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श्री साईबाबा संस्थान विश्वस्तव्यवस्था, शिर्डी की अधिकृत पत्रिका

SHRI SAI LEELA

श्री साई लीला

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Darshan of Lord Vitthal at Shirdi...

The luminosity surrounding Sai's face made Him appear exactly like the image of Pandurang - Shri Sai Satcharita



“Shirdi is my Pandharpur”

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श्री साई लीला

वर्ष २२ अंक ४

सम्पादक : मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी
कार्यकारी सम्पादक : भगवान दातार

SHRI SAI LEELA

Year 22 Issue 4

Editor : Chief Executive Officer
Executive Editor : Bhagwan Datar

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● Cover & inside pages designed by Don Bosco and Prakash Samant (Mumbai) ● **Computerised Typesetting**: Computer Section, Mumbai Office, Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi ● **Office**: 'Sai Niketan', 804-B, Dr. Ambedkar Road, Dadar (East), Mumbai - 400 014. Tel.: (022) 24161293 E-mail: saidadar@sai.org.in ● **Shirdi Office**: At Post Shirdi - 423 109, Tal. Rahata, Dist. Ahmednagar. Tel.: (02423) 258500 Fax: (02423) 258770 E-mail: 1. saibaba@shrisaibabasansthan.org 2. saibaba@sai.org.in ● **Annual Subscription**: Rs. 125/- ● **Subscription for Life**: Rs. 2,500/- ● **Annual Subscription for Foreign Subscribers**: Rs. 1,000/- (All the Subscriptions are Inclusive of Postage) ● **General Issue**: Rs. 15/- ● **Shri Sai Punyatithi Annual Special Issue**: Rs. 25/- ● Published and printed by the Chief Executive Officer, on behalf of Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi at Sai Niketan, 804-B, Dr. Ambedkar Road, Dadar, Mumbai - 400 014 and at the Ganesh Art Printers, MR Trade Centre, Shop No. 7, Wadiya Park, Ahmednagar - 414 001 respectively. The Editor does not accept responsibility for the views expressed in the articles published. All objections, disputes, differences, claims and proceedings are subject to Mumbai jurisdiction.

Sadguru Sai - Sakshat Parabrahma...

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

If I were to say that shall do my best for this magazine, or that I shall spare no efforts to bring it up, it would be presumptuous on my part. As Shri Dabholkar

has rightly pointed out in 'Shri Sai Satcharita', who am I to say that "I will do this" or "I will do that?" (Chap. 2), and assume so much importance for myself? After all, we are, but an instrument in the process while He is the moving spirit behind it. It is thus Baba Himself Who gets His work done through us. All we can do is to place humbly at His service, whatever powers He may have gifted us with.

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

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

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

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

It is this desire to serve Baba in all sincerity and humility that brings us all, the Sai devotees, together into a common brotherhood. We all share one faith and one goal and owe allegiance to the one Godhead. We are inspired by the one common desire to convey Baba's message, the impact of His presence, of His life and teachings far and wide. And, this is what 'Shri Sai Leela' primarily sets out to do. It is true that this magazine is the official organ of the Sai Sansthan and, therefore, the various schemes, projects and other activities of the Sansthan reach the public through its medium. But, it is also the vehicle for the devotees' personal experiences, which are nearest and dearest to their hearts. Such experiences, which find a spontaneous expression in their articles, letters, poems etc. also carry the power to convince those, who read them. One tends to dwell thoughtfully and for long on

(Contd. on page 10)

The First *Guru Pournima* in Shirdi

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

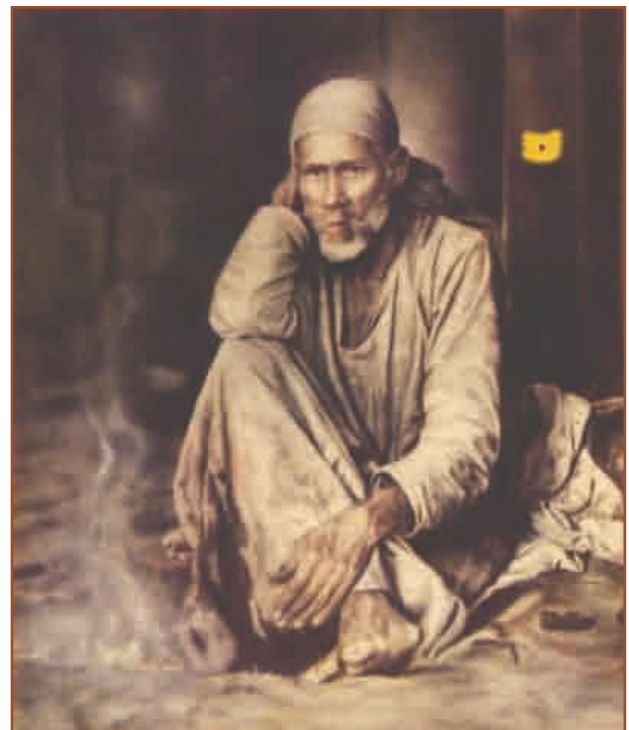
It is a truism to say that Shri Sai Baba was not an ordinary saint. He was all-knowing, all-seeing and all-powerful in the sense of being able to influence the forces at work in the universe. Nothing was beyond Him or could be concealed from Him as He had complete knowledge of the past, the present and the future.

Sai Baba's methods of imparting knowledge and grace were unconventional and varied. He never lectured or discoursed as others do. He often spoke in parables and gave hints through a word or a sentence or other media. The inspiration to perform *Guru-pooja* on *Vyas Pournima* day in Shirdi also came from Sai Baba in a

strange way...

In 1908, Laxman Krishnaji Noolkar, sub-judge at Pandharpur, had taken leave and was residing in the *Chavdi* at Shirdi, Sai Baba referred to him as the *Mhatara* (old man). One day, Sai Baba remarked to Madhavrao Deshpande that the old man should be asked to worship the Pillar, near the *Dhuni* in the *Masjid*, against which Sai Baba often sat reclining. Madhavrao conveyed the message to Nulkar. At that time the daily worship or *Aarati* (waving of lights) of Sai Baba had not started in Shirdi...

