every moment.

We need not ask or pray Him for any worldly things as they will automatically come to us. Shri Sai Baba gives to His sincere devotees every thing which He thinks right and also at the right time.

My daily prayer to Shri Sai Baba now-a-days is "Look at me! Think of me! Touch me! Make me fit! Ripen me! Thou be ever my master (Guru)! Govern me O! Sai Baba!"

When I prayed like this in the Mahasamadhimandir on 12-8-82 as well as on 30-9-82 at Shirdi 'tears' flowed from my eyes and I prayed, "Lord Sainath, O! Lord, bear with me and sustain me!"

I have been ever cheerful due to His blessings and divine grace only and have been facing all the mundane challenges in my life with courage and faith. Blessed is Shirdi as its land has been lucky and meritorious being consecrated by Shri Sai Baba, a precious jewel and a diamond, as observed by His other contemporary saints, who had seen Him. Shri Sai Baba never prescribed any regulations and any mantras. He always advocated us to always remember 'Sai, Sai'. If anybody does repeat it, his shackles will be removed and he will be free. This can be followed by any Sai devotee very easily! ★

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End of An Era

It was only in September, 1982 that I wrote an article on "Samadhi" as explained by Gurudev Mukthananda Baba and sent it to Shri Sai Leela. I never had a premonition that close on the heels I would be obliged to write on His Mahasamadhi too. As commonly understood there are three kinds of samadhi, Baba used to say. One is the state of inertness in which Yogis sit for hours; second is the state of Sthita Pragna who always maintains equanimity of mind in all circumstances; and third is the stage of a saint's passing away.

Last in the line of Siddha Yogis, Baba had been the guiding force to the millions of His devotees all over the world. He never indulged in any miracles but the greatest miracle He always performed was to put the seeker silently, steadily and surely on the spiritual path towards self-realisation. He awakened the divine consciousness of all seekers by means of Shaktipat, a subtle secret process which He inherited by the grace of His guru, Bhagawan Nityanand. This is a spiritual process by which the Guru transmits His Divine Shakti into the seeker by either look, touch, word or even thought. This secret process is known to have been handed down through a long succession of Siddhas dating back to the original Guru, Lord Shiva, He is known to be the Parama Guru.

In 1971 when Baba came to Hyderabad, He gave me the Maha manthra, Om Namah Shivaya. For the next couple of days I was unceasingly repeating it. On the third day when I was sitting before Him, He turned towards me and intently looked into my eyes for a minute. He then beckoned Amma and said, "Don't you see the bindu so clearly visible on her brow between her eyes? It is clear as day light." Next day early morning at 5.00 A. M. while sitting in meditation I suddenly felt a great pressure in my forehead. All my breath was sucked

inside and both my hands and legs were tightly clasped in padmasana. An unquenchable divine love filled me and permeated itself into every fibre of my being. I could no longer contain myself and began to cry like one possessed. I was conscious and I felt highly embarrassed in that gathering but I could do nothing else. Baba came out of His room and with one word "stop" He controlled my sobbing. He said, "Your Kundalini has been awakened. It is upto you now to sustain it and lead it to the ultimate fulfilment."

It was due to the grace of Shri Sai Baba that we were able to seek the spiritual protection from Swamy Mukthananda Paramahansa in 1969 under mystic circumstances. I, however, often nursed a feeling that these two saints were not of the same order and that Shri Sai Baba never initiated a seeker into the realms of Kundalini Yoga. How very wrong I was! In June '80 I saw a devotee sitting in Dwarakamayee in deep meditation going through intricate yogic kriyas of Kundalini. I immediately fell before Shri Sai Baba there and craved for pardon. There is no end to the great Siddhis of Shri Sai Baba.

Kabir said, "Everyone knows that the drop is contained in the ocean; but hardly anyone knows that the ocean is contained in the drop." Mukthananda Baba explained the hidden meaning thus; "This world forming a myriad manifestations of animate and inanimate things is in fact one integral God. The one is many and many is one. They are all of the same reality. The world seemingly an illusion is a manifestation of His divine consciousness, the Chitshakti, through which alone one can reach the Brahman. The same divine spark enlivens all living beings and regulates all the inanimate objects and the five elements of nature. God fulfils Himself through so many forms and substances. Just as there is no difference between one drop and another, to think in terms of you and me is to live in a fool's paradise. To know yourself is to know God. There is no difference between God-realisation and selfrealisation." Baba always closed His lectures with the

words, "Meditate on yourself. Kneel to yourself. Honour and worship yourself. God dwells in you." The ocean dwells in the drop as the drop!!!

To walk on the spiritual path is like walking on the razor's edge. One false step and you are doomed for perdition. Society, however, is the greatest sufferer of the saint "whose spiritual brick is not fully baked." Today there are so many such half-baked saints who bring more harm than good to the society. Baba therefore set a very exacting code of discipline to the seekers. He never allowed His Gurudev Siddh Peeth Ashram as a picnic resort even in a mild variety. His discipline taught His devotees to see the world as an Ashram and regulate their lives accordingly even after leaving Ganeshpuri. In fact discipline and disciple come from the same root and are inseparable.

"For a disciple no one is greater than the Guru," Baba said. The scriptures proclaim that a disciple may not do any sadhana yet he will attain his goal if he serves his Guru wholeheartedly and identifies himself completely with the Guru in thought, word and deed. This is true of Eklavya (Dronacharya), Hastamalika (Adi Shankara), Puran Poya (Eknath), Upasani Maharaj (Sai Baba) and a host of others. For them no separate sadhana was necessary other than obedience to the Guru's commands. Spiritual path is an enchanting odyssey to the seeker, who strives towards perfect discipleship with an unflinching faith in the Guru in all circumstances and patience till he achieves the goal.

Baba's sadhana was done all around Shirdi--Yeola Damod Suki, Kokumthan. He had self-realisation in 1956 at Suki, a few miles away from Shirdi. Baba had a special liking for Shri Sai Baba. The Bhoomi Pujas and opening ceremonies of several dormitories and cottages in Shri Sai Sansthan were done by him. Once a devotee pointedly asked Baba whether it is true that Shri Sai Baba had reincarnated Himself. Pat came the reply from Baba that according to the established scriptures, on which He

always relied, a Siddha Purusha, a God-realised Soul has no rebirth. If Sai Baba wished to continue His mission He could have prolonged His life span for as long as He wished like Trilanga Swamy and others. But that was not necessary. He is continuing His mission as a Living Presence even now. So where is the need for a rebirth He countered.

Rivers never drink their own water; trees never eat their own fruit. That is the same with Gurudev. He gave His Shakti to all seekers to enable them to live in divinity.

He never asked for Guru Dakshina even to run His Ashram. He laid great stress on Guru Seva and only demanded His disciple's mind to be dedicated to Him as real Guru Dakshina. Nevertheless money flowed at His Feet in unceasing Kanakadhara as a spontaneous expression of the devotees' gratitude,

He had several heart attacks and was even forced to have a pace-maker by His devotees. He said His prarabdha was over and that He was living on borrowed time. Shri Sai Baba, a Siddha Purusha, had gone. Bhagwan Nityananda, His Sadguru, had gone. Everything starting in time must end in time. Life and death are two inexorable realities in the dimension of time. One day He too shall have to make the exit, He told. Thus on Saturday the 2nd October, 1982 at 11.05 P. M.--He who was born on Buddha Purnima Day, had self-realisation on a full moon day, left the mortal coil on a full moon day. He chose a time when all were sleeping and made His exit in true Buddha style.

