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श्री साईबाबा संस्थान हिस्टास्बव्यहस्था, सिसी की साथिक्रा पहिला

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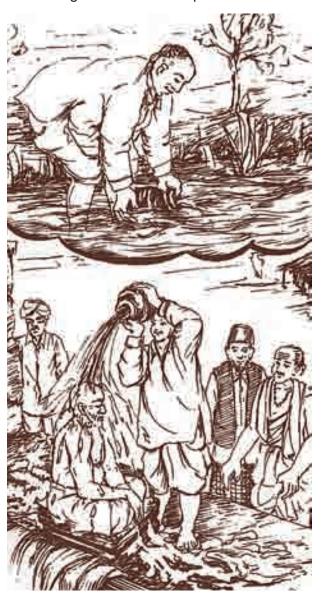


Sai Anant... Sai Roop Anant... Sai knows no Boundaries, and so are His Divine Forms!

One gets the vision of God according to one's feelings, so does a Sai devotee's feeling determine how he perceives Baba.

Megha was an ardent Sai devotee. His mention has been made in Chapter 28 and Chapter 31 of Shri Sai Satcharita and Khaparde's Diary.

Sai Baba pulled him to Shirdi like a sparrow with a thread tied to its feet. Megha of Viramgaon was a simple and illiterate





Brahmin cook of Raobahadur H.V. Sathe.

He was a devotee of Lord Shiva and always chanted the five syllabled *mantra* known as Shiva *panchakshari mantra* i.e., "Om Namaha Shivay". Raobahadur Sathe got him taught the *sandhya* and the Gayatri. Sathe told him that Sai Baba of Shirdi was the embodied form of the Lord Shiv and made him start for Shirdi. Baba worked upon Megha internally with the result that he was considerably changed and benefited. Then Megha began to look upon Sai Baba as an incarnation of Shiv.

Once, on one *Makar Sankranti* day, Megha wanted to besmear the body of Baba with sandal-paste and bathe Him with Ganges water. Baba was first unwilling to undergo this operation, but at his repeated requests, He consented.

Megha worshipped Baba in two places; in the *Masjid* he worshipped Baba in person and in the *wada*, Baba's big picture, given by Nanasaheb Chandorkar. This he did for 12 months. Then in order to appreciate his devotion and confirm his faith, Baba gave him a vision. Early one morning when Megha was still lying down on his bed with eyes







closed, but internally awake, he saw clearly Baba's Form. Baba knowing him to be awake threw akshata (rice-grains marked red with kumkum) and said, "Megha, draw a Trident" and disappeared. Hearing Baba's words, he eagerly opened his eyes, but did not see Baba, but saw only rice grains spread here and there. He then went to Baba, told Him about the vision and asked permission to draw Trident. Baba said, "Did you not hear my words asking you to draw Trident? It was no vision, but direct order and my words are always pregnant with meaning and never hollow." Megha said, "I thought you woke me up, but all the doors were closed, so I thought it was a vision". Baba rejoined, "I require no door to enter. I have no form nor any extension; I always live everywhere. I carry on, as a wirepuller, all the actions of the man who trusts me and merges in me."

Megha returned to the *wada*, and drew a red Trident on the wall near Baba's picture. Next day a Ramdasi *bhakt* came from Poona, saluted Baba and offered Him a *Pindi* (symbolic image of Shiv). At this time Megha also turned up there. Baba said to him, "See, Shankar has come, protect (i.e., worship) Him

now." Megha was surprised to see the Pindi following Trident immediately. Then also in the wada, Kakasaheb Dixit was standing with a towel on his head after having taken his bath, and was remembering Sai. When he saw a Pindi before his mental vision. While he was wondering about this, Megha came and showed him the Pindi presented to him by Baba. Dixit was happy to know that the Pindi exactly tallied with the One he saw a few minutes before in his vision. In a few days after the drawing of the Trident was complete, Baba installed the Pindi near the big picture which Megha was worshipping. The worship of Shiv was dear to Megha and by arranging the drawing of the Trident and the installation of the Pindi, Baba confirmed his faith therein.

Sai Anant... Sai Roop Anant... Sai knows no Boundaries, and so are His Divine Forms!

One Dr. Pandit, a friend of Tatyasaheb Noolkar, once came to Shirdi for Baba's darshan. After saluting Baba, he stayed in the Masjid for some time. Baba asked him





to go to Dada Bhat Kelkar. He went to Dada Bhat, by whom he was well received. Then Daba Bhat left his house for Baba's pooja and Dr. Pandit accompanied him. Dada Bhat worshipped Baba. Nobody until then dared to apply sandal paste to Baba's forehead. Only Mhalsapati used to apply it to His throat. But this simple-hearted devout, Dr. Pandit, took Daba Bhat's dish containing pooja-materials and taking sandal-paste out of it, drew a Tripundra, i.e. there horizontal lines on Baba's forehead. To the surprise of all, Baba kept silent without uttering a single word. Daba Bhat asked Baba in the evening, "How is it, that though You object to the sandal-paste being applied by others to Your forehead, but You allowed Dr. Pandit to do so now?" Baba replied that Dr. Pandit believed Him to be the same as his Guru, Raghunath Maharaj of Dhopeshwar, known as Kaka Puranik, and he applied the paste to His forehead, as he was doing to his Guru. Hence He could not object. On enquiry, Dr. Pandit told Dada Bhat that he took Baba as his Guru Kaka Puranik, and hence he marked the Tripundra on Baba's forehead, as he did on his Guru's head. Shri Sai Satcharita, Chapter 11

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Once, Mr. Moolay Shastri - an orthodox *Agnihotri Brahmin* of Nasik - came to Shirdi to see Shri Bapusaheb Booty, the famous millionarire of Nagpur. After seeing him, he and others went to see Baba in the *Masjid*. Moolay Shastri had studied the six *shastras* and was well-versed in astrology and



palmistry. Moolay Shastri proposed to read Baba's palm; and, therefore, requested Him to spread His palm open. Baba ignored his request. After taking Baba's darshan, they all returned to the wada. Moolay Shastri took bath, wore sacred clothes, and started his routine duties, viz. Agnihotra etc.; and Baba as usual started for *Lendi* with parting directions, "Take some geru (i.e. a red miry substance, to dye clothes in saffron-colour), we shall today don saffron-coloured cloth." None understood what Baba meant. Then after some time when Baba returned, and preparations for the noon-aarati were being made. Bapusaheb Jog asked Moolay Shastri, whether he would accompany him for the aarati. He replied that he would see Baba in the afternoon. Baba sat on his seat, and the devotees started worshipping Him by way of singing and aarati. Baba said to Booty Saheb, "Get some dakshina from the new Brahmin (Moolay Shastri)." Booty Saheb himself went to get the dakshina; and when he conveyed Baba's message to Moolay Shastri, he was truly perplexed. He thought in his mind thus: "I am a pure Agnihotri Brahmin, why should I pay dakshina? Baba may be a great Saint. I am not His disciple." But as a great Saint like Sai Baba was asking for dakshina through a millionaire like Booty Saheb, he could not refuse. So leaving his routine unfinished, he forthwith started with Booty Saheb for the Masjid. Thinking himself holy and sacred and the Masjid otherwise, he stood at a distance, and joining his hands threw flowers at Baba. Then lo! All of a sudden, he saw no Baba on the seat, but saw his late Guru Gholap Swami there. He was wonder-struck. Could this be a dream? No, it was not, as he was wide awake; but though awake, how could his late Guru Gholap be there? He was speechless for some time. He pinched himself and thought again, but could not reconcile the fact of his late Guru Gholap being in the Masjid. Ultimately, leaving all doubt, he went up, fell at his Guru's feet, and then getting up stood there with folded hands. Other people sang Baba's aarati, while Moolay Shastri chanted his Guru's name. Then casting off all pride of caste and ideas about sacredness, he fell flat



