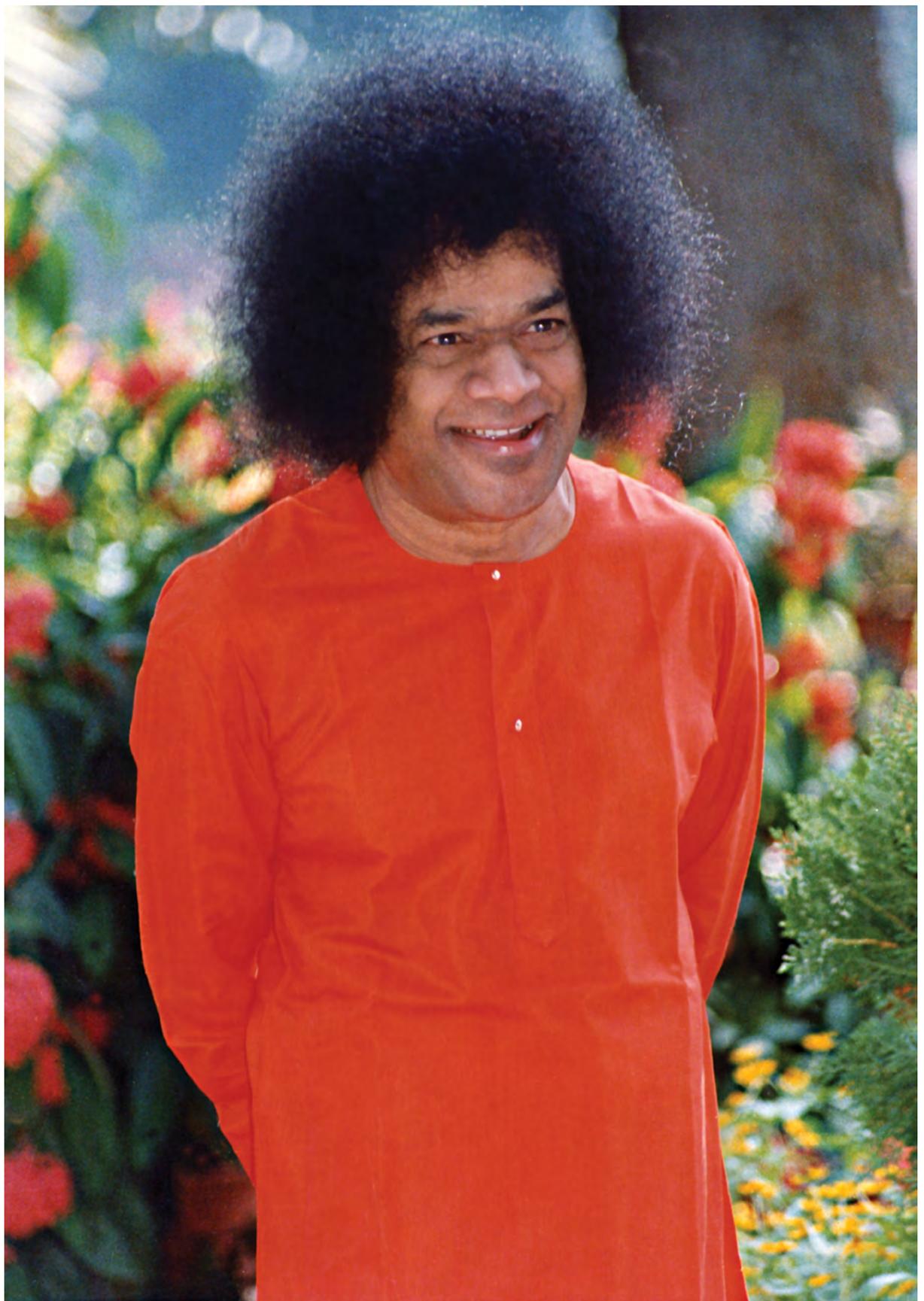


Sanathana Sarathi

JULY 2017



Sanathana Sarathi

Devoted to the Moral and Spiritual Uplift of Humanity through

SATHYA • DHARMA • SANTHI • PREMA • AHIMSA

Vol.: 60 Issue No. 7 Date of Publication: 1st July

July

2017

© Sri Sathya Sai
Sadhana Trust, Publications Division
Prasanthi Nilayam

Printed by **K.S. RAJAN**
Published by **K.S. RAJAN**

On behalf of the owner, Sri Sathya Sai
Sadhana Trust, Publications Division, Prasanthi
Nilayam 515134, Anantapur District (A.P.)
And Printed at M/s Rajhans Enterprises, 136,
4th Main Road, Industrial Town, Rajaji Nagar,
Bengaluru 560044, Karnataka
And Published at Sri Sathya Sai Sadhana Trust,
Publications Division, Prasanthi Nilayam
515134, Anantapur Dist., Andhra Pradesh.

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STD Code : 08555
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*"Worldly pleasures are like the food
in the pot of the world. You stretch
your hand to catch the food. The
monkey mind of man, not mankind,
holds that food. So, you are caught
and bound. If you open your fist
and leave the food, you become free.
This is true renunciation."*

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Telugu India: ₹ 60 (12 issues)
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With Bhagavan's Divine grace and blessings, Veda Purusha
Saptaha Jnana Yajna conducted every year for the welfare
of humanity as part of Dasara celebrations will begin at
Prasanthi Nilayam on **24th September 2017** and conclude
with **Poornahuti** on **30th September 2017, Vijaya Dasami day.**

AVATAR VANI

MAN SHOULD STRIVE HARD NOT TO BE BORN AGAIN

Neither by penance nor by pilgrimage nor by study of scriptures nor by Japa can one cross the ocean of life. One can achieve it only by serving the pious.

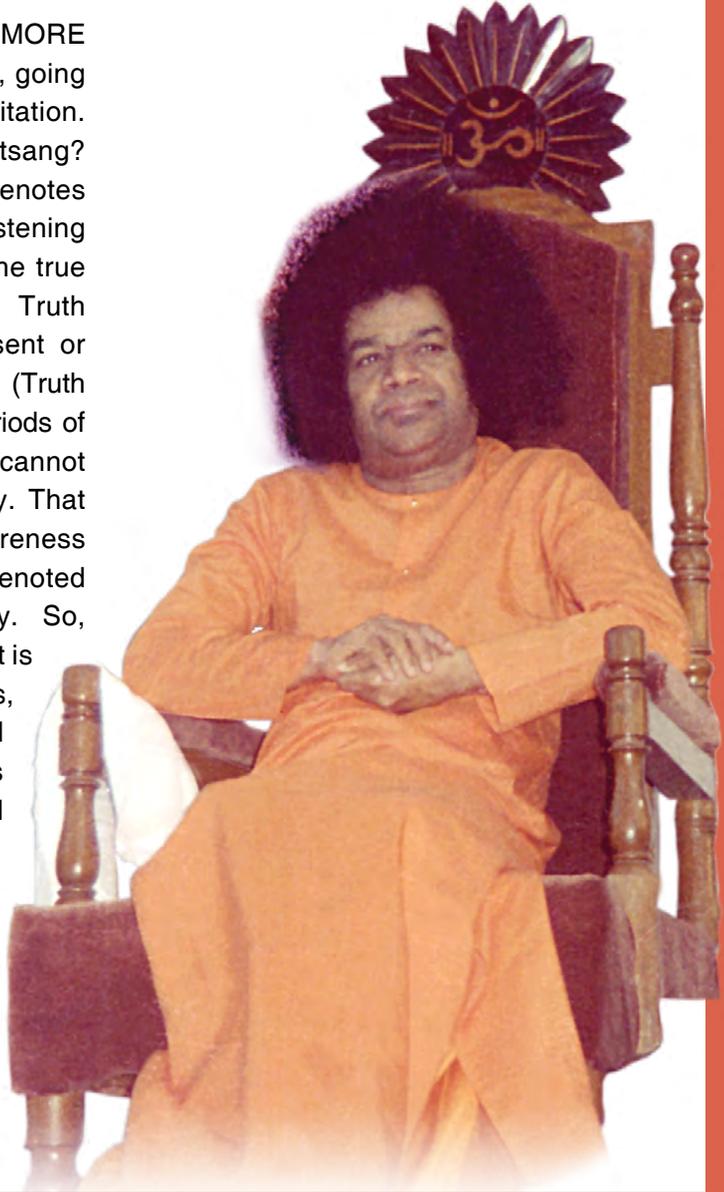
(Sanskrit Verse)

LOVE MAKES THE HEART PURE

SATSANG IS MUCH MORE beneficial than doing penance, going on pilgrimages or doing meditation. What is the real meaning of Satsang? People think that Satsang denotes company of good people and listening to their teachings. But this is not the true meaning of Satsang. Sat means Truth that has no change in past, present or future. *Trikalabadyam Sathyam* (Truth remains unchanged in the three periods of time – past, present and future). It cannot be obliterated or hidden by history. That Truth is Divinity. Living in the awareness of Divinity is Satsang. Sat is also denoted by Tat, which connotes Divinity. So, Satsang means living in Divinity that is changeless, attributeless, formless, immortal, infinite, ever united and unique as one only. To live always in divine consciousness is the real purport of Satsang.

Experiencing Immanent Divinity is True Knowledge

The Vedic philosophy enjoins three qualities for the fulfilment of a man's life. The first one is Dama or sense control, the second is Dana or charity and the third is Daya or compassion. Human



life is a combination of divinity, humanness and demonishness. The noble quality of compassion transforms demonishness into humanness. Similarly, charity leads to divinity. Divinity is present everywhere in all its effulgence. Divinity is described by the Vedas as *Anoraneeyan Mahato Maheeyan* (Brahman is subtler than the subtlest and vaster than the vastest). Science also confirms the fact that what is present in the macrocosm is also present in microcosm. In an atom, we have neutrons, protons and electrons. Divinity that is present in the atom pervades the biggest planet as well. Just as planets revolve around the sun, electrons revolve around the nucleus of the atom. In the language of Vedanta, atom is called Anu, which is divinity in micro form. Divinity that is present in microcosm is also present in macrocosm. *Antarbahischa Tatsarvam Vyapya Narayana Sthita* (That all-pervasive God is present within and without). To experience this divinity that is within you is true knowledge.

Burn your Desires in the Fire of Jnana

You must understand the value of charity and sacrifice. You cannot retain the breath within you for long without exhaling it. You cannot retain all that you eat without excreting. If you try to retain everything, it will lead to sickness. The newspaper you read today must be discarded tomorrow. Do you relish reading the same news over and over? It should be the case with life, too. You have been taking births again and again. Having taken this birth, you should strive hard not to be born again. A rebirth is caused due to the effect of Sankalpas or remnant desires. They are like seeds for the next birth. So, a man of wisdom

Develop love for God. Chant the Name of God constantly. Do everything as God's work and lead your life in peace and bliss. Whatever you do, do it with love. There is nothing greater than love in this world. Love is as near or distant from you as you think it to be. Love makes your heart pure, and that is the supreme state. Youth today are not recognising this truth. Everyone should develop love.

must strive hard to scorch all seeds of desires in the fire of Jnana. Desires are seeds because of which you are reborn. So, control your desires and senses by diverting them towards God.

