

SHRI SAILEELA

Official Organ of Shirdi Sansthan



Shri Baba used to go to Lendi Baug and sit there for
doing his yoga practices

श्री साईनाथ वाचनालय
की साईबाबा संस्थान, शिर्डी.

August 1985

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CONTENTS

		Page
1	A Quote for the Month	2
2	Editorial	3
3	Shirdi Sai Baba	V. Rama Mohana Rao 6
4	Shri Sainath Maharaj Fulfil My Desire	Shri Chandra Nath Laha 7
5	H. H. Narsimha Swamiji (Revived Memories)	Smt. Sita Shri 9
6	Extracts From "Shirdi Diary"	Shri G. S. Khaparde 13
7	The First Gurupoornima in Shirdi	(A Sai Devotee) 21
8	Who Was That Arab ?	Shri Pralhad Hulyalkar 23
9	A Devotee's Experiences of Baba's Miracles	Shri S. M. Banerjee 25
10	How Baba Saved My Life	Shri L. S. Narayan 27
11	Spiritual Guide Sai Baba	Shri Anil Keshavrao Rasal 29
12	What Prayer Means to Every Individul	Shri V. Ganesh 31
13	Sai Baba-Our Sheet Anchor	Shri R. K. Bhatnagar 32
14	We Now Present	Mrs. Usha Ranganathan 34
15	Prophet of One Humanity	M. Rangachari (President) 35
16	The Ocean of Divine Grace	Dr. Vijay Lakshmi Verma 37
17	Prayer as Self - Offering	V. M. Hatwar 40
18	Kingdom of Sai	Shri R. S. Ramakrishnan 41
19	The Treasury of Thoughts	Shri Shyam Juwale 44
20	Obituary	46
21	News from Shirdi	47
22	News from Other Sai Centres	48



SHRI
SAILEELA

**Official Organ of
Shirdi Sansthan**

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**To guide the world on the right path
is the principal aim of SHRI SAI LEELA**

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A Quote for the Month

“O Kalamas, do not accept what I have said to you because it has been so said in the past; do not accept it because it has been handed down by tradition; do not accept it thinking it may be so; do not accept it because it is also in the holy scriptures; do not accept it because it can be proved by inference; do not accept it thinking it is worldly wisdom; do not accept it because it seems to be plausible; do not accept it because it coincides with your belief; do not accept it because it is said by a famous or holy monk; but if you find that it appeals to your discrimination and conscience as being conducive to your benefit and happiness, then accept it and live up to it.” ★

Advice of Gautama Buddha
to Kalamas, a Kshatriya
tribe of Kosaladesh





It is only by the Divine Grace of God that one finds a Sadguru in his lifetime and it is only by His will that one gets an opportunity to serve Him. Not many amongst us are fortunate enough to meet the Sadguru in person and to serve Him while He is in flesh and blood. But is it not equally true that a Sadguru, like Baba, transcends the bounds of time and space and the frail, physical frame that He temporarily inhabits? The devotees' experiences of Baba's timely help and guidance that pour into the pages of this magazine, day after day, are eloquent testimony not only to His love and care of His devotees but also to His continued Presence transcending the limits of the physical world. Surely, if spiritual growth and fulfilment in life be possible, serving such a Sadguru must be one of the ways of attaining it! It is, therefore, in this spirit of humble service to Baba that I have taken up the editorship of this magazine that has been entrusted to me.

If I were to say that I shall do my best for this magazine, or that I shall spare no efforts to bring it up, it would be presumptuous on my part. As Shri Dabholkar has rightly pointed out in "Shri Sai Satcharita", who am I to say that "I will do this" or "I will do that?" (Chap. 2), and assume so much importance for myself? After all, we are but an instrument in the process while He is the moving spirit behind it. It is thus, Baba Himself who gets His work done through us. All we can

do is to place humbly at His service whatever powers He may have gifted us with.

Guru-seva, or serving the Sadguru is not always so easy. It is at once a boon and a trial. For, the Guru tries us in many ways to test our steadfastness, faith and patience. In the parable of His own Guru ("Shri Sai Satcharita", Chap. 32), Baba has described the hard tests that His Guru put Him to and has thus impressed upon us the importance of Faith and Endurance (SHRADDHA and SABURI), the only form of Dakshina that the Guru expects from us. It is in the face of hardships, in the moments of doubt and hesitation that these two qualities are put to a sore test and it is only by praying to Baba for strength and help that we can stand these tests.

The difficulties in the path of Guru-seva are many and some arise from within our own selves. The greatest among our enemies is the Ego which raises its ugly head, sometimes even without our knowledge. Even the great sages of old, who were full of wisdom, found it difficult to conquer the ego. Difficult it certainly is, but all the same, it is essential to conquer it. Guruseva, therefore, demands, first and foremost, a spirit of humility.

Here, once again, Baba has given us valuable instruction-this time through precept and example, as He has at other times taught us through parables. The story of Baba's service to Jawahar Ali, narrated in Shri Sai Satcharita (Chap. 5), immediately comes to our mind. Jawahar Ali, a fakir who was in no way comparable to Baba in his spiritual or temporal powers, posed himself as His Guru and was served by Baba sincerely and in all humility. Baba seemed to suggest that unless Guru-seva is infused with such humility, it can never lead us onwards, on the path of spiritual progress. Moreover, it is worth remembering that Baba did not say "I am God" (अनल हक्क), but rather that "I am the servant of God" (यादे हक्क). He was thus the very

personification of humility. From His example and from His words of wisdom we come to understand the true meaning of "Guru-seva". We can only pray to Him that He gives us the necessary understanding to imbibe the true spirit of humility so that we may serve Him whole-heartedly.

It is this desire to serve Baba in all sincerity and humility that brings us all, the Sai devotees, together into a common brotherhood. We all share one faith and one goal and owe allegiance to the one Godhead. We are inspired by the one common desire to convey Baba's message, the impact of His Presence, of His life and teachings far and wide. And this is what "Shri Sai Leela" primarily sets out to do. It is true that this magazine is the official organ of the Sai Sansthan and, therefore, the various schemes, projects, and other activities of the Sansthan reach the public through its medium. But it is also the vehicle for the devotees' personal experiences which are nearest and dearest to their hearts. Such experiences which find a spontaneous expression in their articles, letters, poems etc. also carry the power to convince those who read them. One tends to dwell thoughtfully and for long on Baba's teachings and tenets, and various aspects of His life, as they are put before us from different points of view by devotees who have studied them carefully and published the studies in the pages of "Shri Sai Leela". But the magazine also envisages a widening of its scope to include articles on other Saints, thereby stressing the universal brotherhood of all Saints which Baba Himself emphasised from time to time, and on other thought-provoking topics which can help us to understand Baba better and carry his message to an ever-widening circle of readers. May Baba bless our efforts. ★





Shirdi Sai Baba

Shraddha and Saburi must be your primary qualifications.
Have faith and confidence in Me. Do not be idle. Chant
My name.

I am Omnipresent, the sole controller of the Universe.

Remember Me always in all ways.

Dwarakamayee is very merciful She saves you from all calamities.

It is all God's play. He is the creator, sustainer and destroyer.

Surrender to Me fully and I will do the rest.

All persons and creatures are different in form because of
previous actions.

I will not allow My devotees to perish. I will take full care
of them.

Believe Me. Meditate on Me. Then the goal will be achieved.

All this is God's Leela. Brahma and Maya are My parents.

Be contented and cheerful. If you do not heed to this I leave
you to your fate

Allah Achha Karega. Allah (God) is the sole protector

V. Rama Mohana Rao

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Shri Sainath Maharaj Fulfils My Desire

Ever since I am devoted to Lord Sainath Maharaj, there have been several instances in my life where I have been helped by my Great Spiritual Master. I shall relate below one most important problem which was solved with ease by Shri Sai Baba.

I was previously residing at B. K. Pal Avenue (Calcutta) where I had to confront several problems because of acute housing shortage there. Apart from the limited space available to me, I had no mental peace and I was facing this difficulty for many years.

One day I happened to visit the Shirdi Sai Baba temple at 39, Jatindas Road, Calcutta-29 with one of my dear friends. That was the first time I had the fortune of visiting any temple of Baba. I had never heard of any Sai Baba temple before.

Believe it or not, the moment I stepped into the temple, I felt Baba's bliss and mental peace at once descended on me. I mentally prayed to Baba to allot a separate residence for me as I no longer felt comfortable then, in my old place.

For years I had been sincerely trying to find a new rented flat but on every occasion the monthly rent was beyond my capacity to pay. As a result I was disappointed and my mind was depressed.

In the middle of July 1984, I went to see a new flat at Tala Park Area but I subsequently learnt that the rent was double my salary and hence impossible for me to afford. The broker who offered to show me the flat not only insulted me but refused to show me the flat properly. I had to return disappointed and on the same night I prayed - "Baba, why am I facing this difficulty when you are there?" I immediately remembered Baba's saying :- "Why fear when I am there?" So I left it to Him to decide about this matter.

Next morning, unexpectedly, a telephone call came from my elder sister who told me there is a vacant flat at Tala Park - the very place I had been the other day to see another flat and where I was insulted. I immediately left to see the flat. I saw the flat and it was approved by my family members. The rent was also nominal and within my capacity to pay. The place had pleasant surroundings and was equipped with all amenities. Even the neighbours also are good natured and co-operative.

So is it not Baba's blessing to me? Baba helped me to find a place at Tala Park which was totally impossible under normal circumstances. Moreover, after I negotiated for this flat there were several others who had approached and requested the landlord but by the grace of Baba I got the flat.

To me, Baba is omnipresent. He is ever active even after His Mahasamadhi and is continuing to guide His devotees and help them during their times of trouble.

I humbly bow my head at Baba's lotus feet.

At the service of the Supreme Master,

His humble servant and devotee.

Shri Chandra Nath Laha
Standard Chartered Bank, Current Accounts Department,
4, Netaji Subhas Road, Post Box 40, Calcutta - 700 001.



H. H. Narasimha Swamiji

(Revived memories)

ज्ञानशक्तिसमारूढः तत्त्वमालाविभूषितः ।

युक्तिमुक्तिप्रदाता च तस्मै श्रीगुरवे नमः ॥

Guru Purnima marks the beginning of Chaturmasya Vrata which is of particular significance to sanyasins. Nevertheless, others too celebrate the function with great pomp as a mark of respect and reverence for their individual gurus. Jagadguru Shankaracharya, the living saint of Kanchi, has said that four names in the lineage of gurus (guru parampara)—Guru, Paramaguru, Parameshti guru and Parapara guru should be invoked. In keeping with this tradition let us mentally prostrate before H. H. Narasimha Swamiji and Veda Vyas, the Adi Guru and Parapara guru, besides offering our prayers to Lord Shri Sai Nath, our Sadguru.

H. H. Narasimha Swamiji has been instrumental in propagating the name of Shri Sai Baba in South India. Swamiji had acquired universal acclamation and admiration during his own life time for his untiring efforts in the field of Sai Prachar.

Though I had some authentic information about Swamiji from my beloved father, who incidentally hailed from Salem and also started his career as a lawyer (but later he switched over to Government service and joined Madras High Court from where he retired as Chief Appeal Examiner), it was only in 1953 I came into personal contact with Swamiji through the influence of my uncle late D. Bhima Rao, Retd. Post Master General of Madras Presidency. My uncle used to spend hours together in the company of Swamiji, with the result, the mantle of All India Sai Samaj Presidentship fell on his shoulders after the Maha-samadhi of Swamiji.

I was staying with my aunt and uncle studying for my post-graduate Diploma course in social work (which I gave up as per Baba's guidance) in a women's college in Madras. Whenever time and leisure permitted I used to visit AISS and have darshan of Swamiji.

In the month of November, the same year, if I could rely on my memory, AISS was making elaborate preparations for performing Kumbhabhishekam to the temple. On that auspicious day I took 'French leave' from my college and went to AISS to participate in the function. Thousands of devotees had gathered in the big hall (which had only thatched roofing) and the Abhishekam to the Kumbhum was going on to the chanting of mantras in accordance with Shastric rites. My eyes surveyed the area to catch a glimpse of Swamiji. But he was conspicuously missing from the scene of activity. When I casually enquired from a lady standing by my side where Swamiji was, she told me that, that very morning Swamiji had a fall while having his bath and that he had been removed to General Hospital with a fractured thigh! The news was too shocking for my weak nerves to bear. I had no mind to stay till the end to receive Prasad. I took the earliest bus and dashed to Madras General Hospital.

All along the bus journey I was thinking of Swamiji. Why should such a mishap befall a spiritual person? Why could not Baba prevent it as Swamiji was His chosen apostle? Well, I got the answer for my questions that evening.

By Baba's grace I had no difficulty in locating the ward (I had no entry pass!) and the cloth board of AISS with Sai Nath's picture and the name H. H. Narasimha Swamiji hung at the entrance, greeted me. With faltering steps I entered the room. Swamiji with his thigh in plaster was reclining on the bed. There was one other gentleman, perhaps AISS sevak, in the room. On the table by the bed side was kept a large photo of Sai Nath. Swamiji as usual greeted me with his benign smile.

