

SHRI

SAILEELA

Official Organ of Shirdi Sansthan



SHRI BABA MANIFESTS AS VITHTHAL

Shri Das Ganumaharaj, a sincere devotee of Shri Sai Baba, once wished to go to Pandharpur and asked for Shri Baba's permission. Baba said, "Ganu, for you Shirdi itself is Pandharpur. Why leave Shirdi and go so far?"

After listening to the above reply of Shri Sai Baba, Shri Das Ganumaharaj looked up when he saw that Shri Baba manifested Himself as Vitththal.

September 1984

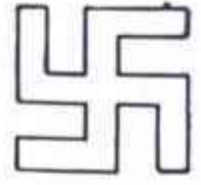
Rupee One

श्री साईनाथ वाचनालय
श्री साईबाबा संस्थान, शिर्डी



Honourable Shri Sonarsaheb, Judge of the City Cival Court and Sessions Court at Bombay, declaring open the dormitary building at Shirdi.





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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Always Do Good Deeds

Just as some advertisers are advertising about their cloth as "suitable for all times", similarly the Bhagawadgeeta is a book for all times. Like the treasure of the Goddess of learning, the treasure of philosophy of the Bhagawadgeeta will never get exhausted and it is quite evident from the description of Bhagawadgeeta as "सर्वोपनिषदो गावो दोग्धा गोपालनन्दनः (The God, who gives joy to the cowherds, milked the cows in the form of all the Upanishads). Even one Upanishad is so very full of underlying meaning and philosophy that it is difficult to express it in brief; but here in the Geeta we get the essence of all the Upanishads and therefore it is quite natural that it will be like an unexhaustable treasure of thought and philosophy. It is because of this that so many top-ranking people like Mahatma Gandhi, Lokamanya B.G. Tilak, Dr. Annie Besant, Vinoba Bhave and many others felt that it was the book which shaped their life and it was that book which gave them inspiration at the nick of the time.

अभ्यासयोग is the subject matter of the sixth canto of the Bhagawadgeeta. The word योग is coming very often in the Geeta and therefore it is first of all necessary to know its meaning. Lord Krishna has explained सांख्ययोग in the second chapter of the Geeta where in the 48th verse he says समत्वं योग उच्यते ॥ २ । ४८ ॥ (Yoga is the state of mind where the intellect is steady and the person does not expect a fruit and remains unconcerned with success or defeat). Immediately in the 50th verse the Lord says, योगः कर्मसु कौशलम् ॥ २ । ५० ॥ (In all your actions it is a real

achievement to be able to make your intellect stable). Defining the outlines of yoga in this fashion in earlier chapters, Lord Krishna explains in great detail in the sixth chapter how a Yogi should behave. Earlier in this chapter, Lord Krishna even gives the description of the seat of a Yogi and his posture of sitting. Thus explaining the outward conditions, Lord Krishna has turned to the food of a Yogi. He there explains that the food of the Yogi should be wholesome and his sleep should be controlled. Lord Krishna thereafter comes to the mind of a Yogi because that is very important. The first thing that he says is that the Yogi should have perfect control over his mind. He should not allow his mind to wander here and there like other ordinary people. After getting control over his mind a Yogi should try to concentrate his mind on his Atma. When this is done the Yogi becomes one with Brahma and he gets the real state of mind where there is nothing else than pleasure and happiness. This may be described as the supreme pleasure. सनत्त्वबुद्धि is always a burden of the song of Lord Krishna throughout the Bhagawadgēeta. So here also he expects a Yogi to look upon all living beings alike and not to differentiate between them.

Arjuna, the disciple of Lord Krishna, perhaps was ready to agree to the outward things to be observed by a Yogi; but he was not sure about the mental control and the concentration of mind. So he refers to it and says

चञ्चलं हि मनः कृष्ण प्रमाथि बलवत् दृढम् ।

तस्याहं निग्रहं मन्ये वायोरिव सुदुष्करम् ॥ ६ । ३४ ॥

(Oh Lord Krishna, the mind is fickle, unsteady, and mighty and therefore it is difficult to tame it and control it. I feel that controlling the mind is as difficult as controlling the wind). Thus when Arjuna expressed his doubt about the control over the mind, Lord Krishna replied that no doubt the mind is unsteady and difficult to control but he added that by अभ्यास and वैराग्य it

will be possible to have mental control (अभ्यासेन तु कौन्तेय वैराग्येण च गृह्यते ॥ ६ । ३५ ॥) Hence because Lord Krishna gave stress over अभ्यास in this canto, this canto is called as अभ्यासयोग

Arjuna was not an ordinary disciple. Earlier Lord Krishna himself said to him, "You are lamenting for one for whom you should not feel sorry and over and above that you are entering into intellectual discussions" (अशोच्यानन्वशोचस्त्व प्रज्ञावादांश्च भषसे ॥२।११॥) He therefore always had some doubts on whatever was told by the Lord. Hence in this case also he had his doubt and he asked, "If a Yogi after proceeding on the path of Yoga, leaves it in between, then what happens to him? Does he perish like a broken cloud?" To these questions the Lord immediately replies,

पार्थ नैवेह नामुत्र विनाशस्तस्य विद्यते ।

न हि कल्याणकृत्कश्चित् दुर्गतिं तात गच्छति ॥६।१०

(Oh son of Pritha, such a person does not perish either in this world or in the next. One, who always does good deeds, never attains a bad state).

Here while giving a reply to a particular question Lord Krishna has given a reply which makes a very general statement. Persons, who have a charitable bent of mind will never think of doing harm to anybody even by thought, speech or action. Their disposition is always towards doing good to others, They will always think about doing good to others; but sometimes we notice that such persons do not prosper very well in this life and then we start doubting whether doing good to others is really worth anything. The reply of this question has been catagorically given by the Lord that such a person does not encounter any bad state not only in this life but he assures about the next world also. Giving advice to do good is not new. All the religions in the world and the saints and sages have always advised all to go on doing good; but the position of the Lord is different. He catagorically assures about the result of good deeds

in this world and in the next which other saints might not have done. Lord Krishna is always emphatic about his statements. As he made the above statement regarding the fruit of the good deeds done by a person similarly in the ninth canto of the Geeta the Lord makes a statement “कौतेय प्रतिजानीहि न मे भक्तः प्रणश्यति ॥ ९।३१ ॥ (Oh son of Kunti, know this fully well that my devotee will never perish) which is also quite emphatic and it shows the protection that the devotion to the Lord gives to his devotees.

It has been stated above that all sages and saints advise their devotees and disciples to always keep on doing good. Shri Sai Baba, also being a saint, cannot, be an exception to this rule. He also asks his devotees to go on always doing good deeds in the following passage.

“Unless there is some relationship or connection, nobody goes anywhere. If any men or creatures come to you, do not discourteously drive them away, but receive them well and treat them with due respect. Shri Hari (God) will be certainly pleased if you give water to the thirsty, bread to the hungry, clothes to the naked and your verandah to strangers for sitting and resting. If anybody wants any money from you and you are not inclined to give, do not give, but do not bark at him like a dog. Let anybody speak hundreds of things against you, do not resent by giving any bitter reply. If you always tolerate such things, you will certainly be happy. (Sai Satcharit page 101. – Tenth edition 1982.)”

It will be seen from the above extract that Shri Sai Baba also advises His devotees to do good to others by giving them whatever they want. To quote His words “Shri Hari (God) will certainly be pleased if you give water to the thirsty, bread, to the hungry, clothes to the naked and your verandah to strangers for sitting and resting”. This is about giving, because he takes it for granted that the above bare necessities could be granted by all ordinary people. In the next sentence however

He also considers the position where money is not to be given for various reasons. Sometimes you know that a person has the habit of borrowing money. Sometimes you know that a person is asking for money; but he never repays it. Taking into consideration these facts He says that you may not pay the person who asks for it, but then he cautions you not to be rude in the following words "If you are not inclined to give, do not give, but do not bark at him like a dog." Here Shri Baba's reaction is very sharp. He compares the speech of the person to the barking of a dog. It will thus be seen that Baba's advice for doing good is very valuable as well as clear.

We the Sai devotees have therefore to bear in mind this valuable advice of Shri Sai Baba and always do good deeds, keeping in mind the instructions of the Geeta Acharya not to worry about its fruit. The Geeta Acharya has categorically promised that the person doing good deeds will never attain a bad state and the advice of Shri Sai Baba is also in the same vein as He says in the end that, "If you always tolerate such things, you will be happy" and except happiness what is the goal of human life ?.

★



Punyatithi Festival at Shirdi

The Punyatithi Festival will be celebrated as usual at Shirdi from Wednesday the 3rd October 1984 to Saturday the 6th October 1984. All Sai devotees are cordially requested to attend the festival and make it a success.

★

R. D. Banne
Administrative Officer
Shirdi Sansthan of Shri Sai Baba.

Anatomy Of Sainam

The Sai-mantra 'Om Shri Sai, Jai Sai, Jai Jai Sai' can overcome all temptations because it has the power to create pure vibrations when it is chanted constantly. As all these are harmonious, the impure desires and other weaknesses in us will be destroyed. By repeating the name of Sai, our willpower becomes so strong that when we are prompted to do evil action we will be able to say "I won't do it". The mantra helps us to gain mastery over the mind.

Shri D. Shankaraiah, 8-3-1113/2, Keshavanagar, Hyderabad 500 872, is a pioneer in the cause of propagating this mantram through 'Akhandana Nama Japam'. He has successfully conducted several sessions in Andhra Pradesh and other parts of India. He helps those wishing to conduct 'Akhandana Nama Japam' by providing necessary guidance, including recorded cassette tapes.

The meaning of this Mantram can be explained as follows:-
OM = Impersonal truth. Shri = Divine Power. Sai = God who is both Truth and power. Jai Sai = Victory to God Sai. Jai Jai Sai = Victory, victory to Sai Bhagawan. When God Sainath is victorious in our heart, what happens is, all darkness disappears and ego-sense is conquered.

Many Sai devotees who continuously chant this mantram have become calm and peaceful even though they were irritable earlier.



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Why man reincarnates on earth

Today's science, though advanced, has failed to answer the above question. Though the scientists have revealed many mysteries in this world through various experiments, the riddle of life has baffled them for a pretty long time. Saints and sages in India, however, had a deep thinking over the issue and their views in this regard would help a great deal to aspirants and devotees who seek enlightenment.

Each and every event in man's life has a bearing to his deeds in earlier birth. In other words, happiness or suffering of a man is the outcome of his deeds in his earlier birth. This is known as 'Karmic Law' and the very law is termed as 'destiny' by common man when no explanation can be given for mishaps which we witness in our day to day life. According to the said law, to-day's monarch goes in exile next day and a millionaire is declared insolvent all of a sudden. Saints and sages are fully aware of this 'Karmic Law' and as such they face calamities in life with utmost tranquility. It would not be out of place to mention here an event from "Mahabharat" which clearly shows as to how each event in man's life is viewed in terms of the said law. Bhishma had been lying on a bed of pointed arrows. Seeing his plight, Arjuna asked Lord Krishna as to how a sage like Bhishma, who performed hard penance and austerities, had to lie down on pointed arrows. The Lord replied that Bhishma was a king in earlier birth and while going for hunting he had a chameleon tossed off with his pointed arrow just for fun. The episode of bed of arrows in Bhishma's life had a bearing to the event, which took place in his earlier birth. It will thus be seen that both good and evil deeds shape future of a man, who reincarnates to experience happiness or suffering according to the trend of events in his earlier birth. In light of this, man should examine his day to day activities and try to eradicate evils.

Needless to say human mind carries forward evil thoughts in earlier birth and drags man towards evil deeds. In other words, man once again incarnates to pay for his deeds and undergo sufferings.

Saints and sages have, therefore, attached great importance to the purification of mind which helps man to lead divine life, for good deeds originate through purified mind alone. For purification of mind, saints urge devotees to carry out day to day work shedding out ego with complete surrender to the Almighty. In addition to this a devotee has to practice meditation and regulate his activities through restraint which helps a great deal in bringing desired change in one's mode of life. Slowly and gradually, you will reach a stage when you will feel like giving up your longings, for longings alone make you to re-incarnate. The Almighty loves good deeds and as the saying goes, when you put one step with intention to reach Him, He hurriedly crosses ten steps to come to you.

Re-incarnation of saints and sages on earth is termed as 'Advent' since such re-incarnation is always planned by the Almighty in order to carry out certain mission. In case of Sai Baba, His advent was to promote love and lead the masses on the right path. Re-incarnation of saints and sages should, therefore, never be compared with re-incarnation of ordinary man,

To sum up, evils of earlier birth can easily be wiped out through good deeds and austerities such as meditation and restraint. (For ordinary man, in the present circumstances, 'Namjap' would be easy to achieve the goal. An aspirant should ascertain from the elders the name of their family deity and surrender to him with utmost devotion). If you lead your life in this manner, you will surely find a change in your attitude. Your mind will always tend to help others. You will dedicate your life for the worthy cause. A stage will come when you will remain aloof from worldly pleasures, which are the root cause of longings.