On His last birth day in May, 1982, He installed two successors to take over from Him. In a casual way He settled all important Ashram business. A great exponent of Kashmiri Shaivism, He made His last farewell visit to Kashmir and paid a visit to the Shiv Sutra edicts there just a week before His passing away. He asked His successor, Swamy Nityananda, not to go to Pune as programmed. A couple of hours before He went upto the other successor, Swamini Chidvilasananda and

talked about His tapasya days nostalgically--an extremely rare thing--and the many places He visited at that time. Then at 10.45 P. M. He bade all to leave His room quickly. At 11.00 P. M. a massive heart-attack overpowered Him. By 11.05 P. M. it was all over.

With the passing away of Swamy Mukthananda Maharaj, a golden era in Kundalini Yoga comes to an end. Though He left that one body He entered the hearts of thousands of His devotees. The secret of Shaktipat thus is not lost on the world. It will be there so long as the parama Guru, Lord Shiva, rules the hearts of everybody on earth to the last recorded syllable of time. And so the legend lives on. Shri Sadgurunath Mukthananda Maharaj
Ki Jai ! ★

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Miracles of Shri Sai Baba

It was the month of January 1972. Myself and my wife were on pilgrimage on foot. Following is one of our experiences during this pilgrimage. On 16th January we proceeded from Amrawati reaching Chandur Rly. station. We rested there for a while as we were exhausted.

Meanwhile two young persons, who were dressed in white, came near us and said, "Maharaj, why are you sitting here? All the saints of Maharashtra have gathered there at Nimbhora. Your presence is required there, please come with us". We were quite surprised with their talk, because we were quite ignorant about Nimbhora village. Looking at our confused state one of them said, "You do not worry. We will take you there". Without waiting for our consent, they put two tickets for Talani Rly. station in my hand. Nimbhora is just near to Talani Rly. station

They detained at Talani with us. Then they departed saying that their mission was over. At that time five persons came where we were standing. They took us to Shyambaba at whose residence all the saints had gathered. Meal was served to us and our hunger was satisfied. Later on Shri Shyambaba took us to the stage, where the bhajan programme was going on. There was a rush of people there. We recited bhajans for about an hour in that programme.

The gathering started on 16th January 1972 which lasted till 21st. On 21st the programme of Dahi-Kala was performed. Saints like Shri Panhlegaonkar, Shri Gulab baba, Shri Harihar Maharaj, Shri Gotya maharaj, Shri Pundlik baba were present. All of them were pleased to see us. After our bhajan was over, we narrated our story as to how we received the invitation for their gathering (Mela). Shri Hariharmaharaj said, " You are very lucky. Shri Saibaba personally came there to invite you for this occasion. Those youths were nobody else but Shri Sai Baba himself.

Now I will narrate a miracle of Shri Sai's Udi at that place. In Nimbhora there is one primary teacher named Tukaram master. He was then a rationalist and did not believe in any supernatural power. In that village he was known as a whimsical man. During our stay at Nimbhora, he came in our contact. In the beginning he argued deadly with us but gradually he began to trust us. The gathering ended; but Shyambaba and the villagers did not allow us to leave the village for one month. Meanwhile Tukaram master developed full trust in us. At the time of leaving Nimbhora, I gave Udi (Bhasma) of Shri Sai Baba to masterji and told him to make use of the Udi at the time of grave distress and get the experience of the helping hand of Shri Baba. After that we left the village.

Shri Tukaram master narrated the miracle of Shri Sai's Udi after a long time when we met him again. The same is given below :-

That was the year 1975. Diwali festival was going on. All the villagers were busy with Diwali preparation. The wife of Shri Tukaram masterji was also busy with Diwali preparations. At that time she was pregnant and the ninth month was going on. One day while she was plastering the wall of their house, standing on the top step of the ladder, she lost the balance and fell down losing her consciousness. Immediately she was taken to Wardha and admitted to a hospital. She was examined and a fracture was suspected in one of her legs. It was necessary to keep her foot in plaster. Meanwhile the labour pains started. It was a serious case. Because of falling down the ladder the doctor suspected serious internal injuries. In these circumstances the chances for normal delivery were rare. She was hence removed to the operation theatre for operation.

Tukaram master's condition was pitiable. His children were alone at Nimbhora. His monetary condition was quite unsatisfactory. His wife, who was struggling with her death at that time, was lying unconscious on the operation table. The doctor came to him, and said, "we can save only one of them, either the child or the mother". Masterji then requested the doctor to save his wife.

Meanwhile Tukaram was reminded of Shri Sai Baba's Udi, given to him by me, which he had taken with him at that time. He thought of testing the truthfulness of my words. At once he ran into the operation theatre and requested the nurse on duty to allow him to see his wife for a while. Praying to Shri Saibaba, he put some Udi in the mouth of his wife. Again he applied Udi on his wife's forehead and on the suspected fractured leg. Putting all the responsibility on Shri Baba, he came out of the operation theatre.

Within a period of 15 minutes, the nurse rushed out of the theatre shouting, "Doctor, doctor, that lady has delivered a baby (son) and both are well." Soon the voice of the baby came from

the operation theatre. The doctor went inside the theatre and came out after five minutes and told Tukaram master that every thing was alright and that his wife was out of danger. Tukaram prayed and thanked Shri Sai Baba sincerely. He narrated the story of Baba's Udi to the doctor which surprised everyone

Later on in the evening the doctor minutely examined his wife again and found no fracture in her leg. The doctor also gave him permission to take his wife home on the same day. It was a Thursday. As the Udi was given to him by me, master named his son "Sanjay". Today Sanjay is eight years old. He is very intelligent.

No need to say that all the credit goes to Shri Sai Baba and his Udi. ★

Swamy Sanjayanand
Badrinath, Himalaya

Baba's Blessings

We were thinking of visiting Shirdi for the last several months; but we could not do so for one reason or the other. This time we decided to go on the pilgrimage after celebrating my grandson's first birthday on 5th of march, 1982. We had invited quite a few friends for the birthday party but a couple of days before, the child took suddenly ill. The child was running high temperature besides having loose motions. We were much worried as to how we could go ahead with the celebrations. Naturally our thoughts turned towards Shirdi. And it was due to Shri Baba's grace that a day before the celebrations, the boy recovered and the recovery was also very quick.

Then on 12th and 13th we stayed at Shirdi. When we were returning to Bagalkot on the 14th inst, our car developed trouble at Ahmednagar. We took the car to a mechanic, who first said

that the clutchplate had to be replaced. This was a time consuming affair and therefore we were doubtful whether we would reach Phandharpur that evening as per our plan. So we prayed for Sai's grace. When the car was thereafter towed to the workshop, the mechanic could set it right within half an hour and then we resumed our journey and reached Pandharpur for Shri Vithoba's darshan.

We left Pandharpur a bit late and reached Sholapur in the night. We wanted to drive to Bagalkot—another 253 Kms in the night. But at Sholapur the lights of our car failed. We could not locate the point of trouble and we could not also locate a mechanic as it was a holiday (Rangapanchami). So we had to stay with a friend, who strangely enough was waiting for us from the previous day. We learnt that it would have been hazardous for us to travel by this road in the night as there had been several instances of waylaying and robberies on this road. We feel that Shri Saibaba did not want us to face any such risks.

On reaching Bagalkot next afternoon, when I related our experiences to a friend of ours, who is also an automobile engineer, he simply remarked, "it is all due to Saibaba's grace that you had such a successful pilgrimage. The two mechanical faults, developed only at places where assistance was available. The first one could have been a serious problem had it happened on the highway away from the city"

Can anyone differ from this view? Atleast we do not, ★

C. M. Chandawarkar
Extension, Bagalkot 587 101 Karnatak State



The Light of Faith (Shraddha)

“Shraddha” or “Faith” or “Beleif” is one of the two biggest principles preached by Shri “Sai” the “Navigator” of my “Ship Of Life”

My very first visit to Shirdi was a sudden impulse. I was not aware before, that such a heaven as the "Sai Temple" where one realises the bliss of true happiness, of true satisfaction, did exist on this earth.