Both Nulkar and Madhavrao



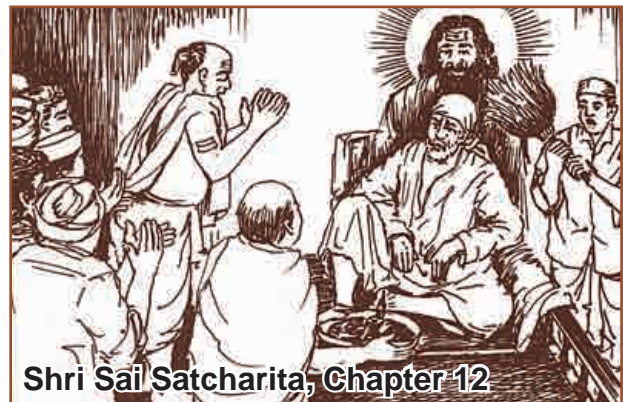
Shri Sai Satcharita, Chapter 11



perplexed by Sai Baba's instruction. Then Nulkar referred to the *panchang* (Hindu calendar) to see if it could shed any light, and he found that it was the day of *Gurupooja*. So they were overjoyed at the opportunity to perform the *pooja* in the *Masjid*, notwithstanding it was to be of the Pillar. When Madhavrao went to the *Masjid*, Sai Baba said, "Why should the old man alone do the *pooja*? Why don't you participate?" Madhavrao who was very close to and on intimate terms with Sai Baba told him that he would not care to worship the Pillar, but he was permitted to worship



Baba Himself, he would obey His instruction. Baba first refused, but ultimately granted the permission with reluctance. At that time Tatya Kote Patil, Dadasaheb Kelkar and the other two favourite disciples of Sai Baba, were also present. Dadasaheb Kelkar was fully aware of the significance of the day and knew all the rites of worship. So, devotees set about the preparation



Shri Sai Satcharita, Chapter 12



with enthusiasm. They collected the things required for *pooja*, obtained *dhotis* and after performing *pooja* of Sai Baba offered them to Him. Sai Baba had no use for the *dhotis* presented to Him, but in order to inculcate the importance of *Guru-pooja* and to commence this practice in Shirdi, Sai Baba gave the strange instruction. This is how Vyas *Guru Pournima* first came to be observed in Shirdi. Thereafter, it has been celebrated every year in Shirdi with great devotion and enthusiasm.

- By a Sai devotee
Published in the August 1985
issue of Shri Sai Leela



(Contd. from page 6)

Baba's teachings and tenets and various aspects of His life, as they are put before us from different points of view by devotees, who have studied them carefully and published the studies in the pages of 'Shri Sai Leela'. But, the magazine also envisages a widening of its scope to include articles on other saints, - thereby stressing the

universal brotherhood of all saints, which Baba Himself emphasised from time to time, - and on other thought - provoking topics, which can help us to understand Baba better and carry His message to an everwidening circle of readers. May Baba bless our efforts.

Courtesy : Editorial published in the August 1985 issue of Shri Sai Leela



एक बार श्री तात्या नूलकर के मित्र डॉक्टर पंडित बाबा के दर्शनार्थ शिर्डी पधारे। बाबा को प्रणाम कर वे मस्जिद में कुछ देर तक बैठे। बाबा ने उन्हें श्री दादा भट केलकर के पास भेजा, जहाँ पर उनका अच्छा स्वागत हुआ। फिर दादा भट ने बाबा का पूजन किया। बाबा का पूजन तो प्रायः सभी किया करते थे; परन्तु अभी तक उनके शुभ मस्तक पर चंदन लगाने का किसी ने भी साहस नहीं किया था। केवल एक म्हालसापति ही उनके गले में चंदन लगाया करते थे। डॉ. पंडित ने पूजन की थाली में से चंदन लेकर बाबा के मस्तक पर त्रिपुण्डाकार लगाया। लोगों ने महान् आश्चर्य से देखा कि बाबा ने एक शब्द भी नहीं कहा। सन्ध्या समय दादा भट ने बाबा से पूछा, “क्या कारण है कि आप दूसरों को तो मस्तक पर चंदन नहीं लगाने देते; परन्तु डॉक्टर पंडित को आपने कुछ भी नहीं कहा?” बाबा कहने लगे, “डॉ. पंडित ने मुझे अपने गुरु श्री रघुनाथ महाराज धोपेश्वरकर, जो कि काका पुराणिक के नाम से प्रसिद्ध हैं, के ही समान समझा और अपने गुरु को वे जिस प्रकार चंदन लगाते थे, उसी भावना से उन्होंने मुझे चंदन लगाया। तब मैं कैसे रोक सकता था?” पूछने पर डॉ. पंडित ने दादा भट से कहा कि मैंने बाबा को अपने गुरु काका पुराणिक के समान जान कर ही उन्हें त्रिपुण्डाकार चंदन लगाया है, जिस प्रकार मैं अपने गुरु को सदैव लगाया करता था।

यद्यपि बाबा भक्तों को उनकी इच्छानुसार ही पूजन करने देते; परन्तु कभी-कभी तो उनका व्यवहार विचित्र ही हो जाया करता था। जब कभी वे पूजन की थाली फेंक कर रुद्रावतार धारण कर लेते, तब उनके समीप जाने का साहस किसी को न हो सकता था। कभी वे भक्तों को झिड़कते और कभी मोम से भी नरम होकर शांति तथा क्षमा की मूर्ति से प्रतीत होते थे। कभी-कभी वे क्रोधावस्था में कम्पायमान हो जाते और उनके लाल नेत्र चारों ओर घूमने लगते थे; तथापि उनके अन्तःकरण में प्रेम और मातृ-स्नेह का स्रोत बहा ही करता था। भक्तों को बुला कर वे कहा करते थे कि उन्हें तो कुछ ज्ञात नहीं है कि वे कब उन पर क्रोधित हुए। यदि यह सम्भव हो कि समुद्र नदियों को लौटा दे, तो वे भक्तों के कल्याण की भी उपेक्षा कर सकते हैं। वे तो भक्तों के समीप ही रहते हैं और जब भक्त उन्हें पुकारते हैं, तो वे तुरन्त ही उपस्थित हो जाते हैं। वे तो सदा भक्तों के प्रेम के भूखे हैं।

