

Sai Creatives



सर्वमङ्गलमाङ्गल्ये शिवे सर्वार्थसाधिके
शरण्ये त्र्यम्बके गौरि नारायणि नमोऽस्तु ते



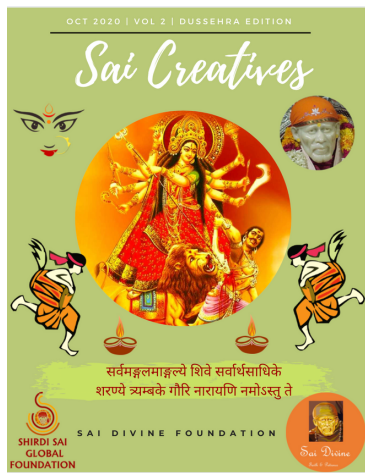
SHIRDI SAI
GLOBAL
FOUNDATION

SAI DIVINE FOUNDATION



Sai Divine

Faith & Patience



CONTENTS

1 EDITORIAL

Rajnish Mittal

2 GURUJI'S MESSAGE

Dr. C.B Satpathy

3 NARAYANA TATTVA

Sasmita Mohapatra

4 SHIRDI SAI BABA MAHASAMADHI

Aakrish Mittal

5 DOCTOR OF DOCTORS

Sayin Alahari

6 TRUE MEANING OF FAILURE

Aaditya Panigrahi

7 SAI SANDESH

Sampriti Senapati

8 MERE SAI

Ayesha Satpathy

9 FAITH AND PATIENCE

Sanjeeb Panigrahi

10 THE INFINITE LOVE OF BABA

Sai Alahari

11 BABA'S KIDS

12 BABA ORCHESTRATED THE PATH TOWARDS GURUJI

Deepak Varshane

13 DEVOTEES' EXPERIENCES

14 MY EXPERIENCES WITH SAI BABA

Sangita Sarangi

15 BLESSINGS OF SAI BABA

Anupama Mohanty

16 EXPERIENCES WITH SHRI SHIRDI SAI BABA

Ashok Kumar Senapati

17 SADGURU SHRI SAINATH

Shaswati Samal

18 THE TWO LIZARDS

Sanvi Nayak

19 BABA SE FARIYAAD

Dr Archana Patanaik

20 OM SAI RAM

Padmaja Puppala

21 BABA'S SUBTLE MESSAGE

Narayana Chikkala

22 SAI'S GRACE

Dr. Kamalakanta Das

23 NEWS & EVENTS

24 GURU PRAARTHANAA

EDITORIAL



Vijay Dashami mark the day when good triumphed over evil, and humility destroyed overconfidence. This day, we all celebrate every small thing in our lives and pray for loved ones' well-being. This Dussehra, Sai Divine Foundation, thank all for the love and support you have shown towards the first edition of "Sai Creatives" – kids edition. It is because of your love and support we humbly present you the second edition of "Sai Creatives" – Vijay Dashami edition.

The world is going through a pandemic, and many of us have shared some solemn moments this year. Sai Divine Foundation presents you with the Sai Creatives Magazine – Vijay Dashami edition to uplift the negativity and brighten your day. Work from all age groups has been put together. This magazine compasses a broad spectrum of thoughts and creativity. It provides a fascinating perspective on how we perceive this world or the general world. The kids have come through again with their creative minds, but this time the adults have also produced some remarkable work of literature. As I read through the articles from both adults and kids, I am amazed to see how much I could learn from both age groups.

Sai Divine Foundation, Dallas has always believed in spreading the words of Sai Baba and Pujya Guruji Dr. C.B. Satpathy. We often do that by organizing daily zoom meetings and read sacred texts like "Guru Bhagwat" and "Sai Satcharitra". These kinds of discussions have us connect to people from all over the globe, allowing them to put forward their thoughts on how they understand Sai Baba's and Guruji's teaching and how they apply it to their own lives. One positive out of the pandemic is that many of us got the free time that we never got before to read and discuss these but, at the same time, allowed us to get closer to our family members. I believe everyone would agree if I say that in this dark moment, Baba, Guruji, and our family members have played a significant role in uplifting our lives and giving us the hope that everything will be better. This magazine is a testament and a homage to all the teachings of Sai Baba and Pujya Guruji and how it has played an essential role in keeping us positive. As Pujya Guruji once said, "Do not ponder over negative thoughts as this is infectious, which get into the system. Keep negative thoughts out of your being." and that is precisely what this magazine aims to achieve.