at his *Guru*'s feet and closed his eyes. When he got up and opened his eyes, he saw Baba asking for *dakshina*. Seeing Baba's blissful form, and His inconceivable power, Moolay Shastri forgot himself. He was extremely pleased; his eyes were full of tears of joy. He again saluted Baba and gave the *dakshina*. He said that his doubt was removed and that he saw his own *Guru* in Baba. Shri Sai Satcharita, Chapter 12

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It was in the year 1916 that a Madras contingent of *bhajan* singers set out on a pilgrimage to the holy city of Banaras - the most visited pilgrimage destination in India and one of the twelve *Jyotirling* sites. This *bhajan mandali* (troupe) consisted of the chief singer, his wife, daughter and sister-in-law.

On their way they heard that there lived Sai Baba in Shirdi, a small village in Kopargaon (now Rahata) taluka of Ahmednagar district of Maharashtra state. They also learnt that Sai Baba was endowed with unprecedented powers and worshipped as a God incarnate, and thousands of devotees flock to Shirdi in order to pay their respects and seek His blessings. His devotees also offer Him dakshina which He distributes to persons in need.

Now, in their greed, the bhajan mandali reached Shirdi instead of Banaras. The troupe sang very good bhajan lyrics; but, at the same time, all members of the troupe - except the chief lady - were avaricious and wanted to extract money from Baba. The chief lady had a great regard and affection for Baba. Hence, Baba decided to give darshan to her as her Ishta Dev (Beloved Deity) Lord Ram. As the noon aarati was going on at the Dwarkamai Masjid, she saw her Beloved Deity Lord Ram in place of Sai Baba. She felt immensely happy and tears flowed from her eyes. While all the others saw only Sai Nath there, the lady alone had sakshatkar (realization of God) of Lord Ram because of her true devotion. Shri Sai Satcharita, Chapter 29

In whatever Image men look to Me,



even so do I accept them, says Sai Baba.

The story of the *bhajan mandali* didn't end here! The leader of the *bhajan mandali* still seemed blind to the virtual reality. Now Sai Baba thought to make him realize the truth by giving him a wonderful vision in his dream:

He was in a big city; the police had arrested him, tied his hands with a rope, and put him up in lock-up. As the police were tightening the grip, he saw Sai Baba standing quiet outside, near the lock-up room. On seeing Baba so near, he said in a lamenting tone, "After hearing Your name and fame I came to Your Feet, and why should a calamity befall me when You are standing here in person?" Baba said, "You must suffer



the consequences of your action." He said, "I haven't done anything in this life which would bring such a misfortune on me." Baba said, "If not in this life, you must have committed some wrongdoing in your past life." He replied, "I am quite unaware of my past life, but assuming that I did commit some sin then, why should it not be burnt and destroyed in Your presence, as dry grass do before fire?" Baba asked, "Have you got such firm faith in me?" He replied, "Yes, Baba!" Baba then asked him to shut his eyes. No sooner did he do that than he heard a whipping sound of something falling down; and on opening his eyes, he found himself out of the lock-up, but the police constable on duty was lying on the ground in a pool of blood. Being much frightened, he began to look at Baba Who said, "Now you are in very big trouble; the police officers will now come to arrest you." Then he begged, "Baba! There is no other rescuer except You, please! You got to save me somehow." Baba again asked him to close his eyes. He did so, and when he opened them, he saw that he was free, completely out of the lockup, and that Baba was standing by his side. He fell at Baba's Feet. Baba asked him, "Is there any difference between this namaskar (salutation) and your previous ones? Give me your reply only after thinking hard and well." He said, "There is a lot of difference; former namaskaras (salutations) were offered with the object of extracting money from You, but the present namaskar (salutation) is offered firmly believing that You are God, and Your words are eternally true; besides, now I am free of my resentful thoughts that You, being a Mahomedan, were spoiling us - the Hindus." Baba asked, "Don't you believe in Mahomedan Gods?" He said, "No!" Then Baba said, "Have you not got a Panja (Emblem of Hand) in your house and do you not worship the same in Tabut, i.e. Coffin? Also, there is in your house another Mahomedan Deity that goes by the name of Kadbibi, whom you propitiate and appease on the occasions of marriage in your family and other festivals. Isn't it so?" He admitted to it all. Baba said, "What more do you want?" Now, an intense desire arose in his mind to

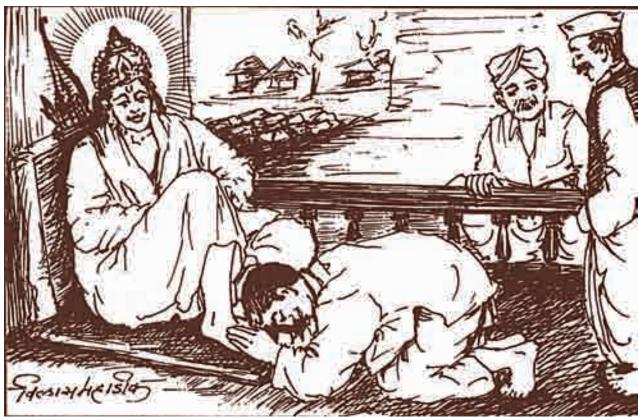


get the *darshan* of his *Guru* Ramdas. Baba asked him to turn back and see again. And when he turned, lo! *Samarth Guru* Ramdas was in front of him. No sooner did he begin to fall at His Feet than Ramdas vanished. Shri Sai Satcharita, Chapter 29

Sai Anant... Sai Roop Anant... Sai knows no Boundaries, and so are His Divine Forms!

A Mamlatdar once scheduled his Shirdi





visit to have Baba's *darshan*. He also invited his friend to accompany him. This friend was a doctor. The doctor said that his Deity was Lord Ram and that he would not bow before Baba Who was a Mahomedan; and so, he was unwilling to go to Shirdi. The *Mamlatdar* replied that nobody would press him to make a bow, nor would ask him to do so. So he should come and give the pleasure of his company. Accordingly, they came to Shirdi, and went to the *Masjid* for Baba's *darshan*. All were wonder-struck to see the doctor going ahead and saluting Baba. They asked him how he forgot his resolve and bowed before a Mahomedan.