- श्री साईं सत् चरित अध्याय १२ -



Shirdi News

* Public Relations Office *

Shree Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi

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Shri Parthasarthy Reddy, philanthropic Sai devotee of Hyderabad, donated 4 kgs. of gold costing Rs. 2 crores for the plinth (4-sided base) of Shri Sai Baba's idol. This donation was handed over to Smt. Bhagyashree Banayat, Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan. Shri Ramesh Choudhary, the Temple Chief, was present on the occasion.



Padma Shree awardee, Seed Mother, Rahibai Popere took the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi*... Shri Avinash Dandavate, Trustee of the Sansthan and Shri Ramesh Choudhary, Temple Chief were present on the occasion.



Padma Shree awardee, Seed Mother, Rahibai Popere was felicitated on behalf of the Sansthan after taking the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi* in the presence of Shri Avinash Dandavate, Trustee of the Sansthan and Shri Rahul Jadhav, Deputy Executive Officer.



Shri Rajesh Bansode, Minister of State for Environment & Climate Change, Water Supply and Sanitation, Public Works, Employment Guarantee, Earthquake Rehabilitation and Parliamentary Affairs of Maharashtra State and Shri Prajakt Tanpure, Minister of State for Urban Development, Energy, Tribal Development, Higher and Technical Education, Disaster Management, Relief and Rehabilitation of Maharashtra State availed the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi*... Shri Ashutosh Kale, Chairman of the Sansthan, Smt. Bhagyashree Banayat, Chief Executive Officer, Hon. Anuradha Adik, Trustee, Shri Suresh Wable, Shri Jayantrao Jadhav, Shri Mahendra Shelke and Dr. Eknath Gondkar, Trustees and Shri Rahul Jadhav, Deputy Chief Executive Officer were present on the occasion.



Shri Rajesh Bansode, Minister of State for Environment & Climate Change, Water Supply and Sanitation, Public Works, Employment Guarantee, Earthquake Rehabilitation and Parliamentary Affairs of Maharashtra State and Shri Prajakt Tanpure, Minister of State for Urban Development, Energy, Tribal Development, Higher and Technical Education, Disaster Management, Relief and Rehabilitation of Maharashtra State were felicitated on behalf of the Sansthan after they availed the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi*, in the presence of the dignitaries, Shri Ashutosh Kale, Chairman of the Sansthan, Smt. Bhagyashree Banayat, Chief Executive Officer, Hon. Anuradha Adik, Trustee, Shri Suresh Wable, Shri Jayantrao Jadhav, Shri Mahendra Shelke and Dr. Eknath Gondkar, Trustees and Shri Rahul Jadhav, Deputy Chief Executive Officer.



Shri Satej alias Bunty D. Patil, Minister of State for Home (Urban), Housing, Transport, Information Technology, Parliamentary Affairs and Ex Servicemen Welfare of Maharashtra State availed the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi*... Smt. Bhagyashree Banayat, Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan, Adv. Suhas Aher, Shri Avinash Dandavate and Dr. Eknath Gondkar, Trustees were the dignitaries present on the occasion.



Shri Satej alias Bunty D. Patil, Minister of State for Home (Urban), Housing, Transport, Information Technology, Parliamentary Affairs and Ex Servicemen Welfare of Maharashtra State was felicitated on behalf of the Sansthan after he availed the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi* in the presence of Smt. Bhagyashree Banayat, Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan, Adv. Suhas Aher, Shri Avinash Dandavate and Dr. Eknath Gondkar, Trustees were the dignitaries present on the occasion.



Shri Sunil Kedar, Minister for Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development, Sports and Youth Welfare of Maharashtra State availed the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi*... Smt. Bhagyashree Banayat, Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan, Adv. Suhas Aher, Shri Avinash Dandavate and Dr. Eknath Gondkar, Trustees were the dignitaries present on the occasion.



Shri Sunil Kedar, Minister for Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development, Sports and Youth Welfare of Maharashtra State was felicitated on behalf of the Sansthan after he availed the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi* by Smt. Bhagyashree Banayat, Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan. Adv. Suhas Aher, Shri Avinash Dandavate and Dr. Eknath Gondkar, Trustees were the dignitaries present on the occasion.



Shri Nana Patole, Congress President of Maharashtra State availed the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi*... Smt. Bhagyashree Banayat, Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan, Shri Sudhir Tambe, Legislator, Adv. Suhas Aher, Shri Avinash Dandavate, Shri Sachin Gujar and Dr. Eknath Gondkar, Trustees were the dignitaries present on the occasion.



Shri Nana Patole, Congress President of Maharashtra State was felicitated on behalf of the Sansthan after he availed the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi* by Smt. Bhagyashree Banayat, Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan. Adv. Suhas Aher, Shri Avinash Dandavate, Shri Sachin Gujar and Dr. Eknath Gondkar, Trustees were the dignitaries present on the occasion.



Adv. Yashomati Thakur, Minister for Women and Child Welfare of Maharashtra State availed the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi*... Smt. Bhagyashree Banayat, Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan, Shri Sachin Gujar, Trustee were the dignitaries present on the occasion.



Adv. Yashomati Thakur, Minister for Women and Child Welfare of Maharashtra State was felicitated on behalf of the Sansthan after she availed the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi* by Smt. Bhagyashree Banayat, Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan. Shri Sachin Gujar, Trustee was the dignitary present on the occasion.