My grandmother was a believer in Shri Sai. She used to describe the lighting of lamps by Shri Sai from not oil but water. But like an intelligent man, who finds something ridiculous in almost everything, I then thought that the miracle, which she described, was only one of her imagination.

My first visit to Shirdi in 1977 the event of which, I am now going to put forward before the readers, turned me into a strong believer of Shri Sai. It being my first visit to Shirdi, I was completely unaware of the whereabouts of the place. However enquiring here and there I did reach Shirdi. And Lo ! When I gazed upon the Lord and His magnificance I was awe stricken and amazed. ‘Seeing is believing’ and I was convinced by His very first glimpse that he was indeed Omnipotent, Omniscient and Omnipresent as he was described.

Step by step one goes ahead. My next visit to Dwarkamai then convinced me that ‘deeds speak louder than words’.

Seeing people light lamps at the Dwarkamai, raised an urge in my heart also to do the same. But I had no oil and neither was I Shri Sai to light lamps from water. Tears stood into my eyes and I crept quietly to a corner and gave way to them. I cried very bitterly.

Just then an old man came upto me and asked, "Beti, diya jalana chahati ho?" I nodded and he commanded, "Chalo mere sath". I followed him to a shop behind Dwarkamai, where he told the shopkeeper to give me a bottle of oil for Re. 1/-. The shopkeeper without saying anything, took the rupee from him and gave me a bottle of oil, asking me, to return the bottle after the purpose was served.

I returned happily back to Dwarkamai with HIM. He guided me and with trembling hands and tearful eyes, I lighted lamps all around Dwarkamai. I was happy and turned around to thank him. But Lo! he was nowhere to be found. I gazed from the picture of Sai and was wonderstruck to see a faint image of the same old man smiling upon me and I understood. 'The sea refuses no river'. 'Look upon me and I shall look upon you!' "Wish and I shall grant" He had said. Yes readers, my Baba had found me and I had found Him.

In all the excitement I had completely forgotten my handbag!

The very thought that I had lost it sent shivers to my heart. It contained all my money, my return tickets and my costly camera. My husband started scolding me and blamed me for my carelessness and negligence. I started crying and immediately ran and bowed at His stone and wept. I then heard a "hiss" as if someone was calling me, I looked up and Lo! Again I saw the old man in His picture, this time pointing towards the "Dhuni". "A dwarf sees further then a giant when he has the giant's shoulders to mount on". Light had dawned on me! While lighting the lamps I had left my purse near Baba's Matka. I hurriedly climbed the steps of Dwarkamai and looked there. Imagine the joy and surprise I experienced, when I saw it lying just where I left it, In spite of the heavy rush in Dwarkamai it was still there, left untouched. My Sai had guarded it for me! I picked it up and immediately ran to His stone and bowed and

thanked him. I vowed there and then to remain His forever. I asked him to bless me. The more we have the more we want,

Readers! Small that I am, I may not have been successful in conveying the various feelings and thoughts that had arisen in me through this experience. But then, not the fruit of an experience but the experience itself is the end, I had reached the ultimate goal. The ultimate good Sai is beauty and the ultimate goal His Worship, the cherishing of all that is beautiful,

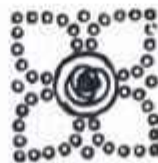
Leelas! Leelas and Leelas

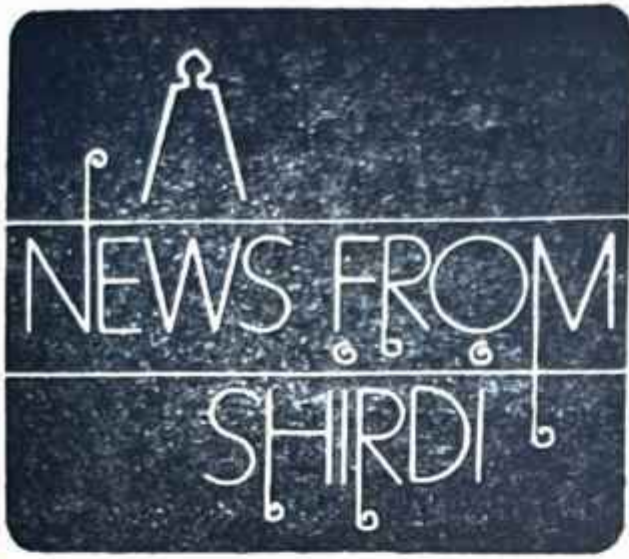
A thousand have I experienced. My father! My Lord! My Sai! has blessed me with scores of them. Little by little, bit by bit, I shall put forward before you some of them as he commands me, for as I have told you before Who am I but a means to an end!



Mrs. H. K. Chhappgar

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MAY 1983

Due to vacations the schools and colleges were closed in this month. The rush of devotees coming to Shirdi from outside was therefore very heavy. The staff of the Shirdi Sansthan had therefore a very busy time during this month. The following artists gave their various programmes in the Samadhi Mandir during the course of this month: -

Keertan:- 1) Shri Murlidhar Ramrao Deshmukh, Shirdi. 2) Shri Nanasaheb Rasane, Shirdi.

Pravachan:- 1) Shri Nanasaheb Rasane, Shirdi 2) Shri Laxman maharaj Wakchowre, Shirdi.

Vocal Music, Instrumental music, Bhajan, Dance etc.

1) Shri Rameshchandra Bhikulalji Shrimali, Jalna 2) Shri Shiwaji Dhumal, Shirdi 3) Shri Narayanswami, Jabalpur 4) Sou. Asawari Waikul, Ghatkopar 5) Shri Sainath Bhajani Mandal, Shirdi 6) Kumari Adal Aparna, Hyderabad (dance) 7) Shri Ramamurti, Hyderabad 8) Sou. Gunawanti Pandu, Hyderabad 9) Shri S. N. Pandu, Hyderabad 10) Shri Ramdas Anant Patil 11) Shri Ramesh Dattatraya Dhanavade, Ratnagiri 12) Sou. Meena Chitrakumar Rele, Bombay 13) Shri Kushal Chitrakumar Rele 14) Shri Narayan Ramchandra Garagane 15) Sou. Anusayabai Narayan Garagane, Satara. 16) Shri Shyam Gogte 17) Shri Girish Gogte 18) Miss. Sangeeta Shyam Gogte, Bombay 19) Shri Chaitanya Yadav, Indore 20) Shri Subhash Mukund Munshi, Andheri 21) Shri Tushar Dwarkanath Bhosale, Badoda 22) Miss.

Anupriya Devtale, Indore, 23) Shri T. Shyamcharan Nandiall
 24) Shri Ashok Bhimsen Jadhav 25) Sou. Aarati Ashok Jadhav,
 Vasai 26) Shriman Ishwardas Ramdas Master 27) Smt. Vedavati
 Behan M. Gopal, Hyderabad 28) Shri Shantaram Krishna Thakare,
 Bhusaval 29) Shri Hiralal Vela, Kharagpur 30) Shri Laxman
 Ananda Mirajkar, Islampur.

Polio and Defective bones Treatment Camp 1983

The Saibaba Sansthan, Shirdi held a camp at the Sainath Hospital, Shirdi from 27-5-83 to 28-5-83 for giving treatment to patients suffering from Polio and defective bones.

The last date for registration of the patients, who intended to participate in the camp, was 25-5-1983. An advertisement of the camp was published in Sarwamat, Gaokari (Nasik) and Lokmat (Aurangabad). Because of this advertisement, which was published sufficiently in advance, many patients from different places registered their names and took advantage of the treatment given at the camp.