He looked quite composed and cheerful despite the agony he must have been suffering. My lips quivered, words failed me. I had not taken even fruits for Swamiji, not knowing or probably forgetting my mother's injunction that when one visits the sick in the hospital, or a holy man, or a pregnant lady or a nursing mother one should always carry fruits or flowers for offering! I was sitting speechless in front of Swamiji for about 10 minutes. Swamiji and the attendant were conversing about some thing I did not care to listen.

When I got up to take leave of Swamiji He picked up 2 pods of Orange and 2 packets of Udhi and placing them in my hands said, "My dear child, you are lucky, you are getting every thing in double". The number, I understand is auspicious. Well this was the last I saw of my beloved Swamiji. That Tejas in his face ever so serene, the light in his eyes, the gentle smile playing on his lips, and above all, his prophetic words, have all made an indelible impression on me.

In the evening I again went to AISS to offer my prayers to Sai Nath for the speedy recovery of Swamiji. When I was casually discussing about Swamiji's fall and his subsequent hospitalization, to my pleasant surprise I heard a devotee narrate how a week prior to the occasion Swamiji had a vision of Sai Baba waking him up in the early hours, saying, "you perform the initial rites connected with the Kumbhabhishekam, you consecrate the kumbham with your own hands!" Swamiji, who understood that the instruction was coming directly from Sai Baba, did the consecration accordingly.

Baba did answer my question as to why Swamiji sustained the fracture. It was his Prarabda karma and none, not even saints, can avoid the consequences of his actions—good or bad,—of his previous birth, but has to face them in the present life. Sai Baba, the Trikala Jnani as He was, knew Swamiji's destiny and could not avert it. But since he was dear to Him he got the consecration done at Swamiji's hands. Likewise Ramakrishna Paramahansa,

in 1886, suffered from throat cancer and when he prayed to Kali, the Goddess said it was due to his previous karma and he had to endure it!

When I visited Shirdi in Jan. 1985, to participate in the Sai Leela Writers Gathering, I had the golden opportunity to be blessed by Pujya Sri L. S. Naik, President of 1984 Sai Leela Meet. I met him at Dwarakamai. He showed me the historic place and the very pillar where Sai Baba had stood leaning and resting his arm and had blessed him. I felt a thrill in my heart when I heard him narrate his experience.

Likewise, I recount with pleasure my experience of H. H. Swamiji. True, Swamiji and Sai Maharaj are not bodily present with us. BUT there is no gainsaying the fact that they do make their spiritual presence felt in a subtle form, throbbing in the heart of every sincere devotee, enriching and ennobling his life, both materially and spiritually.

Thanks to Sai Leela magazine which fulfils the needs and wishes of ardent devotees whose number is ever on the increase. With sincere prayers to Sai Nath to see that His Prasad in the form of Sai Leela reaches every nook and corner of the world I conclude.

Shri Sai Sadguru Maharaj ki Jai. ★

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Extracts From Shirdi Diary Of Hon'ble
Mr. Ganesh Shrikrishna Khaparde,
Advocate, Umraoti

[The Hon'ble Shri Ganesh Shrikrishna Khaparde was not only a renowned lawyer of Amravati (with a large lucrative practice on the criminal side), but also a distinguished aide of Lokmanya Tilak who was then serving a sentence for six years in the Mandalay Jail in Burma. A member of the Central Legislative Assembly and an eloquent speaker, Shri Khaparde was also a learned Sanskrit and Marathi scholar, well-versed in the major works on spiritual matters in both these languages. There is a reference to his exquisite exposition of Vidyaranya's "Panchadashi" in Shri Dabholkar's "Shri Sai Satcharit". (Chap. 27).

Shri Khaparde and his wife were both great devotees of Shri Sai Baba and in the course of his visits, Shri Khaparde seems to have made a fairly long stay at Shirdi on two occasions—once for seven days in 1910 and again, for 3-4 months in 1911. Interestingly enough on both these occasions, he has kept a detailed diary, which, incidentally, has acquired historical importance for us today. The general style of writing and especially, a certain reticence about revealing personal feelings and reactions, tends to make it something of a memorandum for future reference, and perhaps, such was his intention for, judging from its general style, he could hardly have meant it for publication. Even so, it has not failed to bring out the full impact of Shri Sai Baba's presence,— his cryptic remarks, his teaching through parables, and above all, his intense love for humanity. The very atmosphere of those days is recreated for us in these pages. Unfortunately, this "Diary", published years ago by the All India Sai Samaj, Madras, is no longer available to the devotees. Hence this reprint in the pages of Shri Sai Leela magazine. Shri Baba willing, it may even come out in the book form in the near future.

— Editor.]

5-12-1910

We reached Shirdi about 4 p.m. We put up in the Wada built for the convenience of people by R. B. Sathe. Madhavrao Deshpande was very obliging and helped us and treated us like guests. There are in the Wada Tatyasahib Nulkar with his family, Bapusahib Jog, and Babasahib Sahasrabuddhe. We all went to see Sayin Maharaj soon after our arrival. He was in the Musjid. After salutation I and my son offered the fruits brought by us and gave some money at his request. The Sayin Saheb then said that he has not been well for the last two years and more, that he used to eat only barley cake and take a little water. He showed his foot and pointed to a small sore, said it was the stringworm, that it was extracted but the string snapped and then it reappeared and so on. He said he heard that it would not be well with him till he went to his native town. He said he kept it in view but that was all, he cared more for his people than even for his own life. He said he found no rest as people troubled him. It could not be helped. Then he told us to withdraw which we did. Towards evening he passed by the Wada, and we went and saluted him. I and Madhavrao Deshpande were together. After we saluted, he said "Go to the Wada and sit quiet." So I and Madhavrao returned. We all sat talking. They have many miracles to relate.

6-12-1910

In the morning I had a walk and after bath we all saw Sayin Maharaj going out with an embroidered big umbrella held over his head. Later on we went to Musjid. Sai Baba appeared to be somewhat excited. Then he got up, distributed the food accumulated there, and after giving Udi-ashes, requested us to withdraw. We did so. The midday meal was not served till nearly half past two in the afternoon. After it we sat talking, saw Sayin Maharaj in the evening when he came out for a walk. Later on we went to the Chavadi where Sayin Maharaj sleeps

tonight. He was accompanied by the Umbrella of State, Silver stick, Chavaris and fans etc, etc. The place was tastefully lighted. The lady who is known as Radhakrishna came out with lights. I saw her from a distance. Madhavrao Deshpande said he would be away tomorrow and return the day after. He asked for and obtained Sayin Maharaja's permission to go.

7-12-1910

In the morning, after my prayer, Mr. Bala Saheb Bhate, who is a retired Mamlatdar, came to the Wada and sat talking with us. He has been staying here for some time and has a peculiar kind of calm on his face. We saw Sayin Maharaj as he was going out and went to him in the musjid in the afternoon. I, Babasaheb Sahasrabuddhe, my son Baba, Bapusaheb Jog and children went together and sat there. Sayin Maharaj appeared to be in good humour. He asked Babasaheb Sahasrabuddhe whether he came from Bombay. Babasaheb replied in the affirmative. Babasaheb was then asked whether he would return to Bombay. He again replied in the affirmative, but added that he could not be certain of remaining there as it would depend on circumstances. Sayin Maharaj remarked, "Yes. It is true, you have many things on hand and have to undertake more. You should remain here some four or five days. You will be here, you should see for yourself. The experiences gone through are real. They are not fanciful. I was here thousands of years ago". The Sayin Maharaj turned to me and started on apparently a new track. He said "This world is funny. All are my subjects. I look upon all equally, but some become thieves and what can I do for them? People who are themselves very near death desire and make preparations for the death of others. They offended me a great deal. They hurt me a good deal, but I said nothing. I kept quiet. God is very great and has his officers everywhere. They are all powerful. One must be content with the state in which God keeps him. But I am very powerful. I was here eight or ten thousand years ago." My son asked him to tell a

story as he told him before. Sayin Maharaj asked what story it was. My son replied that it was a story about three brothers who went to a Musjid. One of them wished to go out and beg. The others did not want him to do that, on the ground that the food obtained by begging would be impure and would pollute their chowka. The third brother replied that if the food spoilt the chowka his legs should be cut off &c. &c. Sayin Maharaj said it was a very good story. He would tell another when he was in the humour. My son said he did not know when the thing would happen, and if the humour recurred after he left, there would not be much use. Thereupon Sayin Sahib told him that he should rest assured that the story would be told before he left. I asked him why he was angry yesterday and he replied that it was because the Teli said something. Then I asked why he cried out "Do not beat. Do not beat" today at the time of the distribution of food, and he replied that he cried out because the Patil family was quarrelling and divided among themselves. Sayin Sahib spoke with such a wonderful sweetness and he smiled so often and with such extraordinary grace that the conversation will always remain engraved in my memory. Unfortunately other people came and the conversation was interrupted. We were so sorry for it but it could not be helped. We returned talking about it. Tatyasahib Nulkar was not present during the first part of the conversation but came later on. Balasahib Bhate came in the evening and we sat again talking about the conversation.

8-12-1910

In the morning, after prayer, we saw Sayin Maharaj as usual when he was going out. Later on we went to see him in the afternoon but had to turn back as he was washing his feet. Babasaheb Sahasrabuddhe, myself, my son and a certain gentleman who came this morning formed the company that went and had to return. Tatyasahib Nulkar did not accompany us. Later on we went again, but Sayin Sahib dismissed us very soon. So we

returned. He appeared very much engaged in thinking out something. At night Sayin Sahib slept at the Chavadi and we went to see the procession. It was very nice. The gentleman mentioned above is a Police-Officer, I believe, Head Constable. He was charged with extracting money and tried by the Court of Sessions. He vowed to visit Sayin Maharaj if he was acquitted. He was acquitted and so came to fulfil his vow. On seeing him Sayin Maharaj appeared affected and said "Why did you not stay a few days there? The poor people must have felt disappointed". He repeated this twice. We learnt afterwards that the gentleman's friends pressed him to stay and that he did not comply with their request. He had never seen Sayin Saheb before, and ofcourse the latter could not have seen him before. The wonder is how Sayin Maharaj knew him and said what he did.

9-12-1910

I and my son intended going away today. In the morning, after prayer when we went as usual to see Sayin Maharaj, he asked my son if he intended going away and added that we may go away. We thought the necessary permission had been granted and made ready to start. Baba packed all things and engaged a spring cart and another to carry our things, and in the afternoon went to formally see the Sayin Maharaj before actually starting. On seeing me Sayin Maharaj said, "Do you really intend going?" I replied "I wish to go but not if you do not permit." He said, "Then you may go tomorrow or the day after. This is our house. The Wada is our house, and why need anybody be afraid while I am here? This is our house and you should look upon it as your own house". I agreed to stay and countermanded all engagements for departure. We sat down talking. Sayin Maharaj was in a very pleasant mood and said many pleasant things but I am afraid I did not understand him.

10-12-1910

In the morning after prayer I told my son Baba never to mention anything about our going away to Sayin Maharaj. He knows all and would know when to send us away. As usual we saw Sayin Saheb as he was going out, and later on when we went to the Musjid, Sayin Saheb was very much pleased and told the story of a former life of a young girl who was playing with him. He said she was an artist and died and was as usual buried. Sayin Saheb passed that way and spent a night near her tomb. So she accompanied him. He kept her in a Babul tree and then brought her here. He said he was Kabir before and used to spin yarn. The conversation was exceedingly pleasant. In the afternoon Mr. Shridharpant Paranjpe of Wardha accompanied by one Mr. Pandit, another Doctor, and a third gentleman came. Mr. Patwardhan, Junior of Ahmednagar was with them. My son and he are old college friends. They all went to see Sayin Saheb and we all accompanied them. Sayin Saheb treated them the same way as he treats everybody and talked first of Teli, Marwadi etc. etc. Then he talked of buildings that are being put up and added, "The world is gone mad. Every man has acquired a peculiarity of evil thinking. I never put myself on an equality with any of them. So I never listen to what they say. Nay, I never reply. What should I reply?" He then distributed "Udi" and told us to return to Wada. He singled out Patwardhan Junior and told him to stay behind as usual mentioning "tomorrow" as the day of departure. I and Babasaheb Sahasrabuddhe returned to Wada. It appears Paranjpe and his companions went to the lady, Radhakrishna. Bapusaheb Jog's wife has been ill. She has benefited very much by what Sayin Saheb says and he gives no medicine, but apparently she lost patience today and wanted to go away. Even Bapusaheb Jog, out of sheer helplessness agreed to let her go. Sayin Saheb made repeated inquiries about her and when she was going. When, however, in the evening Bapusaheb Jog proposed to go formally to Sayinsaheb for asking permission, she said she felt better and did not wish to go—we wondered.