Shri Sanjeev Kapoor, renowned Chef, along with his family availed the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi*... Smt. Bhagyashree Banayat, Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan, Shri Suresh Wable, Shri Jayantrao Jadhav, Shri Avinash Dandavate, Shri Sunil Shelke and Shri Sachin Kote, Trustees were the dignitaries present on the occasion.



Shri Sanjeev Kapoor, renowned Chef, was felicitated on behalf of the Sansthan after he availed the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi* along with his family, by Smt. Bhagyashree Banayat, Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan. Shri Suresh Wable, Shri Jayantrao Jadhav, Shri Avinash Dandavate, Shri Sunil Shelke and Shri Sachin Kote, Trustees were the dignitaries present on the occasion.



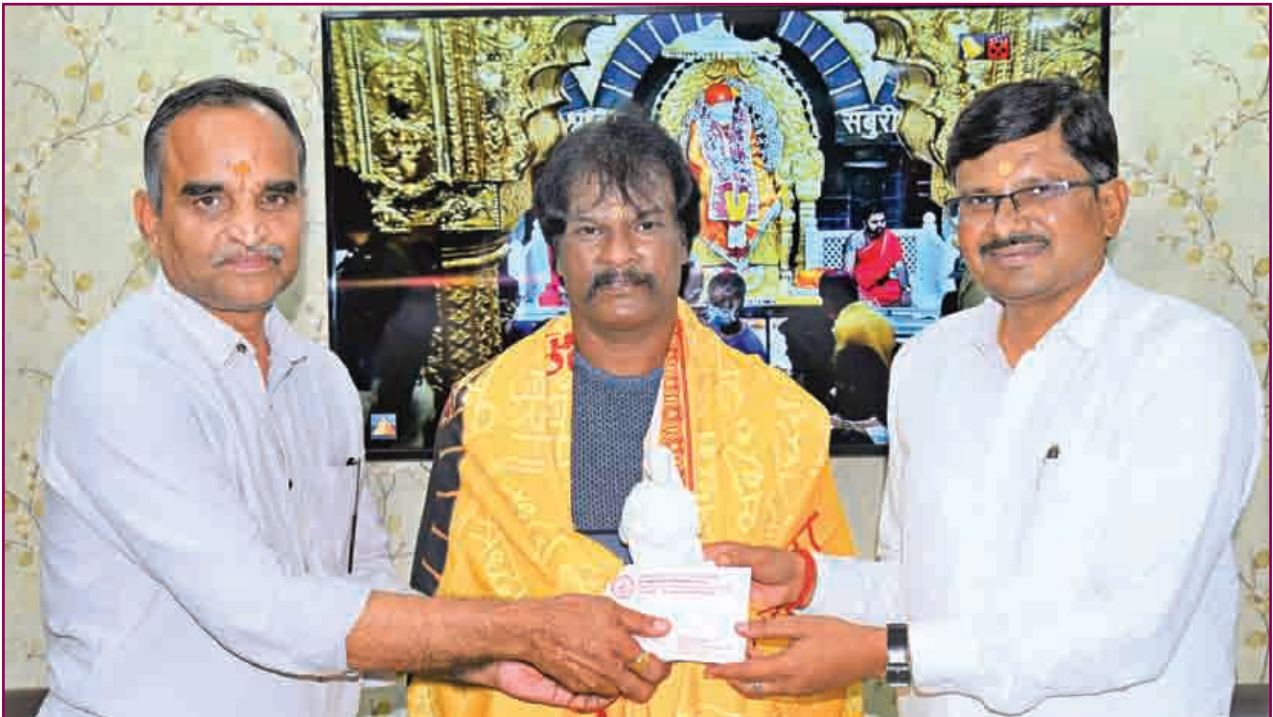
Shri Milind Narvekar, Private Secretary to the Chief Minister of Maharashtra State and General Secretary of Shivsena along with his wife availed the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi*... Smt. Bhagyashree Banayat, Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan, Shri Avinash Dandavate, Shri Sachin Gujar, Shri Mahendra Shelke and Shri Sunil Shelke, Trustees and Shri Rahul Jadhav, Deputy Chief Executive Officer were present on the occasion.



Shri Milind Narvekar, Private Secretary to the Chief Minister of Maharashtra State and General Secretary of Shivsena, while being felicitated on behalf of the Sansthan after he availed the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi* along with his wife, Smt. Bhagyashree Banayat, Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan, Shri Avinash Dandavate, Shri Sachin Gujar and Shri Sunil Shelke, Trustees and Shri Rahul Jadhav, Deputy Chief Executive Officer were present on the occasion.



Shri Dhanraj Pillai, former Captain of the Indian hockey team, winner of the Arjun award, Padma Shree award and Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award availed the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi*... Shri Mahendra Shelke, Shri Avinash Dandavate, Shri Sachin Gujar, and Shri Sunil Shelke, Trustees of the Sansthan were present on the occasion.



Shri Dhanraj Pillai, former Captain of the Indian hockey team, winner of the Arjun award, Padma Shree award and Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award, was felicitated on behalf of the Sansthan after he availed the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi* by Shri Mahendra Shelke and Shri Avinash Dandavate, Trustees of the Sansthan.



Shri Parth Pawar, Son of the Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra State, Shri Ajit Pawar, availed the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi*... Shri Ashutosh Kale, Chairman of the Sansthan was present on the occasion.



Shri Parth Pawar, Son of the Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra State, Shri Ajit Pawar, being felicitated on behalf of the Sansthan by Shri Ashutosh Kale, Chairman of the Sansthan after he availed the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi*...



Progressive farmer, Sai devotee Shri Deepak Narayan Kargal of Shirur in Pune district donated 5000 kgs. of Keshar mangoes cultivated organically to the Shri Sai Prasadalya of Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi, informed Smt. Bhagyashree Banayat, Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan.