Apart from engaging in cultural activity, Sai Divine Foundation also believes in helping the community and those in needs. This pandemic has shown the vulnerability in our community, and it is our duty to send support to those unfortunate communities. By the time this magazine will be published, Sai Divine Foundation would have donated close to 100 food items to the Salvation Army Plano, who make sure that the donations reach to those who are having a hard time having a decent meal.

On behalf of Sai Divine Foundation, Dallas, I would like to wish you and your family happy Vijay Dashami and I pray to Sai Baba and Guruji for keeping you safe and healthy, and with that I would like to end with this quote from Ramayana - "The fragrance of the flower is never borne against the breeze; but the fragrance of human virtues diffuses itself everywhere."

Jai Sri Sai . Jai Gurudev

Rajnish Mittal
Editor, Sai Creatives

Dussehra Message 2020



This year, the holy day of Dussehra falls on the 25th October, Sunday. For all the Sai Devotees it is an auspicious day as it is the Mahasamadhi day of Shri Shirdi Sai Baba, besides being the day of Dussehra. Till last year Dussehra used to be celebrated in temples and by devotees with pomp and ceremony. However, this year it is not going to be so. The effect of the global pandemic Covid-19 has so comprehensively affected our society that all functions and activities of the temples have been altered to contain the Corona pandemic. Such changes have been instructed by the central and state governments and the municipal, civic and police authorities.

In this context, my instructions dated 19th March, 21st March and 7th June 2020 are extremely relevant as they indicate the actions to be taken when the local authorities permit the opening of temples. During Dussehra, the Shirdi Sai Baba temples like other temples have to follow the instructions of the concerned authorities in letter and spirit. The observation of such instructions is essential in order to lessen the contamination of Corona and arrest its further spread. Instructions regarding the opening of temples may vary from state to state and place to place depending on what the authorities permit.

Usually, during Dussehra day hundreds of devotees visit the temple during the four 'aartis'. However, it is difficult to allow a large number of devotees to conglomerate these days as social distancing, hand sanitisation and use of masks is a must for saving oneself from Corona.

Thus, those who cannot get the benefit of worshipping Baba in the temples should worship Baba at home, read Shri Sai Satcharita, do 'Naam Jap', offer prasad to Baba and perform all the four 'aartis' on this day, if possible. Those who get permission to enter the temple premises should wear a mask, maintain social distancing and avoid physical contact like hugging and shaking hands with other people. They should cooperate with the temple authorities and follow the instructions of the governmental bodies. Earlier many people used to offer poor feeding, langar, distribution of clothes to the poor and the needy in temples. Under the present conditions, it may not be possible and desirable to do so. They can, therefore, donate such amount to temples which can carry on with such activities on their behalf with due caution later, in a better situation.

Remembering the magnificent spiritual personality of Baba and the noble deeds performed by Him for the cause of humanity, the devotees can share such interest with each other through social networks (through different applications on internet). We should pray Baba to give relief to those affected by Corona and bless all to remain Corona free.

Jai Shree Sai.

Dr. C. B. Satpathy
Gurugram, India

Narayana Tattva

Sasmita Mohapatra,
Allen, Texas

A clear night sky offers an ever-changing display of fascinating celestial objects to see — stars, constellations, and bright planets, often the moon, and sometimes-special events like meteor showers. The stars visible to the unaided naked eye appear as hundreds, thousands or tens of thousands of white pinpoints of light with some faint nebulae or clouds of light. In essence, all the matter we have ever seen - from the stars overhead to Milky Way galaxy - makes up less than even one percent of the universe. Our galaxy, the Milky Way is visible from Earth as a hazy band of white light, includes 30 constellations, some 30° wide, arching across the night sky. Notice, the universe around us appears to be orderly and symmetrical; the stars or planets or any celestial object rotate perfectly in their orbits; our body possess complex circulatory, respiratory, digestive and several other systems in perfect order; even the atoms are highly structured. All this suggests that the universe was created not by chance, but there is a beautiful thought by a supreme being. The Big Bang Theory, The Red Shift (by Edwin Hubble), An Expanding Universe (by Stefan Hawkins), The Steady State Theory (by Fred Hoyle), The Plasma Universe and Little Bangs (by Hannes Alfvaan) are some of the very popular and widely accepted theories of the creation of the Universe. Hinduism includes a range of viewpoints about the creation of Universe, origin of life, evolution. There is no single story of creation, due to dynamic diversity of Hinduism, and these are derived from various sources like Vedas, some from the Brahmanas, some from Puranas; some are philosophical, based on concepts, and others are narratives. Here we will discuss the creation of the Universe based on Narayan Tattva as discussed in Gopya Ru Agopya (GARG) by Guruji Dr. C.B.Satpathy (page 191).