Out of the 350 patients, who had registered their names only 85 patients were selected for treatment after primary examination and they were admitted into the camp. Forty patients were operated on 28-5-83. Crutches were given to 57 patients and artificial legs were given to eight patients free of cost. Arrangements for tea, snaks, lunch and lodging of every patient and his one attendant were made free of cost by the Shirdi Sansthan.

The concluding session of the camp was held at 6-30 p. m. on 28-5-83, which was presided over by Shri R. R. Jahagirdar, Chief Judge of the City Civil Court, Bombay. World famous Orthopaedic Surgeon Dr. Vikram Marwah, from Nagpur, Dr. Rajanikant Arole, (Magsese Prize winner), Hon. Orthopaedic Surgeon Dr. V. S. Yadkeekar, Dr. P. S. Deshpande, Medical officer of Sainath Hospital Dr. M. Y. Deshmukh, Dr. Vaidya, Dr. (Miss) Lodhe, Dr. Subhash Agashe from Shreerampur, Dr.

Pande from Ahmednagar, Dr. Karmarkar, Dr. Kishore Sanyal, Dr. Rao from Nagpur, Dr. Gunjal from Primary Health centre, Rahata, Dr. Dodiwalla and Dr. Gaikwad from Rahata attended the camp and took great pains to lead the camp to a successful end. The nurses and the other staff of the primary Health centre helped a lot for conducting the camp.

On 1-6-83 all the patients were discharged and were allowed to go home. Dates for operation of some patients were given and their operations will be performed on the due dates at the Sainath Hospital.

District Health Officer, Ahmednager, The civil Surgeon, Sabhapati, Block Development Officer, Panchayat Samiti Kopergaon, Tahasildar, Kopergaon, gave full co-operation for successful culmination of the camp. Shri V. S. Apte, Chief Accounts Officer and Miss Rekha Dighe, Senior accountant from Bombay, also attended the camp.

In his concluding speech, the court Receiver, Shri Kakresaheb thanked Shri Jahagirdar, all the doctors, the staff of the Shirdi Sansthan and the staff from the primary centre, Rahata for the troubles taken by them for conducting the camp and making it a complete success. Shri D. C. Pathak, the Office Superintendent, Shirdi Sansthan, thanked all for the troubles taken by them in connection with the camp.

Weather: - The weather of Shirdi was free from disease. Though the day temperature used to be high, the nights used to be cool.

JUNE 1983

There was a good influx of devotees at Shirdi during the first half of this month. With the opening of the schools and colleges in the later half of this month, the flow of devotees, coming to Shirdi, reduced to a great extent, The following artists gave

their various programmes in the Samadhi Mandir during this month.

Keertan :- Shri Vishram Babaji Thube, Nimgaon.

Pravachan :- 1) Shri Murlidhar Maharaj Deshmukh, Shirdi.
2) Shri Jagannathbuva Wakchoure, Shirdi.

Instrumental music, Vocal music, Bhajan, Dance etc.

- 1) Shri Sainath Bhajani Mandal, Shirdi.
- 2) Shri Gangadhar Vishwanath Sant, Baroda.
- 3) Shri Ramakant Gangadhar Sant, Baroda.
- 4) Shri Sanjay Ramakant Sant.
- 5) Sou. Jyoti A. Manuja.
- 6) Shri Anshiram M. Manuja.
- 7) Miss Meena A. Manuja.
- 8) Master Chand A. Manuja.
- 9) Master Mahesh A. Manuja, Bombay.
- 10) Shri Dandapani. Madras.
- 11) Shri Ratanlal Sharma Nagpur.
- 12) Shri S. K. Saksena, Delhi.
- 13) Sou. Alka B. Riswadkar, Andheri.
- 14) Sou. Sunita Ganesh Kelkar, Sangli.
- 15) Shri Nandkishor Purohit, Bombay.
- 16) Shri Dnyaneshwar Pradhan, Raigaon.
- 17) Shri Bhagwan Pradhan, Raigaon.

Weather :- The weather at Shirdi was free from disease. The monsoon, has not still set in at Shirdi.



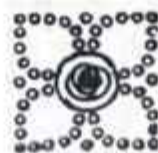
श्रीसाईलीला

हिंदी विभाग

अनुक्रमणिका

अगस्त १९८३

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उत्सव की तैयारी

नवयुग के स्वागत की
शक्ति के जागरण की
अध्यात्म के अवतरण की, बारी है !
संस्कारों की श्रृंखलाओं से उभरकर
चारों वर्णों को मिलाकर उत्सव मनाने की तैयारी है ।
बौराए आम पर बसन्त की उडती-गुलाल पर '
फ्तों के त्रीताल पर साईनाम का
गुन्जन करती कोकील आयी है ।
राम जन्म की तैयारी है ।
लुप्त हुआ सत्य असत्य की ओट में ।
समा गया सूरज लालीमाँ की गोद में ।
उस खोये हुए प्रकाश को पाने की बारी है ।
यह उत्सव की तैयारी है ।
साई सच्चरित्र का चल रहा पाठ,
श्रद्धा और सबूरी के साथ ।
जन जागरण की अब हमने
हाँक लगाई है ।
सद्गुरु के मार्ग दर्शन में
सतयुग को लाने की बारी है'
यह उत्सव की तैयारी है ॥

पुरुषोत्तम देशपान्डे

श्री साईबाबा सेवा मण्डल, सर्किट हाऊस क्वार्टर नं. ३, गुना (म.प्र) ४७३००१



भक्तवत्सल बाबा के दक्षिणा - महात्म्य

यह सर्वविदित है कि बाबा भक्तों से दक्षिणा ग्रहण करते थे । प्रतिदिन दक्षिणास्वरूप प्रचुर मात्रा में धन उपलब्ध हो जाता था, परन्तु बाबा उसमें से चिलम, बीड़ी व धूनी की लकड़ी के लिये केवल कुछ पैसे मात्र रखके शेष धन प्रतिदिन भक्तों को वितरित कर देते थे । इस दक्षिणा किसी को ३ रु. किसी को ६ रु., किसी को ९ रु., किसी को २० रु., किसी को ५० रु. तक प्रतिदिन बाबा दे देते थे और अपने हाथ एकदम खाली कर लेते थे । बाहर से देखने व सुनने में यह तो एक प्रकार प्रहसन या अभिनय जैसा प्रतीत होता था । परन्तु प्रश्न उठता है “इसकी सार्थकता क्या है ?”

बाबा के घनादय व करोडपति भक्त भी अनेक थे जो बाबा के सामान्य संकेत मात्र से भारी मात्रा में धनराशि बाबा के श्रीचरणों में समर्पित कर सकते थे, परन्तु बाबा यह नहीं होने देते थे क्योंकि धन कमाना व संचय करना उनका उद्देश नहीं था । बिना माँगे कोई दक्षिणा देता तो उसे अधिकतर अस्वीकार कर देते थे । कभी कभी बाबा किसी व्यक्ति से एक दिन में ३ या ४ बार भी दक्षिणा माँग लेते थे । कभी किसी के पास धन नहीं होता तो उसे दूसरे से उधार लेकर भी देने के लिये बाबा कहते थे ।

यह सबको विदित है कि बाबा एक फकीर थे, उनके कोई परिवार - जन व बाल बच्चे नहीं थे और तम्बाखू, बीड़ी व धूनी लकड़ी के अतिरिक्त उनका कोई व्यक्तिगत खर्च भी नहीं था । वे अपना भरण - पोषण भिक्षावृत्ति से सर्वदा चलाते थे । बाबा के खाने की कोई परिपाटी नहीं थी । भिक्षा द्वारा जो कुछ भी प्राप्त होता था उसे एक साथ मिलाकर भोजन कर लिया करते थे । उनका परिधान अति साधारण सा था जो कि एक कोपीन, कफनी और मत्थे में बांधने के लिये कपड़े का एक छोटासा टुकड़ा मात्र ही होता था । आप जूता चप्पल कभी भी व्यवहार में नहीं लाये ।