Informing on the occasion, Smt. Banayat stated that Sai devotee Shri Deepak Kargal, having his own mango-farm of Keshar mangoes, Keshar mangoes have been cultivated without any chemical process. These mangoes have been cultivated naturally and are of a very high grade. Sai devotee Shri Kargal has been donating Keshar mangoes to the Sansthan since the past two to three years. This year he has given 5000 kgs. of Keshar mangoes worth Rs. 4.25 lakhs to the Sansthan's Shri Sai Prasadalya. Prasad meals of the pulp of these mangoes were served for two days to the Sai devotees, patients in both the hospitals of the Sansthan, as also at the orphanage and old-age home.





Philanthropic Sai devotee Smt. Rajashree Manilal of Ahmedabad donated a 6-seater battery operated electric vehicle of Auto Power Ltd. company costing Rs. 2.10 lakhs to the Sansthan. Smt. Bhagyashree Banayat, Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan performed the ritual worship of this vehicle.





This year the *Ashadhi Ekadashi* was celebrated by the Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi on Sunday, July 10 as a local festival. *Sabudana khichdi* was served as *mahaprasad* to the devout in the Shri Sai Prasadalya on the occasion. Attractive floral decorations were made in the *Samadhi Mandir* of Shri Sai Baba and the premises.

Ashadh Shudh 11 is recognised as *Ashadhi Ekadashi*. Considering the importance of this day, the Sansthan celebrates *Ashadhi Ekadashi* as a local festival. The Sansthan organizes various programmes on the occasion. Accordingly, the temple employee Shri Ulhas Walunekar performed the *kirtan* programme on the stage in the *Samadhi Mandir* from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. At 9.15 p.m. the procession of Shri Sai Baba's *Palkhi* (palanquin) was taken out through the village. Trustees of the Sansthan, officers, temple priests, employees, Shirdi villagers and Sai devotees participated in a large numbers on the occasion. After the *Palkhi* returned to the *Samadhi Mandir*, *Shej Aarati* was done at 10 p.m.

Sabudana khichdi was organized as *mahaprasad* in the Shri Sai Prasadalya by the Sansthan for *Ashadhi Ekadashi*. For this, the Sansthan used 60 sacks of *sabudana* (sago), 40 sacks of groundnuts, 750 kgs. *ghee* and about 1100 kgs. potatoes. Nearly 50,000 devout availed the *khichdi mahaprasad*. Attractive floral decorations were done in the Shri Sai Baba *Samadhi Mandir*, *Dwarkamai*, *Chavdi* and *Gurusthan* for *Ashadhi Ekadashi* from the donation given by the philanthropic Sai devotee Shri S. Prakash of Karnataka.



Photographs of Shri Sai Baba's contemporary Sai devotees late Shri Santaji Bhivsen Shelke and late Shri Dagdubhau Gaike Patil were ritually worshipped and installed in the meeting hall in the Shri Sai Baba *Samadhi Mandir* by the Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi...

During the incarnation period of Shri Sai Baba, many Sai devotees served Him immensely. References about these are found in the holy book published by the Sansthan 'Shri Sai Satcharita' authored by late Shri Govind Raghunath Dabholkar with the blessings of Shri Sai Baba during the period of His incarnation. Based on that, prior to this the photographs of 53 Sai devotees, contemporary of Shri Sai Baba referred in the Shri Sai Satcharita, have been installed in the meeting hall in the Shri Sai Baba *Samadhi Mandir*. Similarly the decisions, to install the photographs of Shri Sai Baba's contemporary Sai devotees, late Shri Santaji Bhivsen Shelke and late Shri Dagdubhau Gaike Patil in the meeting hall in the Shri Sai Baba *Samadhi Mandir* and to create a well-equipped art gallery to put up the photographs of Shri Sai Baba's contemporary saints and Sai devotees, were taken at the recently concluded meeting of the Sansthan's managing committee.

As per that, photographs of Shri Sai Baba's contemporary Sai devotees late Shri Santaji Bhivsen Shelke and late Shri Dagdubhau Gaike Patil were ritually worshipped and installed in the meeting hall in the Shri Sai Baba *Samadhi Mandir* on Monday, July 11, 2022 by Smt. Bhagyashree Banayat, Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan, Shri Mahendra Shelke, Dr. Eknath Gondkar, Shri Avinash Dandavate, Shri Sachin Gujar, Shri Sunil Shelke and Shri Sachin Kote, Trustees. Shri Ramesh Chaudhary, Temple Chief, descendants of Shri Sai Baba's contemporary Sai devotees late Shri Santaji Bhivsen Shelke and late Shri Dagdubhau Gaike Patil, Temple Priests, Shirdi villagers and Sai devotees were present on the occasion.

Change in Timing for *Darshan* in Dwarkamai...

The timing for the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba in Dwarkamai having been changed by the Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi, the Shri Sai Baba's Dwarkamai will remain open to the devout for the *darshan* from July 14, 2022 till the *Shej Aarati* of Shri Sai Baba, informed Smt. Bhagyashree Banayat, Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan.

Talking about this, Smt. Banayat stated that "Lakhs of devout from across the nation and abroad come to the (pilgrim) region of Shri Sai Baba for the *darshan* of Dwarkamai, *Chavdi* and *Gurusthan* along with Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi*. Baba spent His whole life during His incarnation period at Dwarkamai. From this place Baba offered His teachings and advice to the devout, services to the very poor patients and donated food. Similarly, Baba displayed His (miraculous) powers to several devotees. Hence, Dwarkamai has extraordinary significance. As per that the managing committee of the Sansthan decided at the recently held meeting to keep Dwarkamai open for Sai devotees to avail the *darshan* till the *Shej Aarati*."

Accordingly, the timing of the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba in Dwarkamai having been changed, Dwarkamai will be kept open for the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba to the devout from Thursday, July 14, 2022 from 5 a.m. till 10.30 p.m. (till the completion of the *Shej Aarati*). Smt. Banayat appealed to the devout to avail the benefit of this facility.