Having washed out earlier evils, the final stage would be to become a part and parcel of the Almighty. This stage is termed as 'Mukti' (salvation) i.e. to merge with the Almighty - reaching the Abode of Eternal Peace. When you reach this stage, you yourself put an end to re-incarnation. ★

S. N. Awachat
Section Supervisor B.T.D. Globe Chambers,
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Guru God Sai Narayana

“If you seek my advice and help, it shall be given at once” Baba’s sayings are law unto his devotees. To behold his benign grace perennially, the devotee’s ego must be annihilated gradually. When the ego is annihilated completely what remains is the pure self. The seat of Guru-God Sainath is in one’s own heart. Our effort to behold him in external manifestations expose us to the play of illusive Maya. But at every stage we are reminded of our oneness with the supreme self within and without. We however get lost in the mundane leela; but Guru-God comes at the right time and bestows you with power of discrimination.

I had been put under such trial often and one such trial helped me to dispel my ignorance considerably. If this experience be understood and the import assimilated it will stand in good stead for those who face severe trials in life.

Group bhajans are conducted in the prayer hall of my house on Thursdays and other auspicious days. This attracts many Shirdi Sai Baba’s devotees of the town. Baba’s life-size portrait in the prayer hall is one of the best ever done by an artist,

accomplished with the grace of Baba. Bhajan in my house once invited the wrath of one of my neighbours, who along with the tenant and his lawyer brother, came to my house on a Thursday at the time of bhajans, protesting against our bhajan and its sound. My well-intended pleadings and submissions did not have any favourable effect. They further dragged it so long upto a Police complaint. It was during this dilemma that Baba gave me an experience showing his equanimity to both, who worship and others who show indifference or disrespect. The lesson is that even those who throw bricks at him are equally dear to him. It is only one's poorva karma that binds him in a particular name and form. He has shown me his oneness with Narayana and his leelas like a movie exhibited on the screen. The screen is not affected by the movie or characters in it, whereas the spectators identify with characters. Baba seems to give deeper insight into the divine leela in the following anecdotes.

Guruvayoor is the abode of Lord Narayana hailed as Bhuloka Vaikunta of Kaliyuga. I had been a devotee of Guravayoorappan since my early childhood. Every available opportunity to visit Kerala, takes me to Guruvayoor promptly. But in recent years I had to restrict myself to the worship of Narayana in the form of Sai Nath. Lord out of compassion to convince me of his oneness with Sai Nath summoned me to Guruvayoor after a lapse of 3 years. This trip during April 1982 enjoined an opportunity for me and my wife to visit for the first time Baba's temple and Samadhi of Pujya Narasimha Swamiji at A.I.S.S. Madras enroute to Guruvayoor. On reaching Guruvayoor at dusk we rushed for an early darshan. On our way to the temple my attention was drawn to the portrait of Baba in the reception room of a lodging. We were overwhelmed at such a reception at Guruvayoor similar to one which Shama got at Prayag. He is ahead of his devotees in their pilgrimages to holy places. This was confirmed and further proceeded to reveal his leelas in a unique manner.

I could remember no other name other than Sai Ram, Sai Ram, Sai Ram whereas the entire pilgrims were reciting the names of Narayana, Vaikunta Nath, Gopalkrishna. Suddenly I heard distinctly thrice the name "Sai Narayana" incidentally to emphasize the oneness of Sai and Narayana. This celestial sound of "Sai Narayana" kept ringing in the realms of my heart incessantly. Nirmalya Darshan in Guruvayoor is considered very sacred at around 3 (A.M.) similar to Kakad Arathi at Shirdi at 5.15 (A.M.). Around 3 (A.M.) we joined the rest of the devotees awaiting in rapt attention for the sacred darshan. Captured in this altitude of serenity, I was lost in an ecstasy and in this disposition the Lord seems to have pointed out to me the divine presence of a Swamiji behind me. Immediately my curiosity awakened to behold the spiritual messenger shown by Lord. 'Alas' Just in the crowd is a Swamiji beaming with Spiritual aura familiar to me. Instantly I recollected my first meeting with H.H. Haricharandas of Uttarkashi at Hubli. He set on foot from Himalayas visiting all the holy places in India, for the second time. He confided valuable hints on spiritual path as guided by my spiritual preceptor (Shirdi Sai Baba) when he called me separately from the Sabari Mala pilgrims assembled at Moorusavirmath. This second meeting after lapse of three years mysteriously arranged by the Master was more important in the present state of affairs mentioned in the preamble. In the rush that followed after darshan I lost sight of Swamiji. But I was confident that Baba would take me to him if not then, later in the morning. It happened exactly as premonitored. In the morning our eyes met in the main gate. At the very mention of Hubli, he exclaimed "Oh Shirdi Baba's child. Be happy. Be happy."

I had many doubts clouding in my mind. He read my thoughts and answered all my doubts spontaneously, "This Narayana and your Shirdi Sai Baba are one and the same. They have no parents and their law prevails. To them all are their children, one may be obedient and the other disobedient. To

those who come under the care of Guru God, Shirdi Sai Baba, have an advantage of being protected from all sides. You may appear to have fallen but there is no fall. From each trial, you would scale to new heights with his grace." These outpourings answered all my doubts in temporal and spiritual matters widening my scope of understanding of the divine leela.

This memorable pilgrimage to the renowned temple of Guruvayoor, in a spirit of surrender to one's accepted Guru-God, restored my peace of mind despite apparent trials. ★

K. R. Gopinath

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Vow Not, Bow To Shirdi Sai

I have read the piece, "Sai Saves The Surrendered" (PP 31-33 of "Sai Leela For July 1984") of Sai-Bro. D. L. Kanta Raoji. It ought to have been headed, "Sai Saves The Vowed".

As I was reading his article, my admiration for his faith in Shirdi Sai Baba gained momentum and as quickly collapsed when I came upon his following line :

"Then and there, along with Kum. Niveditha, I vowed to visit Shirdi with my family, if Kum. Niveditha came out successfully in her 2nd B.A. examination."

It was not for nothing that even Saipadananda Radhakrishna Swamiji had warned his "chela" Sai-Bro. Dr. G.R. Vijayakumarji

on 31-5-1984 at daybreak from His Supraworld by causing a dream-vision to him in the following beautiful lines :-

“Your faith must be like an alter flame, burning every moment. Not only will it bring blessing to you; but it will bless others. There must be no doubt, no question, no hesitation. The worst enemy in our life, in all human life, is doubt. We can overcome by the light of understanding and following the Sai-philosophy.” His dream quickly faded.

It is only those who doubt resort to vows which our Heavenly Father Himself does not approve of.

“One has to perform his vows. Else He has to bear the punishment.”

It is a clear warning from our Sai to dissuade those who lack faith in their “Ishta Devata” and take short-cut. This short-cut vests additional responsibility unnecessarily on overburdened Sai, who, out of His Sai-Love to the suffering mankind, has to save them from punishment by reminding them in His own mysterious ways.

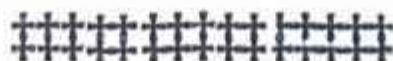
It is again to be noted that Shirdi Sai Baba is not a bribetaker; but a boon-giver only.

So it is best to bow to Sai without vowing and be His boon-receivers. Man knows the least; Sai knows the best for you !



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To
The Editor
Shri Sai Leela

Dear Sir,

I was pleased beyond measure to read your editorial in Gurupournima Special Number. Thanks for the same. You have all along maintained a very high standard of editorials in the magazine and the editorial captioned Sai Institutions in the above special Number shows your deep study of the problem of integrating all Sai Institutions through uniform programmes. The suggestions made by you deserve immediate implementation by the Sai Institutions.

I suggest one modification in your suggestion of having poor feeding programme in one respect. Shri Sai Baba is the incarnation of Lord Dattatreya and as such Full Moon Day is of special significance to all the devotees of Dattatreya. I, therefore, request all Sai Institutions to conduct their poor feeding programmes as far as possible on Full Moon Days.

Yours Sincerely,

A. K. Rasal

21/382, B.P.T. Stall Quarters, Reynolds Road,
Wadala (E.) Bombay - 400 037



Meet Sai at Prem Congregations

What an occasion that was to witness the unique expansion of real love that was flowered with human scent at a place where the Vijayawada Sai Premi Mandali organised the meet for the Sai Bandhus. All the persons present on that occasion were happy to receive each other and the arrangements were so nice that it will confirm a front for the soldiers, who were disciplined to meet regularly under a flag of principle, to propagate the Sai cult all through Andhra Pradesh. The cheerful attention from the beginning of the meet till the closure was silent and passionless. The sweet deliberations and dictions of the orators projected Sai message from the Sai Satcharitra, that is published by the Shirdi Sansthan. The inspiration that was exhibited was much from the spiritual guidance designed by a regular publication, the well-known Sai Leela a monthly magazine.

Now the attendants and the participants came to a common understanding that Shirdi Sai was not only at Shirdi, where he dwelt; but his omnipresence is felt where you call Him. It was also impressed by the deliberations that Shirdi Sai Baba, who is always watching his lovers, believers, worshippers and people who came into contact with him, attends to their needs. But it was observed that the wants of the people were numerous and there will be no end for such requests from His devotees and yet Baba will never disagree with this type of ambitious and innumerable desires of the people. Desire for growth and progress will always be there and that should not be hindered; but the desire must have a control and grow in a disciplined method. While following the systems of the public, one should follow a guideline made out by an experienced Guru.

Sai Baba the known Sadguru made his teachings about self realisation on Saturday as we now keep the same tradition in our observation. Saturn is representing Saturday and according

to the astrological theory he will reason for a philosophical approach for the human races. Thus the Premi Mandali organisers at Vijayawada started the congregation on Saturday the 19th May, 1984 following the guidelines of Shri Sai Baba.

According to Baba's theory one must have belief in his attempts and one must continue the same till he succeeds. That is to say we should not fix any limitation for following a principle as the principle was laid down in general for the benefit of the society and its existence. Even then we should not maintain a bondage for this aspect too as the existence of the world itself is not permanent. It undergoes several changes and we must have patience to observe the change and stand to our principles. Our dislikes and likes for this manifestation should be beyond attachments of joys. He should also think a way for the relief of the sins under beneficial commitments. We can have a craze which will help us in executing methods for solvation. This should not stand an obstacle and a bondage either in the name of love or in the name of service. The casual mind we let for the growth of this type of followers remembering the principles under the shade of the service we will be led by a forcible super drive that is the mirth of God.

During the course of Premi Mandali congregations we have to follow a co-ordinated self-standing method of execution to win over the heart of the devotees, related to the cult of Shirdi Sai Baba. Baba and his principles of living are the rays of light for us as a guide to reach the goal of peaceful remembrance and followers of Baba's work in our day-to-day friction of fashion and passion approaching whereby we are all near to Baba our beloved Atman, whose mission was to paralise all the Baba premies in a dot of action fetching flowers of realisation for the uplift and salvation of all his devotees by his personal care and attention. He declared that he had preserved a treasure of love with him and that he had no objection to permit us to take away the said wealth at any time by any body, who had an

apptitude to know him, to call him, to see him, to read about him, to write about him and to deal with him.

What a miracle is this? The sprinkled love spells to an extensive range of Sai Bandhus in a congregation and this congregation has spread all over the love which will identify the existence of Shirdi Sai Baba who proclaimed his message of love. ★

J. Bhaskara Rao

Congress Office Road, Governorpet, Vijayawada - 2 (A P.)



Shri Sai Baba's Powerful Udi

I want to tell about one of my experiences with Shri Sai Baba, the mighty God of this whole world. He is spread all over this big samsar. This samsar is one of his Leelas. We can find and hear him in every stone, every small particle and even in every atom. We can surely say that 'Uchi' which is available at Dwarakamai is very powerful.

I am 16 years old. I appeared at the S.S.C exams in the month of March 1984. We had our pre-final exams in the month of February 1984. I was prepared for all the exams except for the first paper. I kept two days for preparing for it. But "Man proposes and God disposes" So I was not able to prepare for that exam. I became very nervous. My heart and my body became very much heated up while reading. I thought that I may get a heart attack and I could not write my examination papers properly.

My father is a good devotee of Sai Baba. He visited Shri Sai Baba at Shirdi in the 1st week of February 1984. Before that I did not have any faith in Sai Baba. But after my father's arrival from Shirdi, we used to have bhajans and kirtans, on every Thursday. From that time I began to have faith in God

(Sai Baba). I and my father used to do pooja of Sai Baba daily. I used to take daily, the 'Udhi' which my father got from Shirdi.

I told my parents, that I am not in a condition to read for the examination. My father told me, "Have full faith in Sai Baba and completely cast your burden on His shoulders" He also told me to do pooja twice a day and to take the sacred Udhi. Accordingly, I just prayed to Shri Sai Baba and took the 'Udhi'. After one hour or so, I found that there was no heart pain or any other trouble in my body. And I read for my examination. The very next day while I was entering the examination hall. I prayed to Shri Sai Baba. I found that the paper was easy and I had written the paper very confidently. I got 75% marks in that exam. Even when I had exams, I used to participate in the bhajan done by our family members. The marks which I secured in the pre-final exams were not the result of my hard work but it was Sai Baba's leela.

When I was writing my final (Board of secondary) exams, I have done them without any difficulty, with the krupa of Shri Sai Baba. But the English paper I was not able to write nicely, I thought that I have failed in that subject. But the next paper (English paper-2) was very easy and I wrote it cent percent correct. This was because I took 'Udhi' while coming out from my home and I prayed to Baba before starting for the paper. I think that I could get 70% marks in that subject. This was all due to the krupa of Shri Shirdi Sai Baba on me. I have a desire to visit the holy statue of Shri Sai Baba.