यह भी सबको विदित है कि बाबा दक्षिणा द्वारा उपलब्ध भारी धनराशि भविष्य के लिये कभी भी संचय करके नहीं रखते थे । जो कुछ धन प्राप्त होता था भक्तों में प्रतिदिन बाँट देते थे । परन्तु यह बाँटने की विधि भी विचित्र थी ।

खण्डोबा मन्दिर के म्हालसापति जी, जो उन्हें "साई" नाम से विभूषित किये थे और जो उनके विशेष अनुगामी भक्त व उनके अनन्य सेवक एवं सहचर थे, अत्यन्त आर्थिक कठिनाई में होते हुये भी बाबा दक्षिणा का सामान्य अंश भी उन्हें नहीं देते थे। कोई व्यक्ति दया-वश उन्हें आर्थिक सहायता देना चाहता तो भी बाबा समर्थन नहीं देते थे। यद्यपि यह प्रकरण रहस्य जैसा बना रहा फिर भी यह विश्वास है कि बाबा कोई विशेष विचार से ही उनके कल्याणार्थ इस प्रकार आचरण करते थे। बाबा परम भक्त-वत्सल व सर्वज्ञ थे। भक्तों का ऐहिक व पारलौकिक मंगलविधान ही बाबा का एक मात्र ध्येय था।

बाबा यह भी कहते थे "किसी से मैं जो कुछ लेता हूँ उसका सौ गुणा उसे वापस करता हूँ"। दक्षिणा में केवल धन नहीं, परन्तु मानसिक तथा प्राकृतिक बुराईयों को भी बाबा उन्हें समर्पण करने का आग्रह करते थे। हमें विदित है कि बाबा भक्तों के शारीरिक विकारों को अपनी दैविक शक्ति से नाश करके भक्तों को निरामय करते थे। यह मानसिक तथा प्रकृति-गत बुराईयों के लिये भी प्रयुक्त है। 'साई सत् चरित्र' के माध्यम से हमें जानकारी है कि बाबा एक बार श्रीमती तर्खड से ६ रु. दक्षिणा माँगे थे यद्यपि बाबा को ज्ञात था कि उनके पास देने योग्य कोई धन नहीं है ! उनका मन्तव्य धन की माँग नहीं था, अपितु षट्-रिपुओं का समर्पण ही था - जो कि आध्यात्मिक मार्ग के विशेष बाधक है।

बाबा साक्षात् भगवान के अवतार थे। बाबा के दक्षिणा-ग्रहण प्रकरण का विश्लेषण करने पर हम इस निष्कर्ष पर पहुँचते हैं कि बाबा भक्तों को त्याग व दान के पाठ पढ़ाने के लिये इस प्रकार दक्षिणा के नाटक रचते थे व कांचनत्याग का महत्व सबको सिखाते थे। कांचन तथा धन-दौलत की आसक्ति आध्यात्मिक मार्ग की प्रगति में बाधक हैं। उपनिषद् के अनुसार प्रेम, विनम्रता व सहानुभूतिपूर्ण दान ही मनुष्यों के भक्तिमार्ग में प्रगति का एक मात्र सहायक है। भक्त-वत्सल बाबा अपने भोग विलास-रहित, निर्लिप्त व निरासक्त जीवन के माध्यम से दक्षिणा-प्रकरण के अभिनय करके भक्तों की चित्तशुद्धि कराते थे। चित्तशुद्धि के पश्चात् ही आध्यात्मिक मार्ग सरल व प्रशस्त होता है।

"बाबा का जीवन ही बाबा का सन्देश है।"

श्रीमती उमा दास

३०५/१, मीरपुर कैण्ट, कानपुर-२०८००४ (उ. प्र.)

शिष्य की परीक्षा

(गतांकस आगे)

भक्तों के तीन प्रकार होते हैं। जो गुरु के मनोगत जानकर गुरु की आज्ञा होने से पहले ही उनका काम करते हैं वह उत्तम भक्त हैं। जो भक्त गुरु की आज्ञा होने के बाद काम करता है वह मध्यम भक्त हैं और अधम शिष्य वह है जो आज्ञा होने के बाद भी अपना समय अकारण व्यतीत करता है। दीक्षित काका प्रथम श्रेणी के शिष्य थे।

एक दिन माधवराव देशपांडे बाग में काम कर रहे थे कि अचानक एक साप ने उन्हें डस लिया। वह वेदना से जोर से रोने से पहले ही सर्प चला गया तब वहाँ के लोगों ने इन्हें विरोवाजी के मन्दिर में ले जाने का निर्णय किया। पर माधवरावजीने इन्कार कर दिया और कहने लगे “मेरे विरोवाजी मशीद में बैठे हुए हैं, वही मुझे बचायेगा या मारेगा”। ऐसे कहते कहते वह मशीद की तरफ जाने लगे। माधवरावजी मशीद चढ़ने लगे तब उन्हें बाबा की आवाज सुनाई देने लगी। “चले जाओ, मेरी मशीद की सिढी मत चढो”। यह सुनकर माधवरावजी रोकर कह उठे, “माँ की गोद में छिपने आया हुआ बालक अपनी माँ से ही पुतकारा गया है, वह अब जीकर क्या करेगा”।

माधवरावजी के अंग में सूजन थी, शरीर नीला पड गया था। जब वह अपनी सामान्य स्थिती में वापिस आ गये। उन्होंने अपने कृतज्ञता के अश्रुओं से बाबा के चरणों पर अभिषेक किया। अब बाबा अपने भक्त को समझाते हुए कहने लगे, “माधवराव, तुम जब बालक थे तब तुमने एक ब्राह्मणपुत्र के साथ झगडा किया था और उसके मन को दुःख पहुँचाया था। उसी ब्राह्मणपुत्रने सर्प=योनी में जन्म लेकर तुम्हारा बदला लिया है। जब तुम सर्पदंश होकर मशीद में आये तब मैंने कहा ‘मत चढो इस मशीद पर’ यह कटु वाक्य तुम्हारे लिए न होकर उस ब्राह्मणपुत्र के लिए था। अब तुम घर जा सकते हो।”

माधवरावजी केवल अपने श्रद्धा के बलपर बाबा की ओर चल पडे थे। यह उनका सामर्थ्य था कि एक ओर गाँव के लोग थे और दूसरी ओर बाबा।

बाबाने न तो उन्हे विभूती दी, न ही उनपर जल छिटकारा उन्होने केवल अपने शब्दों के बलपर सर्प के विष को उतारा था ।

ऐसी ही कसोटी श्री रामदास स्वामीजी भी ले चुके थे । उन्होने अपने शिष्य कल्याण की परीक्षा भी इसी तरह ली थी । जैसे साईबाबा के शामा वंसे ही समर्थजीके कल्याण । तीनसौ वर्ष पूर्व विचलित हुए धर्म को रामदास स्वामीजी ने शिवाजी महाराज के सहायता से एक स्थिरता दी थी । शक्ति और युक्ति इन दोनों आधार से महाराष्ट्र के धर्म का पालन किया था । जब हिंदु मुसलमान की वक्रता चरमसीमापर पहुँच चुकी थी तब साईबाबाने उन्हे यह दिखलाने की कोशिश की कि हिंदु-मुसलमान एक है ।

समर्थजीने अपने शिष्य कल्याण की परीक्षा कैसे ली थी वह हम अब देखेंगे ।

समर्थ रामदास स्वामीजी पहले सज्जनगड में रहते थे पर उन्हे अचानक पर्णकुटी में रहने की इच्छा हुई । उरमोडी नामक नदी के किनारे यह घटना घड़ी थी ।