Sansthan-Published 2022 Diary and Calendar at Nominal Price...

Smt. Bhagyashree Banayat, Chief Executive Officer of the Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi informed that the managing committee of the Sansthan has decided to make available the various types of the Shri Sai Baba Diary 2022 at a nominal price of Rs. 45/- and the 2022 calendar at a 50 per cent concessional rate.

Speaking about this, Smt. Banayat stated that "The Sansthan publishes the various types of Shri Sai Baba diary and calendar every year. These various types of Shri Sai Baba diaries and calendars are given to Sai devotees for a price. Accordingly, the specialized diaries of 2022 have been published this year separately in different languages (Marathi, Hindi, English and Telugu). Detailed information of the Shri Sai Baba *Samadhi Mandir* and the various temples and significant places in the temple premises have been given in this diary along with the QR code. Scanning the said code provides a video clip of information of the concerned places and departments with various photographs. Also, besides these, important information about all the festivals celebrated by the Sansthan, detailed information about the religious and other programmes, books/photos published by the Sansthan, online donations, residences, and about doing *aarati* and *darshan* registrations have been included.

Thus, the specialized Shri Sai Baba diary and calendar being sold to all Sai devotees at a 50 per cent concessional rate, the said diaries will be available for sale at the Sai complex beside the *Samadhi Mandir*, gate no. 4, Saiashram, Dwaravati, book sale counter at the Shri Sai Prasadalya and information centers in Hyderabad, Chennai and Bengaluru and online on the Sansthan's official website www.sai.org.in". Smt. Banayat has also appealed to all Sai devotees to avail the benefit of this concessional rate.





श्री साईबाबा संस्थान विश्वस्तव्यवस्था, शिर्डी द्वारा आयोजित श्री गुरु पूर्णिमा उत्सव मंगलवार, दिनांक १२.०७.२०२२ से गुरुवार, दिनांक १४.०७.२०२२ इस तीन दिवसीय अवधि के दौरान उत्साह भरे वातावरण में





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सम्पन्न हुआ। उत्सव के प्रथम दिन, मंगलवार, दिनांक १२.०७.२०२२ को सुबह ५.१५ बजे श्री की काकड़ आरती के बाद श्री की प्रतिमा, 'श्री साई सत् चरित'

ग्रन्थ व वीणा की शोभायात्रा निकाली गई। शोभायात्रा में संस्थान के विश्वस्त डॉ. एकनाथ गोंदकर 'श्री साई सत् चरित' ग्रन्थ लिए, विश्वस्त श्री सचिन कोते एवं विश्वस्त



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डॉ. जालिंदर भोर प्रतिमा लिए और विश्वस्त श्री सुनिल शेळके वीणा लिए सम्मिलित हुए। इस अवसर पर संस्थान के उपाध्यक्ष अॅड. जगदीश सावंत, विश्वस्त अॅड. सुहास

आहेर, श्री अविनाश दंडवते, श्री सचिन गुजर, श्री सुरेश वाबळे, श्री जयंतराव जाधव, श्री महेंद्र शेळके, उप मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी श्री राहुल जाधव, संरक्षण अधिकारी



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श्री आण्णासाहेब परदेशी, मंदिर प्रमुख श्री रमेश चौधरी, मंदिर पुजारी, शिर्डी ग्रामवासी तथा साईं भक्त बड़ी तादाद में उपस्थित थे। शोभायात्रा द्वारकामाई में आने के बाद वहाँ 'श्री साईं सत् चरित' इस पवित्र ग्रन्थ के पारायण का शुभारम्भ संस्थान के विश्वस्त डॉ. एकनाथ गोंदकर ने प्रथम अध्याय, विश्वस्त श्री सचिन गुजर ने द्वितीय अध्याय, विश्वस्त श्री सचिन कोते ने तृतीय अध्याय, विश्वस्त श्री महेंद्र शेळके ने चतुर्थ अध्याय तथा विश्वस्त श्री जयंतराव जाधव ने पंचम अध्याय पढ़ कर किया।

उत्सव के उपलक्ष्य में संस्थान के विश्वस्त डॉ. एकनाथ गोंदकर और उनकी पत्नी सौ. शोभाताई गोंदकर ने समाधि मंदिर में श्री की पादचपूजा की। इस अवसर पर संस्थान के उपाध्यक्ष अॅड. जगदीश सावंत, विश्वस्त अॅड. सुहास आहरे, श्री अविनाश दंडवते, श्री सचिन गुजर, श्री सुरेश वाबळे, श्री महेंद्र शेळके और मंदिर प्रमुख श्री रमेश चौधरी उपस्थित थे।

दोपहर १२.३० बजे श्री की माध्याह्न आरती हुई।

शाम ४ से ६ बजे तक ह.भ.प. सौ. स्नेहल संतोष पित्रे, डोंबिवली (ता. कल्याण, जि. ठाणे) का कीर्तन कार्यक्रम समाधि मंदिर के सामने वाले मंच पर सम्पन्न हुआ। ६ बजे विश्वस्त डॉ. जालिंदर भोर तथा उनकी पत्नी सौ. हेमलता भोर ने समाधि मंदिर में श्री की पादचपूजा की। ७ बजे श्री की धूप आरती हुई।

रात ७.३० से ९.५० बजे तक श्री अविनाश गांगुर्डे, नाशिक के भक्ति गीतों का कार्यक्रम हनुमान मंदिर के पास वाले श्री साईं बाबा समाधि शताब्दी मण्डप में स्थित मंच पर सम्पन्न हुआ। रात ९.१५ बजे श्री की पालकी की शोभायात्रा गाँव में से निकाली गई। इस अवसर पर संस्थान के अधिकारी, कर्मचारी, ग्रामवासी व साईं भक्त बड़ी तादाद में शामिल हुए। पालकी शोभायात्रा वापस आने के बाद १० बजे श्री की शेज आरती हुई। पारायण के लिए द्वारकामाई रात भर खुली