Our scriptures (such as GopyaRuAGopya, Rig Veda) mentions Hiranyagarbha (हिरण्यगर्भ) ("hiranya = golden or radiant" and "garbha = filled / womb") as the source of the creation of the Universe. It also mentions the Hiranyagarbha (literally, golden embryo/womb/egg) existed before the creation. It is associated with the universal source where the whole of all existence is believed to be supported.

According to the GARG, the universe existed in the beginning as a primeval matter floating in the void (non-existence) in the form of an egg (Hiranyagarbha). By some process, it exploded probably with an incredible sound (big bang) into galaxies, stars, planetary bodies, gaseous substances, infrared radiation, individual molecules and other cosmic energies. Within seconds, the fireball ejected matter/energy at velocities approaching the speed of light. Later—maybe seconds later, maybe years later—energy and matter began to split apart and become separate entities. Because of this inflation, universe starts expanding and losing its temperature. All of the different elements in the universe today developed from what spewed out of this original explosion or inflation. The incredible sound, we call 'NAAD', Naad is understood by the term AUM the divine sound or vibration or the Consciousness. As of GARG, when the golden egg exploded, the initial thrust known as Adi Shakti was spread in the form of 'Nar' dhatu.

This 'Nar' dhatu is creator of Nara, Narada, Narayana or Purusha. Nar Tattva keeps rotating in the sky in spiral form being the main energy behind creations of galaxies, nebulae, stars, planets etc. Universal mind creates space or akasha, from space, air is created and the vibration of air creates energy or agni. Agni or fire reacts with air to create water and water dries to create the earth element. These five elements react with each other to create other subtle elements. Which in turn creates various Anu or Atoms and Paramanu - nuclear particles. These anu or atom then condense to create Solar Systems. Each Sun has an Earth, Planets, and life blossoms.

'Nara' (Sanskrit नार) means 'water' and 'man'.

'Yana' (Sanskrit यान) means 'vehicle', 'vessel', or more loosely, 'abode' or 'home'.

The waters are called narah, (for) the waters are, indeed, the offspring of Nara; as they were his first residence (ayana), he thence is named Narayana. 'Narayana' is also defined as the 'son of the primeval man', and 'Supreme Being who is the foundation of all men'. He is one who is in yogic slumber on the celestial waters, referring to Lord 'Maha Vishnu'. He is the Supreme Purusha of Purusha Sukta. Another important translation of Narayana is The One who rests on Water. He is also named as Shantakara (embodiment of peace), Vishwadhara (Sustainer of all things), Padmanavha (Who has a lotus flower coming from his navel, from which Lord Brahma was born) because of various roles in the creation of universe.

In Sanskrit, "Nara" can also refer to all human beings or living entities (Jivas). Therefore, another meaning of Narayana is Resting place for all living entities. The close association of Narayana with water explains the frequent depiction of Narayana in Hindu art as standing or sitting on an ocean or sleeping on serpent Vasuki. It is the spiral motion of the galaxies that gives an impression of Serpent Vasuki. He is described as having the divine blue color of water-filled clouds, four-armed, holding a Padma (lotus flower), mace Kaumodaki, Panchajanya shankha (conch) and a discus weapon Sudarshana Chakra. Sudarsana chakra symbolizes celestial time, the mace destroys any kinds of hurdle, lotus the symbol of life, and conch is the symbol of naad or omkara. He is also described in the Bhagavad Gita as having a 'Universal Form' (Vishvarupa) which is beyond the ordinary limits of human perception or imagination. Narayana, the Source of all things, the Eternal, the Unchangeable, the Creator of all things, and the Destroyer of all. He is Vishnu, Brahma and Shankra, the chief of the gods. Narayan Shakti keeps revolving like chakra, also works in three forms: Brahma is a part of the trinity of gods that also includes Vishnu and Shiva, who are responsible for 'preservation' and 'destruction' (of the universe) respectively. Shree Saraswati, Shree Laxmi and Parvati work as their better halves or the source of their energy. While Vishnu is taken to mean one who is omnipresent, Nārāyana can have at least three different meanings, one who is the refuge out path of all humans, one whose residence is in all humans and one whose residence is in the waters. The term can also mean as He who, having become first the Creator, has come to be considered as the womb of all objects.