Pashyannapicha Na Pashyati Moodho (he is a fool who sees, yet does not recognise the reality). We should see not the Jagat (world) but Jagadeeswara (the Lord of the universe). We should hear not worldly sounds but the sound of Nada Brahman (primordial sound). We should taste nothing worldly but divine love. In this way, we should transform everything into divine. Then only can sense control be achieved. Everyone who is hungry should partake of food to satiate his hunger. A poor man may eat cheap food and a rich man may have costly food. The varieties of food may be different but the hunger is the same for all. By merely repeating the name of food, can hunger be satisfied? One must make an effort to eat food that is available. Similarly, you have to develop intense love for God if you want liberation. That is true Sadhana. That is true devotion.

Meditation on God is True Meditation

There are nine paths of devotion: *Sravanam* (listening), *Kirtanam* (singing), *Vishnusmaranam* (contemplating on Vishnu), *Padasevanam* (serving His Lotus Feet), *Vandanam* (salutation), *Archanam* (worship), *Dasyam* (servitude), *Sneham* (friendship), *Atmanivedanam*



(self-surrender). But it is enough if you follow any one of these paths earnestly. Whatever path one may choose, God is one only. We see many people talking about meditation. What is really meant by meditation? In fact, anything you do from

dawn to dusk is a process of meditation. To read a book, you need concentration, concentration is needed to eat food, and you need to apply concentration while driving a vehicle. Meditation is very similar to this analogy. So, walking, talking, eating, reading, writing, driving – everything is a sort of meditation. But when you meditate on God, that is Divine meditation. However, if you allow your thoughts to go towards worldly matters while meditating on God,

External vision is burdensome and inner vision provides peace and comfort. A cart runs well when the horse draws it from the front. But if you put the horse behind the cart, will the cart move at all? While sitting on a boulder, can you attempt to move it aside without falling? Similarly, you should get off from the boulder of worldliness, so as to enjoy peace in life. This is the principle of Vairagya (renunciation).

it amounts to mixed meditation. This must be curbed consciously.

Experience the Presence of God in all Beings

There are four types of aspirants in the world – *Yastika*, *Astika*, *Nastika* and *Astika-Nastika*. *Yastikas* are those who have love for God in their heart right from the time of birth. *Vidura*, *Prahlada*, *Dhruva* and *Bhishma* are of this type. The second are those who develop divine feelings



through good company, by listening to the teachings of saints and by reading scriptures. The third type are Nastikas who think that they have nothing to do with God. They deny the existence of God. Some of them even declare themselves as God, unwittingly stating the truth though. Suppose a beggar comes, stands in front of your door and pleads, "I am Anatha, there is no one to look after me. Please give me alms"! In fact, God is Anatha (having no master over Him). In a way, the beggar states that he is divine. Also God is Anadi, He who has no beginning.

Sant Kabir belonged to a weaver's family. He used to feed all those who came to his house. The king of the land came to know of Kabir's great devotion and charitable nature. Considering Kabir as a poor man engaged in noble work, the king, one day, sent many items of food, clothes as also a palanquin, requesting him to visit him. Kabir politely refused to accept them. He said that he was not an Anatha (destitute) as the king thought. He said, Lord Rama was always with him; and Rama, being the Supreme Lord of the world, alone deserved to be called Anatha who has no master over Him. "I have Rama as my Natha (Master). My heart is brimming with the sacred name of Rama. As Rama is the only Anatha, you better offer all these things to Him," he said. We keep saying that God is present in all beings. A true devotee should experience this reality every moment of his life. For this, vision has to be diverted inwards. When you are able to achieve this, the mundane problems and worries will not disturb your state of peace and tranquillity at any time.

Cravings of Man Cause his Suffering

Ask anyone how he is leading his life. One may say that he is sustaining on his property. Some other may say, he relies on his pension or on the interest accruing from his bank deposit, and so on. No one gives the true answer that he is surviving because of God's grace. Wealth and property are not permanent. They are temporary like passing clouds. King Dhritarashtra had plenty of wealth. He had 100 sons as also a vast kingdom. Did the comforts of the palace make him happy? No. He had no peace of mind. Why? Because his mind was focused on the world.

Man's suffering is caused by three types of cravings. These are: Dhaneshana, Dareshana and Putreshana (desire for money, wife and progeny). Of course, you have to take care of your family. Do your duty. Take this as a command of God. But always think, I am a guardian to look after my family. In reality, no one is the son, no one is the mother or father. This is what Sage Suka said. When Suka renounced the world and left his home, his father Sage Vyasa ran after him shouting, "Suka, my son! Do not go away, do not leave me". Suka laughed and said, "You cannot call yourself father and I cannot call myself your son. You are the embodiment of Brahman and so am I. So, Brahman and Brahman cannot be father and son. It is your body attachment which makes you worry". *Brahmavid Brahmaiva Bhavati* (the knower of Brahman becomes verily Brahman). Vibration of Divinity is what the entire cosmos is made of. Divinity is like heat of fire, and its vibration is not confined to a particular place. When man obeys God's command implicitly, all his



burdens are taken care of. The aspirant should surrender himself to God, reposing full faith in Him.

Peace and Happiness Lie in Renunciation

Once a villager boarded a train with a heavy bundle on his head. He did not take the bundle off his head even while sitting in the train. Looking at this, a fellow passenger laughed and said to him, "My dear fellow! Keep the bundle aside and relax; the train will take care of it". Leave all burdens and worries to God and remain peaceful. For this, there is another example. A person was going to a nearby village and was carrying a bundle of food on his shoulder. After walking some distance, he felt tired and hungry. As it was time for lunch, he removed the bundle from his shoulder and ate the food. As he consumed the food, he was relieved of the burden on his shoulder and had a comfortable journey to his destination. So long as the food packet was on his shoulder, he was feeling weak. When he unpacked the bundle and ate the food, he regained strength; his weakness was gone. Now the food packet did not cause any burden on him. Similarly, if man develops inner vision, he will gain strength. External vision is burdensome and inner vision provides peace and comfort. A cart runs well when the horse draws it from the front. But if you put the horse behind the cart, will the cart move at all? While sitting on a boulder, can you attempt to move it aside without falling? Similarly, you should get off from the boulder of worldliness, so as to enjoy peace in life. This is the principle of Vairagya (renunciation).

Great importance is attached to Vairagya in the Vedic philosophy. Vairagya does not mean that one should run away

from home leaving wife and children. Leaving bad thoughts is real Vairagya. This is true yoga. Even while engaged in daily chores, one should fill the heart with divine feelings at all times. Do not give any scope to Ahamkara (ego) and Mamakara (attachment). Two things are responsible for all difficulties of man: 'I' and 'mine'. The path of knowledge involves elimination of the feeling of 'I' and 'mine'. To hold something in hand is difficult, and to drop it is easy. The Vedanta says, *Thyagenaike Amrutatthwamanasu* (Immortality is attained only by sacrifice). In olden days, the forest tribal's had an easy method of catching monkeys. They deployed a pot having a narrow neck. The monkey gets attracted to the nuts placed in the pot. As the monkey puts in its hand and catches the nuts, the fist is stuck up in the pot, and the monkey is caught easily. Similarly, man is inviting troubles with his monkey mind. Worldly pleasures are like the food in the pot of the world. You stretch your hand to catch the food. The monkey mind of man, not mankind, holds that food. So, you are caught and bound. If you open your fist and leave the food, you become free. This is true renunciation.

Develop love for God. Chant the Name of God constantly. Do everything as God's work and lead your life in peace and bliss. Whatever you do, do it with love. There is nothing greater than love in this world. Love is as near or distant from you as you think it to be. Love makes your heart pure, and that is the supreme state. Youth today are not recognising this truth. Everyone should develop love.

– Bhagavan's Discourse in Sai Sruthi, Kodaikanal on 17th April 1993.



CELEBRATIONS AT PRASANTHI NILAYAM

SUMMER COURSE IN INDIAN CULTURE AND SPIRITUALITY

THE SUMMER COURSE in Indian Culture and Spirituality marks the beginning of every student's journey at Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning. Blessed by the Revered Chancellor of the University, Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba, this induction programme exposes students of the university to the rich cultural and spiritual heritage of Bharat. Moreover, it orients them to Bhagavan Baba's educational philosophy and gives them deep, first hand insights into how they can directly benefit from this unique institution.



A view of the participants in Poornachandra Auditorium.

The event in 2017 took place from 9th to 11th June 2017 at Prasanthi Nilayam. Over 2500 students, 200 teachers and 75 research scholars of all the four campuses of the university (Anantapur, Brindavan, Muddenahalli and Prasanthi Nilayam) as well as Sathya Sai Mirpuri College of Music, Sri Sathya Sai Higher Secondary School, Prasanthi Nilayam (Class XI and Class XII) and Sri Sathya Sai Gurukulam English Medium School, Rajamahendravaram participated.

Day 1 – Friday, 9th June 2017

The inaugural session of the programme began with invocatory Veda chanting in Poornachandra Auditorium, Prasanthi Nilayam at 8.30 a.m. on 9th June 2017. A welcome address by Sri Sanjay Sahni, Controller of Examinations, SSSIHL followed this. Sri Sahni observed that the Summer Course was started by Bhagavan

Sri Sathya Sai Baba to mould His students as ideal citizens of the world rooted in the culture and ethos of Bharat. He urged the students to open their hearts and make most of the learning during the three-day Summer Course.

The inaugural address was thereafter delivered by Sri K Chakravarthi, Member Secretary, Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust. The learned speaker delved deep into the rich cultural heritage of Bharat and exhorted the students to harmonise the material, intellectual and spiritual values of this great heritage, resist external forces and focus instead on the inner growth. He ended his erudite talk by encouraging the students to grow intellectually and spiritually and perform actions that would bring them close to Bhagavan Baba.

A short video of Bhagavan Baba's Divine Discourse was then broadcast. The central message Bhagavan had for His students was love. Worldly love, He said, is temporary. Only love of God is permanent and true. Students, Bhagavan added, should develop love for God which was the very purpose of human life.



This was followed by an energetic talk by Sri Vijay Menon, faculty, IIM, Kozhikode (Kerala), who spoke on the topic “Excellence in Action”. He stressed on the importance of Indian culture and the validity of performing good and kind deeds, highlighting the point that there was no substitute for excellence. He ended his speech by urging students to read Sai literature. The morning session ended with a lively quiz on Bhagavan Baba’s Leelas, Mahimas and Upadesha. Students from the university and school participated in the quiz.

The evening session of the programme held in Sai Kulwant Hall started with a summary of the morning session followed by brief speeches of two students. They wonderfully expounded the central theme of faith and inner strength that Indian culture exemplifies through the topics “Our Culture, Our Strength” and “Our Beloved Swami”. The last speaker of the session was Prof. R. Gangadhara Sastry, Hon. Professor, Department of Political Science. Delivering his talk on “Bhagavan Baba on Education”, he narrated major milestones of His work on education as well as the background philosophy of culture, spirituality and human values on which Bhagavan Baba founded His educational institutions.

Day 2 – Saturday, 10th June 2017

The second day’s programme began with invocatory Veda chanting in Poornachandra Auditorium at 8.30 a.m. The first session was a panel discussion on “Work, Worship and Wisdom” moderated by Dr. Srinivas Srirangarajan, Director, Brindavan Campus, SSSIHL. The panelists deliberated on the three royal paths Work (Karma), Worship (Bhakti) and Wisdom (Jnana) to reach the ultimate goal of man’s life, Self-realisation.