I came to the conclusion that in front of Baba, there is no difference between big and small. That mighty God does not pertain to any particular region or religion Shri Sai Baba is helping every living creature in this world in all the ways. ★

B. Panduranga Reddy

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Shri Sai Baba Fulfills My Desire

I was very much impressed by the article written by Lt. Col. Shri M. B. Nimbalkar, Pune.

I totally agree with the views expressed by the writer. I am very thankful to Shri Sai Leela editor for publishing such nice articles and hope to read more such beautiful writings in future.

This article induced me to write an identical incident which happened with me last year (1983).

I had a great desire to purchase 165 litre new refrigerator. I enquired its price in the market. The cost shown by the dealers did not permit my pocket at all, since I had an inadequate sum for its purchase. So I was worrying how to buy it.

I immediately remembered Shri Sai Satcharitra incident of putting chits at the lotus feet of our Lord Shri Sainath. So accordingly I prepared two such chits. In one chit it was written for its purchase and in the other chit it was written not to purchase refrigerator at any cost. After completing pooja, arati, and prayer, I told my three year old daughter to lift either of it, and opened it. Our Lord Shri Sainath fulfilled my wish and said, "you can buy a new refrigerator without any fear, all the necessary arrangements will be done". And to my surprise I got an instalment facility from the dealer with only a nominal deposit.

When our Baba can make an arrangement for Rs. 30,000 in a week for His devotee, can He not make an arrangement for such a small amount ?



Anil Pandit

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Shri Sai Baba

Shirdi Sai Baba was a faqir. His alode was an old dilapidated masjid known as Dwarkamai. He could chant from Vedas and the qoran and could guide the Hindus and the Muslims in their prayer and worship. Common man thought Him to be a very ordinary faqir. Though His companions were illiterate and poor villagers yet they possessed a very strong merit of sincere devotion to Shri Sai Baba.

The lower animals and insects had equal patronage and affection from God Sai Baba. In the beginning people ignored Him thinking that he was crazy, but when they found Him performing miracles they came into His fold and recognised Him as Kaliyugavatar. Actually, miracle may be an extra ordinary thing for a common man; but it could be nothing for God, who is a store house of spiritual power like Shri Sai Baba of Shirdi.

No individual is denied the right to seek out his own part for his spiritual uplift for getting salvation. Baba's teachings were to aquire spiritual unity among all castes, creeds etc.

Baba preached for Nonduality of God, God is one. You may call Him by any name. He is pure love. God Shirdi Sai Baba preached for ahimsa (non violence). He did not harm even the poisonous creatures. They cannot harm any body until and unless they are directed by Almighty.

God Shirdi Sai Baba also explained the doctrine of rebirth. Our births are based on our previous Karmas. What is being done in our present birth will affect our future birth also. Good produces good and evil produces evil. Baba used to take Bhiksha daily. The demand for two pice was a form of symbolism. By two pice He meant Nishtha and Sabury. Actually He wanted our mind and heart and the pure devotion of our soul. Man and woman must be of pure mind and heart to realise Him.

A change of mind has a similar effect in body and it changes the activities of the body. The human organism is the unity of mind and body. If mind is full of noble thoughts and high spirit, the whole organism will achieve the higher state of vibration.

To Shirdi Sai Baba all the faiths and religions were equal. He created brotherhood among the Hindus and the Muslims. The Hindus and the Muslims were worshipping under one roof of Dwarkamai according to their belief and customs. Outwardly He appeared like a Muslim; but the Hindus thought Him to be their own. The brahmins of very high caste fell prostrate at His feet. Those who wanted to know about His place of birth or parents were dumbfounded. They could not utter a single word of enquiry. Therefore none could decide whether He was a Hindu or a Muslim. He always used to say, Allah Ho Akbar (God is great) and Allah achcha Karega (God will do the right), and Allah malik Hai (God is the supreme).

Love is great and it brings all humanity together. Its practice will remove all type of heartaches and headaches and make the life a sweet song full of bliss.

Shirdi Sai Baba did not propound any new religion or faith. His teachings were from the basic structure of all the religions such as Buddhism, Jainism, Christianity, Islam and Hinduism. Whatever He said He practised. He advocated no dogma of His own nor directed His followers to follow the particular religion; but said that He is in all faiths and religions.

Now the people of all walks of life feel that Sai Baba's spiritual message suits the modern age. It is the only force which can bring all the faiths and religions together. Therefore we can see all types of people worshipping at His Samadhi at Shirdi. Shirdi Sai Baba remained at Shirdi for all his life. He left His mortal coil at Shirdi in 1918. His followers are increasing day by day. Not to speak of India, His shrines, mandirs are built

or are being constructed in foreign countries. People feel that there is bliss all around Shirdi. Though He is not physically present yet He is there where His devotees sincerely call Him. He is every where at all times.

I appeal to all people to carry on the light, that our Sai Baba gave us, to all places, among all people and spread spiritual atmosphere to remove the perpetual fear and darkness prevailing among masses. Sai devotees can take this noble work in their hands for the benefit of the people. By doing this the atmosphere will be full of peace, truth, love, faith and patience. If it be so there will be bliss all around. ★

P. L. Goyal

Sai Baba Mandir, Gadkhal (Himachal Pradesh)

To,
The Editor,
Sai Leela,
Sir,

Sub : Devotion and Service in Sai Path

Your editorial of December 1983 regarding devotion has given an electrical awakening to a good number of devotees.

In my opinion devotion and sewa are inter-dependant and always co-exist in Sai-path. Young turks are justified in their love for service and sewa. But they must be taught the importance of remembering Sai-ram constantly while rendering sewa.

Sai brother Anil K. Rasal's suggestion (that after bhajan session is over, there should be circulation of books of Sai Satcharita and old issues of Sai-Leela) is praise-worthy.

In my opinion apart from Thursday bhajan session we must have another get together on Saturday or Sunday (any day convenient to the devotees) wherein after five minutes prayers we should have a reading of Sai-literature (i.e. Satcharit or old Sai Leela issues, B.V.N. Swami's books on Baba, Sai-Baba, the master by Acharya Bharadwaj and others). This session may be known as study-circle. The reading should not be mechanical, but the reader and other devotees should give their own interpretations of what is read. This will raise curiosity to study Sai literature. Workers of Acharya-Bharadwaj have stated that a good number of saints have visited surprisingly in their study circle.

I take this opportunity to convey my compliments to Shri V. Ramamohanrao for holding the convention of Sai devotees Andhra - Pradesh. I pray that other state workers will receive inspiration and district workers will also think over such district conventions. ★

Yours Sincerely

Navinchandra D. Pandya

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God Looks After us

The child suffers from no anxiety or grief for its own sake, the parents look after it, and are responsible for its welfare; even so God protected us in the past, is looking after us now and will look after us in future. ★

Saipadanand Late Shri Radhakrishna Swamiji

A Pilgrim Soul

Swami Shuddhananda Bharati is a many-splendoured personality. His life is a big kaleidoscope of yoga in all its variegated hues and arabesque patterns. Akin to the spirit of an inspired artist, he touched all facts of noble living with his sublime brush and adorned them to yogic perfection. Born on 11th May, 1897, in Shivaganga, a sacred spot near Madurai, he revelled in a penchant for precociousness even as a toddler. His parents having come from an indigent stock, the boy refrained to be a burden even to them. He earned for his own upkeep and schooling. Seeing his "traumatics", his fabulously rich but a childless maternal uncle one day tempted him with his wealth for adopting him. A child of nature the boy sniggered at the very idea and spurned the offer with his characteristic abandon. He ran to the Meenakshi temple and fell at the feet of the Goddess beseeching Her never to tempt him again with the lure of the lucre and snatch away the spatial splendour of Her Grace that was sprouting in him. Hardly eight years was he at that time!

Swami Purnananda one day seeing the tender boy sitting forlorn with an unslaked thirst and a dreamy gaze under nature's open canopy, took pity on the boy and took him under his benevolent tutelege. In the days that followed the rough edges in the boy's image of spiritual perfection was chiselled with the ardour of a deep, refined artistry. In the esoteric enlightenment, he was fed with songs and stories of puranas that only whetted his appetite with an insatiable thirst for the nectar of self-knowledge. He was taught all the prosthetics of asanas, pranayama, japa and meditation. Always immersed in the cosmic chant of Aum Pranava, he was sallied forth into the prognostics of all that is spiritual with introductions into the realms of lives and works of all Godmen. He learned to treat nature as his school. He renounced home at sixteen and attained God-consciousness at

eighteen. An Anandam thus metamorphosed himself into Swami Shuddhananda Bharathi.

From the young age the Swamiji was a man cut out of the ordinary. Behind the veneer of his simplistic appearance, he holds a mesmerising poise and a braise of bewitching ideas. When he talks he casts a spell that touches the soul. His speeches, in content and carriage, sound like carillons of a vestral resonance in a church bell. Like Shri Sai Baba, he admits of no picaresque cabalism in matters of caste, rituals and religion. He exemplified his ideas by living in a mosque during the khilafat agitation practising Islam and glorifying its founder in flowing verse. Likewise, while in the Christian Training Institute he imbibed the spirit of the Bible and embellished the stamp of Jesus in scintillating poetry. In similar vein he did the same with Buddhism and Jainism.

He struck rich in good modern education; but he created a University for himself, whose canopy was nature and the supreme book of knowledge his field of action. He is a prolific writer, author of more than 500 books touching on a variety of topics. He has a multi-lingual tongue and writes with versatile ease in Tamil, English, French and Hindi languages in verse. He wrote his magnum opus "Bharatha Shakthi" in 50,000 lines when he was mere twenty. Sailing in the pragmatics of yoga, he envisages a powerful India, not in the political and literary sense alone, but a spiritually dynamic India which will command the respect of all humanity and lead the world from war to peace, from sin to virtue and from manhood to Godhood.

Swathed in a patriotic thrust, Swamiji's activities are like the many faces of a prism, whose light filters in a multichannelled, colourful desideratum for the benefit of the country. Thus he is an educationalist, a scout master, a Gurukul leader, a social reformer, a naturopath, a writer, a poet, a multi-linguist, a spiritualist, a widely travelled man and a nationalist to the core.

A very practical man in life, he advocated that the sceptre and crown of rich aristocracy should come down to meet the poor scythe and spade of the toiling masses and swim along in the main stream of national life. In him precept and practice are not two different prongs. His life is replete with inspiring anecdotes of his uncanny perspicacity for rural uplift to raise the depressed, to remove the evils of caste and fanaticism, to liquidate illiteracy, to remove poverty, ignorance, social and political slavery. By his example he galvanised the people into instant action and paved the way for an inspired Bharatha Shakti through song, speech, religious concerts and spiritual outpourings.

Patriotism filters in a transparent mien in the Swamiji's heart. He joined hands with the highest luminaries like Subhashchandra Bose, B.G. Tilak, Annie Besant and a host of others and later with Mahatma Gandhi in those pulsatile moments in our struggle for independence. In 1917 he graced himself at Shirdi in the company of Tilak and Khaparde and met Shri Sai Baba. Baba bade him to remain in His Masjid and observe mouna. In that state he was singularly fortunate to have witnessed many of Baba's Leelas. Of this 3 months sojourn only a scanty sketch is available. Sai devotees would give a standing ovation for the work even if dissuaded and pour a litany of genuine praise to satisfy their souls if Swamiji graces himself to write the full account of his memoirs with Baba. The only other living saint, Shri Sai Sharananand who saw and spent some time with Baba has come out with a charming book with some hither-to little known details. It is the earnest hope that the Swamiji will not fail the Sai devotees to fill this vacuum.

Shri Sai Baba made His famous prophesy that India is bound to get Swaraj in Swamiji's presence. As Tilak was much advanced in his decaying diabetes, Baba blessed him to take rest and declared that a new personality would step on the Indian soil, who would answer the rousing call with the true spirit of the Indian psyche. That was the Mahatma Gandhiji, fresh from

his South African laurels. Later the Swamiji met Gandhiji and when the clarion call came, he wrote a cryptic resignation letter to the school management he was serving: "Freedom calls; no more walls".

Creation of a Yogic Power House as a fusion of the works and achievements of Oriental saints with Occidental scientists of Eastern culture with Western material progress was his undiminutive brain child. Pursuing this goal he met several saints like Ramana Maharshi, Aurobindo, Jnana Siddha, Swami Shivananda, Shri Sai Baba, Meher Baba, Upasani Maharaj etc. and then embarked on a world tour meeting men from all walks of life in South East Asia, Japan, China, U.S.R. Europe and America. It is his fond belief that we cannot forgo the advantages of science today. Since it is a double-edged weapon capable of creating a deadly moribund society, it must be wedded to yoga. Einstein and his ilk must think of their work with the heart of a Gandhiji, he says. All material progress built with the bitter tears and sweat of the people will crumble like a pack of cards with the Frankenstein greed of the political leaders, if they are shorn of yogic induction. The leader's outlook must radiate with the light of spiritual consciousness.