11-12-1910

In the morning after I finished my prayer and had a wash, Mr. Haribhaoo Dixit of Bombay with a few companions, Mr. Tarkhad, son of the late Dr. Atmaram Pandurang, and Mr. Mahajani, who is a cousin of Annasaheb Mahajani of Akola, we went to Sayin Saheb as usual and today's conversation was both important and marked by two incidents. Sayin Maharaj said that he used to sit in a corner and desired to exchange the lower part of his body for that of a parrot. The exchange came and he did not realise for a year and lost one lakh of rupees. Then he began to sit near a post and then a great serpent woke up and was very angry. It used to jump up and also fall from above. Then he changed the subject apparently and said that he visited a place and the Patil there would not let him go unless he made a plantation and hard footpath through it. He said he completed both. Some people came in at this time. To the man, he said, "You have nobody but me to look after you." Looking round he added that she was a relation of his and had married the Rohillas who looted the man. Then he said, the world is bad. People were not as they were before. Formerly they used to be pious and trustful. Now they were unbelieving and disposed to contemplate the evil side, and then he added something which I could not catch. It was something about his father, grandfather and his becoming the one and the other alternatively. Now as to the incidents, Mr. Dixit brought fruits. Sayin Saheb ate some and was distributing the others. Balasaheb, Mamlatdar of this Taluka, was there and said that Sayin Maharaj was giving away only fruits of one kind. My son told his friend Mr. Patwardhan that Sayin Maharaj accepted or refused fruits in proportion to the devotion with which they were offered. My son, Baba, tried to tell this to me and wished to do the same to Patwardhan. This made a little noise and Sayin Maharaj looked at me with an eye that blazed wonderfully and sparkled with anger. He demanded what I said. I replied that I was saying nothing

and that children were talking with each other. He looked at my son and Patwardhan and changed the mood immediately. Towards the close Bala Saheb Mirikar remarked that Sayin Maharaj was talking all through to Haribhaoo Dixit. In the afternoon while we were at meals Mr. Mirikar's father who is an Inamdar and special Magistrate at Ahmednagar came. He is a very respectable gentleman of the old stamp. I liked his conversation very much. In the evening we saw Sayin Saheb as usual and at night we sat talking, and Mr. Nulkar's son Vishwanath did Bhajan as he does every day.

12-12-1910

In the morning after prayer we saw Sayin Maharaj passing out as usual and sat talking among ourselves as usual. Mr. Dixit appears to have turned a new leaf altogether and spends a good deal of his time in prayer, and his temper which was always mild appears to have acquired the peculiar sweetness which is entirely due to internal calm. Rao Bahadur Rajarampant Dixit came soon after from Pulgaon. He said he had no intention of visiting Shirdi when he left Nagpur, but somehow at Pulgaon he made up his mind to visit very suddenly and made the journey practically on the spur of the moment. I was very glad to see him. We all went to see Sayin Saheb later on. I was a bit late and missed a very interesting story told by him. He teaches in parables. It was about a man having a very beautiful horse, which, do what he could, would not go in pair. It was taken all round and given all the usual training, to no purpose. At last a widwan suggested its being taken to the place from which it was originally brought. This was done and then the horse went all right in the harness and became very useful. I heard tne fragment of the parable. Then he inquired when I was going. I replied that I would go when he gave me permission of his own accord to go. He replied, "You go today after taking your meals" and later on sent curds by the hands of Madhavrao Deshpande as Prasad to me. I had it at meal, and soon after it, went to Sayin Saheb. He confirmed

his permission to go as soon as I went. My son did not feel sure of the permission and so asked expressly and the permission was given in clear words. The Sayin Maharaj today asked Daxana of others, but nothing of me or my son. I was very low in funds and he appeared to know it. After saying good-bye to Mr. Nulkar, Mr. Dixit, Mr. Bapusaheb Jog, Babasaheb Sahasrabuddhe, Madhavrao Deshpande, Balasaheb Bhate, Wasudeorao and others we left with Patwardhan, Pradhan, Kaka Mahajni, Mr. Tarkhad, and Mr. Bhide who came today. We caught the train about 6.30 p. m. at Kopargaon and travelled to Manmad, Mr. Bhide getting down at Yeola. I and my son will soon leave Manmad by the Punjab Mail. ★
(to be continued)

The First Gurupoornima in Shirdi

(By a Sai - Devotee)

According to the Hindu calender, the day of full moon in the month of Ashadh is known as Vyas-guru Poornima, and is observed as the day of worship of the guru. In the PURANAS are to be found references to the practice existing from the times of Vyas of the honouring of the guru and presenting him with robes on that day. Sai devotees will naturally be eager and curious to know how gurupuja came to be observed in Shirdi.

It is a truism to say that Saibaba was no ordinary saint. He was all-knowing, all-seeing and all powerful in the sense of being able to influence the forces at work in the universe. Nothing was beyond him or could be concealed from him as he had complete knowledge of the past, the present and the future.

Saibaba's methods of imparting knowledge and grace were unconventional and varied. He never lectured or discoursed as others do. He often spoke in Parables and gave hints through

a word or a sentence or other media. The inspiration to perform guru-puja on Vyas Poornima day in Shirdi also came from Saibaba in a strange way.

In 1908, Laxman Krishnaji Nulkar, sub-judge at Pandharpur, had taken leave and was residing in the CHAVDI at Shirdi, Saibaba referred to him as "the old man". One day Saibaba remarked to Madhavrao Deshpande that the old man should be asked to worship the pillar, near the DHUNI in the Musjid, against which Saibaba often sat reclining. Madhavrao conveyed the message to Nulkar. At that time the daily worship or ARATI (waving of lights) of Saibaba had not started in Shirdi.

Both Nulkar and Madhavrao were perplexed by Saibaba's instruction. Then Nulkar referred to the PANCHANG (Hindu calendar) to see if it could shed any light and he found that it was the day of guru-puja. So they were overjoyed at the opportunity to perform puja in the Musjid, notwithstanding it was to be of the pillar. When Madhavrao went to the Musjid Saibaba said, "Why should the old man alone do the puja? Why don't you participate?" Madhavrao who was very close to and on intimate terms with Saibaba told him that he would not care to worship the pillar, but if he was permitted to worship Baba himself, he would obey his instruction. Baba first refused but ultimately granted the permission with reluctance. At that time Tatyia Kote Patil and Dadasaheb Kelkar, the other two favourite disciples of Saibaba, were also present. Dadasaheb Kelkar was fully aware of the significance of the day and knew all the rites of worship. So devotees set about the preparation with enthusiasm. They collected the things required for puja, obtained DHOTIS and after performing puja of Saibaba offered them to him. Saibaba had no use for the dhotis presented to him, but in order to inculcate the importance of guru-puja and to commence this practice in Shirdi, Saibaba gave the strange instruction. This is how Vyas-guru Poornima first came to be observed in Shirdi. Thereafter, it has been celebrated every year in Shirdi with great devotion and enthusiasm. ★

WHO WAS THAT ARAB?

Baba's Love is beyond all dimensions. A thrilling event took place in the month of November 1983. Here is a short outline of the episode. The highly tense drama took place at a far off place in Saudi Arabia, Shri Anant Haldankar is a tailor by profession at Mapusa, Goa. He pays his deep respects to Baba, whenever he comes to Calangute. His son Nandu was in Saudi Arabia. He (Nandu) and his two friends had employed a private cook to prepare their lunch and dinner. The cook was a Muslim by faith. One day the cook started acting funny. He added too much salt to the food prepared by him. Nandu and his friends came to have dinner at the usual time. They could not eat as the food was saturated with salt. They were hungry and as a result they got angry. Nandu lost his temper and he jumped from his chair to slap the cook. The cook escaped and took refuge in the nearby Mosque. Nandu entered into the Mosque and slapped the cook. The cook in turn lodged a police complaint that he was assaulted during his prayer session (Namaz). The Police van arrived immediately and arrested Nandu. In Saudi Arabia enforcement of Law is strict. No arguments, defences are entertained by the police authorities. Nandu was lodged in a temporary cell for 22 days before the actual trial began. Nandu's friends wrote to his father about what had happened. They were apprehensive that Nandu may not be able to see his parents any more. The sentence in Saudi Arabia is very harsh. No mercy is shown. They feared that Nandu's one hand and one leg would be chopped off. After two days Nandu wrote to his father expressing the same fear. He wrote to his father to forget him completely. He requested his father to go to Calangute and pray to Baba. It was the last resort. The whole family was in panic. Nandu's mother fainted, his wife and his elder sister sobbed incessantly. Shri Anant, Nandu's father did not know how to face the situation. He started trembling. Shri Anant and a close friend Shri Sham arrived at

Calangute. I learnt all as Nandu's father slowly pushed the horoscope of his son into my hand. I politely told him to keep the horoscope back into his pocket. I told Shri Anant that no horoscope will help now and that he should surrender to the Supreme, to Baba, Sai Ram. The whole family started crying bitterly. We were moved, but what could we do? They prostrated before Baba and begged of Him to return their only son. I tried to console them and told them to mail 'UDI' to their son. The family left Calangute carrying 'UDI' with them. Fifteen days passed, but no news arrived.

The tension in the family was mounting every minute. There, in Saudi Arabia, a miracle took place. Nandu was sentenced by the authorities. The order was to chop off one hand and one leg of the culprit. Nandu was being taken by the police to execute the orders. In a second an unknown Arab arrived on the spot. He interrupted the police and spoke to the Kazi. The Kazi was willing to set Nandu free provided he paid the damages. The unknown Arab paid the damages on the spot and Nandu was set free.

One fine morning, Nandu stood in front of his father and mother with two hands and two legs, all intact. They could not believe their eyes.

Glory be to SAI RAM.

We are petty men. How can we understand the infinite grace of Baba? Understanding comes only through the heart where Baba lives. Let Baba come to us all. ★

Pralhad Hulyalkar
Masterjee, Calangute-Goa-403 516



A Devotee's Experience Of Baba's Miracles

Sai Baba of Shirdi had declared that "I shall be active and vigorous even from my tomb and my tomb shall bless and look to the needs of my devotee". My wife and I had a vivid experience of the above statement.

During the monsoon of 1949, the disease of polio was raging in an epidemic form in and around Bombay. At that time my only son who was about 1½ years old was struck with polio and within two days both his legs were paralysed upto the lumber region. So he could neither sit up nor stand. He was removed to the isolation ward of J. J. Hospital, Bombay, which was specially allotted for Polio patients by Bombay Municipality and patients were not allowed to be kept at home as it was considered extremely infectious. On admitting him there, the Doctor-in-charge of the Ward, Dr. Cohello, a Child Specialist of Bombay, — who himself suffered from paralysis of lower limbs due to Polio and used to walk with crutches-called me and said "Young man, I have no treatment to offer for your son as I have no medicines for this disease. Go and pray to God-who alone can do something for him".

The scenario of the hospital ward was grim and tragic. It was full of children who were struck with Polio. *The disease is called ascending polio as it starts from the legs and climbs up the body in quick stages. As soon as it reaches the chest, the child finds difficulty in breathing and starts frothing. At that stage, some of them used to be put in iron lungs for giving artificial breathing; but if the paralysis spread further to the neck, the child would die. The treatment used was rather painful. The doctors used to extract the spinal fluid from the spinal chord and give very hot fomentation on the spinal chords with the result that the patients used to shout and cry. Only the

children were provided with beds, but the mothers, most of whom had to stay with the children, had either to sit on a stool or sleep on the floor for the whole day and night.

Those days I was working with the Central Railway and after completion of my training, was posted as a leave reserve to gain experience. During this crisis of my son, I could not get leave as the Engineer-in-charge of Manmad had proceeded on leave, so I was ordered to go there. Hence, after leaving my son and wife at the hospital, I had to proceed to Manmad for work and according to rules, I could not leave my Headquarters or Section without permission from the higher authorities. I was only permitted to return to Bombay on week-ends, i.e. Sunday, to visit my son and wife.

Just after my arrival at Manmad, one of my Trollymen asked me about my problem and on hearing the facts, told me that there is a tomb of a great saint named Sai Baba, very near at Shirdi, and if I pray to Him, the child will be cured. He gave me a small picture of Sai Baba, which was kept on my bed-side table in the Rest House. After this, I used to pray for a few minutes to Him before going to sleep at night and started visiting my family at Bombay every Sunday.

In the hospital, my poor wife had to keep practically sitting by the side of my son's bed on a stool for the whole night. In the morning, after the Doctor's round was over by 10 o'clock, she used to go to a friend's flat nearby, to have bath, food and few hours sleep till 4 P.M. During this period, my mother-in-law used to be with my son. This routine continued for three weeks and there was no further improvement or deterioration, in his condition.