The doctor replied that he saw his beloved Deity, Ram, on the seat and he, therefore prostrated himself before Him. Then as he was saying this, he saw Sai Baba there again. Being dismayed, he said, "Is this a dream? How could He be a Mahomedan? He is a great *Yogasampanna* (full of *Yoga*) *Avatar.*"

Next day, he made a vow and began

to fast. He absented himself from the *Masjid*, resolving not to go there, until Baba blessed him. Three days passed and on the fourth day, a close friend of his from Khandesh, turned up, and with him, he went to the *Masjid* for Baba's *darshan*. After the salutation, Baba asked him, whether anybody had gone to call him, so that he had come. Hearing this vital question, the doctor was moved. The same night he was blessed by Baba, and he experienced the Bliss Supreme, in his sleep. He left for his town, where he experienced the same state of bliss for a fortnight. Thus his devotion to Sai Baba increased manifold. Shri Sai Satcharita, Chapter 12

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Dr. Subodh Agarwal

'Shirdi Sai Dham',

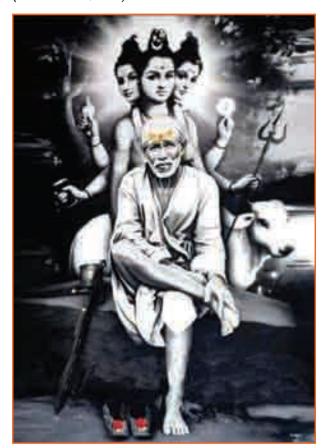
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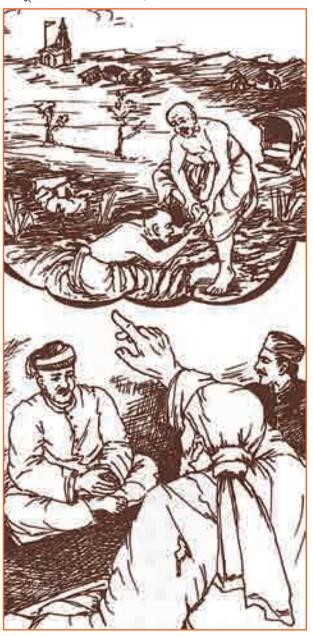


साईंनाथ! अब मैं तुम्हें भगवान् दत्तात्रेय के संदर्भ में तुम्हारी एक और लीला सुनाता हूँ। तुम्हें देवी-देवताओं का अनादर ज़रा भी सहन नहीं था। वैसे तो किसी की भी निंदा, उपेक्षा या आलोचना तुम्हें पसंद नहीं थी। पर, देवी-देवताओं के लिए तुम्हारे हृदय में विशेष श्रद्धा थी। तभी तो तुमने शिर्डी और उसके आसपास के क्षेत्र में अनेक देवी-देवताओं के मंदिरों का जीणोंद्धार किया। एक बार तुम्हारे चहेते भक्तवर, नानासाहेब चाँदोरकर अपने साढू के साथ कोपरगाँव में उतरे और सीधे शिर्डी पहुँच गए। उस समय मस्जिदमाई में तुम्हारा दरबार सजा हुआ था। उन दोनों ने मस्जिद में आकर तुम्हें दंडवत प्रणाम किया। पर, तुम आशीर्वाद देने के बजाय नानासाहेब पर गुस्से से बरस पड़े और बोले, ''नाना! तू बरसों-बरस मेरी संगत में रहा। फिर कैसे तेरी यह गित हुई? तेरी मित क्यों भ्रमित हो गई? बता मुझे।'' तुम्हारी डाँट-फटकार सुन कर नानासाहेब

सकपका गए। उनका मुँह उतर गया। उनकी समझ में नहीं आया कि तुम किस कारण अचानक उन पर कुपित हो रहे थे। वे इतना ज़रूर समझ गए थे कि सबसे प्रेम करने वाले दयालु बाबा बेवजह किसी का दिल नहीं दुखाते। उनके क्रोध का कोई न कोई कारण तो अवश्य होगा। कहीं न कहीं, कुछ न कुछ भूल तो ज़रूर हुई है। क्या भूल हुई? जब नाना की समझ में कुछ नहीं आया तो उन्होंने तुम्हारे चरण पकड़ लिए और पूछा, ''मेरा क्या अपराध, बाबा?'' प्रत्युत्तर में तुमने कहा, ''तुम कोपरगाँव कब आए और वहाँ से सीधे शिडीं क्यों आए? रास्ते में क्या क्या हुआ? सब बताओ।'' अब नाना की समझ में आया कि सचमुच ही उनसे भूल हुई है। उनका नित्य का नियम था कि वे जब – जब भी कोपरगाँव से शिडीं आते, तो सबसे पहले गोदावरी में स्नान करके कोपरगाँव स्थित भगवान् दत्तात्रेय के मंदिर में दत्त का दर्शन करते। उसके बाद ही



शिर्डी के लिए प्रस्थान करते थे। पर, उस दिन देर होने के डर से और जल्दी से जल्दी शिर्डी पहुँचने की जल्दबाजी में दत्त दर्शन टाल दिया। उनके साढ़ू साहब दत्त देव के अनन्य भक्त थे। वे दत्त का दर्शन करना चाहते थे। किंतु, नानासाहेब ने न तो स्वयं दर्शन किया, न अपने साढ़ू साहब को करने दिया। कहा कि शिर्डी से लौटते समय दर्शन कर लेंगे, अभी देर हो गई है, चलो। कह कर उन्होंने फौरन ताँगा किया और दत्त दर्शन किए बिना शिर्डी आ गए। यही उनकी भूल थी। नानासाहेब ने सारा वृत्तांत सच-सच तुम्हें सुना दिया। अंतर्यामी से असत्य बोलने का क्या मतलब? वे झूठ बोलते तो भी पकड़े जाते। साईं के सामने असत्य



नहीं चलता। न ही असत्य से साईं को पाना सम्भव है। सत्य पर चलने वालों को ही साईं मिलता है। नानासाहेब ने तुम्हें (बाबा को) सारा वृत्तांत सुना कर अंत में कहा, "महाराज! गोदावरी में नहाते समय मेरे पाँव में काँटा चुभ गया था। बहुत कष्ट हुआ, बाबा।" तब, साईंनाथ, तुमने कहा, "ख़ैर मनाओ, नाना, काँटे का छोटा-सा दंड मिला। बड़े दंड से बच गए। अच्छा नहीं अपने आराध्य देव या सद्गुरु का अनादर करना। अभागे हैं वे, जो रास्ते में प्रतिष्ठित दत्त देव का दर्शन छोड़ कर कहीं और भागते हैं। तुम क्या समझते हो, मैं ऐसे लोगों से प्रसन्न होता हूँ? आइंदा अपने आचरण के प्रति सावधान रहना।" इतना कह कर तुमने नानासाहेब को क्षमा कर दिया। नानासाहेब चाँदोरकर को आगे के लिए बहुत बड़ी सीख मिल गई।