Sri Pushkaraj Gumaste, Managing Director and Head of Coverage, Corporate

and Investment Banking Division – India, Barclays Bank PLC and an alumnus of SSSIHL then spoke on the topic, “Pathway to Lasting Success: The Golden Sai Way”. He said that SSSIHL set him up for success in life because the ecosystem here hones students to build inner qualities, such as patience, adjustment, team work, etc. These qualities are the ones that current employers look for today. He cited several personal interactions with Bhagavan Baba as a student and the lessons inherent in those experiences.

The morning session ended with a unique interactive item, Bhajan Antakshari, designed to test the underlying depth and variety that lies in Sai Bhajans. The rounds ranged from interpreting visuals to finding the most suitable Bhajans to testing the technical knowledge of the participants. Experienced singers and musicians also shared in detail the learnings they had from the Divine Master, Bhagavan Baba Himself.

During the evening session in Sai Kulwant Hall, following a summary of the morning session, there were two talks by students. The topics were: “Bhagavadgita” and “Thyagenaike Amrutatthwamanasu” (immortality can be attained only by sacrifice). This was followed by a talk by Dr. T. Ravi Kumar, Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry and Warden, Brindavan Campus on the topic, “Sai, the Essence of Sweetness”. He described how Baba, through His exchanges with students, taught them the essential spiritual teachings and lessons tempered with His sweet love and Divine vision.

In addition to these programmes, there were interactive sessions and Parayana Sessions on 9th and 10th June 2017, in which team discussions were held on



Bhagavan's Divine Discourses. In these sessions, teachers and students shared their personal experiences with Bhagavan Baba, bringing forth the invaluable lessons learnt by them.

Day 3 – Sunday, 11th June 2017

The valedictory session of the summer course began with the invocatory Veda chanting in Poornachandra Auditorium at 8.30 a.m. The first presentation was a Panel Discussion on "SAIence of Diet and Health: Ancient Wisdom and Modern Perspectives". It was a comprehensive presentation on the importance of traditional foods and the effect of different kinds of food on the human body. Scientific rationale was provided for the traditional food items prepared during festivals. The panelists also suggested diets that could help in curing commonly encountered health disorders. This was followed by a melodious musical presentation by the Department of Music, SSSIHL. It focused on unity and was aptly titled, "Sam Gacchadvam" (let us move together).

As is tradition each year, new faculty that joined the SSSIHL family were welcomed to the audience by Sri Sanjay Sahni, Controller of Examinations, SSSIHL. In addition, two long-standing senior Professors, Prof. (Miss) Madhu Kapani (Department of Education) and Prof. R Basavaraju (Department of Biosciences), who have now retired were felicitated.

Dr. S. Siva Sankara Sai, Dean, Faculty of Sciences, delivered the valedictory address. He offered a deep sense of gratitude to Bhagavan Baba for His love and blessings to all. He recalled an experience when Bhagavan Baba asked him to tell students to treasure this experience (of Him) inside their hearts. They must put into practice what they have learnt and only then will it be

beneficial to them, said Bhagavan. He then recalled the main events and lessons of the Summer Course 2017. Arati to Bhagavan Baba marked the conclusion of the Summer Course in Indian Culture and Spirituality.

PILGRIMAGE OF PRAKASAM DISTRICT DEVOTEES

More than 2,500 devotees came on a pilgrimage to Prasanthi Nilayam from Prakasam District of Andhra Pradesh to bask in the ambience of its sacred precincts. During this pilgrimage, they presented two beautiful dramas on 3rd and 4th June 2017.

The first drama entitled "Guruvey Daivam" (Guru is verily God) was performed by Bal Vikas children, Sai Youth and Deenajanoddharana children from this district on 3rd June 2017, which highlighted the role of preceptor in leading the students to Godward path through inculcating values in them and inspiring them to pursue the path of selfless service and sacrifice as taught by Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. Bhajans on this day, which followed the drama, were also led by the singers of Prakasam district, both ladies and gents.

On 4th June 2017, Bal Vikas children of this district presented a dance drama "Krishnam Vande Jagadgurum" (I worship Lord Krishna, the World Teacher). The



A dance number by children in the dance drama "Krishnam Vande Jagadgurum".



drama which began at 5.20 p.m. kept the devotees mesmerised for nearly one hour by the thrilling dances, expressive gestures and nimble footwork of the children. By all accounts, it was a superb presentation, portraying the divine childhood pranks of Krishna. Bhajans after this were also led by the singers of this district, which concluded with the Bhajan “Rama Kodanda Rama” in the golden voice of Bhagavan.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF YOGA

Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning conducted International Day of Yoga on 21st June 2017 in which more than 1,000 students performed yogasanas and Pranayama in Indoor Stadium as mentioned in the Common Yoga Protocol published by the Government of India.



Yoga performance by the students in Indoor Stadium.

Dasavatara, the ten incarnations of Vishnu – an innovative and brilliant performance through yogasanas and Mudras was presented by the University students. Students of Sri Sathya Sai Higher Secondary School presented a scintillating performance and surprised all by their excellence in yoga practices. A collective display of 30 yogasanas in 3 minutes; Kriyas – Jalaneti and Sutra Neti: show of advanced postures and reciting Nirvanashatakam in unison were the highlights of the programme. On this occasion, a new book titled “Sri Sathya Sai Ashtanga Yoga Prakashika” was released.

The Chief Guest, Sri Sanjay Sahni, then addressed the gathering and highlighted the international standard facilities such as Indoor Stadium that Bhagavan blessed and made available for the benefit of His dear students. Dr. S. Siva Sankar Sai, Dean Faculty of Sciences, SSSIHL, proposed the vote of thanks and also advised the students on the importance of practising yoga in daily life.

International Day of Yoga was also organised on the first floor of Satsang Hall at Prasanthi Nilayam Ashram.

POTENTIALITY OF YOGA

Devotee: What is the effect of yoga? How does it benefit?

Bhagavan Baba: Yoga is like fire; that is why the word “Yogagni” is used. It burns all sins away; so the Antahkarana (inner psyche) is rendered pure. When that happens, Jnana is born there. The splendour of that Jnana dispels the darkness of ignorance and delusion; that is liberation.

Devotee: Has yoga got so much potentiality?

Bhagavan Baba: Why ask if it has... It has. However learned a person is, however great his detachment, however deep his wisdom, unless he conquers his senses, he cannot qualify for Moksha. Without yoga, seekers cannot rid themselves of sin. Unless they clear themselves of sin, their Antahkarana does not become pure. Without a pure Antahkarana, Jnana cannot be acquired; and without Jnana, there can be no Moksha. So, yoga is the very foundation.

From our Archives

GOD IS THE TRUE GURU

It is the power of love that makes the earth rotate without the support of any axle. It is the power of love that holds the stars in their positions without falling down. It is the power of love that withholds the ocean from submerging the earth. It is the power of love that makes the wind blow over the seven worlds. This sacred love is eternal, most amazing and indivisible. That love is the life-breath of man.

(Telugu Poem)

MAN SHOULD GET RID OF ANIMAL QUALITIES

GOD IS LOVE. LOVE IS THE FORM of God. Lord Krishna declared in the Bhagavadgita: *Mamaivamsho Jivaloke Jivabhuta Sanathana* (the eternal Atma in all beings is a part of My Being). Just as God, the embodiment of love, showers His love on the entire world, man too should share his love with one and all.

The Guru is in the Heart

The state of non-dualism is contained in the principle of love alone. But man, being carried away by body attachment and physical relationship fragments his love in various ways. This cannot be called love in the true sense of the term. As Swami repeatedly stresses on the need to cultivate love, some people may wonder as to what the form of love is. The answer is, Love is God. *Prem Easwar Hai, Easwar Prem Hai* (Love is God, God is Love). Love is the fundamental basis of everything. Atma, Brahma, Hridaya, Uniki (existence) are synonyms of love. Love is Atma. Love is Brahma. Everything is suffused with love. Such being the case, how can anyone describe the form of love? The same principle of love exists in one and all. Once you understand this principle of unity, there will be no scope for hatred.

Today conflicts are on the rise because unity is forgotten. *Ekatma Sarva Bhutantaratma* (one Atma dwells in all beings), *Advaitam Brahma* (non-duality is Brahman). Bodies are different, but the same Atma exists in all. Give up the body attachment and strengthen faith in the spirit of oneness. It is only the body attachment that is responsible for evil qualities like anger, jealousy, greed, etc. Some people go to the temple of Lord Venkateswara and pray, "Swami, if you fulfil my desires, I will perform Brahmotsavam for you". Some others pray, "Swami, if my daughter gets married, I will conduct your Kalyanam" (marriage). Can there be a marriage for God? Does God fulfil your wish so that you may perform His marriage? With such prayers, people are trying to cheat even God. One should pray to God out of love, not expecting any favours from Him. Prayer born out of selfishness is no prayer at all. You should see Atma everywhere and think that you are in the company of God always.

Embodiments of Love!

Today you find agitation and unrest all over the world. The reason is that man lacks magnanimity. There is no expansion of love



in him, only contraction of love. Narrow-mindedness is man's own creation. God has given you a large heart. You are subjected to hardships because you are trying to limit the infinite Atmic principle.

Purify your Heart

Today we are celebrating the festival of Guru Purnima. Who is Guru? 'Gu' stands for Gunateeta (one who transcends the three Gunas). 'Ru' signifies Rupavarjita (one who is formless). There is another interpretation for the word Guru. 'Gu' signifies darkness and 'Ru' denotes that which dispels darkness. *Gukaro Andhakarasya Rukaro Thannivaranam* (one who dispels the darkness of ignorance is the Guru). So, God, who is attributeless and formless, is the true Guru. In the word 'Bhagavan', the letter 'Bha' stands for effulgence. An ordinary electric bulb illuminates only a limited area, but God who is all-pervasive illuminates the entire creation. Divinity shines forth in everybody. So, do not hate anybody. In this world, people are driven by hatred and narrow feelings. They go even to the extent of killing each other. What a

heinous crime it is! Hurting others amounts to hurting God Himself. Your hatred will certainly rebound on you. Today people derive demonic pleasure in causing harm to others without understanding the truth that one day or the other they will have to reap the consequences of their actions. Make others happy and you will certainly be happy. Today violence and murders have become the order of the day. Greatness does not lie in killing others, even an insect is capable of doing that. Greatness lies in saving lives.

Today is Guru Purnima. The real significance of Guru Purnima does not consist in worshipping the Guru (preceptor) with some offerings, but getting rid of the darkness of ignorance. Purnima refers to the full moon, but the full moon symbolises the mind filled with delight. There is close association between the mind and the moon. Guru Purnima signifies the elimination of all darkness and evil from the mind. The true Guru is in our heart. Purify the heart to let the Divine dwell in it.

Do not forget God. What you should forget is the mundane world. God is omnipresent in all forms, everywhere, as declared in the Purusha Sukta. It is foolish to search for God, who is within you and outside you. When Ramakrishna Paramahansa was asked whether he had seen God and could show Him to them, he replied: "I have seen God. But how can you see God if you don't pine for Him in the same manner in which you pine for your wife and children and wealth? Pray to Him, yearn for Him and be prepared to sacrifice everything for Him. Then you will experience the vision of God".