On the 21st night, she felt extremely tired, and after my son went to sleep, my wife slept soundly on the floor beside his bed. About midnight, my son woke up and not seeing his mother,

he got up and sat on the bed and got down on the floor, stood on his legs and started waking up his mother. Seeing this, all the nurses rushed and caught him up. But, thereafter, there was no looking back. My son was the first child who came away 'walking' from the Polio ward six weeks after admission. It was a miracle as even Dr. Cohello admitted. We then visited Shirdi for thanksgiving and since then we are deeply indebted to Sai Baba. My son is now healthy and subsequently became the Captain of the Cricket team at IIT, Kharagpur in 1969. Today, he is a Chemical Engineer and a U. S. citizen. During our life we have experienced innumerable miracles of Baba in all the crises life unfolds and we are deeply indebted to Him for ever. ★

S. M. Banerjee

Shri Sai Samaj Calcutta (Regd. 622875) Path 13,
Lake Terrace, Calcutta - 700 029



How Baba Saved My Life

To
The Executive Officer,
Editor, Sai Leela,
Shirdi Sansthan

Dear Sir,

I am a resident of Piplani, BHOPAL. With the permission of Sai Baba, I intend to share with Sai devotees an unique experience of a miracle of Baba to save my life, during the tragic event of gas leakage at Bhopal when thousands of people died.

On that fateful day of 2nd December, '84 I had fixed the marriage ceremony of my daughter and in the evening I had to go to the railway station to see the bridegroom's party off by the

Indore Bilaspur Express which departs at 11.00 p. m. The train was late by one hour and I had to stay back in the railway station till 12.15 a. m.

As my residence is 11 km. away from the station the auto drivers normally demand not less than Rs. 20/-. As such I decided to spend the night in the 1st class waiting room and go to my place only the next morning in the tempo. However, when I came out of the station thinking along these lines, suddenly an auto driver came to me and addressed as under:-

'Saab Mee Piplani Jara Hum Ahpkoo Char Rupayee Mee Oudar Chodthengee'

I was surprised that he demanded only a very small amount of Rs. 4/- which a regular auto driver won't do. I observed a peculiarity in his appearance and boarded the auto and came to my place.

But the next day, i.e. 3rd December, '84, when we heard about the gas leakage at the Union Carbide factory which took the life of thousands of people in and around the railway station, I ran to my shrine where Baba's photo is kept and tears flowed down my cheeks to think that Baba himself had brought me in the auto taking only Rs, 4/- as Dakshina (which he used to collect when he was in flesh and bone) to save my life as he had done in the case of Nanasahib Chandorkar by sending a tonga to take Babugirbuva for saving the life of his daughter Mainatai.

I do not find any words to thank Baba and the above incident only shows clearly that Baba protects his devotees who sincerely leave the entire responsibility at HIS LOTUS FEET. ★

L. S. Narayan
C-2-66-B-Sector, Piplani, BHEL-BHOPAL

Spiritual Guide Sai Baba

Samartha Sadguru Sai Baba still guides His sincere devotees in spiritual matters by providing enough leisure to allow them to do their Sadhana regularly and also clears their doubts.

It is a daily ritual with many Sai devotees to read at least one chapter from Shri Sai Satcharita. By Baba's Grace, I have been doing this very regularly save when some interruptions in the reading are caused by unavoidable tight daily schedules, on certain days.

It was 31-8-1983 when the turn for chapter No. 41 from Sai Satcharitra came. This chapter gives the story of Shri Baba's help to Shri Dev Mamlatdar in respect of regular reading of Jnaneshwari. The day happened to be Shri Krishnashtami. I felt very happy at such coincidence. After the reading was over, I felt that Shri Baba should similarly bless me and help me in the regular reading of Jnaneshwari.

On my return home, I was in for a pleasant surprise, for, I received two Shirdi prasad packets, one in my name and the other, in wife's name. I also received a letter from one devotee requesting me to send a M.O. for Rs. 36/- to enable him to seek justice in office matters in the court of law. The letterhead had a pleasant coloured photo of Baba, with the assurance from Baba printed to devotees that "He would be speaking to them even from His tomb." Readers can very well imagine the joy I must have felt that Dev Mamlatdar's story had come true to the letter in my case, on Shrikrishnashtami Day.

I was thus encouraged to sit for reading of Jnaneshwari and by His Grace I finished two chapters in one sitting. Thus Baba gave a stimulus to my progress on the spiritual path through this active encouragement.

After some days I was in for one more surprise. I came across one good devotee, by name Shri Jnaneshwar Manebuwa who had mastered the Holy Book through 30 years' daily reading and who gives discourses on the book. Shri Manebuwa told me to come to his office during lunch time i. e., from 1-30 p. m. to 2-00 p. m., so that we could both read Jnaneshwari every day and thus at the rate of reading 300 ovis (verses) daily we could finish one complete reading in 30 days. Thus, through Baba's Grace, I started regular reading of the Pothi and thus I developed an irrepressible liking for the book.

It was Shri Manebuwa's practice to speak on certain topics, in the spiritual field, whenever we had free time. It was during one such leisure time conversations that he mentioned indirectly that I should observe fast on Ekadashi days as all Varkaris i. e., devotees of Vithal, do. He emphasised that by observing this fast a devotee effects tremendous purification of mind and thus experiences the spiritual elevation for longer periods, and it also deepens man's understanding of spiritual matters. Now, I was in a fix whether to observe fast or not as Baba does not like fasts. Further, unless I get clear instructions from Baba, I do not take any step in spiritual matters as I have accepted Shri Sai Baba as my Sadguru. Shri Manebuwa, further chided me on 15-11-1983 whether or not I was to observe Kartiki Ekadashi fast or not, which was due on 16-11-1983. For this is the most auspicious time when lakhs of Vithal devotees flock to Pandharpur. I told him that it was left to Shri Sai Baba to tell me whether I should fast or not.

On 16-11-1983, on the auspicious Kartiki Eakadashi day, Shri Baba appeared in a dream vision. He took me by His right hand and led me to a place where Jnaneshwar was sitting and gave Jnaneshwar "Pithale & Bhakari" i. e. a gram-flour curry and Jowar Bread. Shri Baba told Him to give this to me. Jnaneshwar did as He was told by Shri Baba. Thus Shri Bab

instructed me through the vision not to observe fast even on Kartiki Ekadashi day and cleared the doubt on this point.

Thus this leela of Shri Baba proved that He is a living spiritual Guide who gives definite instructions to His pupils in spiritual matters and also creates congenial climate where the aspirants can continue their Sadhana without any disturbance. ★

Shri Anil Keshvrao Rasal
21/382, BPT Staff Quarters, Reynolds Road,
Wadala (East), Bombay - 400 037.



What Prayer Means to Every Individual

To Pray means to know His way :

To Pray involves self-purification by the Divine Ray :

To Pray is to feel His gracious sway :

To Pray is, to be free from the earth's fray !

To Pray means to be untouched by sorrow's spray :

To Pray means our inner foes to slay !

To Pray is to know we are the Great Potter's clay !

To Pray means to grow strong in faith, wiser and
better every day !

To Pray means to cultivate Devotion and Wisdom in
this, our brief earthly stay.

V. Ganesh
120B, Rash Behari, Avenue | Calcutta - 29

Sai Baba - Our Sheet Anchor

Sai Baba has assured His devotees Divine help at all times. He has told us in clear terms - "Throw your burdens on Me, I shall bear them." In the face of such assurance there remains nothing for His devotees to worry about. Articles appearing in Shri Sai Leela Magazine month after month are glaring testimony of Sai-help coming to His devotees always and in every nook and corner of the world. In spite of being fully aware of this fact, I am ashamed to disclose that I am given to chronic worry. I can't help feeling anxious about inconsequential matters. I further confess that I have experienced His presence repeatedly. Sai Baba has blessed me with everything that an ordinary man like me can dream of. Worrying is a habit with me.

Recently I read a short story by Shri Pravasi Vinaykrishna that has appeared in 'Navneet' Hindi Digest. The story is inspiring and touching. I give a gist of that story in the hope that His devotees will enjoy it.

One evening, a God-loving king left his palace with his newly wedded queen for a pleasure trip in the royal chariot. The reins of the horses were in the king's hands and the queen, sitting by the side of her husband, was chit-chatting in sweet tones. Suddenly dark clouds started gathering in the sky, the winds of extreme velocity started blowing and it looked as if a cyclone would overtake and destroy everything. The queen felt petrified with fear but the king continued riding the chariot without feeling disturbed in the least.

The queen could not contain herself and said, "Lord of my life, how in the face of this uncharitable cyclone, which is threatening our very existence, you are keeping your head so cool and calm, untouched by what is within our very sight?"

The king smiled and said, "This cyclone—there is nothing very special about it."

The queen exclaimed, "How can you say such a thing when we are faced with grave danger that can result in our death any minute?"

The king pulled the reins of the horses, stopped the chariot, drew the sword out of its scabbard and instantly put it against the neck of his queen. The queen looked wonderstruck but her face betrayed no signs of fear.

The king interrogated his queen, "Even when the edge of my sword is at your neck and you are faced with instant death, why don't you look scared?"

The queen smiled and patiently replied, "What is there for me to be afraid of? No doubt, the edge of the sword is at my very neck, but its handle is under absolute control of my lord who loves me dearly."

The king laughed heartily and said, "Darling, the very faith that you have in your husband, I have in my God — What can this cyclone do to me?"

Doesn't this story teach us a valuable lesson? In the present times of confusion and increasing worries, Sai Baba is our Sheet — Anchor. He keeps us free of all material worries so that He can fill our minds with Divine light and we may enjoy Divine bliss and ultimately merge in Him. He wants us to lay our burdens at His feet and be positive thinkers. We should, however, be on our guard to ensure that when He bestows all happiness on us, ego may not creep in stealthily and drag us away from the very source of Divine Grace—the Lotus feet of Sai Baba.



R. K. Bhatnagar
Behind D. C. M. Shop, Railway Road,
Aligarh — 202 001, (U. P.)

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★



R. K. Bhatnagar
Behind D. C. M. Shop, Railway Road,
Aligarh - 202 001, (U. P.)

We Now Present

O, Sainath, by whose hand
Thy devotees are fed;
Who through this weary life
Hast all our fathers led.

Our vows, our prayers, we now present
Before Thy throne of grace;
Lord Sainath,
Through each perplexing path of life
Our wandering footsteps guide.
Give us, each day, our daily food
And raiment fit provide.

O, Sainath spread Thy covering wings around
Till all our wanderings end;
And at our Sainath's abode
Our souls arrive in peace.

Such blessings from Thy gracious hand
Our humble prayers implore.

Mrs. Usha Ranganathan
W/O Dr. R. J. Ranganathan, Primary Health Centre
Kalasapura 577 146 Chikmagalur dist. Karnataka



SAI, the Prophet of One Humanity

"Art, Science and Religion are but three different ways of expressing a single Truth, the Supreme Reality. Man must strive for the establishment of unity, harmony and one-ness of Humanity amidst the numerous external distinctions in Nature"

" MADELINE BRIDGES "

The sublime concept of "Vasudhaika Kutumbakam"—one World and one Humanity, has been the Cardinal principle of the glorious heritage of spiritual and social culture of our Bharat Varsh all through the milienniums of the past. In this context, 'TATTVAM-ASI' - Thou art that, represents the fundamental identity of macrocosm and microcosm. Every living being (micro-cosm) and the universe (macro-cosm) have the same natural human characterstics, and they are constantly in dynamic contact with each other, Man occupies a special position in nature, though biologically, he shares certain common features with animals and even plants. In our present world, man, inspite of tremendous development scientifically and technologically, succeeding in an amazing manner in taming the great nature to suit his aspirations and needs, is beset with ceaseless strife and sorrow, toil and tears, distress and dispair. Science has come to stay, and it is fool-hardy to think of putting the clock back. Science and technological development is double-edged weapon; it blesses with one hand, and destroys with the other. Slowly but surely, Humanity is being pushed towards a nuclear holocaust which will wipe away the species of homo-sapiens from the face of the earth. The common man with this sword of Domocles hanging over his head precariously, remains a helpless victim.

Here, it is Sai Nath who becomes the meeting-point not only of East and West, but of South and North and also of the past and future. Sai stands Supreme as the greatest harmoniser

of all religions, faiths and creeds. There can be no better healing balm than Sai Nath's Anugraha for bleeding hearts, unfortunately mauled and wounded in the battle of life. The wonderful soothing effect of Sai's Grace is not easily expressible but can only be experienced. Universal love, oneness of mankind and humanism are the quintessence of Sai Nath's gospel.

Remember there is nothing novel in the doctrinal aspect of His gospel. Really, it is as old as the oldest religion, and is perfectly in tune with what our great sages and saints have been holding aloft—the most precious treasure of Divine Wisdom, philosophy and culture, handed over with all its pristine splendour, to Rishis of Yore. For Sai all humanity was his own and none was an alien to him. Indeed, the enchanting impact of Sai Nath's influence on whosoever approaches Him or even mentally prays to Him, is like an Oasis in a desert which provides a cool shelter and refreshing drink to the parched soul treading the scorching sands of Sansaric life.

May the subline tenets of Sai Nath—Compassion, love and mercy for the humanity, inspire the present and the future to usher in an era of endearing harmony, loving brotherhood, and robust humanism. May the immortal soul of Bharat Varsh, ever speak and work through Sai Nath.