हे दत्तावतार, साईंनाथ! तुम दया, क्षमा और करुणा की ममतामयी सगुण मूर्ति हो। इसीलिए सब तुम्हें साईं माँ कहते हैं। तुमने जीवों के कल्याण के लिए एक फ़क़ीर और सद्गुरु के रूप में अवतार लिया और शिर्डी को अपना मूल धाम बना कर समस्त विश्व के प्राणियों का लालन-पालन किया। आज भी कर रहे हो और सदा करते रहोगे। तुम्हारे सिच्चिदानंद घन स्वरूप, कल्याणकारी अनाद्यंत अस्तित्व में हमारी अडिग आस्था, अटल श्रद्धा और अखंड विश्वास है। हम ही नहीं, अनेक भक्तों ने दत्तावतार रूप में तुम्हें पूजा है। तुम्हारे अनन्य भक्त, कृष्णराव जागेश्वर भीष्म ने तुम्हारी स्तुति में कहा है :-

कृष्णनाथा दत्तसाई । जडो चित्त तुझे पायीं।।
चित्त देवा पायीं। जडो चित्त तुझे पायीं।।
वही भीष्म तुम्हारी काकड़ आरती में कहते हैं :भू-खेचर व्यापूनी अवघे हत्कमलीं राहसी।
तोचि दत्तदेव शिर्डी राहुनी पावसी।
एक भक्त ने तुम्हारी स्तुति में कहा है :साईनाथ गुरू माझे आई।
मजला ठाव द्यावा पायीं।।
दत्तराज गुरू माझे आई।
मजला ठाव द्यावा पायीं।।
अब माधव आडकर की स्तुति सुनो, बाबा :जय देव जय देव दत्ता अवधूता। साई अवधूता।
जोडूनी कर तव चरणीं ठेवितो माथा।



एक अन्य भक्त की प्रार्थना है:ऐसा येई बा। साई दिगंबरा।
अक्षयरूप अवतारा।
सर्विह व्यापक तूं। श्रुतिसारा।
अनुसयाऽत्रिकुमारा।।

(ऋषि अत्रि और अनुसया के पुत्र ही दत्त हैं।) साईंनाथ! अब दत्तरूप में तुम्हारी स्तुति करते हुए श्री बी. वी. देव की श्री गुरुप्रसाद – याचना सुनो:-

> रुसो मम प्रियांबिका, मजवरी पिताही रुसो। रुसो मम प्रियांगना, प्रियसुतात्मजाही रुसो।। रुसो भगिनी बंधुही, श्वशुर सासुबाई रुसो। न दत्तगुरु साई मा, मजवरी कधीहीं रुसो।।

(अर्थात्, चाहे मेरी प्रिय माता, पिता, पत्नी, पुत्र पुत्री, बहन, भाई, ससुर, सास मुझसे रूठ जायें; लेकिन हे दत्तगुरु साईं माँ, आप मुझसे कभी न रूठना।)

> पुसो न सूनबाई त्या, मज न भ्रातृजाया पुसो। पुसो न प्रिय सोयरे, प्रिय सगे न ज्ञाती पुसो।। पुसो सुहृद ना सखा, स्वजन नाप्तबंधू पुसो। परि न गुरु साई मा, मजवरी कधीहीं रुसो।।

(बहू, बयाहू, भाभी, सगे-संबंधी, प्रिय मित्र और अपने लोग भले ही मुझसे रूठ जायें; किंतु हे गुरु साईं माँ, आप मुझसे कभी न रूठना।)

> पुसो न अबला मुलें, तरुण वृद्धही ना पुसो। पुसो न गुरु धाकुटें, मज न थोर साने पुसो।। पुसो नच भलेबुरे, सुजन साधुही ना पुसो। परि न गुरु साई मा, मजवरी कधीहीं रुसो।।

(भले ही अबला, बाल, युवा, वृद्ध, बड़े-छोटे, महान, तुच्छ, भले, बुरे, सज्जन, साधु जन मुझे न पूछें; किंतु हे गुरु साईं माँ, तुम हमसे कभी न रूठना।

> रुसो चतुर तत्ववित्, विबुध प्राज्ञ ज्ञानी रुसो। रुसोहि विदुषी स्त्रिया, कुशल पंडिताही रुसो।। रुसो महिपती यती, भजक तापसीही रुसो। न दत्तगुरु साई मा, मजवरी कधीहीं रुसो।।

(चाहे मुझसे चतुर तत्विवद्, प्रबुद्ध, प्राज्ञ ज्ञानी, विदुषी स्त्रियाँ, कुशल पंडित, राजा, संन्यासी, भक्त और तपस्वी भले ही रूठ जायें; किंतु दत्तगुरु साईं माँ, आप मुझसे न रूठें।)

> रुसो कवि ऋषी मुनी, अनघ सिद्ध योगी रुसो। रुसोहि गृहदेवता, नि कुलग्रामदेवी रुसो।। रुसो खल पिशाच्चही, मिलन डाकिनीही रुसो। न दत्तगुरु साई मा, मजवरी कधीहीं रुसो।।

(किव, ऋषि, मुनि, सिद्ध, योगी, गृहदेवता, कुलदेवी, ग्रामदेवी, खल, पिशाच और मलीन डाकनी भले ही मुझसे रूठ जायें; लेकिन हे दत्तगुरु साईं माँ, आप मुझसे न रूठें।)

> रुसो मृग खग कृमी, अखिल जीवजंतु रुसो। रुसो विटप प्रस्तरा, अचल आपगाब्धी रुसो।। रुसो ख पवनाग्नि वार, अवनि पंचतत्वें रुसो। न दत्तगुरु साई मा, मजवरी कधीहीं रुसो।।

(पशु, पक्षी, कीड़े, सारे जीवजंतु, पेड़, पत्थर, पहाड़, निदयाँ, सागर, आकाश, वायु, अग्नि, जल, धरती, पंचतत्व सब मुझसे रूठ जायें; किंतु हे दत्तगुरु साईं माँ, आप मुझसे न रूठें।)

> रुसो विमल किन्नरा, अमल यक्षिणीही रुसो। रुसो शशि खगादिही, गगनिं तारकाही रुसो।। रुसो अमरराजही, अदय धर्मराजा रुसो। न दत्तगुरु साई मा, मजवरी कधीहीं रुसो।।

(चाहे किन्नर, यक्षिणियाँ, चन्द्र, सूर्य, नक्षत्र, तारे, इन्द्र और यमराज भले ही मुझसे रूठ जायें; लेकिन हे दत्तगुरु साईं माँ, आप मुझसे कभी न रूठना।)

> रुसो मन सरस्वती, चपलचित्त तेंही रुसो। रुसो वपु दिशाखिला, कठिण काल तोही रुसो।। रुसो सकल विश्वही, मयि तु ब्रह्मगोलं रुसो। न दत्तगुरु साई मा, मजवरी कधीहीं रुसो।।

(चाहे मेरा मन, सरस्वती, चपल चित्त, शरीर, सभी दिशाएँ, कठिन काल, सारा संसार और ब्रह्मांड ही मुझसे रूठे; लेकिन हे दत्तगुरु साईं माँ, आप मुझसे न रूठें।)