एक तूफानी रात में जोर जोर से वर्षा हो रही थी । बिजली चमक रही थी । सबका भोजन हो चुका था और अपने अपने स्थान पर सब सो चुके थे । जोर से बरसात होने लगी । रामदास स्वामीजी हमेशा एकांत में भोजन करते थे । भोजन समाप्त होने के बाद वे बाहर आये और उन्होने देखा की उरमोडी नदी में बाढ आगयी है । भोजन के बाद पान खाने का उनका दैनिक नियम था । पर उस दिन उनके पास पान नहीं था । तब उन्होने सोये हुए शिष्यों की ओर देखकर उन्हे बुलाने लगे । पर कोई भी नहीं उठा । उनका एक शिष्य कल्याण बिना कुछ बोल उठकर गुरु की आज्ञा पालन करने चल पडा । नदी में बाढ आगयी थी । वह तैरते तैरते सज्जनगड तक पहुँचा और वहाँ से पान लेकर लौटने लगा । यहाँ सब शिष्य सक्रौतुक कल्याण की राह देख रहे थे । कल्याण लौटकर आया, और अपने गुरु के पास पान देकर मुछित होकर गिर पडा । सब शिष्य और रामदास स्वामीजी कल्याण की ओर गये और देखने लगे कि सापने कल्याण को डस लिया है और कल्याण की चारो तरह साँप चिपक कर बैठे हुए है और उसका शरीर नीला पड गया है । रामदास स्वामीजीने उन साँप को फेक दिया और कल्याण का शरीर पर विभूती मलने लगे । जैसे ही विभूती का असर होने

लगा कल्याण होश में आने लगा। समर्थजी के सब शिष्यों में एक कल्याण ही था जो पूरी कसौटी पर उतर चुका था।

समर्थजीने अंबाजी का नाम कल्याण कैसे रखवा वह भी एक घटना है। रामदासजी रोज रामजी के मंदिर की प्रदक्षिणा करते थे। एक दिन प्रदक्षिणा करते करते उन्हें एक डाली दिखायी दी जो उनके रास्ते में रुकावट लाती थी। उन्होंने अंबाजी को आशा दी की वह डाली तोड़ डाले। तुरन्त ही कल्याण आज्ञा का पालन करने लगा। पर डाली के साथ साथ वह भी कुँआ में गिर पडा। समर्थजी की प्रदक्षिणा समाप्त होने के उपरांत उन्होंने आवाज दी “अम्बाजी, सब कल्याण है ना”। यह सुनकर कुँआमे गिरे हुए अम्बाजीने उत्तर दिया। “आपकी दुआ से सब कल्याण है”। इस घटना के बाद अम्बाजी का नाम कल्याण ही पड गया।

एक दिन समर्थ सज्जनगड से नीचे उतरते समय उनका उत्तर वस्त्र उड गया। बिना कोई विचार किये वह वस्त्र झेलने कल्याण कूद पडा। वहाँ पर एक दरिया था उसमें गिर पडा। पर गुरुने अपने शिष्य को फूल के समान बाहर निकाला।

एक बार समर्थ जोरदार वर्षा में नदी पार कर रहे थे कि अचानक वह भँवर में फँस गये। तब भी कल्याण ने किसी को परवाह न करते हुए अपने गुरु को कन्धेपर उठाये लाये थे।

समाधी लेने से पूर्व रामदास स्वामीजी कुछ दिन शिवाजी महाराज के पास रहते थे। चाफळ नामक स्थान पर उन्होंने मठ की स्थापना की थी। उनके जरूरी कामजात मठ में ही थे। उन्हें लाने के लिए रामदास स्वामीजीने कल्याण को आशा दी जैसे ही कल्याण गये वहाँ के भोजनभाऊ शिष्य कष्ट देने लगे। यह कष्ट दूर करने के लिए समर्थजीने रुद्रावतार धारण किया। किसी भी शिष्य को स्वामीजी से मिलने की अनुमति नहीं थी। कल्याण लौटकर आये और बिना अनुमति के समर्थ के सामने खडे हुए। रुद्रावतारित स्वामीजी क्रोध से कल्याण का गाला पकडते हुए मारने के लिए सुरा उठाने लगे। तब कल्याण बोल उठे “एक घाव में ही मार दो”। यह सुनकर रामदास स्वामी का हृदय पिघल गया और गले लगाते हुए उन्होंने कहा, “जी वर तुम्हें चाहिए वह माँगो, मेरे पास तुम्हें

देने के लिए कुछ भी नहीं है। तुम मेरा गुणपद ही लेलो। ऐसे कहते कहते उन्होंने अपने वस्त्र, वस्तु, माला कल्याण को सौंपकर आशीर्वाद दिया।

साई बाबाने जैसे दीक्षित काकाकी परिक्षा ली वैसे ही समर्थजीने कल्याण की ली। अपने शिष्यों की परिक्षा लेनेके ढंग अलग अलग होते हैं। पर साई बाबा और रामदास स्वामीजी के परिक्षा लेने के ढंग में साम्य है। इसिलिए हम कह सकते हैं कि साई बाबा समर्थ रामदास स्वामीजी के ही अवतार थे।

सौ. तारादेवी मालवणकर
'साई स्मृति' २५, व्हिन्सेन्ट स्केअर, दादर बम्बई ४०००१४

शिरडी के नाथ

हे शिरडी के नाथ । मैं तेरा दास ।
अपार विश्वास के साथ, मैं आया तेरे द्वार ॥
मैं अघम मानव पापों का अंधार लिए फिरता हूँ ।
मुझ पतित को पावनकर दे, हे मेरे शिरडी के नाथ ॥ १ ॥

हे शिरडी के नाथ ! तू तो सार्वभौम सर्वव्यापी है !
मैं मूढ तुझे खोजने लगा केवल शिरडी की गलियों में ॥
तेरा प्रभुत्व फैला है अवनी और अंबर तक ।
मेरा भी उद्धार कर दे, हे दिव्यस्वरूप शिरडी के नाथ ॥२॥

हे शिरडी के नाथ तू भक्ताश्रय सर्वोद्धार है ।
तेरी उदी से महक उठी मेरे जीवन की फुलवारी ॥
उतांग तरंगों के बीच अब मेरी नौका किनारे आयी ।
हे मेरे स्वामी मैं कैसे और किन शब्दों में गाऊ तेरे गान ॥३॥

श्रीमती प्रेमलता मेढ

c/o डाँ. ओ. पी. शाह, नानी छिपवाड, बडौदा (गुजरात) ३९०००६



साईबाबा की कृपा

मेरे पिताजी और मैं साईभक्त हैं ! कुछ बाबाके अनुभवोंको बारेमें नीचे लिख रहा हूँ ।

मेरे पिताजी बंगलोर एक बड़े रईस आदमी थे । वे जाने माने मनी लेंडर थे । किन्तु किसी कारण वश हमारा सब कुछ लुट गया । और हम लोग भिकारी हो गये । उस वक्त मेरे पिताजीके पास एक श्री साई बाबाकी तस्वीर थी जिसे मेरे पिताजी बहुत भक्तिभावसे नमस्कार करते थे । हमारा सब कुछ लुट जानेके बाद मैं उस दिनों में एक दर्जीके दुकानमें एक रुपये तनखापर नौकरी कर रहा था । उसी दिनसे मैंने बाबाकी प्रार्थना शुरू की और उनसे रो रो कर बिनती की कि मेरी तनखा पच्चीस रुपये और बढ़ादे । किन्तु आश्चर्यकी बात ये है की, मेरी बिनती बाबाने सुनकर आज फिर से मुझे एक बड़ा आदमी बनाया है । आज मेरी बंगलोर शहरमें तीन फॅक्टरीयाँ, शॉप्स इ, हैं । यह सब बाबाके आशीर्वाद का ही फल है ।