In conclusion, let us bow down in reverential homage to Sai Nath, remembering the succinct and sparkling words of Albert Einstein, the father of modern nuclear science, "The ideals which have lighted my way, and time after time, given me new courage to face cheerfully, have been, Love, Compassion and Humanism."

Om Tat Sat
Jai Jai Sai Nath

M. Rangachari
President

Shirdi Sai Mission, Hyderabad

The Ocean of Divine Grace

“Lord’s grace makes a dumb man talk; enables a lame man to cross the mountains. He alone knows the knack of getting things done as he likes. Neither the flute nor the harmonium can produce the notes by itself, This is the concern of the player. The oozing of the chandrak jewel and the surging of the sea are not to be attributed to the jewel and the sea but to the rise of the moon” (Chapter III Sai Satcharitra). Words fail to describe the unique ways in which our ‘Sai’ extends his helping hand to his innumerable devotees everywhere. Often his kindness and grace makes me burst into tears of joy and the thought of his compassion removes every fear of mine.

I came to know of our ‘Baba’ in the year 1979. In this year on Guru poornima day, I had a dream in which I saw that I was standing on the railway tracks with my elder sister and in the meanwhile an old man with a white beard, wearing a Kafni came to me and without speaking anything started giving me dry fruits from his ‘Jholi’ till my ‘Jholi’ was overflowing with dry fruits, but he had some more to give me and as I did not have any place he gave the remaining dry fruits to my sister who was standing nearby. Next day, I woke up with the memory of the dream still very fresh, but then I ignored it like any other dream as I was not of a very religious disposition. Next day I saw in the market the picture of the same fakir, on an aluminium plate, and beneath it was written ‘Sai Baba of Shirdi’. On an impulse I purchased it and hung it in my room. Two days later my M. A result was out and I had done very well scoring a ‘first class’ and soon, within ten days, I was offered a lecturer’s job in a Delhi university college. My mind, filled with Marxist ideas and intellectual exercises, refused to accept that whatever I was getting was because of ‘His Grace’.

Out of sheer curiosity I did pay some visits to Sai memorial in Lodi Road, but I did not have any implicit faith. I used to hate hanging pictures of different saints or reading religious books or hearing 'bhajans'. For me all this was a pseudo-orthodox stuff, having nothing to do with educated people. Today, almost six years later, in my room there are just the pictures of saints of different religions; there is a small Sai mandir in my room where I do my puja and meditation. On my book rack, books of different religions, and of different saints and by great saints overshadow the text books of my purely academic career and my tape recorder is always playing 'bhajans'. What has happened? Why this change? I myself do not know. In a slow and gradual way He is operating upon me and taking pains to change me internally. It is 'His Grace' which has crushed the ego, jealousy, selfishness and other negative aspects of my personality. About experiences, - perhaps like every Sai devotee, I have innumerable experiences, numbering more than a hundred, showing his omniscience and omnipresence. I relate here just one of the innumerable experiences which I pray to Baba, may strengthen the faith of devotees.

I had long cherished a desire to meet Mother Teresa, after I had visited the orphanage and infirmary run by her Mission of charity, and in spite of trying I had not been able to meet her. So one day, in the last week of March, 1982, I thought that if I can meet Mother Teresa and hear the song 'Shirdi Wale Sai Baba Aaya he tere dar pe Sawali' on Ram Navmi I would feel blessed. This was a fleeting thought and I forgot all about it. On Ram Navmi i.e. 2nd April, 1982, my friend suggested that after visiting Sai-Memorial, we should try to contact Mother Teresa, because she had again come back to Delhi for some work. No sooner did I place my foot on the temple staircase, the Qawali Party started singing 'Shirdi Wale Sai Baba Aaya he tere dar pe Sawali' and it ended only after I had handed over my

garland and touched 'His' feet saying 'O God Bless Me'. I was very happy and surprised because I had forgotten all about the song, but He did not - He never does. In a mood of ecstasy we started for 'Nirmal Shishu Bhawan'. As we reached there we saw that within minutes Mother came out of the church. I touched her feet and she placed her old wrinkled hand on my head and with a serene smile said "May God bless you". I was in tears of joy and it all seemed like a dream.

In the mood of joy and bliss I painted Mother Teresa's portrait, but immediately I thought I should paint my 'Baba's' portrait because it was all His doing - next thought was that the painting should be perfect and I may not be able to bring the right expression. This conflict went on in my mind for a month and I longed for a beautiful hand painted portrait of Baba. On 17th June, 1982, when I went to Baba's temple, there I saw a beautiful painting of Baba near the shoe-rack. On enquiry I came to know that it was for sale. The artist gave a charming smile and said that he often visited the temple with huge paintings of Baba for sale. I immediately bought it. On reaching home I saw that the name of the artist was not written on the painting and later, on enquiry at the temple, I was told that no one with such huge paintings ever visits temple and nor did anyone seem to remember him. It then struck me that it was again His leela'.

On innumerable occasions He has made it clear to me through various 'leelas' and dreams that there is absolutely no difference between Him and other Gods and saints and spiritual masters of different religions. He is at one with them and also with all of us. We are all one. As mentioned in Satcharitra in Chapter VII, he who completely surrenders himself to the Lord (in any form) by conquering his ego and body consciousness and thus becomes one with Him, is not troubled by any questions of religion, caste and nationality. This became all the more clear to me when I later contacted Acharya E. Bhardawaja through letters and read

his book 'Sai Baba, the Master'. Today I do not want to leave Baba's feet, come what may. Whole world is desolate without Him because - "what a man might give does not last long and is always imperfect. But what my sircar gives, lasts to the end of time. No other gift from any man can be compared to his" (Satcharitra Chapter XXXII) ★

Dr. Vijay Lakshmi Verma
7A/164, Faridabad Haryana



Prayer As Self - Offering

To pray to God is an essential part of our relationship with God. Prayer consists in raising one's mind and heart to God. Through prayer man prepares himself to receive God's influence.

Prayer is the activity of mind and heart. Hence all of us ought to offer lovingly, in terms of words, our heart's feelings to God. One who prays offers himself to the divine majesty, asks forgiveness for sins and begs for the graces he requires for mental satisfaction. He tries to discover the truth and how it can affect his conduct. Prayer is our strength in temptation, courage in adversity, joy in suffering and light in darkness. Pray to God on getting up in the morning and while going to bed at night. Prayer is our counsel in doubts. If we pray well with faith in and devotion to God, He always answers our prayer. Prayer means self offering and receiving of the Divine Grace. ★

V. M. Hatwar
149, Reshimbag, Nagpur - 9.

KINGDOM OF SAI

Worldly pleasures are shortlived and are bound to vanish when conditions which created them get destroyed. A lamp burns as long as there is oil or strong gust does not blow it out.

On the otherhand, Moksha is like a precious gem, whose lustre never dims. To attain Moksha, one has to cleanse one's mind which is the main culprit which prompts one to resort to evil ways. One can control the sense organs but it is very difficult to control the mind which is the playground of the senses. By regular meditation the mind can be controlled so that the spirit can merge with the Infinite. By strictly adhering to austerities, prayer, meditation and satsang, one does not become a slave of the mind.

Devotion to God is of utmost importance at all stages of one's life for which absolute concentration and ultimate surrender are the essential factors. We must love god with veneration and adore Him. We should feel it is our duty to worship Him. Knowledge, power, learning and wealth, all come by His Grace. As the top spins fast initially, loses its speed gradually and stops finally and falls flat, so also the human being caught in the whirlpool of temptations, indulges in wordly pleasures, and feels helpless in the end as a spent force.

Devotion does not mean a mere puja for a few hours in a day, allowing ourselves to live as we like the rest of the time. The Omniscient Almighty is ever vigilant, helping the devout ones and punishing the wicked. Although a person is known for his good conduct in this life, but he is found "to go through the wheel" because of his ignoble acts in his previous birth. Our scriptures prescribe methods to propitiate the deities to acquire

the fortitude to bear the agony with cheer. Sai treats all His devotees without any distinction and according to their conduct and approach to Him. He is pleased when the devotee makes a total surrender to Him, and places absolute reliance on Him.

Sai reveals Himself to those who have controlled their senses and desires and cultivated detachment through perseverance and fervent penance and austerities. He is ever ready to help anyone who displays unflinching devotion, irrespective of the turmoils and sufferings one has to undergo during the process.

In the 'Phala Sruthi (फल श्रुतिः) of Sai Satcharita" it is observed ... "If you wish to get rid of the cycle of births and deaths read Sai's stories and always remember Him and get yourselves attached to His feet. If you dive into the sea of Sai's stories and then give them out to others, you will get an ever-new flavour of them and save the hearers from perdition. If you go on meditating on Sai's form, it will in course of time disappear and lead you into self-realisation. If you completely surrender yourself to Him, you will lose your individuality and be merged with Him and be one with Him as the river in the sea. If you thus become merged with Him in any of the three states (viz) waking, dreaming and sleeping, you get rid of the bond of Samsara ..

If you read Sai Satcharita" respectfully and regularly every day, the calamities will disappear. Sai will be pleased and will remove your ignorance and poverty, He will give you knowledge, wealth and prosperity .. "

The Gita Charya says :

सम दुःखमुल्लः स्वस्थः समलोष्टाश्च काचनः ।

तुल्यप्रियाप्रियो धीरस्तुह्यनिन्दात्म संस्तुतिः ॥

"He who takes sorrow and joy alike, is established in the self; regards a clod of earth, a stone, a piece of gold as equal in value; receives both pleasant and unpleasant things in the same spirit; and views censure and praise alike :

(- Chapter XIV-24)

मां च योऽव्यभिचारेण भक्तियोगेन भजते ।

स गुणान् समतीत्यैतान् ब्रह्मभूयाय कल्पते ॥

And he, who constantly worships Me through the Yoga of exclusive devotion, transcending the three Gunas of Satva, Rajas, and Tamas, becomes eligible for attaining Brahman. (Chap. XIV-26)

So, personal purity, ethical probity, implicit faith, constant and devout meditation, guidance of a guru and total surrender to Him are absolutely essential for one to be elevated to the Kingdom of Sai. ★

Aum Shanthi. Bow To Shri Sai - Peace Be To All

R. S. Ramakrishnan
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Whatever we gain through our efforts at meditation and prayer must be tested in the outer world; otherwise, spiritual life may become just another extension of the conceptual unreal world we have conjured up. Karma Yoga provides the best means of testing the inner life in the outer. ★

Swami Ananyananda

The Treasury of Thoughts

It is said that the thoughts are things and that as we think, we become. The world outside is taken to be the projection of our own mind. The mind is said to be the cause of both, our bondage and liberation.

Bhagawan Sri Sainath had never taken a pen in His Hand for conveying His thoughts to the world. Still for all that, His thoughts were so mighty and powerful that He brought about a transformation in millions of His followers all over the world and He still continues to do so although no more present in flesh and blood amongst us. His thoughts give the inspiration to those of His followers who are sincerely devoted to Him. This shows that Bhagawan Baba is "The Indweller" of us all. Think of Him and He is present before us. This is really a boon of Baba to His devotees. This is the Real Grace that He showers upon us irrespective of class, creed and colour. When we look to Baba in this way, our vision becomes broad and pure. Our faith in Baba grows to such an extent so as to embrace the Whole Universe, making us feel the brotherhood of man and the fatherhood of God. Our selfish motives then no longer pester us. Our ego then gets burnt like a rope retaining its shape without having its original power of binding. It is Baba who has taught us with His own Glorious example to remain in this world in a state of "nothingness" like a lotus in the water yet untouched by it. This is a unique way in which He has educated His devotees to remain completely aloof from power, prestige, pomp and politics. When Baba is our Guide and Guardian, we never feel "alone"; instead we surely feel that we are "All-one". This being so we never compare ourselves with others avoiding thereby competition and conflict. We are therefore happy in every situation. We undoubtedly know that happiness and sorrow are nothing but the temporary phases of our life which, as they come, they vanish. In that glorious

Light of Love which Baba holds for us, we are journeying through our lives towards the Lotus Feet of Bhagawan Baba, which is our ultimate destination. It is because of this that we receive the noble thoughts from all around us thereby saving ourselves from all evils of the world. The Sai-devotees are enjoying this unique privilege of living in this world with peace and prosperity because of the treasury of noble thoughts graciously handed over to us by our Beloved Bhagawan Baba. This is really the Gift of Grace that Baba has given to His devotees for all time to come.

When there are noble thoughts in the mind, there is nobility in the character; this nobility helps the family to be in perfect harmony; harmony in the family makes the society grow in an atmosphere rich in duty, discipline and devotion; such a society helps the nation to maintain law and order necessary for the welfare of people living in it; such an ideal nation will naturally strive to maintain peace in the world. This is exactly what the "Sai-Mission" stands for.