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रखी गई थी।

इस साल उत्सव के उपलक्ष्य में अमेरिका निवासी दानी साई भक्त श्रीमती शुभा पाई ने दिए दान से मंदिर एवं परिसर में की गई फूलों की आकर्षक सजावट तथा साई समर्थ डेकोरेटर्स, शिर्डी द्वारा मंदिर और परिसर में की गई आकर्षक विद्युत रोषणाई ने साई भक्तों का ध्यान आकर्षित कर लिया। हर साल की तरह पुणे से आई श्री साई बाबा पालकी समारोह की समिति के पदयात्री श्रद्धालुओं ने उत्सव में हाज़िरी लगाई।

बुधवार, दिनांक १३.०७.२०२२ को सुबह ५.१५ बजे श्री की काकड़ आरती हुई। काकड़ आरती के बाद 'श्री साई सत् चरित' इस पवित्र ग्रन्थ के अखण्ड पारायण का समापन हुआ। शोभायात्रा में संस्थान की मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी श्रीमती भाग्यश्री बानायत 'श्री साई सत् चरित' ग्रन्थ, संस्थान के उपाध्यक्ष अँड. जगदीश सावंत व विश्वस्त श्री सचिन कोते श्री की प्रतिमा और विश्वस्त श्री अविनाश दंडवते वीणा लिए सम्मिलित हुए। इस अवसर पर संस्थान के विश्वस्त अँड. सुहास आहेर, श्री सचिन गुजर, श्री जयंतराव जाधव, श्री महेंद्र शेळके, डॉ.

एकनाथ गोंदकर, डॉ. जालिंदर भोर, श्री संजय धिवरे, सह आयुक्त प्राप्तिकर विभाग, नाशिक, प्रशासकीय अधिकारी डॉ. आकाश किसवे, संरक्षण अधिकारी श्री आण्णासाहेब परदेशी, मंदिर प्रमुख श्री रमेश चौधरी, मंदिर पुजारी, शिर्डी ग्रामवासी तथा साई भक्त बड़ी तादाद में उपस्थित थे।

सुबह ६.२० बजे श्री का मंगलस्नान हुआ। ७ बजे श्री गुरु पूर्णिमा उत्सव के उपलक्ष्य में विश्वस्त श्री महेंद्र शेळके और उनकी पत्नी सौ. सुरेखा शेळके ने सपरिवार श्री की पादपूजा की। सुबह ७.३० बजे संस्थान की मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी श्रीमती भाग्यश्री बानायत और उनके पति श्री संजय धिवरे, सह आयुक्त प्राप्तिकर विभाग, नाशिक के हाथों श्री साई बाबा समाधि शताब्दी स्तम्भ के ध्वज का विधिवत पूजन कर ध्वज बदला गया। इस अवसर पर संस्थान के उपाध्यक्ष अँड. जगदीश सावंत, विश्वस्त अँड. सुहास आहेर, श्री अविनाश दंडवते, श्री सचिन गुजर, डॉ. एकनाथ गोंदकर, डॉ. जालिंदर भोर, श्री सचिन कोते, मंदिर प्रमुख श्री रमेश चौधरी एवं मंदिर पुजारी उपस्थित थे। गुजरात और महाराष्ट्र राज्य के मुंबई, ठाणे, पुणे, अंधेरी, वसई, पालघर, अलिबाग, विरार,



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नंदुरबार, धुळे, औरंगाबाद, गेवराई, नांदेड आदि इलाकों से पालकियों के साथ आए साई भक्तों के साई नाम घोष से साई की शिर्डी रोमांचित हो गई।

दोपहर १२.३० बजे श्री की माध्याह्न आरती हुई। दोपहर ४ ते शाम ६ बजे तक ह.भ.प. सौ. स्नेहल संतोष पित्रे, डोंबिवली (ता. कल्याण, जि. ठाणे) का कीर्तन हुआ।

शाम ७ बजे श्री की धूप आरती हुई।

रात ७.३० से ९.५० बजे तक श्री अविनाश गांगुर्डे, नाशिक का भक्ति गीतों का कार्यक्रम हनुमान मंदिर समीप श्री साई बाबा समाधि शताब्दी मण्डप में स्थित मंच पर सम्पन्न हुआ। ९.१५ बजे श्री के रथ की शोभायात्रा गाँव में से निकाली गई। इस शोभायात्रा में संस्थान के विश्वस्त, अधिकारी, कर्मचारी, साई भक्त, ग्रामवासी और बैण्ड पथक बड़ी संख्या में शामिल हुए। रात १० बजे से दूसरे दिन सुबह ५ बजे तक समाधि मंदिर के सामने वाले मंच पर कलाकारों की हाज़िरी कार्यक्रम सम्पन्न हुआ। उत्सव का मुख्य दिन होने के कारण श्री का समाधि मंदिर रात भर दर्शन के लिए खुला रखा गया था। लाखों श्रद्धालुओं

ने इसका लाभ उठाया।

गुरुवार, दिनांक १४.०७.२०२२ को उत्सव समापन के दिन सुबह ७ बजे संस्थान की विश्वस्त श्रीमती मिनाताई शेखर कांबळी ने सपरिवार समाधि मंदिर में श्री की पादपूजा की। विश्वस्त अँड. सुहास आहेर और उनकी पत्नी सौ. स्मिता आहेर ने गुरुस्थान में रुद्राभिषेक पूजा की। १० बजे ह.भ.प. सौ. स्नेहल पित्रे, डोंबिवली (ता. कल्याण, जि. ठाणे) का अंतिम मुख्य गोपाल काला कीर्तन होने के बाद दही-हांडी फोड़ी गई। इस अवसर पर संस्थान की मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी श्रीमती भाग्यश्री बानायत, विश्वस्त अँड. सुहास आहेर, श्री अविनाश दंडवते, श्री सचिन गुजर, श्री सुरेश वाबळे, श्री जयंतराव जाधव, श्री महेंद्र शेळके, डॉ. एकनाथ गोंदकर, श्री सुनिल शेळके, श्री सचिन कोते, प्रशासकीय अधिकारी श्री दिलीप उगले, संरक्षण अधिकारी श्री आण्णासाहेब परदेशी, मंदिर प्रमुख श्री रमेश चौधरी, मंदिर पुजारी, शिर्डी ग्रामवासी व साई भक्त बड़ी संख्या में उपस्थित थे। उसके बाद १२.१० बजे श्री की माध्याह्न आरती हुई।