– **Excerpted from Bhagavan's Guru Purnima Discourses.**



MY JOURNEY WITH SAI

Brijesh Bamalwa

I have found the Sai Organisation to be the most suited platform for the higher purpose of life. Once we are committed to our own Self and attend to this as priority, Swami becomes more committed to us and takes care of everything. This, I have experienced in my life on many occasions. If we take one step towards Him, He will take a hundred towards us. But, we try to act smart with the Master by taking half a step and checking whether He comes 50 steps towards us or not! This does not work in spirituality. Surrender is either 100 per cent or zero per cent.

ALTHOUGH I HAVE NOT HAD much physical interaction with Swami, He has been there throughout my life and has verily carried me in His hands. I am but a small pebble amongst many in the river of His grace and mercy who has been smoothed and shaped, not because I was worthy of it but because He was gracious and compassionate to accept me with all the flaws and imperfections that I possess.

Coming into His Fold

Everyone has a unique and predetermined way of getting into His fold. If someone would ask me when and how I came into His fold, my answer would be that I don't know exactly! But yes, it happened because I believe that He willed it. And it happened through Bal Vikas. My maternal

grandfather, Sri Bajrang Lal Kulthia, was Swami's devotee since late seventies and was the Convener of Burrabazar Samithi of Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation in Kolkata. No one was a devotee of Swami from my paternal family. Since my childhood, I was more attached to my maternal family. The Burrabazar Samithi was just formed in late seventies and the Bal Vikas classes had started there. I was put into the Bal Vikas by my maternal grandfather in my early childhood and that is how began my journey on the Sathya Sai path.

Bal Vikas is the Foundation of my Life

Gradually, I developed deep attachment to the Bal Vikas classes, and the lessons in the form of small stories, plays, activities started to make deep and lasting impression on my inner core. I was so much devoted to Bal Vikas classes that I even rebelled against my paternal uncle at such tender age, who wanted me to stop going to the Bal Vikas classes. Swami's simple and small teachings had deep impact on me and I was ready to sacrifice anything to attend the Bal Vikas classes, and in due course completed the nine years course of Bal Vikas

Today I realise that Bal Vikas is not merely a form of informal classes consisting of some fun activities or likes. It has a greater purpose. I can say with conviction that had it not been for Bal Vikas, my life



would not have blossomed as it is today. Had it not been for Bal Vikas, I would not have acquired the skills and courage to face the challenges of life. The lessons in theory and practice that I learnt in Bal Vikas classes have always guided me and helped me in all my accomplishments in life. It is Bal Vikas that introduced me to my conscience and taught me to follow it even in trying situations; it is a lesson that has helped me sail through the toughest of times. I can only say that Swami shaped me with His invisible hands in the form of Bal Vikas classes and laid the strongest foundation of my life, unfolding the true purpose of life to me. He provided me with the education and orientation for life through Bal Vikas. Bal Vikas is indeed His unique gift to entire mankind.

My First Visit to Parthi

I had an urge to go to Parthi since 1988 and my grandfather would always stall on the plea of lack of proper accommodation and food facilities in Parthi for a child like me. I was then 12 years old. In August 1990, I came to learn that a World Conference was going to be organised in Parthi during Swami's 65th Birthday which was supposed to be a grand celebration. I wanted to witness the Lord's Birthday celebrations. My grandfather was going to attend the celebrations but he again refused to take me along citing the same plea. He further said that Parthi would be flooded with people and he himself was not sure of his arrangements for accommodation, etc. He was very firm. My dreams to witness the Lord's Birthday celebrations were shattered. I could not cry in front of him but tears flooded my heart. I went back to my home. Without talking to anyone, I rushed into one of the rooms,



switched off the lights and threw myself in one of the corners of the bed. Tears rolled down my cheeks unchecked and I was weeping inconsolably without being noticed by anyone. Prayers did not come up to my lips. Instead, I found myself casting my anger on Swami for not fulfilling my wish to visit Parthi for the last three years. I said all those things which an annoyed devotee would say. I knew that I had that right. I do not remember when I lost myself in the lap of sleep.

After a couple of days on a Sunday morning, my grandfather called me in his chamber. The State Education Coordinator was present there. I greeted her with Sai Ram. She told me that West Bengal had been granted an opportunity to present a drama during the World Conference at Prasanthi Nilayam. Given my good acting



skills, she wanted me to participate in the drama. My grandfather had now nothing to say. My joy knew no bounds. I had spoken so harshly to Swami and said what not. I had heard that He answers prayers, but witnessed for the first time that he also responds to righteous indignation! To my utter surprise, I was given the leading role of Sri Ramakrishna in the drama and started to prepare for it.

My first ever Darshan of my Lord had finally become a reality. When I saw Him for the first time, it was as if He was signalling, I am there to take care. Do not worry!

My Career Timed by the Master

I decided to study Chartered Accountancy and enrolled for it. Everything in the course was going on well until I failed in the intermediate examinations. It was a major setback as I had never failed in the past; I cleared it though in the next attempt which was six months later. I was now in the finals of the CA course. Examinations came. I appeared for them. The results were published. I had failed in the first attempt for the finals. I questioned how Swami could do this to me again? However, I started to prepare more vigorously for the next appearance. Out of the two groups, I only passed one in the second attempt. I was greatly demoralised. As my family has always been in business, I could feel that they expected me to give up the course and join the family business. I was not prepared for it but reluctantly started to engage myself in family business. In the next attempt, I somehow passed. Total marks I obtained were 200 which was the exact number required to pass. I had passed and become a CA. I could realise the divine play behind the marks. But the degree had come very late; late by almost three years! Who is

Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation has played a pivotal role in my life. It has in fact been the most important part of my life, even more important than my career! And I believe, contrary to the belief of modern youth, that I have been able to achieve greater heights in my career only because of my association with the Sai Organisation. I became associated with its activities after the Bal Vikas course and have been an active member of the Youth Wing.

going to give a good job to a CA who had failed thrice? I thought. I did not have any answer. I was at a loss.

Four months later, a very unique and one of its kind project was announced which was undertaken by the Accounting Research Foundation of the Institute of Chartered Accounts of India. It was about accounting reforms in the Kolkata Municipal Corporation. This project was also recruiting fresh CAs who had little or no experience. But the type of work was totally new and unique which was unconventional in the world of the profession of CA in Kolkata. The duration was three years. I applied and was called for an interview.

My CV included a “Diploma in Sathya Sai Education in Human Values”, the Bal Vikas course, as one of the educational qualifications. The interviewer somehow, instead of asking only technical questions engaged me in questions on human values and their application to profession of CA. Was it Swami who was again at play? I leave it to your imagination – I got selected for the project.



Now came the dilemma whether I should join it or not. My seniors and peers discouraged me by saying that if I worked on this project, I would remain away from the core profession of practising CA. Would this experience give you enough scope in future? The salary was also not very lucrative compared to core industry. I was totally baffled and confused. I decided to ask Swami. But how could I reach Him? Well, I wrote two pieces of paper, one with 'Yes' and the other with 'No' and did a lottery by surrendering to Him. The chit that I picked read 'Yes' and I joined the project without any further dilemma.

This project opened for me the world of international assignments which I had never dreamt of and shaped my career as an international consultant at a very young age. I then realised that in all that He was doing, His timing was perfect. While I was grudging and questioning Him on repeated failures in CA exams, He was planning my future. Had I cleared CA in the first attempt or at a later attempt, I would not have been able to join that project and would never have had such career opportunities. I learnt an important lesson: He knows the best. We should continue to do our duty with honesty and accept whatever happens or comes our way as His Will with full surrender to Him. For all that happens is His Will and He has assured that His Will will never take us to a situation where His grace will not protect us!

Sai Organisation in my Life

Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation has played a pivotal role in my life. It has in fact been the most important part of my life, even more important than my career! And I believe, contrary to the belief of modern youth, that I have been able to achieve

greater heights in my career only because of my association with the Sai Organisation. I became associated with its activities after the Bal Vikas course and have been an active member of the Youth Wing.

Bal Vikas cultivated my heart and implanted the seeds of spirituality in it, but it was the Sai Organisation that provided the required environment and platform to foster the plant of spirituality, develop spiritual strength and acquire the courage to tread the path shown by the Divine Master, Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. It has given me all that is required to face the adversities in life without any complaints but accepting them as His Will with full surrender. The Sai Organisation has played the role of a sculptor that has chiselled away the unwanted pieces to bring forth my real being. It has helped me to connect to my inner self and nourish my spiritual development which I consider as the most important asset and strength of my life, a master key for all locks!

Swami has gifted this Organisation to all for their own transformation. Had it not been required, He would not have formed it in the first place. So, I consider it as a bounden duty to myself and to Him to actively work in the Organisation. And I consider it as, if not more important, equally important as any other tasks and duties in life. Had it not been for my involvement and association with Sai Organisation, my life would have been meaningless. Human birth is given to realise higher purposes of life and not merely to eat sleep and make merry. I have found the Sai Organisation to be the most suited platform for the higher purpose of life. Once we are committed to our own Self and attend to this as priority, Swami becomes more committed to us and takes care of everything. This, I have experienced in my



life on many occasions. If we take one step towards Him, He will take a hundred towards us. But, we try to act smart with the Master by taking half a step and checking whether He comes 50 steps towards us or not! This does not work in spirituality. Surrender is either 100 per cent or zero per cent.

Testing the Master

Test is the taste of God, says Swami. But have we ever realised that if we accept His test with faith and instead test Him, He has no option but to come to our rescue! My Project Director at the Kolkata Municipal Corporation had arrived just for a day from Delhi to have important discussion with the team and wanted to meet me in the evening to discuss a report that he asked me to prepare in the afternoon. I was perturbed because as District Youth Coordinator I was asked by the District President to receive an important dignitary from Prasanthi Nilayam at the airport who was arriving by the 7.30 p.m. flight. The Project Director tasked me with report preparation and left for a meeting at around 5 p.m. to return at 7 p.m. Neither could I tell my Project Director that I had to leave nor could I refuse my District President at the last moment as I knew for sure that He wanted me to go personally. I realised that Swami was testing me. What should I do now? Let me test Him instead. I prepared the report by 6.30 p.m., handed it over to my colleagues and asked them to inform the Project Director that I had left for some urgent work. My colleagues were shocked. None could dare such an act and risk the job. They pointed out to me that he had come from Delhi for this very purpose and I was leaving without discussing with him? I replied that I would have to go. There was no other option. I left and quickly hired

a taxi. The traffic was bad. My heart was pounding as the watch was nearing 7 p.m. The Project Director would fire me! I did not have the courage to call my colleagues. It was 7.30 p.m. The flight must have arrived! What an embarrassment. I was surely late to receive the dignitary. I was still stuck in traffic. I called the airline and was informed that the flight was delayed. Now it was almost 7.45 p.m. I called my colleague. He said that the Project Director had called to inform that he was stuck in the meeting and would review the report next morning. I was at the airport before the flight landed. I did not pass in His test. He succeeded in His exam!

This is not the only occasion. There have been umpteen instances where He has demonstrated that He takes care of everything when we surrender fully with faith.