Narayana's eternal and supreme abode beyond the material universe is Vaikuntha, which is a realm of bliss and happiness called Paramapadha, which means final or highest place for liberated souls, where they enjoy bliss and happiness for eternity in the company of supreme lord. Vaikuntha is situated beyond the material universe and hence, cannot be perceived or measured by material science or logic. Sometimes, Ksheera Sagara where Narayana or Vishnu rests on Ananta Shesha is also perceived as Vaikuntha within the material universe.

The story of creation of universe described in GRAG is same as that of the Big Bang Theory. According to Big Bang, in the beginning a “Black hole” apparently got inflated. Black holes are the areas of intense gravitational pressure. In science, these zones are often called as singularities. Because of this inflation, universe starts expanding and losing its temperature. After approximately few million years, the first atom (Hiranyagarbha) comes into existence. The initial thrust given by the big bang continues until date and the universe is in a state of expansion. One day this phase of expansion will end and the universe will start withdrawing into itself to become a big black hole suspended somewhere in the form of an egg (Hiranyagarbha). With that, one cycle of creation, expansion and dissolution of the universe might ends.



Shirdi Sai Baba Mahasamadhi

Aakrish Mittal
Plano, Texas



Shirdi Sai Baba is revered as one of the greatest and most generous saints in the history of the Indian spiritual narrative, constantly delivering notable and powerful teachings to his disciples and helping everyone he could in any way possible. Rumored to have been born in 1838, Sai Baba lived an extraordinary 80-year life of altruistic thoughtfulness and philanthropy. His miracles stunned many and perplexed others, yet no one ever left his Dwarkamai without becoming a devotee of his and his truly unimaginable power. However, Baba took his mahasamadhi on October 15th, 1918 on Dussehra - the final day of a period in Indian religious history known as Sharad Navratri - after living such a virtuous life in Shirdi. Sai Baba didn't leave without giving us his teachings, though, as his teachings are an essential element of his message on divine connection and humanitarian behavior. Baba's teachings have lived in his legacy, as many of his devotees follow his scriptures on a daily basis as a guiding force in how to live a truly sustained and spiritually elevated life, and as such can do the same as we cross the bridge of life with Sai Baba by our side.

"Sabka Malik Ek"
"Allah Malik"
"Shraddha aur Saburi."

Doctor of Doctors

Sayin Alahari
Plano, Texas



Dr. Pillay was a very loyal devotee of Baba. Baba was really fond of Dr. Pillay too. Baba spoke to him casually and always wanted him by his side. Later, Dr. Pillay was suffering badly from guinea-worms. The pain was unimaginable.

He said to Kakasaheb Dixit, "The pain is so excruciating and unbearable; I prefer death to it. I know this pain is to repay my past Karma, but please go to Baba and tell him to stop the pain and transfer the repayment of my past Karma to ten future births of mine." Dixit went to Baba and told Him of Pillay's request. Then Baba, moved by his request, said to Dixit, "Tell him to be fearless; Why should he suffer for ten births? In ten days, he can work out the suffering and consequences of his past Karma. When I am here to take care of his temporal and spiritual welfare, why should he pray for death? Bring him here on somebody's back and let us work and finish his sufferings once and for all."

Dr. Pillay was brought in that condition and was seated to the right of where Baba was seated. Baba gave Pillay His pillow and said, "Lie calmly here and be at ease. The true remedy is that the results of our past actions have to be suffered through. Our Karma is the cause of our happiness and sorrow; therefore put up with whatever comes to you. Allah (God) is the sole Dispenser and Protector—always think of Him; He will take care of you. Surrender to His feet with body, mind, wealth and speech, and then see what He does." Dr. Pillay told Baba that Nanasaheb had put a bandage over the leg, but he had gotten no relief from this. "Nana is a fool!" replied Baba. "Take that bandage off or else you will die. Now a crow will come and peck you and then you will recover."