Swamiji established a Yoga Samaj with his cherished mission to train people for the spiritual, cultural and social service of humanity. His aim is to build up a spiritual commonwealth of artists, scientists, saints, soldiers and workers of all callings under the divine weal of Bharatha Shakti. The whole world is a temple; all living beings God and work is worship. He aims at One God, One World, One Religion and One Spiritual Government.

Now the Swamiji is passing through long phases of silence. He lives the nature's way by eating fruits and nuts. Calling himself a pilgrim soul on the path of Eternity, he is now 85 years of age and still going strong. It is sad that the contemporary Indian political cornucopia is honing its cult of the fast-buck

bonanza. It has to halt its pernicious march. It must retrace its steps for an introspection of the Swamiji's message. These iconoclasts with their evenescent cult must not be allowed to dismantle the sublime Indian tradition, which has sustained the millennia of epochal eminence. It is a pity that this great and adorable vignette of yoga, a bailiwick in all spheres of divine activity and a sine qua non for universal harmony is allowed to "languish" on the wings. This mighty reservoir of Kavery waters is wasted into the sea, scarcely utilised for the benefit of mankind. The way to felicitate him for many, many more years to come is to gird ourselves and walk on the timely path set by him and blaze the glory of his great power house of Bharata Shakti. ★

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Miracle Kirthan

In May 1984 I faced a problem convected with my family. Having been unable to find a solution, I was on the verge of panic, so much so that my mind had frozen and was no longer operative. Certainly it was not delivering the necessary ideas.

Miraculously, I met a Sai-devotee. I outlined to him the problem in detail. He encouraged me to talk and gave me plenty of time, in the hope that I might, as sometimes is the case, talk myself into a solution. But it did not work that way. Indeed the more I talked and wrestled with the problem the more my tension increased, effectively closing off any possible creative thought. "There just is no solution to this one", I told him dejectedly "I am completely licked".

"Oh, no, you are not" He told me. "And there is a solution to this problem. I am sure of that because I have never yet seen a problem without a solution. Problems and solutions inevitably go together. You cannot have one without the other being right there all the time".

He then suggested me to pray to Lord Sainath. He gave me a photograph of Sainath and Udhi Prasad and said "Let us forget it for a little while. Let us think about Shirdi Sai Baba instead".

He talked to me about Shirdi Sai Baba and verbally repeated the eleven sayings of the Lord. He told me the several Lilas he had experienced. We discussed this totally different type of thought on Sainath for a few minutes.

Sainath's grace operated on me instantaneously. I had a mental reconditioning and quietening of the mind. He taught me a Keerthan on Sai and advised me to pray daily in the morning and evening. When I heard him teach me the Keerthan, I knew it was effective, for the atmosphere seemed actually to deepen, taking on an unmistakable spiritual sensitivity.

I thanked him and Lord Sainath. "This is the first time I have felt relaxed and peaceful in days. I actually feel refreshed."

By Sainath's grace I got the beginning of the solution to my problem. The Lord permitted the solution to float to the surface of my mind. When we surrender to the Almighty, we can overcome any problem. ★

J. Subramania Pillai
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A Miracle

It all happened on Wednesday 9th November 1983. I got up from bed at 5 (A.M.) and went to kitchen to check up whether water was coming in the tap. My attention was drawn to the Ashirwad photo of Baba which fell on the ground with damaged face and hand. I was keeping that photo in my puja and had very good sentimental feelings about it. The photo was eaten away by rats. I got continuous tears and I could not continue my regular work and the damage of the photo was reeling in my mind throughout the day. I had doubt whether Baba was displeased with my prayers. I was pained and I spent the whole day and night thinking what to do for the next day, which was Thursday. I was having more attachment for the photo since the same was in the house for a long time.

As usual I got up at 5 (A.M.) on Thursday the 10th November 1983 and I was busy in cleaning the main entrance of the house and putting rangole. Then also my mind was on the defaced photo. Suddenly a messenger came, who was sent by my husband from Vijayawada and he handed over a packet to me. It contained two big photos of Baba, which were given to my husband for framing before a couple of months. After seeing the same there was no limit for my joy. Baba appeared with a smiling face, enquiring with me whether I was satisfied with the photos against the one damaged. My joy knew no bounds.

During my husband's visit, I questioned him how he sent the photos without my request. He revealed that all of a sudden it got in his mind to despatch the photos, which were framed and kept for more than two months. Perhaps Baba might have done this to make me happy. ★

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My Experiences With Shri Sai Baba

We had a long desire of having a house of our own. This is a big project which is out of the reach of a middle class family, like us. We prayed Baba for fulfilment of our desire and within a very little time we could shift to our own house which is dedicated to Baba called 'Sai Niket'.

In this connection let me tell you the ways Baba had blessed us.

Whenever there was a trouble, say for funds or material and we remembered Baba, the other day, it was made magically available. They were the hottest summer days. The nearby wells were dry. Well at my place had only two feet deep water. It was difficult to construct the house with scarcity of water. The other day, I prayed Baba, and dropped 'Udi' and flowers in the well. By this time, an idea struck in my mind. I engaged labourers to deepen the well. When it was dug to some four five feet, an automatic spring of water came out, and filled the well to the level of 8 feet. There was no scarcity of water after that and the work could then be completed without any trouble. I may add that, with the blessings of Sai Baba, our well maintains a level of seven feet even in the hottest summer days when other nearby wells get utmost dry.

In those days procurement of cement was a problem. It had quota, dates of distribution, permit and many other formalities to be observed. The work of putting slab for roof had come to a standstill. One day while supervising the incomplete construction, with my nephew, I prayed Baba for help. The next day, cement was managed and construction work came to full swing.

I have seen whenever I have uttered words of prayer it has not gone invain. Sai Baba has responded to my prayer favourably

with his blessings. Even when I was financially tight, it was Baba who managed funds for me. When construction of a house is a problem, it was no problem for me with Baba's blessings, who alongwith other things gave me a son, in the form of my nephew. He supervised the whole construction work without causing any exertion or trouble for me. Tarun, my nephew with his three friends had been to Shirdi in Dec. '82 on bicycle. He is also a devotee of Sai Baba.

He is blessed by Baba, so much so that after supervising my construction work he could also manage the construction of the house for which his father had financed.

I had been twice to Shirdi, first in October 1983. This pilgrimage had its own background. I was a victim of rivalry. Besides my transfer in interior, I was threatened that, I shall miss the chance of my promotion, which was due to me after ten years of good service in the same cadre. I was much afraid of that, and had ultimately left this problem on the mercy of Sai Baba.

Baba's saying that he enshrouds the difficulties of his devotees came true. I was promoted and posted at Indore, the best town of Madhya Pradesh. This was despite the vigorous opposition for my name. Even attempts were made to suspend me; but Sai Baba's blessings were with me. He saved me from the tricks of rivals.

I decided to go to Shirdi with my family to offer my respects to Sai Baba, who had been or better say is our Saviour. I came from Indore to Jabalpur to pick up my family.

My son had fever two days earlier, owing to large tonsillitis. I kept the required medicines and funds for journey. When we reached the railway station, 3 up Howra-Bombay Mail was in the Station. We had no reservation in the train and it was difficult to enter the unreserved compartment.

Casually my brother-in-law was driving the train. When he saw us he came to ask us, if we had reservation in the train. Our answer was 'No'. He managed for our reservation, introduced the T T E. to us, and rushed up to the engine. Trouble free, was our travel. The medicine box which we had brought with us was not required to be opened in the air of Shirdi. We stayed there for three days, and with darshan of Sai Baba returned pleasantly.

We had our second pilgrimage to Shirdi in the company of a friend of mine D.R.S. Chouhan and Mr. Saxena's family. Mr. Saxena is an Assistant Director (Industries), in the M. P. Govt. Both are heart patients. His wife had heart surgery in 1970. Both are devotees of Shri Sai Baba. They had thought of going to Shirdi, and had been waiting for some company. The other day, when I had been to Mr. Saxena, he was applying medicines on his legs which had weeping eczema. He was not in a position even to walk. I thought how he can board the train next day with this severe trouble. However we started as per schedule on 24-2-82 remembering Baba. He had no trouble, till we returned from Shirdi. We had been walking together in streets of Shirdi for miles together without any trouble. You may be wonderstruck to know that he had stopped taking medicines and his wounds had healed enough, with Baba's blessings.

In both our trips I noticed two things. One was trouble-free journey and the other that the funds we had taken were sufficient, for all the expenses, and they were so exact that when we returned home, we had in our pocket just to cover the riksha charges from railway station to our residence.

Today when I am writing this article, I have received a message from my nephew Pran that he is speedily recovering.

This boy, had been suffering from tuberculosis of Spinal Cord, since last 2 years. This could be detected in June 1982 only, when pain suddenly developed, and his both the legs turned paralytical. The doctors had no hope about him.

My brother who is old, and handicapped had been weeping on the condition of the boy and had lost his mental patience. I prayed Baba for help and to shower mercy on the boy.

My prayer was heard by Sai Baba, With his blessings he was shifted to the Military Base Hospital, Lucknow in Sept. 1982. Lt. Col. Mitra from Lucknow had recently informed me that, the boy was cheerful and that he now feels better. The boy has also informed me of his betterment in health. Is it not that Baba blessed him ?

While concluding I may add that, Sai Baba, is the master of our house, he controls, guides and has given us shelter. He listens to our prayers. Our family and relatives are his ardent devotees. You know when I am writing this article, I feel that Baba himself moves the tip of my pen, and not me. ★

I remember his saying 'you look to me. I look to you'.

V. K. Thakur
'Sai Niket' 152, Shakti Nagar,
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To
The Editor,
Shri Sai Leela

Dear Sir,

I have gone through Sai Leela magazine of July 1984, Special Gurupournima Number.

Your editorial "Sai Institutions" is excellent and very interesting with a lot of suggestions to have a common pattern and uniformity of programmes like bhajans, puja, celebrations of festivals, lectures on the life of Baba etc.

Sir, in this connection we submit briefly our activities here at Shri Sai Spiritual Centre, Bangalore, which are more or less on the above guidelines suggested by you in your fine editorial except in certain items, which you will notice; but they are worthy for consideration to be included in other Sai Institutions as well, if feasible.

Shri Sai Spiritual Centre, Bangalore, has been executing the following programmes at the institution keeping in mind the broad outlines of the life and teachings of Shri Sai Baba :

1. Daily puja and mangalarathi to Shri Sai Baba between 7.00 (a.m.) to 9.30 (a.m.) and recitation of Shri Vishnusahasranama by devotees collectively.

2. Daily collective bhajans by devotees on Shri Sai Baba (we have brought out a special bhajan booklet containing about 51 bhajanvalies—mostly on Shri Sai Baba, Shri Rama, Shri Maruthi etc. in Kannada. Hindi and Marathi bhajanvalies are also included); recitation of Shri Vishnusahasranama: puja and mangalarathi between 6.30 (p.m.) to 8.30 (p.m.) takes place. Recitation of one chapter of Shri Bhagawadgeetha by devotees daily at 9:00 (p.m.) is done.

3. On every Monday and Thursday in addition to the above we perform Rudrabhisheka to Shri Sai Baba and on every Friday we perform Go-puja in the evening. On Thursday's Baba's portrait is taken out round the Mandir thrice in a procession and a lot of devotees participate chanting bhajans with great devotion.

4. We conduct Sathyanarayana puja in the evenings on all poornima days. Guru Poornima Celebrations are conducted with elaborate programmes starting from 8.00 (a.m.) to 8.00 (p.m.) which include Ekadasavara Rudhrabhisheka to Sadgru Shri Sainath Maharaj, Guru Puja, Arathi, Prasad distribution poor feeding, Shri Sathyanarayana Puja and recitation of Shri Vishnu

Sahasranama. This year over thousand devotees participated in this celebration with great joy and enthusiasm and sought the blessing of Shri Sainath Maharaj.

5. Every year Baba's Mahasamadhi Day is celebrated with all solemnity with one week's special programmes like Homa, Lakshnarchana etc. Shri Sai Baba's Portrait is taken out in flood light procession, chanting bhajans in the evening covering over two kilometers distance. A very large number of devotees participate and derive joy, peace of mind and happiness.

6. Every year Shri Ramanavami is celebrated with programmes like devotional songs, music, harikatha and lectures. It is interesting to know that one of our devotees, a retired professor Shri P. S. Narayana Rao, has rendered Shri Sai Charitra and Baba's Teachings into the harikatha form and he tells it to the audience with all devotion. A large number of devotees listen to it and enjoy it with great joy and derive peace of mind and happiness from it.

7. It may be pointed out that Shri Sai Spiritual Centre, Bangalore, has one extra programme to your suggested items in their daily agenda, namely recitation of Shri Vishnusahasranama individually and collectively by the devotees and one chapter of the Bhagwadgeetha parayana is carried out collectively by the devotees, which may be adopted by the other centres. Speaking about Shri Vishnusahasranama, Shri Sai Baba said "I had heart disease. I kept Shri Vishnusahasranama close to my chest. Hari descended from it into my heart, and I was cured of the disease."

8. In our centre, devotees of all religions participate without distinction. Bhajans in Karnada, Hindi Telugu, Tamil, Marathi and Sanskrit are included to see that devotees who visit from other states feel at home.