एक दिन हररोजकी तरह मैंने शामको अपनी दुकानका शटर बन्द किया और जल्दीमें अपनी स्कूटर निकालकर अपने घरकी ओर चल पडा । जल्दीमें होनेके कारण दुकानकी चावीयाँ मैंने वही तालेमें छान्ड रखी थी । उसे निकालना भूल गया । दूसरे दिन सुबह मेरे पडोसी दुकानदारने मुझे टेलिफोनपर बताया की दुकान की चावी तालेमेंही पडी है और उसके बाजूमें एक बुढा आदमी बैठा है । पहले तो ये बातपर मेरा विश्वास नहीं था । क्योंकि मैं हमेशा अपनी दुकानकी चावी साथ में लाता हूँ और घरपर आनेके बाद मेरी बिवी उसे अलमारी में रखती है । यह बात मैंने अपने पडोसीसे कह दी । उसके पश्चात् मैंने घरमें चावी की खोज की तो मुझे कहीं भी नहि मिली । जल्दीसे स्नान करके और बाबा के दर्शन लेकर मैं तुरन्त अपने दुकान पास पहुँचा । मैं तो काफी परेशान था क्योंकि दुकान में हजारों रुपये पडे थे और लाखोंका माल भी पडा था । किन्तु उस बुढे आदमी को देखकर मुझे बाबा की तस्वीर याद आ गयी । मैंने उसे पुछा की बाबा आप यहाँ क्या कर रहे हो । तो उसने जबाब दिया की “बेटा मैं लोकल ऑफिसमें कुछ पैसे लेकर अपने घर कल रातको जा रहा था । अचानक

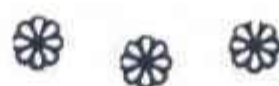
मैने देखा की तुम्हारे दुकान की चाबी तालमें ली पडी है ! रातभर मै यहाँ बैठा रहा ।” मैने उसे धन्यवाद दिया और पूछा की, “बाबा भापको क्या चाहिये ।” उसने तुरन्त जबाब दिया, “सिर्फ सच्चा रूपया ।” ये बुढा आदमी श्री साईबाबा क शिवाय और कोई नही होगा ।

हमेशा अपने धन्देके लिये मुझे एक शहरसे दुसरे शहरमें जाना पडता है । इसी कारणवश मै एक बार जाँयटिक्रफकी विमारीसे जर्जर था । बहोत बडे बडे डॉक्टर, फिजिशियन, सर्जनसे इलाज किया परन्तु कुछ नहि बन पाया । मेरे बिबी के भाई सर्जन थे । उन्होने मुझे बताया की ये केस फिजिशियन का नही है सर्जरी का है । उन्हीके सलाहसे उनकी दवाईयाँ सुरू की । मुझे १०६, ११० बुखार था । बुखारसे मै काफी कमजोर हो गया था और एक कदम भी चल नहीं सकता था । डॉक्टरने मुझे सलाह दी की मेरी लिव्हर खराब हो चुकी है और उसका ऑपरेशन करनेकी आवश्यकतापर जा र दिया ।

मै हॉस्पिटलमें दाखल हो गया । किन्तु कमजोरी के कारण डॉक्टर सलाइन भी नहि दे सकते थे । मेरा ऑपरेशन सोमवारके दिन निश्चित हुआ था । उसके पहले दिन याने इतवार के दिन मैने अपने बिबी बच्चोंको मेरे पास बुलाकर व्यवहारके बारेमें सबकुछ बतला दिया । बैंक लोन, वभूली इ. किन्तु उसके दुसरे दिन सोमवारको डॉक्टरने मुझे चेक करनेके बाद निर्णय लिया की ये ऑपरेशन इतनी कमजोरी के हालत मे नही हा सकेगा । और ग्लुकोज सलाइन की आवश्यकतापर जोर दिया । उसक बाद डॉक्टरने गुरुवारका दिन ऑपरेशन के लिये तय किया । तब मैने डॉक्टरको और बिबीको बतला दिया की मै मरनेवाला नही हूँ । मै अच्छी तरहसे ठीक हो जाऊंगा । क्योंकि गुरुवार मेरे बाबा का दिन था और हर गुरुवार को मै उम्वास करता था । और हुआ ही वैसा । मैने अपने आँखोंसे बाबाको ऑपरेशन थिएटरमें टेबलपर सोते हुआ देखा था । आज उनकी दया और आशीर्वादसे मै बिल्कुल ठीक हूँ ।

एम. मोहनलाल

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शिर्डीयात्रा से लाभ

दिनांक ९-१०-८१ को मैं अपने पती के साथ विजयादशमी का कार्यक्रम शिर्डी में पूरा करके अपने गांव वापस आते थे। मैं अपने पती के साथ विजयादशमी के दिन (दि. ८-१०-८१) रात्रभर समाधी मन्दिर में बैठ गयी और हमने स्नान करने के पश्चात समाधीमन्दिर के १०८ प्रदक्षणा की। रात्रभर की जागरण होने पर भी हमने ९-१०-८१ की दोपहर की आरती के पश्चात अपने गांव जाने की तैयारी की। हमें मनमाड मोटर में खड़े रहना पडा। लेकिन हमने बाबा का नाम लेकर शिर्डी गांव छोडा।

साथ में बाबा का प्रसाद भी हमने रखवा था। गाडी शाम को ६ बजे की थी। नागपूर जाने के लिये १२ घण्टे लगते है। मैंने पती से गाडी का रिइर्वेशन करने को कहा। परन्तु जगा नहीं थी। हमें बहुत दुख हुआ। अब हम कैसे करें। हमने बाबा के उपर ब्रह्म डाल दिया और साईबाबा का नाम लेकर हम मनमाड स्टेशन में बैठे रहे।

गाडी का समय हो गया और गाडी आते ही हमें बिल्कुल सामने की डिब्बे में ही बैठने का स्थान मिला। गाडी में बैठते ही श्री साईबाबा के दर्शन हुये। यह सब बाबा की कृपा थी। गाडी में बैठते ही हम सो गये। हम दोनों को नींद आ गई।

शेगांव स्टेशन आनेके पहले हम दोनों उठे। बाबा का प्रसाद खाना था। पर पीने को पानी नहीं था। शेगांव स्टेशन पर पानी हमें अपने डिब्बे के सामने मिला। हमने दो गिलास में पानी लेकर प्रसाद खाया और फिर सो गये।

सुबह बाबाने आवाज दी "नागपूर आ गया"। यह सब बाबा की कृपा है। यह सब बाबा की लीला है। यह सब शिर्डी यात्रा का फल है।

सौ. सुमन फुले
रविशंकर वार्ड, गोंदिया, जिला भन्डारा



साई दुनियाके रिश्तेदार

साईबाबा तो इक फकीर थे
अपने दिलके वे इक अमीर थे
तू मान बेशक खुदा उन्हे, सारे दुनियाके रिश्तेदार थे ॥ धृ ॥

नाम न था कोई उस फकीर का
ना कोई उनको पहचानता
इक म्हालसाने दिलसे बुलाया
तबसे सब साई पुकारता
हर इक लीलामें नये चमत्कार थे
साई अल्लाके एक अवतार थे
तू मान बेशक खुदा उन्हे..... ॥ १ ॥

प्रेम दृष्टीसे जो कोई देखे
उनकी ओर साई देखता
दयावाणीसे जो कोई बोले
उनसे सिर्फ साई बोलता
फिर भय है तुम्हे किस बातका
माँग जो चाहे दिलकी उमीद का
तू मान बेशक खुदा उन्हे..... ॥ २ ॥

बिनती से माँगे और न मिले
ऐसा कभी नहीं हो सकता
शिरडी मे आके झोली भर ले
खाली कभी ना लौट सकता
दीन दुर्बलोंके वह मददगार थे
सारे संसारके वह रचनाकार थे
तू मान बेशक खुदा उन्हे..... ॥ ३ ॥