With Pranams at the Lotus Feet of Bhagawan Baba. ★

Shyam Juwale
Janardan Bhavan G. Chhabildas Road, 'Dadar (West)' Bombay

The whole thing is to love God and taste his sweetness. He is sweetness and the devotee is its enjoyer. The devotee drinks the sweet Bliss of God. Further God is the lotus and the devotee the bee. The devotee sips the honey of the lotus. As a devotee cannot live without God, so also God cannot live without his devotee. Then the devotee becomes the sweetness, and God its enjoyer. The devotee becomes the lotus, and God the bee. It is the Godhead that has become these two in order to enjoy Its own Bliss. That is the significance of the episode of Radha and Krishna. ★

— Ramakrishna

OBITUARY

It is with regret that we note the passing away of two of the well-known devotees of Shri Sai Baba — Shri Nanasaheb Rasane and Dr. K. B. Gavankar on 29th June, 1985, i. e. the Ashadhi Ekadashi day. Our sense of loss is even greater when we realise that with the passing away of these two devotees we have also lost yet another direct link with Shri Baba, since they both had had the good fortune to be blessed by Shri Baba when he was in flesh and blood.

Shri Dattatraya alias Nanasaheb Rasane, who passed away at Shirdi at the age of 87, was one of the Trustees of the Shirdi Sansthan, prior to the take - over of its administration by the Court Receiver in 1960, He was the eldest son of Shri Damodar (Damuanna) Rasane of Ahmednagar, whose name is familiar to the readers of " Shri Sai Satcharita, " In the 25th Chapter of " Shri Sai Satcharita, " we read about the birth of this eldest son as a result of the boon conferred by Shri Sai Baba, who, it is said, told Damuanna to name this child ' Daulatshah. '

Dr. Keshav alias Annasaheb Gavankar, who was 81, was a former President of the Shirdi Sansthan and, for some time, the editor of 'Shri Sai Leela' magazine. He has also written 'Shirdiche Sai Baba,' 'Shiladhi' and other books about Shri Sai Baba. Every year he celebrated Shri Baba's mahasamadhi day, which falls on the Dassera day.

May their souls rest in peace.



MAY, 1985

During the month a large number of Baba's devotees came to Shirdi. Following were the artists who performed in the Samadhi Mandir;

Keertan :- by Shri Madhukar Ganesh Suryavanshi, the Sansthan artist and keertankar, on the Ekadashi day and on other days of religious importance during the month.

Pravachan :- by 1) Shri Laxman Maharaj Wakchaure, Shirdi.
2) Shri Subhash Baba, Akola.

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

1) Smt. Sarojini Nandkumar Adghare, Poona, 2) Pandit Jasraj, Bombay, 3) Kum. Seema Upadhye, 4) Shri Ratan Mohan Sharma, 5) Shri Balkrishna Ayyar, 6) Shri Gopaldas Bhajan Mandal, Hyderabad; 7) Shri Sardarsing Usharsing, 8) Shri Jayant Phadke, 9) Shri Purushottam Gangurde, 10) Shri Ravinath Phadke, 11) Shri Gajanan Kajrolkar, 12) Smt. Anuradha Arvind Bhajali, Belgaum, 13) Shri G. Y. Krishnamurty, Sai Samaj, Khamam, 14) Shri Shahurao Bhagwantrao Bhosle Bombay, 15) Dr. Bhanukumar Pandya; Ulhasnagar, 16) Shri Mohan Madhav Parasnis, 17) Shri Dnyaneshwar Dube, Bombay, 18) Shri Govind Prasad, Jaipur, 19) Shri Giridhar Prasad, Jaipur, 20) Shri Bhaudeep Prasad, 21) Shri Ramashankar Guddarshan, 22) Shri Kishor Pawar, New Delhi, 23) Smt. Nateshwari Gupta, Hyderabad, 24) Shri K. Jaikumar, Nrityavisharad, Nasik, (Kathak), 25) Shri Abdul, Amin Shaikh, 26) Shri Sunil Daithankar, 27) Shri Kuldip Sing

Hazara Sing, 28) Shri Raghunath Narayan Keskar, Ahmednagar, 29) Kedar Raghunath Keskar, 30) Kum. Veena, Raghunath Keskar, 31) Shri R. Vishwanathji, Hyderabad, 32) Shri Ramayya, Madras 33) Shri V. Vijaykumar, Narayankhed (A. P.) 34) Shri Chandrakant Chavan, Thana, (Geet Ramayan), 35) Dr. Aban Mistri, Bombay, 36) Pandit Keki S. Jijiya.

Weather :- Shirdi enjoys fine weather, with very pleasant mornings, and is free from epidemics. ★



News From Other Shri Sai Centres

Shri Sai Spiritual Centre, Bangalore :-

This year Shri Saipadanand Radhakrishna Swamiji's 81st birthday and the 32nd anniversary of Shri Sai Spiritual Centre, Bangalore, were celebrated on May 9th. Hundreds of devotees participated in the Vishnu Sahasranama Homa in the morning. Abhisheka was performed to the idols of Sadguru Sai Baba and Shri Radhakrishna Swamiji. Prasada was distributed to all those present. Special Poor Feeding was arranged at the Ashakta Poshak Sabha and the Abalashram to mark the occasion.

Shirdi Sai Baba Premi Mandali, Vijaywada :-

The Secod Anniversary Celebrations of Shirdi Sai Baba Premi Mandali, Vijaywada - 11, were held from 17th to 19th May, 1985, at Sivarama Krishna Kshetram, Satyanarayanapuram, Vijaywada. Distinguished personalities like Acharya Ekkirala Bharadwaja, Shri K. G. C. Hari Vittal, Smt. K. Aruna Vyas and Shri J. Venkata Krishna (Gnana Shree) spoke about Lord Shri Sainath. On the first day, i. e., on 17th, Shri T. Sambhaiah Acharya, gave Harikatha performance on 'Sai Baba'. On 19-5-1985 "Pallaki" seva was arranged and many Sai devotees, irrespective of their position, caste, creed and colour, shared the joy of carrying the "Pallaki", singing and chanting Sainamam. ★

श्रीसाईलीला

हिंदी विभाग

अनुक्रमणिका

अगस्त १९८५

		पृष्ठ	
१	सबका मालिक एक	श्री दिनेश औदीच्य	५०
२	शिरडी - साई की प्राप्ति	डॉ. दुर्गाप्रसाद शुक्ल	५१
३	बाबा वचनामृत	श्री जनार्दन प्रसाद श्रीवास्तव	५२
४	चाह	सौ. शकुंतला शंकर जगतकर	५३
५	निराधार के आधार	श्री विजय	५४
६	साई शरण	सौ. मथुराबाई हिवारे (एम. ए.)	५५
७	मेरे साई बाबा	श्री सुरेश सुखीजा	५६
८	भक्त की भक्ति साई की शक्ति	श्री महेश कुमार पांडेय	५८
९	भजन	श्री लक्ष्मण बापूराव रापतवार	६२
१०	साई तेरी षाद बडी सुखदाई	डॉ. श्रीमती सरोजा रायजादा	६३



सबका मालिक एक

“ राम साई कृष्ण साई
सबका मालिक एक है । ”

द्वार उसके जो भी जाता
हो ताना मायूस है
दिखता ना हमको हमे पर
होता यह महसूस है
होती सबकी एक मन्जिल, रास्ते अनेक है ।

राम साई

साई साई भजले साई
साई तारण हार है
सबकी नैय्या बीच भवर से
करता वो ही पार है ।

जग से पार हो जायेगा, कुल काम करले नेक है ।

राम साई

हे अन्वेरे हमको घेरे अवगुण और अज्ञान के ।
सूने मन में दीप जला दो, आके गुरुवर ज्ञान के ।
सुख में दुख में रात दिन में, नाम ले हर एक है ।

राम साई

दिनेश औदीच्य

C/o विजय सुर्वे, सर्कट हाऊस कम्पाउण्ड, क्वार्टर नं. ३, गुना (म. प्र.)



शिरडी - साई की प्राप्ति

(प्रस्तुत लेख सम्मान्य साई बन्धु श्री एम. नरसिम्हाराव, हैदराबाद, (जिनका निधन पिछली १८-२-८५ को हो गया है,) की रचना है जो मूल रूप में "साई-प्रेम" (अन्ग्रेजी मासिक) के अप्रैल, ८५ अंक में प्रकाशित हुई है। श्री साई-लीन श्री राव साहब के यह भाव-समस्त साई-बन्धु। बहिनें हृदयंगम करेंगे इसी उद्देश्य से मूल अन्ग्रेजी रचना का हिन्दी रूपान्तर किया गया है - सम्पादक)

उस सृष्टि नियंता की अनन्त रचना में मानव-मात्र को ही एक विशेष गुण-"चित्तन-शक्ति" से सम्पन्न किया गया है। एक व्यक्ति प्रभु के द्वारा दिये गये इस गुण के आधार पर ही समस्त सांसारिक सुख-संतोषों से अपने मस्तिष्क को अलग रखते हुए-विरक्तता का विकास कर सकता है।

हम सभी के आनन्द के लिये श्री कपिल मुनि द्वारा - "भागवतम्" में उस सृष्टिकर्ता के ऐसे आकर्षक-रूप का विषद वर्णन किया गया है। जैसे ही एक भक्त प्रभु के इस आकर्षक रूप में ध्यानावस्थित होता है, उसके हृदय में भक्ति का अगाध सागर उमड़ पड़ता है और नेत्र साई-आनन्द के रत्नाश्रुओं से पूरित हो जाते हैं।

शिरडी साई-बाबा के प्रति विशुद्ध-भक्ति की प्रक्रिया में सांसारिक सुखों से उदासीन भाव रखते हुए उनके पवित्र चरणों में ध्यान लगाकर उत्सुक-भक्त उनके आनन्द स्वरूप को अपने हृदयाकाश में स्थापित कर लेने की शक्ति प्राप्त करने में सज्जम हो सकता है। सांसारिक वस्तुओं से तीव्र विरक्तता उत्पन्न कर श्री साई क्रीडाओं का वर्णन सुनते हुए, असहायों के लिये कल्याण-कार्य करते हुए, दूसरों के शोषण से दूर रह कर, नास्तिकों और दुष्टों की संगति त्यागकर, सात्विक भोजन-स्वभाव को अपनाते हुए एक उत्साही भक्त शिरडी के साई-बाबा को प्राप्त कर सकता है।

एक सच्चा साई-भक्त इस सांसारिकता से ऊपर उठकर शिरडी-साई (अवतार मेहर बाबा के शब्दों में) - "सृष्टि रचना के स्वामी" का आत्मबोध कर सकता है और उसी साई-स्वरूप का धीरे-धीरे ध्यान करते हुए साई-कृपा प्राप्त कर वह स्वयं को साई-आनन्द संसार में पहुंचा हुआ अनुभव करेगा।

इसी जीवन में साई-सत्यता के इस सर्वोच्च लक्ष्य की प्राप्ति के लिये हर एक सत्साही भक्त को सदैव आगे बढ़ते रहना चाहिए । ॐ साई ।

अनुवादक : डॉ. दुर्गाप्रसाद शुक्ल
४८०, कुम्हार मण्डी, कानपुर छावनी - ४

बाबा वचनामृत

करता जो मुझे है अत्यधिक प्यार ।

होता उसे सदा है मेरा साक्षात्कार ॥

धरता निरन्तर है जो मेरा ध्यान ।

मेरे बिन सूना है उसे सारा जहान ॥

अनन्य भाव से लेता जो मेरी शरण ।

होता कभी नहीं मैं उससे उग्रहण ॥

क्योंकि भक्त के वश मैं हूँ भगवान ।

कर देता हूँ उसे मैं मुक्ति प्रदान ॥

करता मेरा जो सदा स्मरण ।

सभी प्राणियों में होते जिसे मेरे दर्शन ॥

हो जाता है वह मेरे ही तद्रूप ।

सरिता सागर का पानी जैसे स्वरूप ॥

प्राध्यापक : जनार्दन प्रसाद श्रीवास्तव
सिन्धिल लाइन्स, डाकखाने के निकट, रीवा (मध्य प्रदेश) ४८६ ००१



चाह

चाह मुझे मैं बनके मालन
बाबा के प्रती हार बनाऊँ
हर फुलों से साईनाम का
सुगंध दुनियामें फैलावूँ ॥ १ ॥

या स्वयंम ही मैं बनके माला
गले साई के लग जाऊँ
तन मन धन नोछावर करके
अमृत चरणोपर बरसाऊँ ॥ २ ॥

समाधिपर जा पहड़ मैं
जब बाबा मुझको आशा दे
किसीको मिला यह सौभाग्य अनोखा
जो बाबा निसदिन मुझको दे ॥ ३ ॥

ले, ले चले भक्तगण मुझको
प्रसाद बनके संग जाऊँ
घर घर पुलकीत करूँ वहाँ
मैं आनंदविभोर बन जाऊँ ॥ ४ ॥

करूँ जीवन समर्पित चरणों में
निर्माल्य पडे जलधारा में
लहर लहर सुगंधीत होकर
साई नामसे गुंज उठे ॥ ५ ॥

सौ. शकुंतला शंकर जगतकर
१९। १६२, उन्नत नगर, वि. २, गोरेगांव बम्बई ६२

निराधार के आधार

जिनके चरण महावर सूख के
जो आधार शोषित निरस्य के

जो चाहें माला न मोती
समाधि जिनकी कमी न सोती,

वो राम वो रहीम साई
वो ईसू वो दुर्गा माई.