The Assignment Abroad

In 2007, I got an offer to join a consulting assignment in Kabul, Afghanistan. The offer was very lucrative but I was indecisive. If I go to Afghanistan, I would be detached from the Sai Organisation! I did not want to do that. The confusion was only getting worse. Should I let go of this opportunity merely for remaining involved in the Sai Organisation? Would any youth at the peak of his career think of the organisation to miss the choice of such an offer? I had almost decided not to go. Someone from the Organisation suggested to me to consult Sri Shyamal Sur, the then State President. He has been my role model and a great source of inspiration for he preached through practice and not merely by words. His example and straightforward understanding of the Sai principles have had great impact on me. I



went to him and expressed my dilemma. He was happy to hear that I wanted to stay back for the sake of the Organisation. But he advised me to go and accept the offer. He spoke with great conviction. He also assured that I would be able to remain associated with the Organisation even by being in Kabul as there were many tasks that could be done off-field!

I have been away since then but am still associated with the Sai Organisation in full measure. Swami has even ensured such an arrangement for me that I am in Kolkata for 50% of the days while the remaining 50% I spend in Kabul. If we have the sincere urge, He responds and also takes care.

Swami's Maha Samadhi

For many Sai devotees 24th April 2011 has been a very difficult day to accept and come to terms with the truth. But the spiritual strength and understanding that Swami had bestowed upon me, helped me to remain equanimous. Not that I did not want the physical form to be there forever, but, if we have really understood Swami, He is not that physical form only. He is that omnipresent, omniscient and omnipotent Lord who took this physical form for our sake, for our spiritual uplift. He came in this form to grant us courage and knowledge, not to make us weak! If absence of His physical form makes us weak, would it make Him happy?

He has proclaimed that all forms are His and all names are His. So, if we consider Him only to be that beautiful physical form, are we not trying to limit the infinite to one form and one name? Are we not trying to restrict and measure the immeasurable, which is nothing but an exercise out of our ignorance? Certainly this will not make Him happy. He has always wanted us to be happy, happy and happy. So, let us rise up and call ourselves graduates who have graduated from the university of Sai and have realised Him as omnipresent, omniscient and omnipotent Lord who is present inside us and all other beings! He has always been there and would always be there. We need to trust Him and have faith.

I am most humbled to pen down my learnings and realisation which is just an exercise to reinforce them deeper into my heart. I consider myself but a mere instrument like many others and a most ordinary child of the Lord who is ever grateful to the Master for His mercy and grace. The only way we can repay His debt is by leading the life on the path shown by Him and always keeping Him and His task as the most important priority in life, for this life is owned by Him. He is the Master and He is the Doer!

–The author is State Youth Coordinator of Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation, West Bengal.

Prayer has great efficacy. The Vedic seers prayed for the peace and happiness of all mankind, of all animate and inanimate things. Cultivate that universal vision.

– Baba

THE BLISS OF TRAVELLING THE SAI PATH

Padmashree Radhaswamy

Today the district youth activities have grown to a level when the youth are more involved in the activities than the leadership and I see the same confidence in them as they go about planning, making decisions – setting them apart from the rest of the milieu and giving them the much-needed leverage in both professional and personal life. This gives us great satisfaction. They have managed to build many levels of leaders too, each level guiding the other. They might be a few but they are of the right sort.

“**L**IFE WITH SAI IS AN ENDLESS hope and life without Sai is a hopeless end” is my most favourite quote for I have experienced this every day of my life!

I was fortunate to be introduced to Sai's love right from my childhood. At this point of my life, I fully understand what a blessing it is to have parents who show us the path to God and I am doubly blessed to have experienced the unconditional love of God! It is this blessing which has helped me stay on the path of Sai.

Experience of Swami's Love from Childhood

I would have been just two years old when my parents became devotees of Swami and so I grew up with the concept of a living God. This meant I did not have to go to a temple to pray to God! My God was available for contact anytime, anywhere; He was a helpline and would come to my rescue no matter what the situation. I realised

soon that my life was very different from my classmates and friends. There was this confidence about me – a confidence born out of the firm belief that God was with me.

I was an active Bal Vikas student in Chennai. In one of the first competitions held for Bal Vikas students in Chennai, out of the six prizes given away by Swami, two prizes came to our house. It is not winning in the competitions that is to be noted here but the kind of involvement in all the Sai activities in Chennai right from my parents to my siblings and myself. We loved attending Bal Vikas classes and our first Bal Vikas Guru by name Smt. Prema Jayaraman engaged us so well with activities and story telling that we tried our best not to miss the Sunday classes. She balanced strictness with love so well that we knew we could not compromise on discipline and yet we were sure about her love for us. She was probably an epitome of what an ideal Guru is expected to be by Swami. I think that was

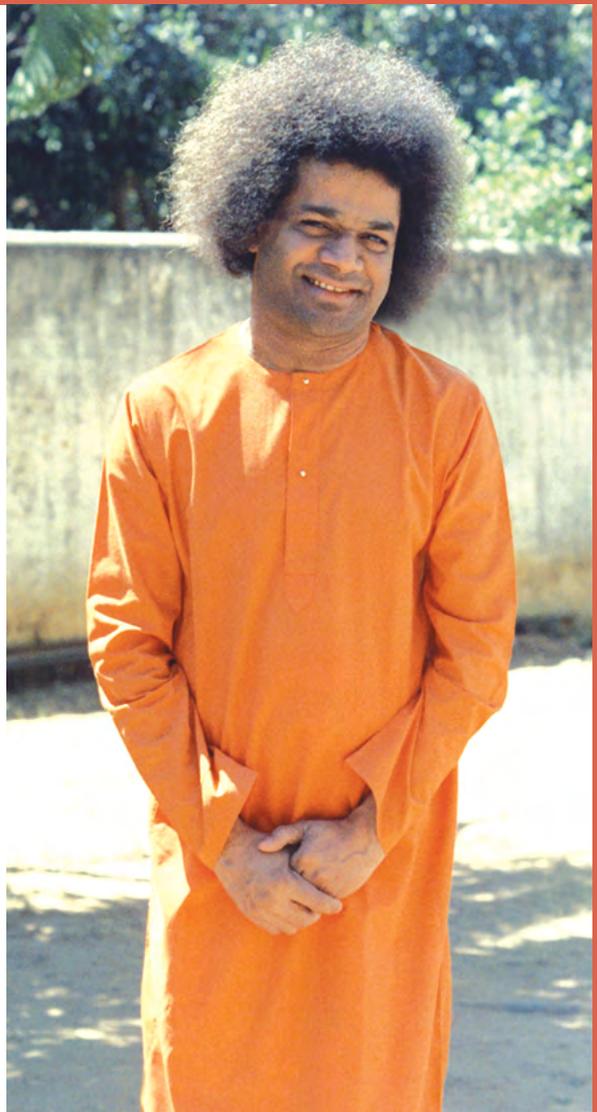
the beginning of a series of events that led my siblings and myself to be more and more involved in the Sai movement in India. Our holidays and free time was thus spent only in Sai environment.

Years passed by and after completion of my studies in Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning, I was married and had to move to Hyderabad from Puttaparthi. I was so attached to the physical form of Swami that I made sure I travelled to Parthi every second Saturday and Sunday and after a while they even became weekly visits. The minute I had got married, my involvement in Sai activities was restricted to only Parthi visits and occasionally teaching Bal Vikas students in the nearby Samithis some special Slokas like Ganesh Pancharatnamala. From the year 2002 onwards, as alumni members we started conducting medical camps and so on and one of the alumni members by name Sushma Kotagiri worked with exceptional zeal during these camps. We were drawn together by Swami and our involvement started increasing in Sai activities slowly and steadily.

Pray and He Answers

In 2008 / 2009, we were distraught by the sudden floods in Kurnool and other districts of Andhra Pradesh. Sushma and I wanted to hop into a car with some brooms and buckets in order to help people in Kurnool. We tried through disaster management team and others and everybody cautioned us not to go. One thought kept coming back to us: How can we just sit and not do anything when there is so much to be done? The fact is that despite these intense feelings, we could do nothing except rant about it.

Has Swami ever denied answering a sincere prayer? One has to only send



out an intense prayer and He responds immediately. Just two months later, I was instructed to meet the District President of Hyderabad who informed me that in keeping with Swami's instructions to appoint Sai students in leadership roles, the State Mahila in-charge of Andhra Pradesh, Smt. Vasumathi, had chosen me for the role of Youth Coordinator of Hyderabad district.

I accepted the offer with a little apprehension as I doubted my capacity to commit myself on a daily basis. I was however assured by the District President that Sai Organisation was a voluntary



organisation and as such people do not expect you to work 9-5. He also assured me that there were no targets to be achieved. This assurance eased my anxiety and I immediately gave my willingness to take up the sacred duty of representing Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation from Hyderabad.

I reached home and suddenly I realised that I being chosen to head the Mahila Youth Wing of Hyderabad district was a miracle of sorts. I was someone who was totally alien to the system. Nobody in the organisation knew who I was. I was immediately able to connect this entire event to my deep desire to be part of Kurnool floods disaster management group. Pray to Him and He gives you manifold times!

Work Begins on the Principles Laid by Swami

The biggest challenge on hand was to get to know who constituted the youth of Hyderabad. On the advice of Smt. Vasumathi, I went visiting the Samithis along with two other alumni members to address them and to identify Samithi level leaders. This was the path laid by Swami for identifying leaders at the Samithi level: Leaders should reach out to the team and not vice-versa. On a pre-decided date, we went visiting Samithis one after the other over the weekends. These visits were very fruitful for two reasons: 1. The youth got introduced to the leadership team at the district level and 2. By Swami's grace we managed to bring many youth girls on rolls and through technology we managed to stay connected.

The second advice given to us through Smt. Vasumathi by Swami was to assign work to the team members and train more and more youth to take up leadership roles. This was repeated so many times that it

was ingrained in us that our role was only to create more and more leaders by guiding the team members.

One of the first events that we did was a two-day workshop for final year students of undergraduate courses to make them ready for facing job interviews. We had sessions running to more than the capacity. The most gratifying outcome was that the youth involved emerged lot more capable in their organisational capabilities and the youth attending the sessions left the premises satisfied and confident.

The third instruction of Bhagavan which became our guiding force was not to seek funds from anyone for taking up activities, and we have always followed this. Our experience, activity after activity, has been that there is never any dearth of funds for activities taken up without a selfish motive. In fact, for some of the activities, we would never get any opportunity to contribute, try as we might. Especially on the day of the event, there would be many coming forward with their contributions. We also ensured that we took up those activities which were within our budget. The objective was to take up those activities which involved skill development and not any ostentatious show of gifting material things.

Inspiring Transformational Activities

The objective of all activities was transformation of the self and the beneficiary. One such activity that has thrilled us is the first batch of computer training in Microsoft Office. One of the youth girls involved all her non-devotee friends in the training process. It was summer holidays and the youngsters could have found a hundred and one ways to waste their time and lead a lethargic life. They would begin classes by 9 a.m. and reach the centre much before that to clean



up the place and light lamp near the altar. As the trainees were given rigorous training, they came out with flying colours. They were simultaneously given orientation in human values and most of them were shown job opportunities. Thus, we continued computer training for several batches of students with the same objectives.