सन्जय के. परळकर

नाना निवास, गोखले रोड (साउथ) दादर पोलीस स्टेशन के सामने, बम्बई ४०० ०२८

वसई (पूर्व) में साई मन्दिर

वसई स्टेशन के पूर्व दिशामें गोखिलरा गांव में मेरी प्रिन्टिंग प्रेस है ! उसी प्रेस के कम्पाउण्ड में साईबाबा की एक विशाल मूर्ती स्थापित करने की योजना है । दिनांक ८-१०-८१ को श्री के. पी. श्रीवास्तव तथा उनकी पत्नी श्रीमती माधुरी श्रीवास्तव ने शाम ६ बजे जमीन की पूजा विधिवत मन्त्रोच्चार के साथ किया । उस अवसर पर बम्बई से तथा वसई के प्रतिष्ठित लोग उस वक्त पर मौजूद थे । पूजा के बाद प्रसाद वितरण हो गया और सब लोग चले गये । दिनांक ८-१०-८१ को बृहस्पतवार था । उसके ठीक तीसरे दिन याने शनिवार के दिन दो बजे जब प्रेस के कर्मचारियों लन्च लेते थे तब एक काला सर्प जो बहुत लम्बा था वेदी के पास आया जहाँ जमीन की पूजा की गयी थी । लेकिन सभी लोगों की दौड़नेपर वह सर्प धीरे धीरे उदरसे हटकर एक झाड़ के पास बैठ गया । सब लोगों ने हाथ जोड़कर उनसे नमस्कार किया । फिर शाम पावणेसात बजे वह सर्प वेदी पास आ गया और उधर बैठकर उस जमीन को ४ या ५ बार मस्तक नमाया और फिर २ बार परिक्रमा किया । इस काले सर्प के साथ दो अन्य जंगली सर्प थे जो कि वेदी के बाहर ही रुक रहे और जब काला सर्प जाने लगा तो उसी के साथ दोनों चले गये ।

इसके ठीक दूसरे दिन एक बुढ़े से बाबा आये और वेदी के पास खडे होकर कहने लगे की, “मुझे मालुम हुआ है कि यहाँ मन्दिर बन रहा है । मैं इसलिए आया हूँ ।” मैंने पूछा, “बाबा, आप कहाँ रहते है ।” तो उन्होने कहा की “मैं हरद्वार से आया हूँ ।” मैंने कहा, “बाबा आप कुछ जलपान गृहण कर लो ।” तो उन्होने कहा, “अभी नहीं । फिर मैं आऊँगा ।” मैंने पूछा, “बाबा, आप कब आवोगे ।” तो उन्होने कहा, “अभी आप लोगोंने जहाँ पूजा की है उधर अभी बाबा नहीं है । इसलिए जब मूर्ती स्थापित होगी तब मैं अवश्य आऊँगा । जिससे आप लोगोंको पूरा विश्वास हो जाय ।” बाबा के आने के बाद ही से उस वेदीपर बड़ी धूमधाम से माला, फूल, अगरबत्ती दिया लोग बहुत उत्साह से जला रहे है । कुछ लोग बड़ी श्रद्धासे उधर मान मनौती कर रहे है और उसमें सफल हो रहे है । उस वेदी पर साईबाबा की

एक फोटो रखी हुई है और उसके बाहर दो कुत्ते २४ घंटे बैठे रहते हैं। साईं भक्तों के लिये यह एक नया श्रद्धास्थान वसई में तैयार हो रहा है। जो साईं-भक्त उसका लाभ उठाना चाहता है, वह जरूर उठा सकता है।

त्रिवेणी प्रसाद

व्दारा प्रसाद प्रिन्टर्स, अच्युलाय पडखल रोड, गोखिवरा, वसई (पूर्व), जिल्हा ठाणे

पतीतपावन साईं नाम

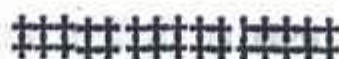
रघुपती राघव राजाराम, पतीत पावन साईं नाम ॥ धृ० ॥

ज्योत गयी वो धुवा गया, प्रकाश फिर भी नहीं गया ।
मनमें साईं नाम लिया, हमारा साईं दौड़ आया ॥
मस्जिद के हो तुम भगवान, शरण तुम्हारी आये हम ।
प्रगटे जबसे साईं राम, शिरडी बना है तीरथ धाम ॥ १ ॥

श्रद्धा सबूरी मंत्र दिया, दुर्बुद्धी को नष्ट किया ।
भक्तोने जो ज्ञान लिया, मुक्ती का ही पथ पया ॥
गाते साईं के गुणगान, सफल हुए है सब ही काम ।
सेवाकाही है वरदान, एक है अल्ला मालिक राम ॥ २ ॥

जगमें मालिक एक सबका, जगमें सब है मालिक का ।
हुआ जो साईं बाबा का, फल पाया वो जनमो का ॥
परम कृपालू साईं तुम, दूर किये है सारे गम ।
पावन बन गया ये जीवन, गाते गाते साईं नाम ॥ ३ ॥

मधुकर गजाननराव अम्बाडे
अम्बाडे निवास, लकडी पुल के सामने दांडिया बजार, बडौदा ३९० ००१



मेरे मन कर तू साई को प्रणाम

परं मन मत हो उदास
+या हुआ कोई नहीं तेरे पास
साथ देंगे तुझको तेरे साई राम
मेरे मन कर तू साई को प्रणाम ॥ १ ॥

तेरे साई में है बड़ी शक्ति
इनके आगे दुनिया है झुकती
इनकी शक्ति तुझको देगी काम
मेरे मन कर तू साई को प्रणाम ॥ २ ॥

दुख में पुकारे तू साई को
सुख में मत भूल साई को
हरपल ले तू साई का नाम
मेरे मन कर तू साई को प्रणाम ॥ ३ ॥

शिर्डी में तेरे साई रहते थे
जहाँ रोग दुख जाने से डरते थे
शिर्डी में है चारों धाम
मेरे मन कर तू साई को प्रणाम ॥ ४ ॥

दया और प्रेम के सागर तेरे साई
उनकी नजरों में हिन्दु - मुस्लीम सब भाई
सबका मालीक एक कहते साई राम
मेरे मन कर तू साई को प्रणाम ॥ ५ ॥

हरिनाथ टी. कहार

१७/१४०५, कन्नमवार नगर - १, विक्रोली (पूर्व) बम्बई ६०० ०८३

प्रार्थना

शिर्डीवाले साई नाथ ॥
आया है तेरे नाम मुझको याद ।
शिर्डीवाले साई नाथ ॥
आया है, तेरे मन्दिर के सामने
हो तू कुछ भी कर दे संकट को दूर भगा दे
ना तेरे दर्शन लिये बीना
घर ना, लौट जाये
शिर्डीवाले साई नाथ ।
आया है, तेरे नाम का मुझको याद
शिर्डीवाले साई नाथ
हो, तेरे दर्शन लूंगा ।
तेरी सेवा करूंगा ।
तुझे फूलों की माला, अर्पण करूंगा
घर आकर तेरी भक्ती करूंगा
यश दे या न दे तेरे सवाले ।
शिर्डीवाले साई नाथ ॥
आया है तेरे, नाम का मुझको याद ।
शिर्डीवाले साई नाथ ॥
तू सबका भला कर दे ।
किसी का ना बुरा करना
ना हमे पाप बुद्धी देना
य है मेरे विचार, तेरे चरणों मे ।
शिर्डीवाले साई नाथ ॥

सन्तोष विठ्ठल मणचेकर

टागोर नगर, बिल्डिंग नं. ४२ रुम नं. १३४०, विक्रोली, बम्बई ४०० ०८३



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