मस्जिद जिसकी द्वारिका माई
महिमा दास गणू नित गाई

भक्तिभाव के भूखे बाबा
व्यथा हरण समाधि का दावा,

वो कृष्णा वो करीम साई
वो ईसू वो दुर्गा माई.

कड़वा नीम बनाया मीठा
चान्दोरकर को सिखाई गीता

कफनी जिसका धृन्गार थी
वाणी मृदुल मलहार थी,

वो गौतम वो महावीर साई
वो ईसू वो दुर्गा माई.

विजय

७६, पटौदी हाऊस, नई दिल्ली - ११० ००१



साई शरण

कुछ ही दिन पहले की बात है । सर्दी गरमी का मौसम था । उस से हर किसी को बुखार सर्दी ने घेर लिया था । उस के चपेट में मैं भी आ गयी । एक दिन अचानक गले में खराश के कारण जोर की सर्दी हुयी और बुखार भी आया । दो दिन के इलाज के बाद बुखार कम हो गया लेकिन सर्दी कम होने के कोई लक्षण दिखाई नहीं देते थे । रात में सोते समय नाक बन्द होकर सांस लेने में कठिनाई होती । नाक खुलने के उपाय भी हा चुके थे । लेकिन उनका भी उसपर कोई असर नहीं होता था । मुह से सांस ले-ले कर गला सुखसा जाता था । इसके साथ ही यह भी भय था की घर के अन्य लोगो को मेरी सर्दी लग जाएगी । क्योंकि मेरे पति और छोटा लडका सर्दी के कारण बहुत हैराण हो जाते है । इस डर से भी मैं बहुत तंग आ चुकी थी । श्री साईबाबा की उदी का प्रयोग तो सुबह शाम जारी ही था । एक दिन पुरी रात सर्दी के मारे मुझे बहुत कठिनाई उठानी पडी और उठते ही उठते बाबा के चित्र की ओर देखा और प्रणाम किया । साथ ही विचार आया बाबा कितने महान थे । हम सर्वसाधारण मानव केवल सर्दी जैसे मामुली रोग से इतने तंग हो चुके हैं । वे तो अपने पास हर तरह के रोगियों को लिये बैठते थे, उनसे बातचीत करते थे । उनके हाथ का बना खाना खाते थे । उनसे कोई शिकायत नहीं रहती थी । उलटा उन्हें रोगमुक्त होने के उपाय बतलाते थे । कॉलरा जैसे खतरनाक रोगों को खुद स्वीकार करते थे अपने शरीर पर ले लेते थे । और रोगियों को रोग से मुक्त कर देते थे । लेकिन सबसे खतरनाक बिमारी महारोग या कुष्ठरोग, ऐसे एक रोगी भागोजी शिन्दे को तो वे अपने पास दिनरात रखते थे । उनसे की गई सेवा स्वीकार करते थे । कितने महान थे बाबा । यह विचार आते ही मेरे हाथ उनके आगे जोडे गये और अन्तःकरण से उनकी प्रार्थना मेरे दिलसे उभरने लगी । “हे प्रभु साईनाथ तुम तो महारोगी का साथ रखकर भी सुखी हो जाते थे । हम यत्किंचित मानव सर्दी जैसे मामुली रोग से भयग्रस्त हैं । हमें एक दूसरे से शिकायत रहती है । हमारे हाथ में कुछ भी नहीं है । है तो हमें भी तुम्हारी ही साथ, सहारा, सामर्थ्य ।” बस यह कहते कहते आँखें छलछला उठी और एकाग्रता से मैं उनके चित्र को निहारने लगी । और आश्चर्य यह हुआ, श्री साई

बाबा के चित्र पर लगे लाईट की किरने मानो बाबा की आँखों से निकल रही हो । और सीधे मेरी आँखों में चूम गयी । मेरी आँखों से अश्रुधारा प्रवाहित थी ही । उनसे यह हुआ मेरी आँखें धूल गयी, मुझे कुछ आराम मिल गया, बन्द नाक खुल गयी । गले की खराश खत्म होती हुयी महसूस हुयी । मैंने श्री साईबाबा को उसी हाल में हाथ जोड़कर प्रणाम कर बाथरूम चली गयी । मुह हाथ धोया तो कुछ चैन मिला, मन आनन्द से भर आया । बाबा की उदी उन्हें स्मरणकर मस्तक पर लगायी थोड़ीसी मुह में डाल कर काम में लग गई । दिनभर काम करने के बाद जैसे ही रात हुयी तब मुझे याद आया की आज मुझे सर्दी से कोई तकलीफ नहीं है । सोते समय नाक बन्द होती सी नजर आयी तो बाबा को दिल ही दिल में याद कर कहा जो कम हुआ अब दुबारा नहीं होना चाहिए । और आश्चर्य, बन्द होती हुई नाक खुल गई तो आजतक कभी बन्द नहीं हुई ! सर्दी गायब । तब दिल में विचार आया क्यों न यह अनुभव लिख भेजू और आश्चर्य, लिखने में मैं असमर्थ थी तो बाबा ने ही प्रेरणा दी जो आठ दस दिन का काम एक देढ़ घण्टे में पुरा हुआ । धन्य हैं साईबाबा । परब्रह्म हैं, परमात्मा हैं । उन्हें क्या अशक्य है । जो भी पुकारता है दौड़कर आते हैं । उनकी बातें सुनकर उनका दुखदर्द मिटाते हैं ।

जय साईनाथ

सौ. मथुराबाई हिबारे एम. ए.
सिंगारबाग बिदर घर नं. १-८-२५ कर्नाटक ५८५ ४०१

मेरे साई बाबा

मैं आता रहूँ हर साल
दर तेरे बाबा ।
आके पाऊँ मैं दर्श तेरा
ओ मेरे बाबा ॥

इस शिडी की जमीं पे
न जाने कौन सी कशिश है ।

सब ऐसा लगता है

बाबा, तेरी आशिय है ॥

तेरा सुन्दर यह जलवा

मैं देखता रहूँ बाबा - मैं आता रहूँ ...

जिस-जिस ने पुकारा तुझे

बाबा तू चल के आया है ।

पानी के दिये जले

तेरी यह अद्भुत माया है ॥

मेरे मन के दर्पण को

साफ कर ऐ बाबा - मैं आता रहूँ ...

यह जग एक सपना है

नाम केवल तेरा सच्चा है ।

तेरे नाम के अमृत को

प्यास तेरा बच्चा है ॥

आके प्यास बुझा मेरी

ओ मेरे बाबा

मैं गाऊँ तेरा गुणगान

ओ मेरे बाबा

सुरेश सुखीजा

१ A / २२ A, फरीदाबाद - १२१ ००१



भक्त की भक्ति साई की शक्ति

जब मनुष्य हर ओर से असहाय, निरुपाय हो जाता है और सफलता असफलता में परिणित होती प्रतीत होती है। ऐसे संकट के क्षणों में आत्मा अपने मूल स्थान का, जहाँ से उसका उद्भव हुआ है, उसी परम सत्ता का स्मरण करती है। यह स्मरण आत्मा द्वारा अपने एक मात्र अवलम्ब परमात्मा का होता है। जो जिसको अपना आश्रय स्थल मानता है, ऐसे कष्ट की संकट घड़ी में वह उन्हीं को राम, रहीम, ईश, नानक, शिव, अम्बे, साईनाथ रक्षा करो ! नाथ रक्षा करो ! दीन होकर पुकार उठता है। तन की सुघ भूल जाता है और मन आत्मा उस सूक्ष्म परमात्म तत्व में तदाकार होने हेतु भाग दौड़ती है। संकट के समय यह स्मरण भी बड़ा अद्भुत होता है। कोई माँ अपने बेटे को दुःख में देख कैसे दूर रही है यही परमात्मा का स्वभाव है, उसने भक्त के आर्तनाद पर कमी मुँह नहीं मोड़ा, दौड़कर उठा लिया है। ऐसे करोड़ों प्रसंग इतिहास पुराणों की गाथाओं के रूप में भरे पड़े हैं जिनमें उल्लेख है भक्त के आर्तनाद पर प्रभु की सहायता कृपा का, आर्तनाद के क्षणों में की गई संक्षिप्त प्रार्थना बड़ी प्रभावकारी होती है, इस सम्बन्ध में एक विद्वान की उक्ति है - "सच्चे हृदय से की गई प्रार्थना एक ऐसा प्राणायाम योग है जो ईश्वर कृपा सहज सुलभ करा देता है। किन्तु मन की आस्था का आकार इतना विराट असीमित, अखण्ड और अनंत होना चाहिए जिसमें की उस विराट परम पुरुष की सत्ता सम्मुख अनुभूत होने लगे। ऐसे सुखद-दुःखद किन्तु सौभाग्य के क्षण जीवन में बहुत कम आ पाते हैं जब आत्मा अनुभूत करती है कि हमारे कष्ट के निवारणार्थ कोई शक्ति का प्रादुर्भाव हुआ था, और वह शक्ति हमारी रक्षा कर अनन्त में विलीन हो गई वैसे तो हर क्षण उसके नाम स्मरण करते हुवे, उसकी कृपा प्राप्त करते हुवे व्यतीत हो रहे हैं किन्तु एक क्षण ऐसा भी आया था, तब वो सहज प्राप्त होकर मन को अपने भक्ति रस में डुबो गया। इन पंक्तियों को लिखते हुवे बाबा के वे शब्द सहसा याद हो आए हैं। जो बाबा ने भक्तों के लिए कहे थे।

जैसा भुव रहा जिस जन का।

वैसा रूप हुआ मेरे मन का ॥ १ ॥

मुझ में लीन वचन मन काया ।
उसका ऋण ना कमी भुलाया ॥ २ ॥

मेरी शरण आ खाली जाए ।
हो तो कोई मुझे बताए ॥ ३ ॥

जो सहायता लो भरपूर ।
जो मांगा वह नहीं है दूर ॥ ४ ॥

मुझे सदा जीवित ही जानो ।
अनुभव करो सत्य पहचानो ॥ ५ ॥

त्याग शरीर चला जाऊँगा ।
भक्त हेतु दौडा आऊँगा ॥ ६ ॥

मन में रखना दृढ विश्वास ।
करे समाधि पूरी आस ॥ ७ ॥

उपरोक्त बाबा के वचन जीवन में घटित संस्मरणों में सत्य की कसौटी पर खरे उतरे हैं । वैसे बहुत से संस्मरण हैं, उनमें से ऐसा ही एक संस्मरण यह भी है जिसे मैं यहाँ अपने टूटे शब्दों में बाबा की कृपा का स्मरण कर व्यक्त कर रहा हूँ ।

मैं अपने एक स्नेही मित्र के विवाह कार्य में गुठी गया हुआ था । एक दिन प्रातः ९ बजे अचानक शादी वाले घर में परिचित सज्जन की मोटरसाइकिल सामने खड़ी देख मन हुआ थोडा आसपास घूम आए, और इसी विचार से मोटरसाइकिल लेकर चल पडे । शादी वाले घर के ही वर के भाई दोनों, लगभग १३ वर्ष और १८ वर्ष की आयु के, मेरे साथ चलने की जिद कर मोटरसाइकिल पर आ बैठे और हम लोग एक ओर चल पडे । यह रास्ता चाँदा मेरा की ओर जाता है । फरटि भरती मोटरसाइकिल वायुवेग से भाग रही थी । हम लोग बड़ी प्रसन्नता और खुशी भरे हँसते बातें करते एक दिशा की ओर आँधी-तूफान के वेग से बहे जा रहे थे । किनारे के पेड, घर, मकान सब धुँधले होते जा रहे थे, लगता था हम किसी तेज हवा की लहर पर बैठे आकाश की ओर उठे चले जा रहे हैं । ये लहर कब कहाँ बैठेगी यह कुछ ज्ञात नहीं था । अचानक मस्तिष्क