On an average, we were able to reach out to about 500 youth each year through various activities taken up. The activities were organised for both youth within the organisation and outside. For many youth in the organisation who became devotees after Swami's Maha Samadhi, we conducted a few workshops on the teachings of Swami and what was expected of a Sai Sevak (servant). A lot of thinking went into deciding on the objectives and outcomes of the workshops and activities and so the satisfaction has been immense. This fore-thinking resulted in workshops like "How to Live Life Happily", "Good Parenting", "Food and Thoughts".

In one of the workshops when the participants saw the youth cleaning the vessels and plates, they were so inspired that they started cleaning their plates. Our actions having a positive chain reaction is something that we have experienced many times. Many of those who attended the training camps and workshops are now active workers in the organisation. They have taken part in Parthi special Seva and regular Seva and also volunteered in other activities at the Sai Centre.

Participation in Sai activities also assures the parents of youth that they are in the right and safe environment. Leaders should also make sure that there is good team bonding as this ensures the youth coming back to the centre not only for the activities but

also for enjoying good company. Leaders should encourage the youth to do some brainstorming about the activities to be taken up and ask the right questions so that their thinking is in the right direction. This will also make them more responsible. The youngsters should be given a chance to be in the front-speaking, organising and coordinating. If this is done, the organisation can become the best training ground for many youth. The attitudes can be shaped here. The confidence born here can make one achieve the unachievable.

Bal Vikas Gurus, Samithi leaders, district leaders and State leaders go a long way in shaping the future leaders of the organisation. I was blessed with all this and that is what has made me what I am today – love for Bhagavan, love for service and love for the organisation. Today the district youth activities have grown to a level when the youth are more involved in the activities than the leadership and I see the same confidence in them as they go about planning, making decisions – setting them apart from the rest of the milieu and giving them the much-needed leverage in both professional and personal life. This gives us great satisfaction. They have managed to build many levels of leaders too, each level guiding the other. They might be a few but they are of the right sort. Some of us might start very early in life like me and some might start a little late like those who joined after Swami's Maha Samadhi. When the inspiration for all this is Bhagavan and the path is the one laid by Him, life is bound to be beautiful. This small brigade will march forward seeking His blessings and I pray to Him fervently to shower us with more and more opportunities to serve Him.

– The author is an active Sai Youth from Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh.



Effulgence of Divine Glory

VISWARUPA DARSHAN

ONE DAY SWAMI THRILLED US with His declaration that He would bless us with His Viswarupa Darshan (Cosmic Form). We were all getting ready to accompany Him to the Chitravathi banks. But He gave us a strict warning: “When He descended the hillock after giving Darshan, none of us should go near Him and take Padanamaskar”. We reached the banks and then Swami left us. When we gazed at the hills, we heard His voice: “Kanapaduthunnana” (am I seen)? We were all spellbound on seeing our Lord as huge as the hillock. It was as if we were seeing a movie. I could see His Form only up to the chest. But those who were more devoted had the vision up to His Lotus Feet. My parents and an aunt had the complete vision.

My aunt Laliamma ran towards the hillock and fell, prostrating at Bhagavan’s Feet. Instantly, her body got reversed and she was almost dead. Her eyes were closed and she was perspiring profusely. Swami shouted: “Laliamma! Lai! Lai!” (get up, get up). She was unable to hear His shouts. Soon Swami asked for a glass of water. He sprinkled the water on her face and made her drink a little. He then manifested Vibhuti, smeared it on her forehead, and put some in her mouth. After five minutes, she gained partial consciousness. We helped her to get up. When we walked back to the Mandir with Swami, she had to be helped by two persons, holding her on either side. She was only semi-conscious, even after we reached the Mandir. She remained in that condition



for a couple of days without any energy and was sleeping all the time.

As soon as she became normal, we asked her as to what had happened. She had the experience of touching a live wire, as soon as she touched the Lotus Feet of Bhagavan. She received a direct violent shock and did not know what had happened to her after that. It was really a rebirth for her. Swami had given her a new life. Swami had correctly cautioned us not to touch Him. When the Light of all the lights in Him manifests, it is as we read in the scriptures – like a thousand suns rising at the same time. It will be intensely powerful. Perhaps Swami has to dematerialise His physical form to make visible the Divine Light pulsating as light energy in every cell of His holy body.

Antar Jyoti, Bahir Jyoti, Pratyak Jyoti, Paraatpara: Jyotir Jyoti, Swayam Jyoti, Atma Jyoti, Sivamyaham (the Light within, the Light without, the visible Light of both

continued on page 30...





MADHAV SBSS

SRI SATHYA SAI EDUCATION SYSTEM: ITS IMPACT ON OUR LIVES

*Yasyaprabhaavah Sutharaamagamyah,
Yasyaakrutih Poornadayamburasihi,
Anandado Yasyacha Drushtipatah,
Tam Sathya Sayeeshamaham Prapadye.*

(I take refuge in Sri Sathya Sayeesha, whose glory is beyond all comprehension, whose form is the veritable ocean of perfect compassion and whose glance bestows absolute bliss.)

– Prof. S.B. Raghunathacharya
(my late father)

How Swami ‘Drew’ me into His School

IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL MORNING ON a summer day of 1983. I was sitting in first row on the sand of the old Prasanthi Mandir. I was drawing the crown of Swami’s hair and face on the sand with my forefinger. Swami came for Darshan, briskly walked around the ladies side, and came to the men’s side. As He gently walked towards me, He stood there for a second and created Vibhuti (sacred ash) for a person sitting next to me. When I tried to stretch my palm out to grab some of the Vibhuti, Swami said, “No”!

A big ‘No’ indeed, but He called my parents for an interview that same evening. When I quickly walked towards the interview room, volunteers stopped me from entering the verandah. In the interview, Swami spoke to my parents about how I was drawing His pictures everywhere, even on the sand!

He then told them that He would take me into His Higher Secondary School. Swami also promised my parents that He would take care of me and mould me in the right direction. He asked them to come and check in six months. The next summer I appeared for the entrance exam, took the interview and was admitted into Sri Sathya Sai Higher Secondary School, the school of my life.

‘Art’ should Come from the ‘Heart’

Nowadays whenever I listen to an entrepreneur or an inventor speak, he or she stresses the importance of being passionate about what we do. Once in the year 1987, I got an opportunity to show Swami some of my sketches and paintings and He quickly said, “Nice; art should come from the heart”.

I did not completely realise what He meant at that time. However, after 15 years, I understand that Swami was talking about creation as a portal to one’s inner passion and love. I realise that any meaningful creation takes birth only out of passion flowing directly from the heart and the rest are mere pieces of work. In my own

Sri Sathya Sai Education System provides an excellent environment for one to shine in multiple dimensions. It provides top of the class education with current technologies and teaching methods. But even more importantly, it is a catalyst that encourages and sharpens one’s talents and interests in several other aspects of life besides imparting knowledge, including music, sports, arts, leadership, spirituality, discipline and community service.



experience, be it painting or programming, singing or running, it has become evident that to get great results one must put one's heart into it. Swami and Sri Sathya Sai Education System help a student grow in what he or she loves and does best.

Education in Human Values

For quite some time after graduating from Sri Sathya Sai Higher Secondary School, I wondered, "We do not need formal education on how to eat, walk or run. Why does Swami insist on Education in Human Values"? It only dawned on me as time passed by that Education in Human Values is the first and foremost aspect that must become part of every school's curriculum.

It is not enough if one has mastered various technologies or has performed extensive research in intricate aspects

of science, nor is it sufficient if one has memorised the Encyclopaedia Britannica or swam the seven seas. What is important is to build good character. Swami says 'The End of Education is Character'. A good character is developed when one tries to understand and practise the human values, namely, Sathya (truth), Dharma (righteousness), Santhi (peace), Prema (love) and Ahimsa (non-violence). A person devoid of these qualities cannot be considered as 'educated' in the true sense of the word.

It is important to note that many business schools in the West have now started to consider ethics as part of their curriculum since major corporate scandals and bankruptcies due to Management's unethical behaviour in the recent years have caused tremendous financial loss and mental agony to stakeholders. It is extremely hard to follow even one of the five values in our daily lives, anyone who tried hard knows. However, I find that if I try I am a happier person than I would be if I did not. So, I will keep trying.

Parents are the very Manifestations of the Supreme Being

"It is not parents, it is 'pay rents'," Swami says. In my experience it is true that parents are the very manifestation of the Supreme Being. My parents introduced me to Swami and admitted me in Sri Sathya Sai Higher Secondary School. They sacrificed their personal goals and enjoyment to support me and the rest of the family through ups and downs.

In the last four years, I lost both my parents but their love and the values they imbibed in me still remain. I look unto them as role models in bringing up our daughter. It is said in the Indian scriptures, *Matru*

Devo Bhava, Pitru Devo Bhava, Acharya Devo Bhava, Atithi Devo Bhava (revere your mother, father, preceptor and guest as God). I believe that from a young age inculcating the habit of respecting our elders and showing gratitude to people fosters love and humility.

Develop Love for God, your only True Friend

Swami says many a time that one's friends stay only when there is money in the wallet; once the fat wallet grows thin, friends are gone too! He goes on to say, "Your only true friend is God". God stays with you throughout, in your life's ups and downs. Many of us have the wrong notion that we must fear God. Swami says there is no need to fear God; rather consider Him your friend, for He is all Love. Love Him rain or shine. Swami says that Love for God, Fear of Sin and Morality in Society are three important principles that one must follow.

Follow your Conscience

Once I took some of my engineering college friends to Puttaparthi in 1994; Swami blessed us with an interview. In the interview, He asked my friend Harinath, "Boy, what is the meaning of discipline?"

Hari said, "Doing the right thing, Baba".

Then Swami asked, "What is the meaning of 'right'?" Hari was unable to respond with the 'right' answer.

Swami then clarified, "Follow your conscience; it will always tell you right from wrong. Don't follow your mind. Mind is like a mad monkey; it will never give you the right answer". Sri Sathya Sai Education System instils in students the fear of sin. In other words, it makes students think twice before doing anything that is against one's own conscience. If only we listen to our inner self, how pleasant the journey would be!

Value of Selfless Service

Swami says Manava Seva is Madhava Seva (service to man is service to God). Effectively, Swami has taken Jesus Christ's "Love thy neighbour as thyself" to its highest level. Students are constantly given the opportunity to contribute to service projects in nearby villages. This in turn provides a medium to kill one's ego. From what I know, Sri Sathya Sai Education is the first and the only one of its kind that provides students with ample opportunities to practise human values and honours students who excel in selfless service. Time and again, this valuable lesson has given me inspiration to participate in community service. Every time I participate in selfless community service, I have learnt humility and the work makes me feel pristine and powerful. Contradictory, you say? Just observe yourself carefully the next time you are in a selfless service activity.

Sri Sathya Sai Education System

The Sanskrit word Vidya literally means dispelling darkness. I had a classmate in one of my classes during MBA in the USA, who used to say, "The only reason I am here studying this stuff is because I can get a better pay when I am done with the degree".