While this conversation was going on, a man named Abdul who cleaned the Masjid, turned up. While he was attending to his work of cleaning, his foot accidentally fell upon Dr. Pillay's stretched-out leg. The leg was already swollen and when Abdul's foot fell upon it and pressed it, all the seven guinea-worms were squeezed out at once. The pain was unbearable and Dr. Pillay bawled out loudly. After some time, he calmed down and began to sing and cry alternately. Then Pillay enquired when the crow was coming and when it was going to peck him. Baba said, "Did you not see the crow? He won't come again; Abdul was the crow. Now go and rest in the Wada and you will soon be alright."

By the application of Udi, drinking it mixed with water and without taking any other treatment or medicine, the disease was completely cured in ten days, as predicted by Baba.

From this story we know that Baba can cure any disease for all his devotees including a doctor.

True Meaning of failure

Aaditya Panigrahi
Plano, Texas

“A person who never made a mistake never tried anything new”, these were the famous words from none other than Albert Einstein. Failure is a core aspect of life that defines our actions which indirectly defines our future. Throughout the years, the word failure has been given a negative connotation and anyone who is associated with failure has been negatively affected by the society. It is my personal believe that failure is a positive attribute of life and is the necessary fuel to succeed.

Thomas Edison, inventor of light bulb, faced a lot of failure. There were numerous iterations that Edison had to go through in order to finally create the first light bulb. It is my opinion that, in order to invent something, one must first go through a series of failure and must learn valuable lessons from those failure. In a sense, failure is a learning opportunity that shows our weakness and gives us a chance to correct the wrong. In aerospace industry, before any aircraft is sent for production, multiple prototype of the aircrafts are built and are subjected to a series of tests. The main goal of these tests is to break the aircraft and expose design flaws that could cause fatal accidents if not corrected. For example, Concorde, or TU-144, was the Russian version of the Anglo-French Concorde. In the height of the cold war, soviet's scientists decided to bypass critical tests so that they can get the title of designing world's first supersonic passenger jet aircraft. Even though they achieved the title, TU-144 was not the safest aircraft compared to Concorde. TU-144 suffered from major design flaws which were never tested and soon became an embarrassment of the soviet engineering. Failure should not be a factor that should be ignored or be ashamed of, instead failure should be the critical focus so that appropriate measure can be defined which would enable someone to succeed in their tasks. In research world, failed experiments are given the highest importance than the successful ones. By identifying the failures, the researcher can come up with an equation that would give physical meaning as to how to avoid the failure. For example, we all know that force is equal to the mass times acceleration. But there is another way to look at that same equation, force over mass equals to acceleration. Now basic math dictates that in order to provide a non-zero value for acceleration, the force and the mass cannot be zero, moreover the equation would fail if the mass is zero. Therefore, a conclusion that be constructed that mass can never be zero when it is experiencing a force. Extrapolating failure from a mere equation is one of the main reasons why I choose aerospace engineering. Another example that showcase the importance of failure is material testing. In material testing, a conclusion is only drawn when the material fails at a particular load. This failure helps engineers to establish the definition of that material's application. All in all, the point that I am trying to make here is that failure provides an opportunity for an individual to grow further and explore things that assures success.

As a freshmen student failure was never an option. I always frowned upon other people who failed their classes. But as I started seeing the ground reality, I soon began to develop respect for those who failed but never gave up. My idea on failure, surprisingly, was influenced heavily by this show, “Star Trek: The Next Generation”. The main character, Captain Jean-Luc Piccard of the USS Enterprise, often portrayed role of a captain who achieves diplomacy through this knowledge of philosophy. One of the famous lines that he said about failure was “It is possible to commit no mistakes and still lose. That is not weakness, that is life.” Failure should never be seen as an weakness but rather is a main factor in success.

Sai Sandesh



“My children,
I am your Sai!
My mortal body has gone beyond your eyes
Over the periods
But not my soul
I was here before your birth
I am with you in the present
And I will be there even after you
I am eternal
Endless
Bhagavad-Gita
Quran
Granth Sahiba
Bible
All belong to me
All of you belong to me
I belong to those who call me with love
I’m not only in Shirdi
But in the souls of my infinite devotees
Don't get worried by my mortal absence
Call me with trust
You will find me in front of you”

Sampriti Senapati
Plano, Texas

Mere Sai



O, Baba, when we face sorrows, You hold our hand
If we are unsure about decisions, You will understand.
When we are lost, we follow your teachings,
'Shraddha' and 'Saburi' are your generous preachings.