9. We are adding to our centre a meditation hall, library and First Aid Centre very shortly to cater to the growing needs of the increasing number of Baba's devotees.

10. It is our earnest desire to follow all the suggestions made in your editorial with a view to spread the message of Shri Sai Baba of Shirdi.

With regards,

Yours ever in Baba's service,

C. V. Bhaskara Rao
President

Shri Sai Spiritual Centre, Shri Sai Baba Mandir Road,
Thyagarajanagar, Bangalore, 560 028 (Karnataka)

How I Became Saibhakta

Since 1942 I used to do cloth commission business in Bombay at Chhotalal Bhuvan, Kalbadevi, Bombay in the name of Ram Subhash Hari & Co. In 1952 the purchase of textiles were given to cooperative societies of different states. So there was no business to the agents as the cloth was controlled.

Once when I was going to V.T. one Shri Kodali Krishnadas Choudary, hailing from Vijayawada, met me on road in Bombay. He asked me how was the business. I said that there was no business as all the cloth is now purchased by cooperative societies from different states. Then he said that he was going to Shirdi and that I may accompany him. I told him that I was not having money and that I would meet him after two or three days at his house to take prasadam. Then he said he would bear the cost of travelling and I should come to Shirdi the next day and meet him at V. T. Station. Then I said O. K. and accordingly I went to V.T. to board the train going to Manmad. Shri Choudary was travelling in IInd class. I asked him to give me money for purchasing a IIIrd class ticket. Choudary said that he had already purchased a IInd class ticket for me also and asked me to get into the compartment. In those days IInd class was a bit costly but he purchased a IInd class ticket for me also. We both went

to Shirdi. At that time Shirdi was not so developed. Only two Maharashtrian elderly women used to live near the temple. They used to help the Yatriks. We both slept under a tree near the temple and in the morning after taking bath we had darshan of Saibaba and returned back to Bombay. When I went to my office, the clerk said that one gentleman from Madras came to see me and they asked him to come at 11 A.M. I said O.K. and was waiting for him. Then one Shri Shanmuga Sundaram Pillai came to me and told me that he was the Cooperative Registrar from Madras, who was deputed to Bombay for the purchase of textiles for Madras province and that I should help him in the procurement. Then my thought went to Saibaba who sent this gentleman to me. The Officer was having a permit to purchase two crores worth of textiles per month, and he told me to purchase goods as per my capacity and requested me to show some others who were doing business like me. All my competitors were wonder-stuck. They came to me running and requested me to recommend their names to the officer. Accordingly I recommended their names to the officer. The said officer used to stay in my flat till he returned to Madras after completing his assignment for two years.

Thus Saibaba gave me business when there was no business for the cloth commission agents in 1952. From that occasion I am a staunch Sai Bhakta. From that time I am trying to write to the editor of Saileela, but now Saibaba ordered me to write and hence I am writing today.

My elder son now aged 31 years was named as "Sainath" at Shirdi.

From that day Saibaba is lifting me when I am falling, and now I am happy and contented and I always like to serve others with pleasure. ★

D. V. S. Naidu

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OBITUARY

We are very sorry to inform our readers that Shri Makhijanisaheb, Judge of the City Civil Court, Bombay passed away on 4-8-1984 at a very early age of only 55 years.

In 1960, the Court Receiver was first appointed to look after the affairs of the Shirdi Sansthan, under the guidance of a judge of the City Civil Court. Shri

Makhijanisaheb as Judge of the City Civil Court was guiding the affairs of the Shirdi Sansthan since 1981 and as he was a devotee of Shri Sai Baba, he did this work very devotedly. After Shri Makhijanisaheb was given the charge of the Shirdi Sansthan, while welcoming him we had observed (Shri Sai Leela October 1981 page 38) "The Shirdi Sansthan has got a right guide in Shri Makhijanisaheb, he being a sincere Sai devotee. Such a person will definitely take very keen interest in the affairs of the Sansthan and lead it on the path of progress and prosperity" and it will be seen from the progress of the Sansthan during the last three years that what we had predicted has come true.

Shri Makhijanisaheb was born at Hyderabad on 21 May 1929. After finishing his primary education, he was admitted to Gurudasmal Hindu High School at Hyderabad and completed his secondary education from that school. Thereafter he graduated from the National College and came to Bombay and joined the Government Law College from where he passed the L.L.B. examination. From 1950 to 1976, he practised in the City Civil Court and the Small Causes Court at Bombay. In 1976 he was



appointed as the judge of the City Civil Court at Bombay and from that time he was continuing to work there. It is very sad that he should have left this world in the middle of his life.

He is survived by his wife, one son and two daughters. We extend our heartfelt sympathies to the members of the family of Shri Makhjanisaheb in their sad bereavement and pray at the feet of Shri Sai Baba that the soul of this departed sincere Sai devotee may rest in peace. ★

— EDITOR

Shri Sai Baba - A Great Personality

Sometime ago I was discussing with a devotee of a particular saint in Northern India. This saint or swamiji has in fact already taken samadhi as I am told by his followers.

Frankly speaking, I have met this swamiji only twice before he took samadhi. I for one was not much impressed by this swami though when I met him for the first time in Calcutta I was swayed by emotion which I could hardly restrain initially. Similarly when I met him for the second time late in 1982 also at Calcutta my emotional attachment remained. It was only a few months back that the emotional strings snapped and practical judgement prevailed. I came to the conclusion (after studying the swami's literature, his sayings, etc.) that this particular swamiji was not at all an Avatar as his followers had claimed. He was in my opinion an ordinary yogi with very limited powers.

When I tried to convince this particular devotee (with whom I was discussing) about my personal opinion on the Swamiji, he immediately retorted back, "We are ordinary mortals. We have no authority to study the Avatars of the Lord and make our own conclusions."

What the devotee has said is perfectly correct. I have no questions on that. But looking into the Kaliyuga today we have noticed that especially over the last decade or so several fake swamis and yogis have cropped up in different parts of the country, who by showing small magical powers claim to be Avatars of various Godly Personalities. In fact the truth is that these fake yogis and swamis are not related at all to any Godly personality whatsoever; but merely to hoodwink the innocent people they resort to such methods.

Because of the immense sufferings of the people of this country and of the world in general today, hundreds and thousands of people have fallen prey to these yogis and swamis. The intolerable suffering of mankind in today's world is an established fact, and hence most people seek solace in spiritually elevated persons like these fake swamis. No wonder then, that most of these yogis and swamis live in palatial houses, and spend a luxurious life. Today, religion is used by these unscrupulous persons for their own advantage.

Even though there are some genuine saints and spiritually elevated persons today, people are not attracted towards them simply because they never show any 'chamatkar' like these magical swamis and yogis. Although the genuine saints are keen to show the real spiritual path most of the people are disinclined to go to them.

Just a few days back I was talking with my friend, who works in a bank. This friend of mine is undoubtedly a good person; but he is very practical. He of all is the last person to

worship any swami or yogi as such. However when I was discussing about Shri Sai Baba with him he told me, "How can you ever worship a saint, who has already taken samadhi more than half a century ago? You have neither seen him nor heard him nor is there anyone today living, who has actually seen Him in person "

Perhaps our good friend is quite ignorant about Baba and His life and leelas. It would have been better if I had discussed about Baba's life with him. But our friend insists on disbelieving Baba.

First, the major reason for this disbelieving in Baba is attributed to a few of the local swamis and yogis, who claim to be Avatars of Lord Shri Sai; but in fact they are not. This itself has created confusion to the extent that even real devotees of Shri Sai Baba are sometimes shaken by such propaganda by the agents employed by these swamis. Secondly, since most of the 'so called Godmn' today are selfish and employ numerous tactics to fool the innocent people, it is but natural that even if a particular saint is genuine, people at first would disbelieve him entirely. So what to talk of a saint and Avatar like Baba, who has already shed His mortal coil as far back as 1918. But Baba's Leelas and His ways of teaching His devotees each in their own way were different from other similar saints, who were existing then.

Some people are still under the impression that Baba is no more. Even as Baba shed His mortal coil on 15-10-1918 at 2.30 (p.m.) on the Vijaya Dashami Day people, who then resided at Shirdi, thought that He is no more with them. So, to correct the misunderstanding Baba appeared in the dream of Lakshman Joshi in the morning of 16th Oct. 1918 and told him "Get up soon. Bapusaheb thinks I am dead and he won't come. You do your morning duties and the Kakad Arati." To another woman who in her dream saw Baba passing away said "Baba is dying" Baba at once corrected her saying-"Saints do not die. They

take samadhi." To know Baba one must first study His Life history, read His Leelas and then ask questions.

Baba is indeed a great personality, an Avatar of Lord Dattatreya. What pulls us more towards Baba is His mode of living. He lived by begging alms, stayed in a dilapidated Masjid, and mixed with all. He had no discrimination towards anyone or even any creature. And most of the devotees who had been to Him during His lifetime were benefited in some form or other. There is no end to His innumerable Leelas. Even today any devotee can ask Him for guidance and refuge and it would be given at once. After over 65 years of Baba's Mahasamadhi, He is still ever active as He was while in His physical body.

Rao Bahadur S.B. Dhumal, an ardent devotee of Baba in the latter's lifetime says about Him in his personal diary written in 1936-" To me Baba is still there. He has not gone. I believe that my whole life is being swayed by Baba. Even after 18 years the omnipresence of Baba is evident to me. Whatever I speak, do or think is being controlled by my Master. There have been several instances when I had asked Baba for guidance long after 1918 and Baba in His own way has blessed me, by His omnipresence. Not even on a single occasion has Baba's guidance proved wrong."

Let us recall what Professor G.G. Narke has to say about Baba. Prof. Narke was the then Professor of Geology and Chemistry in the College of Engineering, Poona. In his study about Baba and His Leelas Prof. Narke has given his personal account of Baba, some of which is reproduced below in his own words. (as given to Shri B. V. N. Swami, founder President of A. I. S. S.).

"Shri Baba was living and operating in other worlds also besides this world and that He was working in an invisible body also. Baba's words were highly cryptic, symbolical, allegorical and not plain. Baba used to sleep either in the Chavadi or in

the Masjid, and while sitting in front of the dhuni, He would often say to what distant places He went overnight and what He had done there. People sleeping by His side and seeing His body by their side all night would wonder how could He have travelled when His body was there. But Baba did travel with the invisible body to distant places and there rendered actual services. This was confirmed by the statements of respective persons who had received such benefits themselves admitted, later on, when they visited Shirdi."

"Shri Baba had the peculiar art of giving information to particular individuals in the midst of a group in a way that those concerned alone could understand and not others. Thus at one sitting, by a few acts and words, He benefited numerous persons. As Sai Baba could traverse other realms than this earth and could control what took place everywhere, and because He could see the past and future alike quite clearly, His nature could be clearly inferred. He was not a body-bound soul. Baba Himself one day brought this out by asking "Where are you? Where am I? Where is this world?" Pointing to His body He once said "This is My house. I am not here. My Mourshad Guru has taken Me away." That is His Dehatmabuddhi was completely swept off by that Guru. The Professor concluded that Sai Baba is still alive. In his words, "Baba is where He was then (when in the flesh). Even then He was where He is is now." These highly learned statements carry much truth with them.



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When Sai Doesn't Answer Our Prayers

Sai Baba has declared: "If you cast your burden on me, I shall surely bear it". Surely all of us at one time or another have prayed fervently and sincerely only to find certain prayers apparently unanswered. The need is clear. The promise of Lord Sainath is clear. And yet we receive no help. Why?

I think there is a clue. It lies in the question asked by Lord Sainath to Shama, when Bhimaji Patil was brought to Him in the late stages of T.B. : "Shama, in bringing this thief to me, what a load of responsibility you are placing on my shoulders?"

A cruel question to ask in front of a sufferer !

A pointless question from Lord Sainath ?

No. Medicine, Psychology and Sai-philosophy generally agree that it is one of the most important questions we can ask ourselves and that the answer demands rigorous honesty.

Each of us is more than willing to be rid of hurts, problems, illness, pain or any unhappiness. We are ready and eager to give up our ills. But to be qualified for receiving Lord Sainath's mercy demands more than that. We must surrender the self-pities, the hates, the resentments, guilts, fears, selfishness that lie at the roof of our ills and bind us to them.

I know a great scholar, who is a Sai-devotee-par-excellence and is very much devoted to several contemporary saints all over the country. He suffers from difficulty in voiding urine due to enlarged prostate. Surgery has failed him, drugs have caused him more troubles, visits to saints and holy places have proved useless. In short, he believes, his prayers have not been answered by Lord Sainath. An intimate friend of this devotee told me, "But which prayers does he mean? This man won't admit that what is at

the deeper level of his consciousness contradicts what is at the verbal level. He prays verbally, "God, please heal my problem. I want health. Make me well." But at the deeper level in him is enough hatred not only to curl his hairs but all his nerves."

Dear devotees, in this case, who is saying 'No' to healing? Wasn't it the man himself?

"Do I deserve Lord Sainath's grace?"- It is a question I ask myself before I petition to Lord Sainath in prayer. ★

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Saint Tukaram

Tukaram is rightly regarded as the best-beloved among the saint-poets of the people of Maharashtra. He is regarded by students of Indian literature as one of the greatest saints and poets of India.