I used to remind myself then of Swami's words, "Education is not for the purpose of merely eking out our livelihood but for taking our lives beyond the apparent". He points out to us that education is for life; it is only when our education assists and leads us on the right path that we can say we are truly educated. Having received several degrees in my life so far, I can say with confidence that I learnt a lot about human values only through Sri Sathya Sai Education System and it helps me in every single day of my life. I don't think aspiring for higher salaries



is bad. However, it should be at the bottom of the list; gaining knowledge, aspiring to put the knowledge for the betterment of society and gaining wisdom are far more important than mere financial gain.

Sri Sathya Sai Education System provides an excellent environment for one to shine in multiple dimensions. It provides top of the class education with current technologies and teaching methods. But even more importantly, it is a catalyst that encourages and sharpens one's talents and interests in several other aspects of life besides imparting knowledge, including music, sports, arts, leadership, spirituality, discipline and community service. This aspect of Sri Sathya Sai Education certainly is my favourite. It has allowed me to pursue my interests in painting, sports and studies with equal importance. I still continue to take part in sports, painting and Indian classical music. If not for early exposure and encouragement to such aspects at Sri Sathya Sai Higher Secondary School, I would have long discontinued them or never may have liked them to begin with. It helped me to get disciplined in daily life, stay focused and not let go of the goals until achieved. It has taught me to lead a simple life, aspire to make a positive dent in the world and above all be aware of the fact that spiritual wealth and Divine grace miniscule the mundane material treasures.

There are thousands of schools around the world, millions of students in pursuit of knowledge, hundreds of courses from cooking to coding, tens of labs that offer technology hodgepodge. Some offer Stock Exchange simulations and some even run Business Plan competitions. Some boast of their humongous endowment and others of their 21st century infrastructure. The Sai School is one among the rare; it imparts

training that strengthens one's character, it nurtures skills useful for life and weeds out qualities that hinder one's pursuit of Truth.

Discipline + Human Values + Self-confidence = Leadership

Swami says, "I want you to be leaders to protect the world, leaders like lions – self-reliant, courageous, majestic and just. The lion is the king of animals and I want you to be king among men". I think this applies to all of us in our professional as well as personal lives. To be a lion is to believe in one's self. Without self-confidence one cannot achieve anything in this world.

During the course of my study at Sri Sathya Sai Higher Secondary School, I was fortunate enough to lead in coaching younger students in studies and sports. I shared the honour of leading a team of sportsmen and athletes for the Annual Sports Day. The team I led was called 'Prema'. Not surprisingly, the other teams were named after the human values Sathya, Dharma and Santhi; it only tells us how much care and attention is paid to the human values in day-to-day life in Sri Sathya Sai Education System. Experience taught me that a good leader must possess extraordinary amounts of self-confidence, discipline and conviction in the five human values. Even with one of them failing, you may only be a 'great' leader but not necessarily a 'good' one.

'WATCH' yourself

In 1987, Swami created a watch for me and reminded me lovingly, as He always does with His students, the true meaning of the word 'Watch'. He also said, "Be careful, don't waste your time, time is of utmost importance". W: Watch your Words, A: Watch your Actions, T: Watch your Thoughts, C: Watch your Character, H: Watch your Heart.



Swamisays, *Manasyekam Vachasyekam, Karmanyekam Mahatmanam; Manasyanyath Vachasyanyath, Karmanyanyath Duratmanam* (Those whose thoughts, words and deeds are in perfect harmony are noble ones; those who lack harmony of these are wicked). In today's world, we often come across people who say one thing and do another. Sometimes, there is synchrony in thought and word but not action, or there is synchrony in word and action but not in thought. It is easy to be shallow and to say things that we don't mean. We must say what we think and then put into action or otherwise keep quiet. Saying something different from what we think is in effect breaking the first of the five principles, Sathya (Truth). We are only fooling ourselves when we think one thing, say something else and do some other thing.

Not merely Master of Sciences but also Master of Senses

Sri Sathya Sai Education stresses on the importance of self-control. Swami once said to me, "Use speed breakers when you get angry". I have got two Masters Degrees, one in Science and the other in Management. I had kicked off my Master of Senses programme while in Sri Sathya Sai Higher Secondary School and I am still working on

...continued from page 25

Para and Aparā, the Light of all lights, the natural light, the Light of the Atma – that auspicious Siva is me).

I used to analyse all this. How lucky we were to be the recipients of those Darshans! We were not devotees like Arjuna or Vidura or like Mira, Chaitanya, Thyagaraja and so on. The Lord can be realised in Krita Yuga by performing penance, during Treta Yuga by meditation, during Dwapara Yuga by

it. It is far from completion, I realise more and more that it's not a two-year or four-year programme but a lifelong one.

In summary, I personally love Sri Sathya Sai Education System and I have benefited a good deal from it. I think it should become a part of schools around the world. Some have already adopted it, and my hope is that others will soon follow suit. However, if you have a chance to send yourself or someone you love and care about to one of the Sri Sathya Sai Educational institutions then do it. Here are my top nine reasons:

(i) To be with Swami and learn from His simple yet profound teachings, (ii) to ignite the spiritual spark, (iii) to gain Education in Human Values, (iv) to learn and practise self-discipline, (v) to nurture your passion in education, sports, music, and/or arts, whatever you are good at, (vi) to have fun while you work hard to achieve success, (vii) to expose oneself to diverse cultures, to see and to practise unity in diversity, (viii) to enjoy music, music becomes part of you and (ix) to learn from great teachers, real Gurus who have sacrificed a lot for the sake of service.

– The author studied in Sri Sathya Sai Higher Secondary School, Prasanthi Nilayam from 1984 to 1989.

Yajnas and Yagas and in Kali Yuga just Namasmaraṇa is enough. We had not even taken the first step of Sadhana, and yet we were the chosen few for His benediction. How are we to express our gratitude to our Lord? Here is an instance where we were rewarded long before we really deserved it. Such is the immense Prema of our Lord!

– Excerpted from "Lokanatha Sai" by M.L. Leela.



NEWS FROM SAI CENTRES

FRANCE

ON 22ND MARCH 2017, SATHYA Sai International Organisation (SSIO) members delivered food and essential supplies to a warehouse in nearby Veurne, Belgium, for distribution to refugees in France. Subsequently, the volunteers transported fresh food, firewood, blankets, sleeping bags, camping gas, and other essentials to Steenberge and Norrent-Fontes in northern France. Four refugees from Eritrea, upon receiving the food and supplies, invited the volunteers to their tents and expressed their joy and gratitude. Despite the harshness of life in a refugee camp, they were thankful for freedom and liberty, and the loving welcome given to them.

HAITI

The SSIO began providing disaster relief after Hurricane Matthew ravaged the eastern peninsula of Haiti on 4th October 2016, home to about 1.4 million people, mostly farmers. Efforts began with a helicopter reconnaissance mission to the remote town of Jeremie, one of the farthest and most impacted areas, to assess local needs. Under normal conditions, the journey takes 12 hours by land from the capital city, Port-au-Prince. Based on this needs assessment, the SSIO distributed uncooked food supplies, filters for water purification, and seeds for the farmers, to help restore normalcy. Upon learning of the situation, SSIO volunteers from Trinidad and Tobago made haste to ship three large containers by sea to Haiti, filled with 3,000 boxes of supplies, with each box



Relief material for people in Haiti.

containing rice, beans, mixed vegetables, spaghetti, toothpaste and toothbrushes. These humanitarian relief operations were coordinated from "Sai Home", which has served as headquarters for previous disaster relief efforts in Haiti, dating back to the devastating earthquake of 2010. The Haitian government waived customs dues in view of the noble and altruistic intent of the SSIO. On 30th March 2017, with help from the local police, SSIO volunteers used two trucks to distribute food to the town of Duchity in the hills above Jeremie. Sathya Sai volunteers also distributed food to about 50 children in the ABC of Life School in the Delmas area of Port-au-Prince, and to 200 children in the Ecole Mixte de la Nouvelle Jerusalem School, in the Torcelle neighbourhood of Port-au-Prince. The SSIO has supported both these schools, where Sathya Sai Education in Human Values has been taught since 2011. On 2nd April 2017, Sathya Sai volunteers distributed 2,000 boxes of food in the hilly area near Jeremie. Each box also contained a picture of Bhagavan Baba.

ISRAEL

On 25th March 2017, the Institute of Sathya Sai Education (ISSE) of South Europe held its fifth Values Education





Values Education Seminar in Israel.

Seminar in the scenic and artistic village of Ein Hod, near Haifa in northern Israel. The event, which focused on Course 1 of the SSEHV programme, attracted 30 people, about half of them from the public. Sri George Bebedelis, Director of the ISSE of South Europe, delivered interesting lectures, and the participants discussed human values in the context of their respective faiths and cultures, including Judaism, Christianity, Islam and the Israeli culture. Thus, Sathya Sai Baba's teachings on unity and love were amplified in this holy land.

NEPAL

The SSIO of UK, in cooperation with the SSIO of Nepal, conducted healthcare camps in Nepal between 14th and 20th March 2017. Volunteers rendered medical services in Baluwa, Bharatpur, Pokhara, and Kathmandu, all of which had been badly affected by earthquakes in 2015. Sri Gagan Thapa, Union Health Minister of Nepal, inaugurated the medical camp in Kathmandu. During the camps, more than 8,000 patients received consultations and treatment in the specialities of general medicine, cardiology, neurology, dermatology, ophthalmology, minor surgery, gynaecology, paediatrics, ENT, orthopaedics, psychiatry, dentistry, optometry, radiology, pharmacology and



Healthcare camps in Nepal.

laboratory investigations. The SSIO of UK donated 30 St. Jude's heart valves to the Shahid Gangalal National Heart Centre in Kathmandu as part of the project, "Sai Hrudayam – Connecting Hearts", to treat impoverished patients. In a brief ceremony on 3rd April 2017, local SSIO leaders delivered the heart valves to the hospital. The Director of the hospital's Cardiac Centre expressed deep gratitude to the SSIO, saying, "No donation in itself is small. It is the intent that is more important". The director also expressed hope that this collaboration would grow and benefit many needy people of Nepal. The volunteers also installed new ultrasound scanners, ECG machines, mobile dental units, and ophthalmic equipment at the Sathya Sai Health Centres in Pokhara and Kathmandu. Sathya Sai volunteers served food to about 9,000 villagers and distributed 200 handmade baby packs, "Sai Bundles of Joy", to mothers of newborns.

RUSSIA AND ADJOINING COUNTRIES

Twice a year, volunteers from Zone 8 of the SSIO coordinate among regions in a day of serving food to needy community members. On 18th March 2017, 388 SSIO members from 74 Sathya Sai Centres





Feeding needy community members in Russia and adjoining countries.

and Groups located in 60 cities of Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Ukraine, Moldova and Kyrgyzstan offered food to the needy in churches, temples and at bus terminals, railway stations, homeless shelters, public avenues and underground passages. Inspired by this service activity, 31 members of the public and three children joined these groups in rendering service to a total of 1,394 people.

–Sathya Sai International Organisation

BHARAT

Gujarat: On 7th April 2017, sharp at 7.30 a.m., an Awareness Rally based on the theme – “Depression Let’s Talk” was organised by the Indian Psychiatric Society – South Gujarat Branch. The rally was flagged off by Dr. Daxesh Thakar (VC - VNSGU) from Athwalines, Chowpatty. The finishing line of the rally was Navdi Ovara, Nanpura.



Awareness Rally based on the theme – “Depression Let’s Talk”.