O, Baba, you have always stood by our side,
Your eternal presence has become our guide.
When we bound our faith and trust,
The answer to our prayers you entrust.

Jai Shree Sai

Ayesha Satpathy
Plano, Texas

Faith and Patience

Sanjeeb Panigrahi
Plano, Texas

Among the teachings of Sai Baba, 'Shraddha' (Faith and reverence) and 'Saburi' (patience and perseverance) are the two cardinal principles that guide His devotee to walk on the path of salvation.

Shraddha, or love, faith and truth, is generated out of the conviction that may arise from spiritual inspiration. According to Sai Baba, love in God is the gateway to eternity. Even Sri Krishan told Arjuna: "Whosoever offers to me with love or devotion, a leaf, a flower, a fruit or water, that offering of pure love is readily accepted by me". Shraddha is a Sanskrit word, which has no equivalent in English, at best it can be understood as, faith with love and reverence. Such faith or trust is generated out of conviction, which may not be the result of any rational belief or intellectual wisdom, but a spiritual inspiration. Baba sowed the seeds of spiritual inspiration in the hearts of people who knew of him. This Divine inspiration was so instant and profound that they automatically took refuge in Him. Shraddha is devotion. It is faith that helps one accept all happenings the good and bad with equanimity. Faith is what makes a disciple trust his guru and a child, its parent. Saburi or patience is not just the ability to overcome the urge for instant gratification. Faith is the insight that tells you that patience and surrender to the will of God is the best course your life can take. Wisdom is in understanding and valuing both faith and patience. Patience is born of faith and in due course it serves to strengthen faith. Faith is the insight that tells you that patience and surrender to the will of God is the best course your life can take. Wisdom is in understanding and valuing both faith and patience. Patience is born of faith and in due course it serves to strengthen faith.

Saburi, or patience or perseverance, is an important quality that anyone walking the path of salvation would need. Without Saburi, a seeker may leave the path mod way. Saburi, or patience or perseverance, is an important quality that anyone walking the path of salvation would need. Without Saburi, a seeker may leave the path mod way. Saburi is a quality needed throughout the path to reach the goal. This quality must be ingrained in a seeker from day one, least he loses his stride and leaves the path half way. As a hunter waits patiently and motionlessly for his target a devotee too has to wait patiently for attaining his goal. There are many trying situations in life. A test may come in the form of frustration, distress, agony, illness, mishaps, prolonged wait or a loss. In such moments we should seek support from the Master and hold on him. Patience is not the art of ad hoc management of mental restlessness. Patience is the intuition that inspires you to just be and wait for the will of God to unfold and work itself out. Patience helps you to live uncomplainingly, and so you are able to accept without anger what you know cannot be changed. Patience is what enables a tree to let all its leaves fall without demur. The tree stands denuded, without a sense of shame, despondency or heartbreak. It stands as comfortably as ever. It lets the sun, the air, the rain and the season to work their magic. They denude it; they later laden it. The tree surrenders to them, not out of helplessness but out of natural design.

To His millions of followers seeking salvation, Sai Baba is a guiding force who generates faith and confidence in them. The teachings of Sai Baba have inspired many to be aware of the limits of the mortal body. 'Shradhha' (love and reverence) and 'Saburi' (patience and perseverance) are the cardinal principles to walk on the Sai Path. Sai Baba taught us that there is only one God – Sabka maalik ek. He gave a clarion call to his devotees to love and serve all. Sai Baba led by example to teach the importance of compassion to his disciples. One of his important teachings was to not turn away any living being who comes to your doorstep. He said that a teacher is the profound base of the path of devotion and put Guru on the highest pedestal of reverence. Baba asked his devotees for complete surrender to the Guru. Sai Baba laid stress on the inner purity of a spiritual being. His teachings implied it is not so much the purity of the body but the purity of the soul that matters.