Tukaram himself was a grocer's son. But he found the fulfilment of his life in dedication to Shri Krishna whom he loved to call "Vithoba." "Vithoba," Tukaram said, "He is my All." He loved to call himself "a hired servant" of Vithoba. ★



श्रीसाईलीला

हिंदी विभाग

अनुक्रमणिका

सितम्बर १९८४

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साई-मेरे मांझी रे !

मेरी जीवन - नय्या के मेरे सद्गुरु मांझी रे
यह नय्या भी तेरी, मैं भी तेरा मेरे मांझी रे
तेरे नयनों में, देखी मैंने खुदा की झांकी रे
मेरी कायरता का धुंआ कर देना, मेरे मांझी रे
तेरी मुस्कुराहट में, सुनी खुदाकी आहट रे
ओ मेरे मांझी, निकाल देना मेरी घबराहट रे
तेरे दिव्य स्वरूप में, मैंने देखा खुदा का रूप रे
लाली तेरी मांझी, मेरे मांझी, मैंने लुटी खुब रे
भुला दे मेरे अपनेपनको, ऐ प्यारे मांझी रे
समाले मुझे, अपने में, साईं मेरे मांझी रे
जनम - जनम की प्यसी ये अखिर्यां मांझी रे
पीकर भी और हैं वो बहुत ही प्यासी रे
भवसागर लगता है अब नौका - विहार रे !
क्या भ्रमण ! क्या भंवर !! क्या किनारा रे !!!
बस याद रहे तेरी मांझी, ओ मेरे मांझी रे
तेरी चरण - धुली में है सब कुछ, ओ मांझी रे
पल - पल, छिन - छिन, याद तेरी आती रे
ओ मेरे मांझी ! मेरे मांझी !! मेरे मांझी रे !!!

कुँवर सिंह चौहान

C/o डॉ. आर. एल. चतुर्वेदी मकान नं. २२-६-१०७८ बी-६ कालीकमान,
जुबीली डाकघर, हैदराबाद ५००००२ (आ. प्र.)



मोक्ष साधन

जैसा महाभारत में वर्णित है, एक समय नारदमुनी नर-नारायण दर्शन हेतु नारायणाश्रम पहुँचे। उन्होंने परम तपस्वी नर-नारायण का दर्शन-पूजन, स्तुति-प्रार्थना की। नर-नारायण ने भी नारदजी का स्वागत किया। कुछ समय पश्चात् नारदजी ने भगवान विष्णु के दर्शन के लिये श्वेतद्वीप जाने की आज्ञा मांगी। नर-नारायण ने उनसे पूछा कि क्या उन्हें विश्वास है कि उनको भगवान का दर्शन हो जाएगा। नारदजी ने कहा कि उनको भगवान का दर्शन क्यों न होगा? उन्होंने अपना आचरण स्पष्ट करते हुए कहा -

पूजां गुरुणां सततं करोमि

परस्य गुह्यं न तु भिन्नपूर्वम् ।

वेदाः स्वधीता मम लोकनाथ

तप्तं तपो नानृतमुक्तपूर्वम् ॥

गुप्तानि चत्वारि यथागमं मे

शत्रौ च मित्रे च समो ऽस्मि नित्यम् ।

तं चादिदेवं सततं प्रपन्न

एकान्तभावेन वृणोम्यजस्त्रम् ॥

एभिर्विशेषैः परिशुद्धसत्त्वं

कस्मान्न पश्येयमनन्तमीशम् ।

(महाभारत शान्तिपर्व ३३५ / ३ - ५)

ऐसा कहकर नारदजी श्वेतद्वीप गये और वहाँ भगवान विष्णु का दर्शन किया।

नारदजी जैसे सिद्ध पुरुष के जो लक्षण उपरोक्त कथन में स्पष्ट किये गये हैं, वे ही जनसाधारण साधकों के लिये सिद्धिप्राप्ति के साधन कहे गये हैं जो नीचे लिखे अनुसार हैं :-

१) गुरुजनों का आदर-सत्कार व पूजन करना।

२) किसी का रहस्यभेदन न करना और किसी को हृदय-विदारिणी बात न कहना ।

३) ब्रह्मचर्य व्रत का पालन व वेदों का अध्ययन ।

४) शरीर, वाणी, मन से तप करना । मिथ्याभाषण न करना ।

५) हस्त, पाद, शिश्न व जिह्वा पर नियन्त्रण—हाथ से दूसरों की वस्तु बिना आज्ञा न लेना । चरणों से अगम्य स्थानों में नहीं जाना । अष्टविध मैथून का त्याग । मितभाषण व मौन व्रत द्वारा जिह्वा पर नियन्त्रण ।

६) शत्रु मित्र में भेद न करना अथवा उनमें समान भाव रखना ।

७) प्रभु की अनन्य शरण और उनका निरन्तर भजन आदि ।

कुरुक्षेत्र में अर्जुन को गीता के उपदेश का उपसंहार करते हुये भगवान श्रीकृष्ण ने प्रतिज्ञा की -

सर्वगुह्यतमं भूयःश्रुणु मे परमं वचः ।

इष्टोऽसि मे दृढमिति ततो वक्ष्यामि ते हितम् ॥

मन्मना भव मद्भक्तो मद्याजी मां नमस्कुरु ।

मामेवैष्यासि सत्यं ते प्रतिजाने प्रियोऽसि मे ॥

सर्वधर्मान् परित्यज्य मामेकं शरणं व्रज ।

अहं त्वा सर्वपापेभ्यो मोक्षयिष्यामि मा शुचः ॥

(गीता १८/६४, ६५, ६६)

भगवान श्रीकृष्ण कहते हैं कि, “हे अर्जुन, तू मेरा अति गोपनीय व रहस्यमय वचन सुन । सर्व धर्मों अर्थात् सम्पूर्ण कर्मों के आश्रय को त्यागकर भगवान विष्णु को सर्वस्व अर्पण करके नवविधा भक्ति से उनकी अर्चना कर । भगवान विष्णु ही उसे सब पापों से मुक्त कर अपना लेंगे ।

इसी प्रकार सद्गुरु साईनाथ जी ने भी कहा है -

“जो अनन्य भाव से मेरी शरण आयेगा, मैं सदैव अपने को उसका ऋणी समझकर उसको मोक्ष प्रदान कर अपने ऋण से मुक्त हो जाऊँगा।”

दीनानाथ गुप्ता

रेल्वे क्वार्टर नं. RB/II/२५७/५, सुभाष कॉलोनी,
स्टेशन के सामने, जबलपुर (म. प्र.)

स्वागतम् साई बाबा

आओ साई बाबा आओ साई बाबा

मेरे घर का द्वार खुला है

मेरे मन का द्वार खुला है

आओ साई बाबा आओ साई बाबा ॥ १ ॥

चाहे मैं सुख में हूँ या दुख में हूँ

प्रतीक्षा करूँगी हमेशा तुम्हारी

आओ साई बाबा आओ साई बाबा ॥ २ ॥

चाहे सुबह या शाम हो

स्मरण करूँगी हमेशा तुम्हारा

आओ साई बाबा आओ साई बाबा ॥ ३ ॥

ज्योती प्रेमामूर्ति

५ तारा रोड, कलकत्ता ७०० ०२६



साई की लीला अपरंपार है

दीपावली के पहले मैं शादीमें गई थी। घरकी शादी होनेके नाते शादीमें जाना उचित ही था। शादी चर्चगेटमें 'सी आई सी' होलमें थी। मेरे साथ मेरे पति और मेरी दोनों बेबी और छोटा बाबा भी था। बाबाको मैंने गोद में रखा था।

हम लोग समयानुकूल शादी में पहुँच गये। उसी वक्त मैं काफी गहने पहने हुई थी। गले में पेन्डन्टवाला मंगलसूत्र पहना था। शादी में मैं सब रिश्तेदारों के साथ मिलझुल रही थी और अचानक मेरे पतिका ध्यान गले के मंगलसूत्र पर गया। गले से मंगलसूत्र निकला हुआ था और पेन्डन्ट मंगलसूत्र में से गायब था। शादी शादीकी जगह रही और मैं तो पेन्डन्टकी तलाश में इधर उधर देखने लगी। मैं एकदम निराश हो गई और शादीका मूड चला गया। क्योंकि पेन्डन्ट काफी भारी था और उसकी किमत हजार के आसपास थी, इतना ही नहीं सोना गुम होना ही अपशकुन माना जाता है।

मेरा मुँह गिर गया और बस मन में एक ही धून रही, 'पेन्डन्ट गया कहाँ।' मेरे पतिने कहा, 'चिन्ता मत कर हम दूसरा ले लेंगे।' फिर भी शादी के दौरान मुझे पेन्डन्टका विचार ही सताता रहा।

मैंने पूरी तरहसे तलाश की, साडी में भी अच्छी तरहसे देखा, लेकिन पेन्डन्ट नहीं मिला।

शादी होने के बाद हम घर लौटे। रास्ते में भी वही विचार आता रहा और विचार में ही मैं घर आ गई।

मेरे घर पर बाबा की एक बहुत पुरानी तस्वीर है, जिनकी हम नियमित पूजा करते हैं। घर पर पहुँच कर मैं बाबा से कहने लगी, "जैसी तेरी इच्छा" और थोडा गुस्सा और दयार्द्र स्वर में बोली, "क्या बाबा मेरा एक ही सोने का मंगलसूत्र था उसका भी पेन्डन्ट गवां दिया और झटके से साडी को निकालकर बाबा के चरणों में रख दी, यू कही कि फेंक ही दी। और एक चमत्कार। मेरा पेन्डन्ट साडी में से एक छोटे से आवाज के साथ नीचे गिरा। मुझे लगा कुछ

गिरा देखा तो पेन्डन्ट ही था । क्षण भर के लिए मुझे हुआ क्या ये भ्रांति तो नहीं है ? मैं भावविभोर होकर श्री साईं के चरणों में झुक गई ।

कहने की बात नहीं मैंने पहले भी बताया कि मैंने पूरी सावधानी से साडी और कपडे को देखा था, इतना ही नहीं पेन्डन्ट गुम होने के बाद मैं कई घंटों शादी में रही और वापिस चर्चगेटसे मलाड आई । भला, पेन्डन्ट को इतने समय तक सुरक्षित रखना एक बाबा ही कर सकते हैं ।

आखिर में मैं इतना ही कहूँगी, “मेरे प्यारे साईंबाबा, आप ऐसी ही निगरबानी हम सब पर रखना और आपकी कृपा एवम् आशिर्वाद निरन्तर हम सब पर बरसाते रहना ।”

‘जय श्री साईंनाथ को मेरा कोटि कोटि नमस्कार ।

ज्योति नलीनभाई कम्पाणी

३६, बी, तीसरा मजला, सन्गीता थियेटरके पासमें ‘सहकार’ मलाड पूर्व मुम्बई

साईं हमारा रखवाला है

साईं तेरा साया सदा ही मुझे चाहीये ।
 इस दुःखी जीवन को बस सहारा चाहीये ।
 अगर तुम ना होते तो इस शिरडी में ।
 जीनेकी कोई लालच ही न रहती मेरे मन में ।
 साईं तुम ही तो हो शिरडी के जन्मदाता ।
 साईं तुम ही तो हो सबके अन्नदाता ।
 साईं तुम ही है हम सबका दुःख दर्द हरता ।
 साईं तुम ही हो हम सबके भाता पिता ।
 सदा सुख देता है तुम्हारा ही पावन नाम !
 तुम्हारे पाक नामसे पुरे हो जाते है सब काम ।

अगर कोई पृछे मुझसे, की कुछ मांगो इस खुदासे ।
तो मै ये मांगू की बस मेरा जीवन सफल हो जाये साई नामसे ।
जो साई का प्रेमी है वो बडा किस्मतवाला है ।
शिरडी साई बाबा ही हम सबका रखवाला है ।

आनन्द ग. साताईकर

साईकृपा, ड्रायव्हर हिल, वास्को ड गामा (गोवा)

साई सन्निधि

प्रायः सभी साईभक्तोंको यह अनुभव हुआ होगा कि साई भजन गाते गाते या फिर साई नाम जपते जपते मन कैसा विभोर हो उठता है । गला रून्ध जाता है आँखें बरसने लगते हैं और मनमें साई के सिवा और कुछ नहीं रहता है ।

एक बार रामनवमी के दिवस हम नई दिल्ली के लोधी कालोनी में स्थित श्री साई मन्दिर गये हुये थे । बहुत भारी संख्या में भक्त आये थे । बारी बारी में कुछ भक्त साई भजन गा रहे थे । सरदार आनन्दसाहब तो अपने भजनों से भक्तों के मन ऐसे भर दिये कि सब आनन्द विभोर हो उठे । तत्पश्चात सिनेमा जगत के सुप्रसिद्ध सन्गीतकार श्री अनिल विश्वास जी ने भजन गाने शुरू किये और सबके मनको ऐसे अवर्णनीय आनन्द प्रदान किये कि उसे शब्दों में लिखना हि मुश्किल है । उस भावुकता के गहराई के अन्दाज तो इस से विदित होगा कि स्वयं श्री अनिल विश्वास जी के गला रून्ध गया और वे साईके सामने झुककर विलक विलक कर रो पडे । आगे वे गा नहीं सके । सब के आँखों से अश्रु बहने लगा ।