Along with 42 other institutions, associations, NGOs of Surat city, Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation, Surat also participated in the rally. State President (SSSSO, Gujarat) Sri Manohar Trikannad, District President Sri Parimal Vyas, along with other Sai devotees were present. The teachers of Sri Sathya Sai School too participated in this rally. Dr. Daxesh Thakar addressed the rally on how to overcome depression and gave away participation certificate to all the organisations and schools who took part in the rally.

Kerala: The programme of ‘Grooming for Excellence’ for the selected Bal Vikas children was conducted in all the fourteen districts of Kerala during April, May 2017. These were a three-day Bal Vikas Summer Camps, in which over 800 Bal Vikas children, 114 Gurus and about 100 youth took part. This programme which was started in 2003 is being conducted every year.

Odisha: The third Sri Sathya Sai Bal Vikas (Odia) Writers Meet was organised by Sri Sathya Sai Books and Publication Trust, Odisha on 11th June 2017 in Bhubaneswar, in which 20 writers from various parts of the State participated. Sri Parsurama Sahu, Convener, SSSBPT welcomed the participants and Sri P. Jagannath Prasad Rao, State President gave the inaugural address. Dr. Sudhansu Kumar Nayak, editor of the magazine, as well as that of Sanathana Sarathi (Odia) presented a historical view of Sri Sathya Sai Bal Vikas (Odia) since its inception in 1973 and its contribution to Sri Sathya Sai Bal Vikas Movement in Odisha. The writers discussed in detail the qualitative improvement of the magazine and steps to be taken for its wider circulation. The day’s programme, which started with Bhajan ended with Sarva Dharma prayer and Arati to Bhagavan.

EXCELLENT PERFORMANCE OF THE STUDENTS OF SRI SATHYA SAI EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

The students of Sri Sathya Sai Higher Secondary School and Smt. Easwaramma English Medium School, Prasanthi Nilayam performed exceedingly well in their 12th and 10th class examinations conducted this year by the Central Board of Secondary Education.

Out of 124 students of Sri Sathya Sai Higher Secondary School who appeared in the 12th class examination of the CBSE, 123 got first class, 119 passed with distinction and 49 students secured more than 90% marks. This year's school topper was Kumari V. Sai Rachna who secured 96.8% marks. In the 10th class examination conducted by CBSE, out of 88 students of Sri Sathya Sai Higher Secondary School who appeared in the examination, 66 students passed with distinction, getting CGPA of 9 and above out of 10 and 40 students passed with CGPA of 10 out of 10.

This year, 43 students from Smt. Easwaramma English Medium School appeared in the 10th class examination of CBSE and all of them passed, with 24 students getting distinction of CGPA 9 and above out of 10 and 11 students getting the CGPA of 10 out of 10.

In the 10th class examination conducted by ICSE, 34 students of Sri Sathya Sai Gurukulam English Medium Residential School, Rajamahendravaram appeared in the examination, out of which 32 passed in first class. The school toppers Sri K. N. Pawan Kumar and Sri S. Sai Kaushik secured 93.2% marks each.

The students of this school have always done exceedingly well in sports and cultural tournaments at district, State and national level as well. This year, the students of this school won 96 medals by participating in various sports and cultural events. Two students of this school represented the State of Andhra Pradesh in football at national level.



Sri Sathya Sai Archives building

ANNOUNCEMENT

Sri Sathya Sai Archives is a state-of-the-art facility built with the objective of preserving the precious messages of Bhagavan Baba for posterity. These are Audio Recordings (such as audio tapes, spools, cassettes and gramophone records); Video Recordings (such as – VHS/SVHS, Hi8, Mini DV and HDV tapes, BetaCam, DVCam Big and Small, Digi Beta, including 16 mm and 8 mm films); Images (photos and negatives - colour and black and white); and Manuscripts (letters, articles, poems, songs, etc., all written by Swami only). Currently we have a very impressive collection of the above. Many of them have been donated by devotees.

Before preserving these items in the custom designed vaults in the Archival building, they have been digitised. This facilitates to the content access in electronic form helping in spreading the message of Swami. Very few organisations in India and abroad are able to undertake this digitisation work as the necessary technology and equipment needed are no more available. With difficulty, few organisations have been identified who are willing to undertake this digitisation work. This digitisation work has been entrusted to Radio Sai Division.

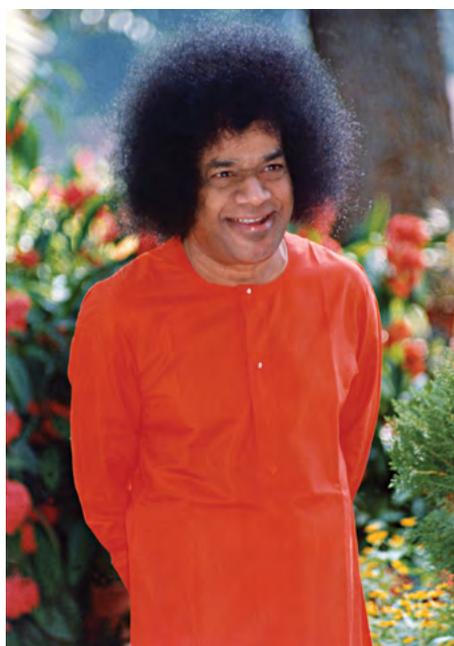
It is possible that many devotees may have in their personal possession some or all of these above items. This is to appeal to such persons to provide access to them for us to digitise the same. And if they so desire, we could also retain them for long term preservation with due acknowledgement process being followed.

Kindly get in touch with the undersigned for further clarification and details.

Prof. Sudhir Bhaskar
Director
Radio Sai Division

K. Chakravarthi
Member Secretary,
Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust

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About Sri Sathya Sai Sadhana Trust Publications Division (SSSSTPD)

On 1st January, 2009, Sri Sathya Sai Sadhana Trust (SSSST) commenced operations with four divisions; the Bhakta Sahayak divisions (one in Prasanthi Nilayam, Puttaparthi and another in Brindavan, Bangalore), the Publications division, and the Media division.

The Publications Division (SSSSTPD) caters to:

- 1) The publication and distribution of spiritual, religious, and educational Sai Literature and the production and distribution of audio and visual multimedia, photographs, calendars, and diaries for the benefit of visiting pilgrims and devotees all over the world. All the literature and publications are based on the teachings, philosophy, message, and values of Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba.
- 2) The publication and distribution of Bhagawan Baba's monthly spiritual journal - Sanathana Sarathi - in English and Telugu languages. Since 2011, e-version of the magazine is also released simultaneously and is available in the popular Interactive PDF format on www.sanathanasarathi.org.
- 3) Maintaining a reporting channel www.theprasanthereporter.org, which covers all the major activities taking place in Prasanthi Nilayam, and publishing an e-newsletter 'Sai Spiritual Showers'- for free distribution.
- 4) Providing library and Reading room for visiting devotees, with a very large collection of books written by Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba and books on Bhagawan besides various spiritual and religious books.

Get Sanathana Sarathi

On Sanathana Sarathi official website – www.sanathanasarathi.org – subscribe for paperback and e-versions. Single monthly editions are also downloadable in English and Telugu languages at <http://bit.ly/sarathienglish> and <http://bit.ly/sarathitelugu>.

Other Books By SSSSTPD (In English)

1. Sai Sathya Sakha
2. Summer Showers In Brindavan, 1972
3. Satyopanisad I
4. Satyopanisad II
5. Gurudev
6. Namasmarana
7. Bhakthi And Health
8. Life Is Love, Enjoy It!
9. Life Is A Challenge, Meet It!
10. Life Is A Dream, Realize It!
11. Bhagawan And Bhakta
12. Body And Mind
13. My Dear Ones
14. Sevalad
15. Silence
16. Suffering
17. Surrender
18. Atma
19. Do You Know
20. Gopikas Of Brindavan
21. Gratitude
22. My Beloved Ones
23. Only Love
24. Purity
25. Memoirs Of A Sai Student
26. A Journey To Self-Peace
27. Dharma
28. Guru

29. Karma
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32. Peace
33. Simple Truths
34. Nama Mahima
35. Divine Vibrations
36. Guidelines To Active Workers
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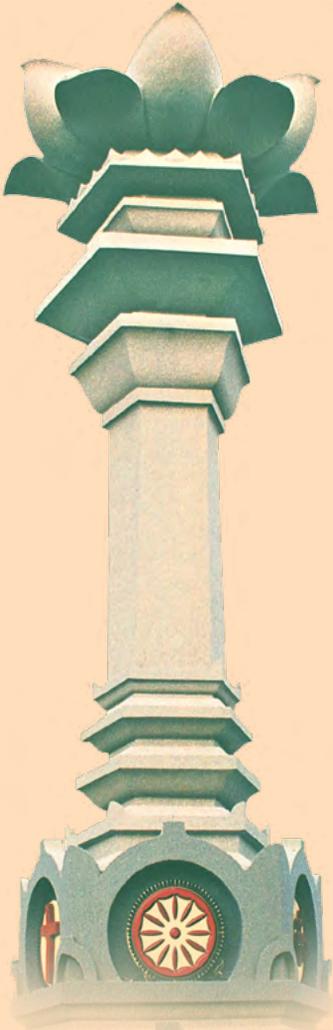
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are

1. Sri Sathya Sai Publications – www.srisathyasaipublications.com
2. Sanathana Sarathi – www.sanathanasarathi.org
3. Sai Reflections – www.saireflections.org
4. The Prasanthi Reporter – www.theprasanthireporter.org

REGD. WITH REGISTRAR OF NEWSPAPERS R.NO.10774/1958 REGN.NO. HDP/002/2015-2017
LICENCED TO POST WITHOUT PREPAYMENT No.PMGK/RNP/DLGS/Sanathana Sarathi

Date of Publication: 1st July 2017



Cultivate Morality

Excessive wealth carries with it many dangers. Human values are forgotten by the affluent. As long as there is wealth, the evils resulting from it are not realised. It is only when it is lost that one begins to realise one's follies. It is better to be forewarned and learn to lead a righteous and upright life from the beginning. Wealth may come and go. Morality is what one should cultivate. What is morality? It is right conduct in accordance with time and place.

– Baba

Annual Subscription English (12 issues)

India ₹ 75. Nepal, Bhutan and Sri Lanka ₹ 600.

Other Countries ₹ 850 or US \$19 or UK £13 or €13,

CAN \$22, AUS \$26. Acceptable for 1, 2 or 3 years.

Payment for print and electronic editions can be made online through our website: www.sanathanasarathi.org or through conventional methods such as M.O. or D.D. or Personal Cheque to **The Convener, Sri Sathya Sai Sadhana Trust, Publications Division, Prasanthi Nilayam - 515134. A.P., India.**



Printed by K.S. RAJAN Published by K.S. RAJAN On behalf of the owner Sri Sathya Sai Sadhana Trust, Publications Division, Prasanthi Nilayam 515134, Anantapur District (A.P.) And Printed at M/s Rajhans Enterprises, 136, 4th Main Road, Industrial Town, Rajaji Nagar, Bengaluru - 560044, Karnataka And published at Sri Sathya Sai Sadhana Trust, Publications Division, Prasanthi Nilayam 515134, Anantapur Dist., Andhra Pradesh.

Editor: G.L. ANAND