विमूढ म्हणूनी हसो, मज न मत्सराही डसो। पदाभिरुचि उल्हासो, जननकर्दमीं ना फसो।। न दुर्ग धृतिचा धसो, अशिवभाव मागें खसो। प्रपंचि मन हें रुसो, दृढ विरक्ति चित्तीं ठसो।।

(मुझे मूर्ख समझ कर लोग भले ही मेरा उपहास करें, तो भी ईर्ष्या-द्वेष भाव मुझे न डसे। आपके चरणों में मेरी प्रीति बढ़े। मैं जन्म-मृत्यु के चक्र में न फसूँ। मेरे धैर्य का क़िला न धँसे। सभी कलुष भाव नष्ट हो जायें। मेरा मन प्रपंच से दूर और चित्त में विरक्ति-वैराग्य का भाव दृढ़ हो।

> कुणाचिही घृणा नसो, न च स्पृहा कशाची असो। सदैव हृदयीं वसो, मनिस ध्यानिं साई वसो।। पदीं प्रणय वोरसो, निखिल दृश्य बाबा दिसो। न दत्तगुरु साई मा, उपिर याचनेला रुसो।। (मुझमें किसी के प्रति घृणा न हो। मन में किसी

प्रकार की लोभ-लालसा न रहे। मेरे हृदय, मन-मानस और ध्यान में, हे साईं, सदैव केवल आप ही बसें। आपके चरणों में प्रीति बढ़े और समस्त दृश्यमान जगत् में केवल आपका ही दर्शन हो। हे दत्तगुरु साईं माँ, मेरी उक्त याचना को मत ठुकराना।

जय हो दत्तावतार, साईंनाथ! दत्तगुरु साईं माँ, तुम्हारी जय हो! हम सभी भक्त तुम्हारे भवभय विनाशक चरणों में लोट कर जन्म-मृत्यु और कर्म-बंधन से अपनी मुक्ति की याचना करते हैं।

(समाप्त)

– दास कुम्भेश

बी-२०३, जूही, सेक्टर २, वसंत नगरी, वसई (पूर्व) - ४०१ २०८, पालघर, महाराष्ट्र. ई-मेल : kumbhesh9@gmail.com

संचार ध्वनि : (०)९८९०२८७८२२



Shri Sai blesses the first Editor of SHRI SAILEELA (Marathi)



Late Govind Raghunath Dabholkar alias Hemandpant narrates in Shri Sai Satcharita with the blessings of Shri Sai Baba:-

... If he did not have such merits, no one could stay a moment in Shirdi. No matter how strong the determination, only Shri Sai Baba's will prevailed.

One could think, 'I will go and stay there as long as I like'. But it did not depend on his choice. He was under total control.

Many egotists were humbled when making such decisions, and making pronouncements of 'I, I'. Sai was an unfettered entity.

Till our turn comes, Baba does not think of us. When we do not even hear of His virtues, how can the desire for *darshan* arise?

Many had longed for Sai Samartha's *darshan*, but none got the opportunity till Sai's *nirvan* (*Mahasamadhi*).

Having continued to postpone the visit and procrastinated, many found it was too late, as Baba had passed away.

They kept deferring the matter from to-day to tomorrow and so on. Ultimately they were deprived of the chance of a face-to-face meeting and repented for it. The *darshan* was irrevocably lost.

The craving of such people will be partially fulfilled by listening to these stories with reverence and faith. They will have to be content with minor acquisitions.

Those who went in good time, by good fortune, and were able to take *darshan* and touch His feet, were content, but did they stay there at their sweet will? Baba had to allow them.

None could go there of his own will or stay there at his own will. If allowed, then only could he stay, and left when told to go.

On one occasion, Kaka Mahajani



went to Shirdi from Mumbai. He intended to stay for one week at Shirdi and then return.

It was at the time of the festival of the birth of Lord Krishna. The *chavadi* was beautifully decorated. The cradle was hung before Baba and the devotees were dancing with joy.

Kaka arrived at Shirdi at the opportune time of the *Gokul Ashtami* festivities, desiring to enjoy and witness the festival.

Immediately on going for Baba's *darshan*, Baba asked him, "When are you returning to your home?" Kaka was astonished.

Kaka was surprised and perplexed at this question being asked at the first moment of the meeting, because he had intended to stay at Shirdi for eight days.

When Baba Himself has asked, it was obligatory for Kaka to answer. As if Baba Himself suggested the answer, he gave a suitable reply.

"When Baba grants permission, I will return to my home". When Kaka gave the reply, Baba said, "Go tomorrow".

Obeying the order with profound reverence, bowing down to Baba, he departed the same day inspite of the *Ashtami* festival.

Later on when he returned to the town and went to his office, he found that his employer was eagerly awaiting Kaka's return.

The munim had suddenly taken

ill and the employer needed Kaka. He had sent a letter to Shirdi to Kaka, recalling him.

After Kaka had left from Shirdi, the postman had inquired and the letter was re-directed, which was received by Kaka at home...

... I have just remembered one more story of this nature, which I will now tell the listeners and then end the chapter.

Eight days before the laying of the flooring in the courtyard (of the *Masjid*) began, Mahajani suffered from acute indigestion.

He began to have many loose motions. Leaving all this burden on Baba, he did not take any medicines or treat himself. He became quite harassed.

Mahajani knew that Sai was omniscient. Therefore, he did not describe his difficulties to Him.

'When He wills it, He will grant me relief, on His own'. Having this implicit faith, he bore disease.

'Whatever is destined to be suffered, will be! But there should be no break in the *pooja* rituals'. This was the intense wish of Kaka each day.

Later on, when the motions became too frequent and were out of control, let us see what he did in order not to have a break in the *aarati* and service.

He kept a copper vessel filled with water, on which he could lay his hands even in darkness, in a corner of



the Masjid.

He, himself, would sit near Baba, pressing His legs and always remained present at the time of the *aarati*, this being his regular routine.

Whenever he got a spasm in the stomach, since the water pot would be at hand, he would go to some nearby secluded spot and return after relieving himself.

So be it. When they asked Baba's permission to lay the flooring, He gave it to Tatya. Listen to what He said then to him.

"I am going to the Lendi. When I return from the Lendi, you may start the work of the flooring at that time".

Later Baba returned and sat on His seat. Kaka came in time and started massaging His legs.

Devotees from Mumbai came by *tongas*, via Kopergaon, by train which came to a halt there. They came up the steps with all the preparations for this *pooja* and bowed down to Baba.

Along with everyone else, Patil from Andheri also came with flowers, rice and *pooja* items; and sat in anticipation.

Just then, in the lower part of the courtyard, in the place where the *rath* used to be kept, exactly at the same spot the first stroke of the pick-axe was struck and the work of the laying of the courtyard floor began.

No sooner did He hear that noise that Baba shouted strangely. In an instant He became transformed into Narasimha (Incarnation that God Vishnu took, as a man lion, to destroy Hiranyakshyapu). His eyes blazed with fury.

"Who is that striking with the pick-axe? I will break his back." Saying this, He got up taking His *satka*. All present were filled with terror.