साई नाम में और साई सन्निधि में जो मन को लुभानेवाला शक्ति है इसका अनुमान तो इससे विदित होगा हि ! है ना ।

श्रीमति महालक्ष्मी

३९४, सेकण्ड स्टेज, राजाजी नगर, बेन्गलोर ५६० ०५५ (कर्नाटक)

बाबा घोडा लेकर दौड़ते आये

मुझे पांच बेटियां और चार बेटे हैं। जिनमेंसे सिर्फ एक बेटा और एक बेटा अविवाहित था। बाकी सब के विवाह हो चुके थे। मैंने साईं बाबा से प्रार्थना की थी जिसके अनुसार मेरे बेटे की सगाई भी हो चुकी और ३ में १९८४ विवाह की तारीख भी मुकरर हो चुकी।

अब सिर्फ एक बेटा बाकी रह जाता था जिसकी उम्र थी तीस साल, पढाई बी. कॉम. और महाराष्ट्र बैंक में क्लर्क की नौकरी भी लग चुकी थी। मेरी और मेरी मकान वाली की यह इच्छा थी की अगर ३ में को ही दोनों की शादियां हो जाये तो हम अपनी पूरी जिम्मेदारियोंसे छुटकारा पा सकते हैं।

बच्चे ने भी हमारी बात मान ली और लड़कियों को देखने के लिये कई जगह जाकर आया। लेकिन उसकी पसन्त की लड़की कहीं न मिली। आखिर हमने उसको गोरठे की लड़की देखने के लिये कहा। “वह एक खेडे की अनपढ लड़की है। मुझे मॅट्रीकपास लड़की चाहिये। फिर भी आपकी आज्ञा का पालन करने की खातीर मैं जाकर आता हूँ” ऐसा कहकर वह गोरठे को अपनी मां और बड़े भाई को लेकर बच्ची देखने गया। (गोरठा वह मुकाम है जहां दास गणु महाराज का समाधी मन्दिर है) और अचम्बे की बात है। के उसने यह खेडे में रहने वाली सिर्फ सातवी क्लास तक पढी हुई लड़की पसन्त करली। उसके विचार धारा में परिवर्तन हो गया। शहर के पढी लिखी लड़कीयों के बजाय खेडे की अनपढ लड़की उसने पसन्त करली।

गोरठे वाले लड़की के पिता और चाचा नान्देड आये और उन्होंने शरत रखी के अगर हम गोरठ जाकर शादी करें तो वह लड़की देने तयार है। उन्होंने कहा, “हमारा देशमुखी गांव है और लड़की लेकर नान्देड आनेसे हमारा अपमान होगा।” फिर उनके पिताजी के पश्चात यह उनका पहला ही कार्य है। उनका कहना उचीतही था। लेकिन हमारी मजबूरी यह थी की हम एक ही समय दोनों शादीया नान्देड में करना चाहते थे जिससे खर्च की बचत होती थी। और हम अपने बुढापे और बीमारी की वजह से गोरठा नहीं जा सकते थे। और हमने

दुल्हन बालों से आजतक हुंडा या पैसा नहीं मांगा था। यह बात हमारे लिये अपमान की बात थी। हम गरीब जरूर हैं लेकिन किसी से पैसे मांगते नहीं। मांगते हैं सिर्फ साई बाबा से। हम उनके दर के ही भिकारी हैं। धादमी क्या देगा और कबतक बसर आयेगा? साईबाबा हमारे भगवान हैं। वह हमारी हर जरूरत पूरी करते हैं।

बात यही पर ठप्प हो गयी थी। गोरठे वाले (दुल्हन वाले) यहां आने तयार नहीं थे। और हमारे लिये अलग अलग शादीयां करना मुमकिन नहीं था। मैं और मेरी घर वाली चिन्तित थे लेकिन क्या कर सकते थे। चलो इस साल सिर्फ बच्ची की शादी कर देनो। बच्चे के लिये फिर अगले साल देखा जायगा कहकर निराश थे। और उदास मन से एक शादी की तयारी में लग रहे।

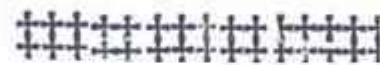
इतने में एप्रिल १९८४ साईलीला (रामनवमी विशेषांक) प्राप्त हुआ जिस पर बाबा घोड़े के सहारे खड़े हमारा तरफ करुणाभरी आंखोंसे देख रहे थे। मुझे ऐसा लगा जैसे बाबा शिरडी से श्यामसुन्दर घोड़े पर सवार होकर हवा की गर्ती से दौड़ते आकर मेरे घर पे ही उतरकर खड़े हैं। मेरे मन में विश्वास की भावना उत्पन्न हुई की बाबा हमारे मन के दुःख को और मजबूरी को समझ कर हमारी मदद के लिये दौड़कर चले आये हैं।

साई भक्तों को आश्चर्य होगा की दूसरे ही दिन लडके वाले आये और “हम नान्देड आकर शादी ३ में को ही करने तयार हैं। आपकी क्या इच्छा है” कहकर बातचीत करने बैठे। उनके साथ चार लोग और भी थे। मैंने कहा हमारी डिमांड तो आपने पूरी करदी। हमें आपका रुपया, पैसा नहीं चाहिये। सिर्फ आपकी यहां आने की रजामन्दी ही हमारे लिये काफी है। सगाई हो गयी। अब शादी के लिये सिर्फ पन्द्रह दिनका अवसर बाकी था। लेकिन जहां बाबा खुद होकर मेरी सहायता करने आये थे वहां कभी किस बात की कमतरता पडने वाली थी? दोनों शादीयां बडे ही आनन्दमय वातावरण में सम्पन्न हुई। ३ में गुरुवार का अक्षय तृतीया का दिन था जब खाने की पन्क्ती बैठी तो जानो ऐसा मालूम हो रहा था की शिरडी के भोजनालय में ही खाना हो रहा है। एक हजार से ज्यादा लोग एक ही पन्क्ती में बैठे हुये थे। उन सबको कौन

परास रहा है कुछ पता नहीं चल सका । मेरे आंखों से आनन्दाश्रु बह निकले ।

ऐसी है मेरे साईबाबा की किमया । वह अपने भक्तों की मदद के लिये दौड़कर आते हैं । साईबाबा के भक्ती की ज्योत मन में सदा जलती रहे यही उनके चरणों में श्रद्धापूर्ण प्रार्थना ।

लक्ष्मण बापूराव रापतघार
किल्ला वॉटर वर्क्स, नान्देड



शिरडी हमारी काशी है

मेरे एक मित्र साई भक्त है । मुझे १९८२ का, मे मास में प्रकाशित हुआ एक मासिक उसने मुझे पढ़ने के लिए दिया । वह मासिक का नाम है 'पिसारा' । मासिक के सम्पादक है श्री वा. दा. थत्ते । कार्यकारी सम्पादक है सौ. शलाका माटे । इस उपरोक्त मासिक का गाणगापूर विशेषांक बड़ा ही भाव-पूर्ण और आदरणीय है । भक्तिभाव को जागृत करने के अनेको लेख, कविताएँ पढ़कर बड़ा ही आनन्द हुआ । दत्त भक्तों के अनेक तसवीरों को देखकर मुझे बड़ी प्रसन्नता हुई ।

इस मासिक में श्री वा. दा. थत्ते का एक लेख है जिसमें उन्होंने गाणगापूर के बारे में लिखा है । पर उन्होंने शिरडी और शेगांव के बारे में एक वाक्य लिखा है जिसको पढ़कर अत्यन्त दुःख हुआ । मराठी में वह वाक्य इस प्रकार है "शिरडी वा शेगांवची परिस्थिती न्यारी आहे. तेथील भक्तांच्या सोया इतक्या वाढल्या आहेत की निव्वल चार दिवस मजा करायला जाऊची ती स्थाने झाली आहेत. तशी परिस्थिती होता कामा नये"

उपरोक्त यह मराठी वाक्य शिरडी के बारे में भक्तों के मन की ठेस लगने वाली बात है। शिरडी मजा उड़ाने का स्थान नहीं। शेगांव मजा उड़ाने के लिए लोग नहीं जाते। यह धारणा गलत है। क्या गाणगापुर में सारे के सारे भक्त हैं जो दर्शन लेकर जाते हैं? क्या तिरुपती जाने वाले मजा उड़ाने नहीं जाते? यह कहना के शिरडी मजा करने का स्थान है एक ऐसा मजाक है, जिस पर हंसी आती है।

एक सम्पादक इस प्रकार अनजाने बातों का उल्लेख करता है। शर्म महसूस होता है। जैसा आपको गाणगापुर है, वैसा हमारे लिए शिर्डी है। यह भक्त जानता है। सम्पादक नहीं। शिरडी को आनेवाले ९०% लोग भक्ती और श्रद्धा का खजाना लाते हैं। शिर्डी हमारी काशी है। मक्का है मदीना है। एक योग्य और महान सम्पादक को यह समझ कर लिखना चाहिए के किसी के श्रद्धा को धक्का न लगे। आप हमारे साईलीला मासिक मराठी, हिन्दी, अंग्रेजी किसी भी भाषा के किसी लेखक के लेख पढो, सम्पादकिय पढो, ज्ञात होगा के कभी हमने किसी के श्रद्धा स्थान को धक्का नहीं दिया, चाहे वह मन्दिर हो, गुरुन्दार हो अथवा मसजिद हो।

जाकर एक बार शिर्डी के दरवाजे पर खडे होकर उन भक्तों के आंखों में आंखे डालकर देखो। एक प्यार नजर आयेगा, चाहे वह बाहर चोर क्यों न हो।

एक श्रद्धा जागृत होगी जब कोई पापी बाबा के सामने खडा होता है। भगवान साई श्री. वा. दा. थत्ते को इस प्रकार की बुद्धि दे के वे शिर्डी और शेगांव को काशी समझे। शिरडी और शेगांव मजा उड़ाने के स्थान नहीं। मोक्ष के आनन्द को प्राप्त करने के स्थान हैं। आशा है, वा. दा. थत्तेजी अपनी गलती को महसूस करेंगे। भगवन उन्हें सद्विचार दें, यही साई चरणों में प्रार्थना है।

प्रा. गुन्डेराव पटवारी

एन्. एफ्. जे. कॉलेज, बिदर, (कर्नाटक)



गुरुपूर्णिमा उत्सव

श्री साईबाबा की कृपा से चेम्बूर स्थित श्री साईनाथ शिव मन्दिर ने श्री बाबा का गुरुपूर्णिमा उत्सव बड़ी धामधूम से मनाया गया ।

यह मन्दिर १९७८ में श्री बाबा की इच्छा से निर्माण हुआ और सातवीं गुरुपूर्णिमा मनाते हुये हमें बड़ी ही प्रसन्नता हुई ।

और बाबा के बारे में कुछ लिखना यह हमारी समझ के बाहर है । यह सिर्फ एक अनुभूति है । इससे शरीर में एक रोमांच उठता है । ऐसे पवित्र श्री साई को हमारे कोटि कोटि प्रणाम हो ।

११-७-८४ से १३-७-८४ तक यह उत्सव निम्नलिखित तरीके से मनाया गया ।

प्रातः ७ : ०० बजे	कांकड आरती
प्रातः ७ : ३० बजे	मंगल स्नान
प्रातः ९ : ०० बजे	गुरुपूजा
मध्यान्ह १२ : ०० बजे	मध्यान्ह आरती
शाम ५ : ०० बजे	साई महिमा
शाम ७ : ३० बजे	घुप आरती
रात ८ : ३० बजे	लीलाम श्री साईवस्त्र
रात ९ : ०० बजे	साई स्मरण कीर्तन
रात ११ : ०० बजे	शेजआरती

मन्दिर का कार्य :-

१. होनहार तथा गरीब विद्यार्थीओं को स्कूल फीस, किताबें इत्यादी का वितरण ।
२. विधवा स्त्रीओं को माहवार गुजारा ।
३. गरीबों को मेडिकल मदद ।
४. साई प्रचार ।

इस यश में अगर कोई भी साईप्रेमी हाथ बटांना चाहे तो आमन्त्रण हैं ।
इस संस्था की मेम्बरशिप प्रति माह सिर्फ ५ : ०० रुपये हैं ।

साई हमारे इस कार्य को इसी गति और उत्साह से पार करे इसी प्रार्थना
के साथ ॐ साई राम ।

कार्यवाह

श्री साईनाथ शिव मन्दिर
मकान नं. १५, चेम्बूर कॉलोनी, बम्बई नं. ४०० ०७४

साईलीला

दि. २८-३-८४ को मेरी छोटी बहन की शादी तय हुयी थी । और हमे दुल्हे के घर दि. २७-३-८४ के रात में जाना था । बारातीयों को लेकर जाने के लिये पहले ही मैंने एक ट्रक के लिए एडवान्स दिया था और साथ साथ आधा किराया भी दे दिया । ट्रक लाने के लिए मैं और मेरा दोस्त ट्रक मालिक के गांव दिनांक २७-३-८४ की शाम के छे बजे गये, जो की हमारे गांव से करीब २० कि. मी. दूरी पर था । ट्रक मालिक अभी आता हूँ बोलकर, हमे पानपट्टी के दुकान के सामने खडे रहने को बोलकर अपने घर गया । दो-तीन घण्टे बितने के बावजूद भी वह वापस नही लौटा तो हमने उसके एक दोस्त को इस बारे में बताया । उसने उसके घरका पता भी बताया । लेकिन वह घरपर नही था । हम वापस लौटकर उसी पानपट्टी के दुकान के पास बैठे । रात के सवा बारह बजे ट्रक मालिक हमारे पास आया । और उसने बताया की ट्रक इंटे लेकर