शाम ६ बजे विश्वस्त श्री सुरेश वाबळे और उनकी



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पत्नी सौ सिंधुताई वाबळे ने समाधि मंदिर में श्री की पादचपूजा की। ७ बजे धूप आरती हुई।

रात ७.३० ते ९.१५ बजे तक श्री वैष्णवीस नृत्य

संस्था, तेलंगणा का नृत्य नाटक कार्यक्रम हनुमान मंदिर समीप श्री साई बाबा समाधि शताब्दी मंडप में स्थित मंच पर हुआ। इन सभी कार्यक्रमों की श्रोताओं ने सराहना की।



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रात १० बजे श्री की शेज आरती हुई।

श्री गुरुपूर्णिमा उत्सव में मंदिर तथा परिसर में



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विद्युत रोषणाई करने वाले साईं समर्थ डेकोरेटर्स, शिर्डी के सदस्यों का संस्थान की तरफ से संस्थान की मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी श्रीमती भाग्यश्री बानायत के हाथों सम्मान किया गया। इस अवसर पर विद्युत विभाग प्रमुख एवं कर्मचारी उपस्थित थे।

श्री गुरु पूर्णिमा उत्सव सफलतापूर्वक सम्पन्न होने के लिए संस्थान के अध्यक्ष श्री आशुतोष काळे, उपाध्यक्ष अॅड. जगदीश सावंत, मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी श्रीमती भाग्यश्री बानायत तथा सभी विश्वस्त समिति सदस्य के मार्गदर्शन में उप मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी श्री राहुल जाधव, सभी प्रशासकीय अधिकारी, संरक्षण अधिकारी श्री आण्णासाहेब परदेशी, सभी विभाग प्रमुख व सभी कर्मचारी ने विशेष प्रयास किया।



श्री साई बाबा अपने गुरु की याद में कहते थे, “एक चिड़िया अपने बच्चों का जितनी सावधानी से लालन-पालन करती है, उसी प्रकार उन्होंने मेरा पालन किया। उन्होंने अपनी शाला में स्थान दिया। कितनी सुंदर थी वह शाला! वहाँ मुझे अपने माता-पिता की भी विस्मृति हो गई। मेरे समस्त अन्य आकर्षण दूर हो गए और मैंने सरलतापूर्वक बन्धनों से मुक्ति पाई। मुझे सदा ऐसा ही लगता था कि उनके हृदय से ही चिपके रह कर उनकी ओर निहारा करूँ। यदि उनकी भव्य मूर्ति मेरी दृष्टि में न समाती तो मैं अपने को नत्रहीन होना ही अधिक श्रेयस्कर समझता! ऐसी प्रिय थी उनकी शाला कि वहाँ पहुँच कर कोई भी खाली हाथ नहीं लौटा। मेरी समस्त निधि, घर सम्पत्ति, माता, पिता या क्या कहूँ, वे ही मेरे सर्वस्व थे। मेरी इंद्रियाँ अपने कर्मों को छोड़ कर मेरे नेत्रों में केंद्रित हो गई और मेरे नेत्र उन पर! मेरे लिए तो गुरु ऐसे हो चुके थे कि दिन-रात मैं उनके ही ध्यान में निमग्न रहता था। मुझे किसी भी बरत की सुध न थी। इस प्रकार ध्यान और चिंतन करते हुए मेरा मन और बुद्धि स्थिर हो गई। मैं स्तब्ध हो गया और उन्हें मानसिक प्रणाम करने लगा। अन्य और भी आध्यात्मिक केन्द्र हैं, जहाँ एक भिन्न ही दृश्य देखने में आता है। साधक वहाँ ज्ञान प्राप्त करने को जाता है तथा द्रव्य और समय का अपव्यय करता है। कठोर परिश्रम भी करता है; परन्तु अन्त में उसे पश्चाताप ही हाथ लगता है।... लेकिन मुझे किसी भी वस्तु की खोज की आवश्यकता नहीं पड़ी; वरन् प्रत्येक वस्तु मुझे दिन के प्रकाश के समान उज्ज्वल दिखाई देने लगी। केवल मेरे वे गुरु ही जानते हैं कि किस प्रकार उनके द्वारा कुँएँ में मुझे उलटा लटकाना मेरे लिए परमानंद का कारण सिद्ध हुआ।” – श्री साई सत् चरित



Sai said, "This is the place of my *Guru*. This holy place is my inheritance. I request you to maintain it as it is."... "On Thursdays and Fridays, after sunset, anyone, who smears the ground with cowdung and burns incense, even for a moment, will be blessed by God." - **Shri Sai Satcharita**





Gurusthan at Shirdi

श्री साईबाबा संस्थान विश्वस्तव्यवस्था, शिर्डी के लिए मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी द्वारा गणेश आर्ट प्रिंटर्स, एम.आर. ट्रेड सेंटर, शॉप नं. ७, वाडिया पार्क, अहमदनगर - ४१४ ००१ में मुद्रित और साई निकेतन, ८०४ बी, डॉ. आम्बेडकर रोड, दादर, मुम्बई - ४०० ०१४ में प्रकाशित। * सम्पादक : मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी, श्री साईबाबा संस्थान विश्वस्तव्यवस्था, शिर्डी