The labourer threw aside the pickaxe and fled. Everybody ran helterskelter. Kaka too was frightened. At that moment, Baba held him by His hand.

And said, "Where are you going? Sit down." Just then Tatya and Laxmi arrived. He started hurling a torrent of abuse at them, to His heart's content.

The people who were outside the courtyard were also abused. Just then, He picked up a bag of roasted peanuts which had been dropped there.

It must have belonged to somebody and fallen in the *Masjid*, while running away helter-skelter, when Baba had been in a fit of anger.

The nuts must have been about one full *seer* (Approximately 2 kilos). He brought out one handful at a time, rubbed them between His palms, blew upon them and cleaned them.

Then He fed the cleaned nuts to Mahajani. While He continued to shower abuses on one hand, on the other hand He continued to clean the peanuts.

"Eat them, eat them", He said. He put cleaned nuts in His palm. He too ate a few, Himself. In this manner, the





bag was emptied.

When the nuts were finished, He said, "Bring some water. I am thirsty". Kaka filled a vessel and brought it. He drank some and told him also to drink it.

While Kaka was drinking, He said, "Go, your suffering has ended". He added, "Where are those wretched *Brahmins*? Go and fetch them".

So be it. The group re-assembled. The *Masjid* was crowded as before. The flooring work was resumed. Kaka's diarrohea was stopped.

What kind of a remedy is this for loose stools! It is the words of the

saints that act as medicine. He who regards them as *prasad* can have need for nothing else...

... Another experience of his is also worth listening to. He used to suffer from pain in the heel of one of his feet, since months.

Before going to Shirdi, he had suffered from this trouble for many months. After he returned from there, he was relieved from pain and it disappeared in a very short time.

Similary there is another story where a person who goes in search of a saint and has to put his head down in obeisance at the feet, though he had no intention to do so. Listen to it.

Also, when one does not wish to give *dakshina* because one is caught in the illusion of worldly objects, how one ends up giving *dakshina* despite one's firm resolve.

Dharamshi Jethabhai Thakkar, a solicitor from Mumbai wished to meet Sai because of some earlier merits.

He was the employer of Mahajani. Both of them were on intimate terms. He felt like going to Shirdi and personally meeting Him.

Kaka (Mahajani) was the manager of Thakkarji's firm. Taking advantage o holidays, on and oft, Kaka used to get ready to go to Shirdi.

Did Kaka return on time? He stayed sometimes at Shirdi for eight days at a time and explained that he did not receive Sai's permission to return. Is this a way to work?



'What kind of a saint is he? I do not approve of this kind of profession of saintliness.' The Sheth left during the Holi holidays to find out who this Sai was!

His ego and his pride in his profession and position were enormous. 'After all saints are human beings! Why should one bow to them?' This is what he felt.

Shastris and pandits got exhausted and accepted defeat before Sai's authority. Therefore, what chance did poor Dharamshi have there! And how far could he stick to his resolution?

'But it is not good to have blind faith; let me go and ascertain for myself.' With this determination, he made preparations to go to Shirdi.

Dharamshi also laid down conditions, described in the foregoing verses, as the other friend of Kaka. He left along with Kaka and told him,

"On this trip it will not do for you to go to Shirdi and stay there. You must return with me. Know that for sure."

Then Kaka replied, "This is not in our hands". Therefore, Dharamshi took one more person with him, to go on the way.

In case Kaka did not return, it would be difficult for him not to have a companion so he took a third person and all three of them left for Shirdi.

In the world, there are so many kinds of persons who are obliging to the devotees. Baba pulls them (to Shirdi) to remove their doubts.

And when they returned they narrated their experiences to others. They even got them written down by some one else, so that the people could take to the true path.

In short, whoever went to Shirdi were filled with happiness by the *darshan*. Irrespective of their initial state of mind, they had supreme bliss in the end.

They said that they had a love for curiosity and, therefore, went on their own there. But in fact, the position was different. They served Baba's purpose.

Baba Himself gives them the inspiration to step out. He puts them on the spiritual path by making them aware of their natural instincts.

Who knows His skills and ways? If one tries, it would be inviting misfortune. So leaving aside your ego, prostrate at His feet and enjoy the feast of happiness.

It is not good to go empty handed to a temple, *brahmin* or *Guru*. Therefore, Kaka bought two *seers* of grapes on the way.

He had wanted to buy the seedless variety of grapes but he could only get ones with with seeds at that time. So Kaka bought those.

So be it. Chatting away happily, the trio arrived in Shirdi. All the three together went to the *Masjid* for Baba's *darshan*.

(Contd. in the next issue)





Shirdi News

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Shri Rajeshwar, philanthropic Sai devotee from Hyderabad, handed over four demand drafts of Rs. 25 lakhs each, totalling Rs. 1 crore, to Shri Rahul Jadhav, Chief Executive Officer Incharge of the Sansthan, as donation for the medical fund of Shri Sai Baba Sansthan on behalf of his firm 'Saikripa Ventures'.

Also, Shri Subba Reddy of Om Shriram Builders from Hyderabad stated on the occasion that he would donate an X-ray machine costing Rs. 40 lakhs to the Shri Sai Baba Hospital. Shri Kailas Kharade, the then Chief Accounts Officer and Administrative Officer Incharge of the

Sansthan, was present on the occasion.

Along with these, Shri V. Jitendra, philanthropic Sai devotee from Chennai, donated a golden *aarati* (lamp) of 544 grammes weight costing Rs. 27,77,664/- to the Sansthan.







Smt. Raveena Tandon, actress, availed the darshan of Shri Sai Baba's Samadhi...



Shri Ramdas Kadam, Former Minister of Maharashtra State, availed the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi...*





Shri Akshay Kumar, actor, availed the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi...* Shri Rahul Jadhav, Chief Executive Officer Incharge of the Sansthan, was present on the occasion.



Smt. Shilpa Shetty, actress, availed the darshan of Shri Sai Baba's Samadhi with family...



Doctors of Shri Sai Baba Hospital Removed a Complete Stone from the Brain!



Shri Rahul Jadhav, Chief Executive Officer Incharge of Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi, congratulated the entire Neurosurgery team of Neuro-surgeon Dr. Mukund Chaudhary for the successful surgery of removing a stone embedded in the brain since five months at the Sansthan's Shri Sai Baba Hospital.

Thousands of patients from the length and breadth of the state and outside the state get admitted for various treatments at the Shri Sai Baba Sansthan-run Shri Sai Baba Hospital and Shri Sainath Hospital. About 60 to 70 brain and vertebra surgeries are done every month in the Neurosurgery department of these hospitals. Of these, Shri Sachin Marke, a 37 years old patient from Parbhani, came to Neurosurgeon Dr. Mukund Chaudhary at the Shri Sai Baba Hospital, with a wound in the head since the last five months, for investigation. About five months ago (August 2022) he had a small injury in the head after falling from a two-wheeler. What appeared as a minor injury in the beginning, was not healing at all. Medicines were given and bandaging done, later CT Scan was done. Nothing was diagnosed. Since the water from the wound continued incessantly, CT Scan was done once again in December 2022 and medication commenced. Yet the wound in the head was not responding.