मैं एक भयानक सर्व आशंका कौंध उठी। ये भागती मोटरसाइकल तूफानी जिदके घोड़े की तरह हमें मौत की ओर लिये जा रही है, यह शंका तब हुई जब मोटर साइकल की बढ़ती गति को नियंत्रित करने में एक्सीलेटर को विपरीत दिशा में नीचे से उपर की ओर घुमाना था, किन्तु एक्सीलेटर न जाने कैसे, जाम हो गया और बार बार प्रयास करने पर भी गति कम नहीं हो पा रही थी, ब्रेक लगाना भी ऐसी गति में घातक सिद्ध हो सकता था, किन्तु वह प्रयास भी अन्तिम उपाय के रूप में प्रयोग में लाया गया, किन्तु यह क्या ब्रेक भी पूरी तरह लगाने पर भी कारगर साबित नहीं हो पा रहे थे। और सिर्फ वे एक ही क्षण मेरे पास शेष बचे थे, जिनमें कुछ प्रार्थना के रूप में जीवन याचना करना ही रह गया था। और इस बचे अत्यल्प क्षण में वो हो गया। आत्मा कातर हो चील पड़ी—“माँ रक्षा करो! अहि माम शरण”..... बस इतना ही मुख से निकल पाया था, शेष कुछ भी याद नहीं उसके बाद क्या हुआ? किन्तु लुप्त होती स्मृति में इतना याद है, मृत्यु के फैले मुख में जाने से पूर्व मुझे एक नर्म स्पर्श हुआ था और मेरा शरीर पृथ्वी पर लाकर रख दिया गया। मेरे शरीर से छिटक वे दोनो लिपटे बालक भी सकुशल दो कदम पास ही पड़े थे। शरीर पर हल्की खरोंचों के निशान थे, शैल कोई भी घातक चोटे अथवा घातक प्रभाव न था। मोटर साइकल पास ही अधलेटी सी पड़ी थी, और उसका इन्जन अब भी चल रहा था। जिसे बाद में मैंने ही बन्द किया। मैंने दूर तक दृष्टि दौड़ाई वह नर्म स्पर्श देने वाली वस्तु कौन थी? किन्तु कोई भी परिचय उस कृपा जीवन-दाता का न मिल सका। पास ही एक सुखद मधुर सुगन्ध का झोंका अब तक महक रहा था, मुस्का रहा था। किन्तु मेरे पूर्ण चैतन्य होने ही वह वातावरण में घुल गया। दुर्घटना स्थल की ओर ग्रामीण भागते हुवे हमारे चारों ओर आ खड़े हुवे। वही लोग कह रहे थे। “तुम्हारी मोटर साइकल की गति देख हमारा अनुमान था तुम लोग दुर्घटना होने पर नहीं बचोगे किन्तु न जाने तुम लोग कैसे बच गए”। और मैं मन ही मन माँ के प्रति कृतज्ञ हो उठा, आँखें सजल हो रही थी। मन में प्रेम उमड़ पड़ रहा था, रोम-रोम पुलकित हो लगभग काँप रहा था। आखिर हम लोग वापस शादीवाले घर आए। आते ही सभी लोग ईश्वर को धन्यवाद दे हमारे विषय में बातें करने लगे! उसी रात्रि को, उसी घर में मैं जहाँ सो रहा था, वहाँ माता अम्बे का एक चित्र लगा था। रात्रि में शयन पश्चात् स्वप्न में माँ का वही चित्र दिखा, लेकिन देख रहा

हूँ वह चित्र शनैः शनैः एक भगवाधारी सन्त (श्री साईनाथ) के श्री विग्रह में बदल गया है, वे कह रहे हैं, “तुमने माँ के नाम पर मुझे बुलाया था मैं दौड़ा आया। मैं ही जगत में माँ, पिता, भाई, बन्धु के रूप में सर्वत्र व्याप्त हूँ और मुझे आना पडा तुम्हारी आवाज सुनकर। बेटा आइन्दा जिद फिर न करना”। सुबह जागकर मैंने स्वप्न की बात किसी को नहीं बतलाई, किन्तु मन को जिस उपकारक जीवन दाता के दर्शन की आस थी वह स्वयं स्वप्न में प्रकट हो दर्शन दे चुके थे। मन को बड़ी शान्ति मिलने लगी थी। स्वप्न के चित्र श्री विग्रह का बारम्बार ध्यान करने लगा और बड़ी शान्ति, खोया विश्वास लौटन लगा। यह भी किसी संयोग से कम न था कि शादी से वापस घर आते ही मेरे बड़े भाईसाहब जो शिरडी से अभी ही लौटे थे। मुझे आते ही उनसे साईनाथ का चित्र और विभूति, प्रसाद, पुष्प एवं अँगूठी और एक लॉकेट प्राप्त हुआ। इसे पाकर मन गद्गद हो गया बाबा कितने कृपालु हैं कि भक्त एक कृपा की कण हँदता है बाबा दया और कृपा से भक्त का आंचल भर देते हैं बाबा के कृपा का स्मरण कर मन रोमांचित हो उठता है। तब से ये मन श्री साईनाथ का ऋणी हो गया है। कई बार ऐसे कई प्रसंग आए हैं। जब बाबा ने माता के वात्सल्य का पान कराकर मुझे हर आने वाले संकट से रक्षा कर संरक्षण प्रदान कि है। बाबा की अप्रत्यक्षित सहायता रक्षा का प्रयास कितना विलक्षण है। इस की प्रतीति मुझे इस संस्मरण से आज भी हो आती है। मैं बाबा को जानता भी न था किन्तु मेरे बाबा शायद मुझे युगो-युगो से जानते थे, तभी तो उन्होंने दौड़कर हमारी रक्षा की और वे ऐसा करें भी क्यों नहीं - वे सर्वान्तर्यामी, जगदात्मा, विश्वनियन्ता, अखिल ब्रह्माण्डनाथक जो है। सम्पूर्ण चराचर सृष्टि में समाए हैं माँ का स्वभाव ही पुत्र की रक्षा करना है। हे साई सदा हम सभी पर अपनी कृपा कर अभय हस्त छत्र की भाँति रख हमें अपना संरक्षण प्रदान कर अंधकार से प्रकाश की ओर अग्रसर होने में प्रशस्त कीजिए।

आहि माम् शरणागतम् ।

शुभम् शुभमस्तु ।

महेश कुमार पांडेय

“शान्तिसुमन” ४।१ रविशंकर मार्ग, कोठी बाजार बैतूल - ४६० ००१

भजन

अब देर करो ना मोरे साई, दौड के आवो तुम फौरनही
बीच भंवर मे फसी है नय्या, धक्का दे दो इसको जरा

चारों तरफ है छायी उदासी, राहें कुछ भी दिखती नही
तेरे बिना नही कोई सहारा, दिखावे जो मुझको किनारा
हर बार जब भी मैने पुकारा, मेरे आत्मा को तुमने सुना
कैसी कैसी आफतोंसे मुझको, साईबाबा तुमने बचाया
अब क्यूं रुठ गये हो साई, क्या हुई है मुझसे नादानी
रुठती है थोडी देर ही माता, बालक से हो जब कोई गलती
क्षमा दया के सागर तुम हो, माता, पिता सब ही तुम हो
तेरे भरोसे ही जी रहा हूं, करुणासे तुझे देख रहा हूं

सब पर मेहर नजर तू करता, झोली सब की ही तू भरता
सारी मुरादे पूरी करता, खुपीयों से सबको लौटाता
कोई कहता है तुझे बन्देनवाज, और कोई कहता गरीब नवाज
सब ही बालक हैं तुझको समान, अच्छे बुरे सब हैं तेरे सन्तान
मैं न कहूंगा तुझको "साईबाबा", तू तो है सचमे "शाहीबाबा"
फटी कफनी पहन के तू ने, असली रूप को अपने छुपाया
पहचान ही लिया जग ने तुझको, परमेश्वर आये साई बन कर
दर्शन के लीये बडी भीड लगी, बूढे लक्ष्मण को हुई मजबूरी

अब देर करो ना मोरे साई, दौड के आवो तुम फौरनही
बीच भवर मे फंसी है नय्या, धक्का दे दो इसको जरा

लक्ष्मण बापूराव रापतवार
रिटायर्ड ड्राफ्ट्समन किल्ला नांदेड



साई तेरी याद बड़ी सुखदाई

एक बड़ा प्यारा सा भजन है - "साई तेरी याद बड़ी सुखदाई" । अनायास ही गुन-गुना उठती हूँ । मन व्यथित होता है या विकल्पताएँ घेरती है, तो साई नाम ही एक सहारा होता है । स्वयं साई राम ने भी दुख हरने का वायदा किया हुआ है । मेरा भी उन पर अटूट विश्वास है जो निम्न घटना से और भी प्रबल हो गया है ।

घटना - ३१ जनवरी १९८५ की है । मैं अपने पत्रकार पति और अपने लगभग चार वर्षीय पुत्र चि. पुलकित के साथ, अपनी बहिन सौ. रंजना के विवाहोत्सव में भाग लेने हेतु बरेली जा रही थी । हमारी ट्रेन आगरा फोर्ट रेलवे स्टेशन से रात्रि ९ बजे जाती थी । बहुत चाहा कि हम लोग समय से काफी समय पूर्व स्टेशन पहुंच जाएंगे । किन्तु पति की व्यस्तता के कारण वैसा संभव न हो सका । हम लोग ट्रेन समय से कुछ ही समय पूर्व स्टेशन पहुंच सके । रिक्शे रुके और सामान कुलियों को सौंपा और मैं टिकिट लेने चली गई । आगरा के रिक्शे वाले, कि उनका पति से विवाद हो गया । श्री रायजादा ने उन्हें सन्तुष्ट किया । इतने में टी. टी. महोदय ने श्री रायजादा से सम्पर्क किया और दो बर्थ देने की पेशकश की । वह मेरें पास आए कि मैं तुरन्त लौट चलूं । मैं तुरन्त लौटी कि नन्हे पुलकित को नदारत पाया । श्री रायजादा से पूछा तो वह भी हतप्रभ रह गए । अभी तो यहीं था । एक मिनट में ही कहा गया, किधर गया ? कुछ ही क्षणों में भागदौड़ मच गई । परिचित अपरिचित सभी प्यारे पुलकित, जिसे हम सब "मनु" कहते हैं, को ढूंढने में दौड़भाग करने लगे । श्री रायजादा कभी प्लेटफार्म तो कभी स्टेशन कैम्पस के बाहर दौड़ने लगे । मैं रो, रोकर विलाप करने लगी । साई बाबा का स्मरण आया तो उनसे बालक मिलने और विधन समाप्त करके कलंक न लगाने की आर्तनाद स्वर में प्रार्थना करने लगी । मन में आया कि कहीं रिक्शेवाले ने तो बच्चे का अपहरण तो नहीं कर लिया, या फिर किसी गैंग तो नहीं उठा ले गया ? क्योंकि इस तरह की घटनाएँ आगरा में आम बातें हैं । एक फिल्म हम दंपति के दिमागों में दौड़ने लगी । अनेकानेक दुश्चिन्ताएँ और दुखह आशंकाएँ ।

श्री रायजादा तो पागलों की भांति दौड़ते-पूछते फिर रहे थे । वह बाहर गए तो संयोग से उन्हें पुलिस का उडनदस्ता मिला । जिसे उन्होंने तुरन्त सक्रिय कर दिया । वह इतने नर्वस कि मनु द्वारा पहिन रखे कपडे बताने में भी पूर्णतः असमर्थ । लोगों ने बताया कि कोई भी रिश्वेवाला किसी छोटे बच्चे को लेकर नहीं गया है । फिर कहा गया मनु ? घर लौट चले तो परिवार को क्या बताएंगे ? कैसे मुंह दिखाएंगे ? शादी में भी अवसाद के बादल मंडराएंगे । जीवन भर का रोना हो गया । अब क्या होगा ? आदि प्रश्न मन, मस्तिष्क को झकझोर डाल रहे थे ।

श्री रायजादा मेरी दशा देखकर और भी विचलित । अचानक उन्हें भी बाबा का ध्यान आया । वह सीधे हाथ की अंगूठे के बगल वाली अंगूली में शिरडी के साई बाबा की अंगूठी पहिने हुए हैं । जिस पर उन्हें अपूर्व विश्वास है । वह उसी से सुख-दुख कहते हैं । इस संकट के क्षणों में अंगूठी में बने बाबा से बोले, बाबा ये क्या ? कौन सी परीक्षा ? तुरन्त मनु को दिलवा दो वर्ना तुम्हारा जीवन भर नाम न लूंगा और इस अंगूठी को फेंक दूंगा ।

श्री रायजादा यह कहते हुए बाहर से मेरे पास आकर खडे हुए ही ये कि ये क्या किसी अजनबी के पास भूल से भी न जाने वाला मनु पुलिस के एक सिपाही की गोद में मुस्कराता हंसता चला आ रहा है । देखकर बाबा के चमत्कार पूर्ण दृश्य को हम गदगद हो गए । दिल भर आया । शब्द ही न मिले कि पास खडे लोगों, विशेषकर उस कर्तव्यनिष्ठ सिपाही से कैसे आभार व्यक्त करें । श्री रायजादा तो बारम्बार अंगूठी को चुमकर माथे से लगाते हुए बाबा को याद किए जा रहे थे ।

आखिर, हमने उन परीक्षा की सुखद घड़ी में बाबा को धन्यवाद दिया । बिना रिजर्वेशन के ट्रेन में बहुत अच्छी जगह ली और बाबा का नाम लेकर विवाह में भाग लिया ! है न, बाबा का नाम सुखदाई ।

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