दूसरे गांव गया है, अभी लौटकर आयेगा। रातके १ बजे, फिर भी ट्रक नहीं आया और हमे उसी रातको पहुंचना था। अतः मेरे सामने बड़ी समस्या खड़ी हुयी। दूसरे इस गांव और मेरे गांव के बीच रात के समय कोई भी वाहन नहीं है। छोटा गांव होने की वजह से दूसरा कोई भी साधन या ट्रान्सपोर्ट नहीं था। मैं बहुत परेशान हुआ। समाज मेरी मजाक उडायेगा और हम लोग नहीं पहुंचे तो शादी कैसे होगी यह सोचकर मुझे रोना आया और मैं रोया भी। ट्रक मालिक और दोस्त आराम से सो गये। क्योंकि उन्हें इसकी कोई चिन्ता नहीं थी। मैं दूसरे ट्रान्सपोर्ट (ट्रक) आते-जाते देख रहा था जो की मिलने की संभावना नहीं थी। और न ही वे मुझे मिले। अचानक मुझे साईबाबा की याद आयी। क्योंकि साईबाबा के चमत्कार के बारे में मैंने साईलीला में पढा था। मैंने मन में ही साईबाबा की प्रार्थना की और सहायता के लिए उसे पुकारा। कुछ ही समय के बाद याने की डेढ बजे जिस ट्रक की मैं प्रतिक्षा कर रहा था वह आ गया। मैं बहुत ही खूष हुआ और बाबा को धन्यवाद दिया। मैं बारातीयों को लेकर उसी ट्रक से ठीक समय पर दुल्हे के घर पहुंच सका। साथ साथ शादी भी निर्धारित समय पर धूमधाम से हुयी। यह सब बाबा की कृपा की वजह से ही हुआ।

मैं एप्रिल ८४ का 'श्री साई लीला' मासिक पढ रहा था तभी अचानक मुझे उक्त घटना याद आयी और मैंने सोचा की मैं भी अपना अनुभव मासिक में प्रकाशित करने लिए भेज दूं।

आर. टी. जरग
द्वारा सौ. शारदा जरग, तालुका कराड, जि. सातारा ४१५०१४



शिरडीवाले साईबाबा

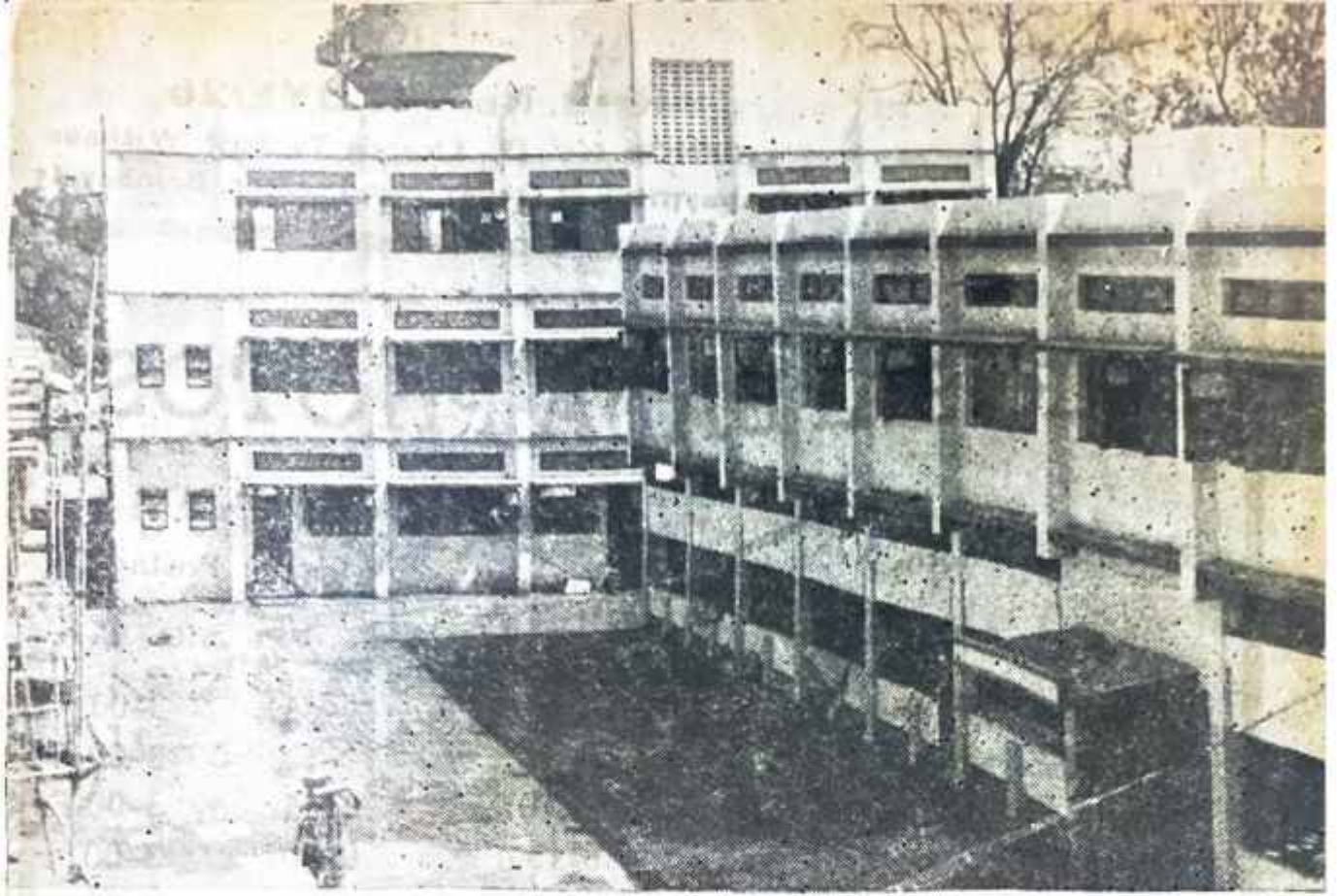
सन्तों के चरित्र अद्भुत और चमत्कृती से भरे हुवे होते है । इसलिये वे नाटक के लिये बहुतही अच्छे कथानक बन जाते है । संत तुकाराम जैसे सन्तों के चरित्रपर मराठी में बहुत वर्षों पहले नाटक बन चुका है । इस नाटकसे स्फूर्ति लेकर एक अच्छे साईभक्त श्री कुमारसेन गुप्ते ने श्री साईबाबा के चरित्रपर “शिरडीचे श्री साईबाबा” नामक नाटक मराठी में लिखा और उसके बहुत प्रयोग महाराष्ट्र के सब बडे शहरमें धूमधामसे किया । शेगांव के श्री गजानन महाराज ही ऐसे दूसरे सन्त है की जिसका चरित्रही बहुत चमत्कृतीपूर्ण है । इसलिये साईबाबा के मुताबिक श्री कुमारसेन गुप्तेजी ने श्री गजाननमहाराज के चरित्रपर भी एक मराठी नाटक रंगमंचपर लाया । वह नाटक भी “शिरडीचे श्री साईबाबा” नाटक के मुताबिक ही यशस्वी हो चुका है ।

श्री साईबाबा के चरित्रपर लिखा हुवा मराठी नाटक देखकर बहुत हिन्दी-भाषिक साईभक्तों ने विनन्ती की कि यहि नाटक हिन्दी में भी लिखा जाय । श्री कुमारसेनजी ने हिन्दी साईभक्तों की यह मनोकामना पूर्ण करने के लिये श्री साईबाबा के चरित्रपर “शिरडीवाले साईबाबा” नामसे एक नाटक रंगमंचपर लाना तय किया है और बहुत करके इस नाटक के प्रयोग थोडे हि दिन में रंगमंचपर चालू होंगे । उम्मीद है की श्री साईबाबा के हिन्दीभाषी भक्तों इस नाटक का अच्छा स्वागत करेंगे ।

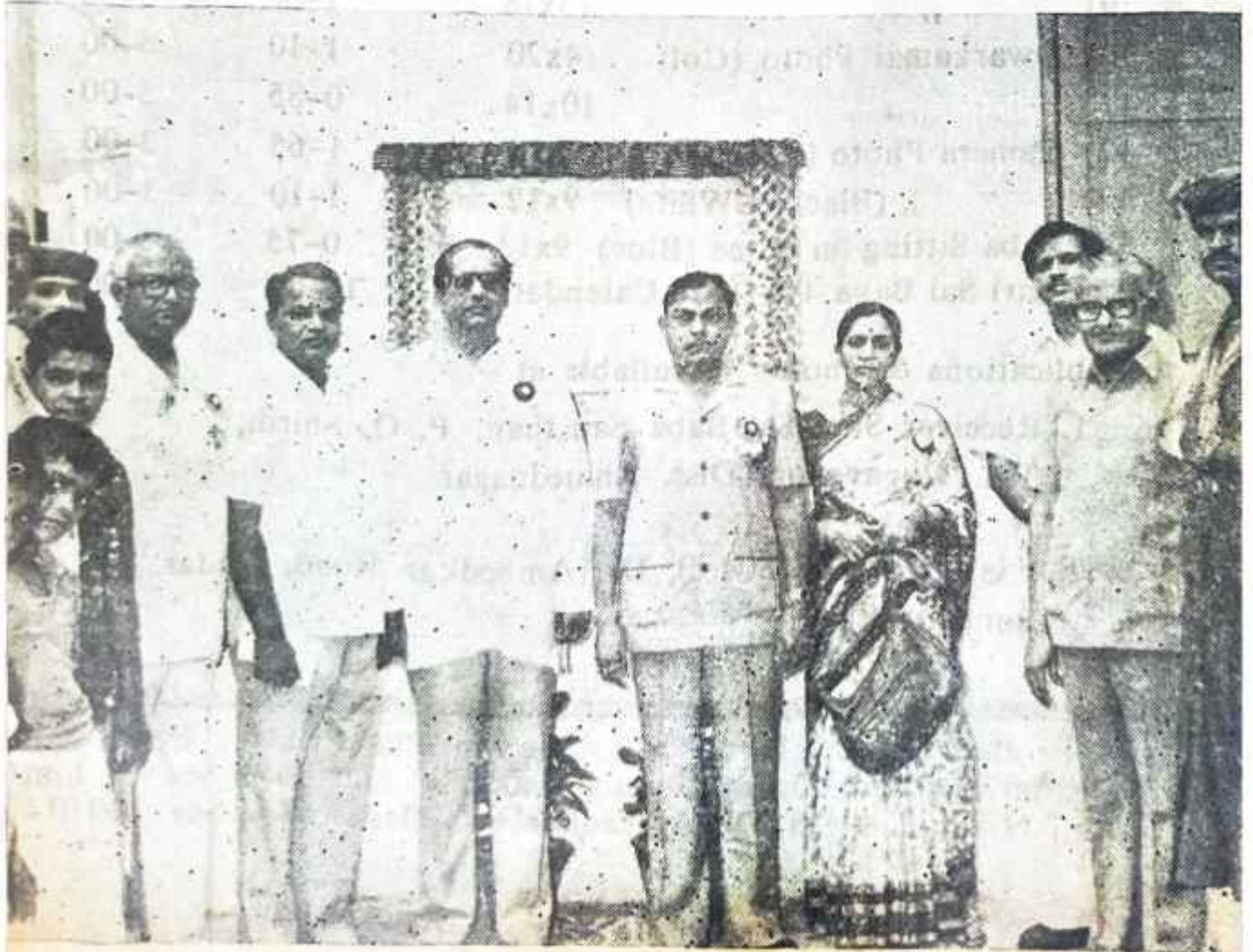
श्री. दि. परचुरे

३, गजानन भुवन, सखाराम कीर रोड, बम्बई क्रमांक ४०००१६





Extension of Sainath Hospital and the guest house for accommodating the relatives, who accompany the patient.



SHRI SAI BABA PHOTOS

No.	Photos	Size (Inches)	Price		Postage	
			Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.
1)	Ashirwad	14x20	1-	65	3-	00
2)	"	10x14	1-	10	3-	00
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5)	"	2x3	0-	15	3-	00
6)	Baba Sitting on Stone (Col)	14x20	1-	65	3-	00
7)	" (Black & White)	14x20	1-	65	3-	00
8)	Statue Photo	13x18	2-	75	3-	00
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10)	Dwarkamai Photo (Col)	14x20	1-	10	3-	00
11)	"	10x14	0-	85	3-	00
12)	Camera Photo (Coloured)	9x12	1-	65	3-	00
13)	" (Black & White)	9x12	1-	10	3-	00
14)	Baba Sitting on Stone (Blue)	9x13	0-	75	3-	00
15)	Shri Sai Baba Tin Plate Calendar		16-	00	8-	00

Publications & Photos Available at :-

1. Receiver Shri Sai Baba Sansthan, P. O. Shirdi,
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