Finally, after hearing about the Shri Sai Baba Sansthan's Shri Sai Baba Hospital and Dr.



Mukund Chaudhary, the patient got admitted to Shri Sai Baba Hospital for treatment after five months. After understanding the patient's case thoroughly, Dr. Mukund Chaudhary advised a CT Scan again. After viewing the CT Scan, even the doctor was baffled. Even though, at first sight it was observed that a lump had formed in the brain by breaking the skull bone, the question of why the lump formed in spite of five months of treatment remained unsolved. Dr. Chaudhary suspected that it was not a lump of the bone but something else. After discussing with Radiologist Dr. Shrikant Nagare, he too expressed it to be something else. Since appropriate diagnosis could not be arrived at, preparation for the surgery was done after talking to the patient and his relatives. On January 17, 2023, Neurosurgeon Dr. Chaudhary and senior Anaesthetist Dr. Santosh Surwase and the Neuro O.T. team commenced the surgery with some anxiety. But, the doctors were baffled by what they saw during the surgery. A large stone had broken the skull bone and rooted deep in the brain. Dr. Chaudhary succeeded in gently removing the stone from the brain by surgery in the surrounding parts without allowing the other parts to be hurt. After the lapse of 10 to 12 days after the surgery, the patient had no problem of any kind. Also, the water coming out of the wound has stopped. Dr. Mukund Chaudhary pointed out that the patient surviving after a stone in the brain for five months, that not being diagnosed and remaining fit after surgery is a rare case in the global medical field.

Shri Rahul Jadhav, Chief Executive Officer Incharge of the Sansthan, Liet. Col. Dr. Shailesh Oak, Medical Director of Shri Sai Baba Hospital and Dr. Pritam Wadgave, Deputy Medical Director congratulated the entire Neurosurgery team for having performed such a rare and difficult surgery successfully.





Smt. Nagam Aliveni, philanthropic Sai devotee from Hyderabad, handed over a golden flower weighing 233 grammes costing Rs. 12,17,425/- to Shri Rahul Jadhav, Chief Executive Officer Incharge of the Sansthan, as donation to the Shri Sai Baba Sansthan in memory of her husband..

'Easy Identification of Cancer and Precautions!'

Shri Rahul Jadhav, Chief Executive Officer Incharge of Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi, inaugurated the awareness camp on 'Easy Identification of Cancer and Precautions', organised by the Sansthan on February 4 at the Shri Sainath Hospital on the occasion of World Cancer Day.

In his inaugural address, Shri Jadhav stated that "regular exercises should be done to protect oneself from life threatening ailments like cancer. One should stay away from addictions. Also, one can take care of one's own health through wholesome food.





As the Head of the Shri Sai Baba Sansthan employees it is our responsibility to take care of your health. You undertake all work allocated to you from time to time with great enthusiasm and selflessly. Various issues

related to health arise from this. For this, in the coming times many such awareness camps will be organized for the employees. Hence, it will help the employees to maintain their health without any ailments", stating so, he

informed about various programmes started by the Sansthan for the employees.

Dr. Mukul Gharote, Cancer Specialist, was the main speaker at this camp in the Shri Sainath Hospital. He delved extensively on the various types of cancer, symptoms of the cancer ailment and its easy identification, treatment for the same and about how to protect ourself and our family from the cancer ailment, on the occasion.

Lieut. Col. Dr. Shailesh Oak, Medical Director delivered the introductory address at the programme and Shri Suresh Tolmare, Public Relations Officer of the Shri Sai Baba Hospital anchored this programme and Miss Pranali Kamble, Junior Biomedical Engineer proposed the vote of thanks to the dignitaries. Dr. Pritam Wadgave, Deputy Medical Director, Medical Officers of the Hospital, Male and Female Nurses and employees were present in large numbers for the programme.

OOO

About 40 Sai devotees from Germany availed the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi*. Shri Rahul Jadhav, Chief Executive Officer Incharge of the Sansthan, greeted and felicitated them on the occasion. These Sai devotees pointed out on the occasion that they have been coming to Shirdi for the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi* since the last 30 years.







Best Head of Department and Best Employee Felicitation...



Shri Rahul Jadhav, Chief Executive Officer Incharge of the Sansthan felicitated Shri Kailas Kharade, the then Chief Accounts Officer and Administrative Officer Incharge and Shri Sahebrao Lanke, Accounts Officer Incharge, as an Excellent Head of Department and Excellent Employee respectively of the Shri Sai Baba Sansthan for January 2023.

Shri Rahul Jadhav, Sansthan's Chief Executive Officer Incharge, has started the programme to felicitate the Excellent Head of Department and Excellent Employee of each month from January 2023 to enhance, improve and bring composure in the quality of work of the head of departments and employees within the Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi. In this, doctors of the Sansthan's hospitals, male and female nurses, sincere security personnel of the Security department, as also, employees of all other departments of the Sansthan, will be included. Organizing this felicitation programme every month, the excellent work done by the employees will be noted in their Service Book. This will trigger competition to enhance positivity

and do innovative work among the head of departments and employees.

As per that, Shri Kailas Kharade, the then Chief Accounts Officer and Administrative Officer Incharge and Shri Sahebrao Lanke, Accounts Officer Incharge, having earned the honour of felicitation as an Excellent Head of Department and Excellent Employee respectively of the Sansthan for January 2023, they performed the excellent task of presenting an errorless budget of all departments in time. Accordingly, Shri Rahul Jadhav, Chief Executive Officer Incharge of the Sansthan felicitated them as an Excellent Head of Department and Excellent Employee respectively for January 2023.

The said function was held at 1.30 p.m. on Monday, February 6, 2023, in the Sai Sabhagriha (meeting hall). Dr. Akash Kisave, Shri Dilip Ugale and Shri Sanjay Jori, Administrative Officers, Shri B. D. Dabhade, Deputy Executive Engineer, Shri Annasaheb Pardeshi, Security Officer, all Head of departments and employees were present at the function.

Digital System Portable X-ray Machine Donated to the Sansthan by Mahindra Foundation





"Serving patients indeed... is Serving God", realizing this Anand Mahindra, on behalf of Mahindra Foundation, having donated a Digital System Portable X-ray

Machine costing Rs. 75 lakhs for the Shri Sai Baba Hospital of the Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi, Shri Rahul Jadhav, Chief Executive Officer Incharge of the







Sansthan inaugurated this X-ray machine.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Jadhav stated that "I will myself make efforts to see that easy and convenient procedures are implemented for treatment of patients in both the hospitals of Shri Sai Baba Sansthan". Also, he appealed to the employees here on the occasion to serve patients in the spirit of this being, service to God.

This X-ray machine system, having been provided in Shirdi for the first time, allows doctors to be able to treat patients with ease due to this machine. Taking the



machine to the ward where the patients are admitted, the X-ray can be taken there itself. Thereby, the patients getting their report instantly, doctors can commence treatment immediately. Thus, saving time, it will be easy to treat more and more patients. Even the radiation exposure will be reduced due to the use of this digital system. It will also help reduce the damage caused due to the radiation exposure on the patients. The report of the patients will be clear and of a good quality because of this machine. Also, because of this doctors will have additional help to treat patients.

Dr. Akash Kisave, Administrative Officer of the Sansthan, Dr. Shailesh Oak, Medical Director of Shri Sai Baba Hospital, Dr. Pritam Wadgave, Deputy Medical Director Incharge, office bearers of Mahindra Foundation, Engineers of Biomedical department, officers of the hospital, male and female nurses and employees were present on the occasion of the said programme.





On His head Sai would have a special white headgear and tie a clean *dhoti* to His waist, put on a shirt or a *pehran* - such was His dress at the beginning.

Initially, He would practice *ayrurvedic* medicines in the village. He would examine patients and give the medicines. He had a healing touch and became a famous *hakim* (knower of herbal remedies).



Dr. Neelamtai Gorhe, Deputy Speaker, Maharashtra Legislative Council availed the darshan of Shri Sai Baba's Samadhi...



Smt. and Shri Bhupal Kamepalli, philanthropic Sai devotees from Hyderabad, on behalf of their firm, K. Bhupal Engineers and Contractors, Pvt. Ltd., donated a golden necklace laden with 9 jewels and pearls weighing 310 grammes costing about Rs. 20 lakhs and a silver plate, vessel and glass weighing 1176 grammes costing Rs. 31,752/- to the Sansthan. Also, the donor Sai devotees donated a cheque of Rs. 2 lakhs on the occasion.



Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Union Minister of Jalshakti, Government of India, availed the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi...* Dr. Akash Kisave, Administrative Officer of the Sansthan was present on the occasion.



Shri Siddhram Salimath, newly appointed Collector of Ahmednagar District and Member of the ad-hoc committee of the Sansthan, availed the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi*. Shri Suhas Mapari, Additional District Collector, Shri Anil Pawar, Prant Officer of Shrirampur, Dr. Shashikant Mangrule, Prant Officer of Sangamner, Shri Govind Shinde, Prant Officer of Shirdi, Shri Kundan Hire, Tehsildar of Rahata, Dr. Akash Kisave, Administrative Officer of the Sansthan and Shri Annasaheb Pardeshi, Security Officer were present on the occasion.



Smt. Farah Khan, Dance Director and Shri Sajid Khan, Big Boss Fame availed the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba... After that they were felicitated by Shri Rahul Jadhav, Chief Executive Officer Incharge of the Sansthan.

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The Chief Executive Officer, hereby declares that the particulars given above the true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Chief Executive Officer, Shree Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi (Signature of the Publisher)



Mahashivratri Festival



Mahashivratri festival was celebrated this year too like every year by the Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi. 55,000 Sai devotees availed the benefit of *Sabudana* (sago) *Khichdi*, prepared in the Shri Sai Prasadalaya, as *prasad*.

After the holy bath of Shri Sai Baba on Saturday, February 18, 2023 on the day of Mahashivratri at 5.50 a.m., the *aarati* "Shirdi Majhe Pandharpur" was performed. After that at 6.25 a.m. the darshan of Shri Sai Baba commenced. Shri Sai Baba's midday aarati was done at 12 noon. Dhooparati was done at 6.15 p.m. Temple employee Shri Sambhaji Turakane's kirtan programme was held on the stage inside the Samadhi Mandir from 7.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. Also, the procession of Shri Sai Baba's Palkhi (palanquin) was taken through the Shirdi village at 9.15 p.m. Officers of the

Sansthan, the temple priests, employees, Shirdi villagers and Sai devotees were present in large numbers on the occasion. Shri Sai Baba's *Shejarati* was done at 10 p.m. after the *Palkhi* returned to the *Samadhi Mandir*. *Rudrabhishek* worship was done by Shri Sudhakar Yarlagadda, Chairman of the Sansthan's ad-hoc committee and Chief District Judge and his wife Sou. Malti Yarlagadda, between 12.27 a.m. and 1.17 a.m. at the Gurusthan.

55,000 Sai devotees availed the benefit of Sabudana Khichdi, in the Sansthan's Shri Sai Prasadalaya, as prasad on the occasion of Mahashivratri. For this, 58 sacks of sabudana, 3245 kgs. groundnuts, 700 kgs. ghee and 1973 kgs. potatoes were used. Sai devotees availed the benefit of 25,940 breakfast packets.





Planted Floral Trees for Sai's Regular Worship



Shri Rahul Jadhav, Chief Executive Officer Incharge of Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi, planted tree on behalf of the Sansthan, on an area of about one acre at Mouje Rui on the occasion of the Mahashivratri festivities. The Sansthan purports to plant floral trees, required for the regular worship of Shri Sai Baba, on this land.

The plantation on the occasion of Mahashivratri in the said area, owned by the Sansthan bearing *gat* (land unit) no. 443/3 measuring 40 *aar* (1 acre) in the Mouje Rui region, was donated by Shri Dilip Sulakhe, former priest of the Sansthan. After the inauguration of the plantation on this land

by Shri Rahul Jadhav, Chief Executive Officer Incharge of the Sansthan, various kinds of trees - *bel*, *tulas*, *rudraksh*, *neem* and coconut were planted by the dignitaries present.

Dr. Akash Kisave and Shri Sanjay Jori, Administrative Officers of the Sansthan, Shri Kailas Kharade, the then Chief Accounts Officer and Administrative Officer Incharge, Shri Gulabrao Patil, Police Inspector of Shirdi police station, all Head of departments, employees, Shri Dilip Sulakhe, former Priest of the Sansthan, Shri Raosaheb Deshmukh, former *Sarpanch* of Rui and Shri Bhausaheb Mate of Nighoj were present for the said plantation programme.



Whenever Baba would go to Rahata, He would bring saplings of marigold and jasmine. He planted them in barren land and regularly watered them.



Shri Eknath Shinde, Chief Minister of Maharashtra State availed the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi...* Shri Radhakrishna Vikhe Patil, Revenue, Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development Minister, Shri Girish Mahajan, Minister of Rural Development, Medical Education, Sports and Youth Welfare, Divisional Commissioner Shri Radhakrishna Game, Member of the Ad-hoc Committee of the Sansthan and District Collector Shri Siddharam Salimath, Shri Ashish Yerekar, Chief Executive Officer, District Council, M.P. Shri Sujay Vikhe Patil, Shri Rahul Jadhav, Chief Executive Officer I/C of the Sansthan, were present on the occasion.



Shri Eknath Shinde, Chief Minister of Maharashtra State, being felicitated by Shri Siddharam Salimath, Member of the Ad-hoc Committee of the Sansthan and District Collector and Shri Rahul Jadhav, Chief Executive Officer I/C of the Sansthan, after he availed the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi...* Shri Radhakrishna Vikhe Patil, Revenue, Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development Minister, Shri Girish Mahajan, Minister of Rural Development, Medical Education, Sports and Youth Welfare, Divisional Commissioner Shri Radhakrishna Game, Shri Ashish Yerekar, Chief Executive Officer, District Council, M.P. Shri Sujay Vikhe Patil, were present on the occasion.