Baba reiterated that steadfast love in God as the gateway to eternity. He used the instance of mother tortoise to illustrate this point. The mother - tortoise may be on the other side of the river, whereas her children are on the far side. She does not transfer food and water to her children by way of her loving glances. Yet, her loving looks are enough to protect the children. Similarly, people who lovingly look at God get His reciprocity. God's looks offer peace, protection and prosperity for His children. Baba's teaching, both direct and indirect explicate the significance of 'Shraddha'. Baba reiterates the spiritual guidance of Shri Krishna to Arjun - "Who-so ever offer to Me with love or devotion, a leaf, a flower, a fruit or water, that offering of pure love is readily accepted by Me".

If patience means anything it should last till the end, and faith will see us through every turmoil of life. Asking which came first, patience or faith, is very similar to asking which came first, the egg or the chicken? It perhaps depends on an individual's spiritual configuration as to which path suits his psyche best: faith or patience. Whichever route one may begin with, the two paths keep twinning and finally the two converge towards a common goal. Shraddha means unwavering concentration on any thing. Saburi means waiting patiently. Baba said pray to me once sincerely and I will take you with me. He said "stick to your bolt." Baba says think of me always and I will take you by hand. The Sage of Shirdi, the Saibaba, emphasized two virtues for wellbeing: faith or shraddha and patience or saburi. The two virtues are complementary. Each is both, the cause as well as the effect of the other; and both are the means as well as the end of the other. Patience without faith can become sloth. Faith minus patience can turn banal. Either way, the result will be counterproductive. In tandem, the two virtues uplift. If both patience and faith are required, which among these comes first? Where does one begin?



The Infinite Love of Baba



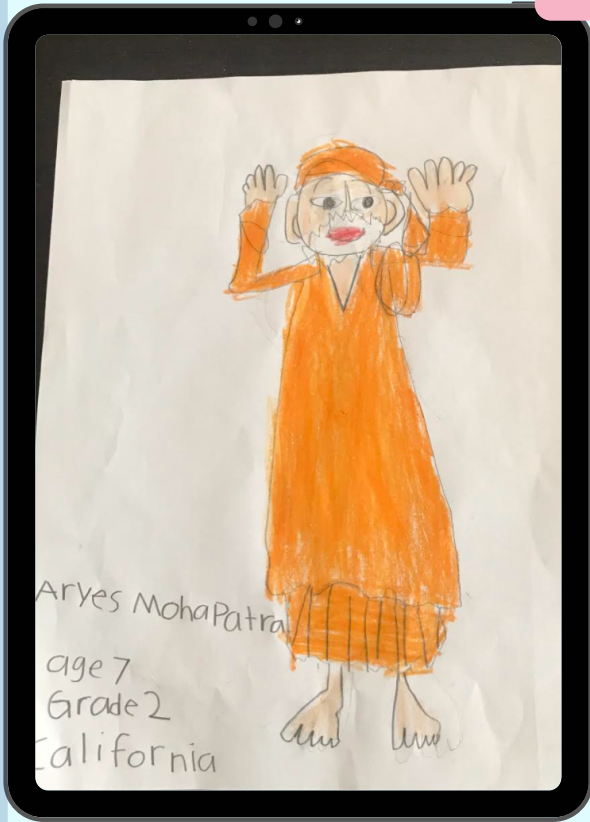
Sai Baba's life was full of joyful and heartfelt memories. Out of these moments I felt this one was one of the most loving ones.

One day, Baba was sitting in the Masjid (where Baba stayed in Shirdi) when Lakshmibai and Tatya who were two of his devotees came and took darshan. "Oh Lakshmi, I'm very hungry." Baba said. Lakshmibai told Baba that she would go and bring him some bread. When Lakshmibai left, Baba saw a stray dog who was starving. Then, Lakshmibai came back with a plate full of bread and vegetables. Almost immediately, Baba gave it all to the starving dog. Lakshmibai was stunned. "Baba, I hastily made food with my own hands, and you just throw it to a street dog without eating a morsel?" Baba answered, "This dog's hunger is equal to mine. This dog has a soul. This dog may be different than I, but its hunger is the same."

This incident might be ordinary to you, but it is the truth. Baba's love and thought for that dog is heartwarming and loving. It was a great act of kindness and shows us that even though each of us are different, we should all be treated the same. Baba felt the hunger of the dog and showed that he is omnipresent in all beings.

Sai Alahari
Plano, Texas

Baba's Kids

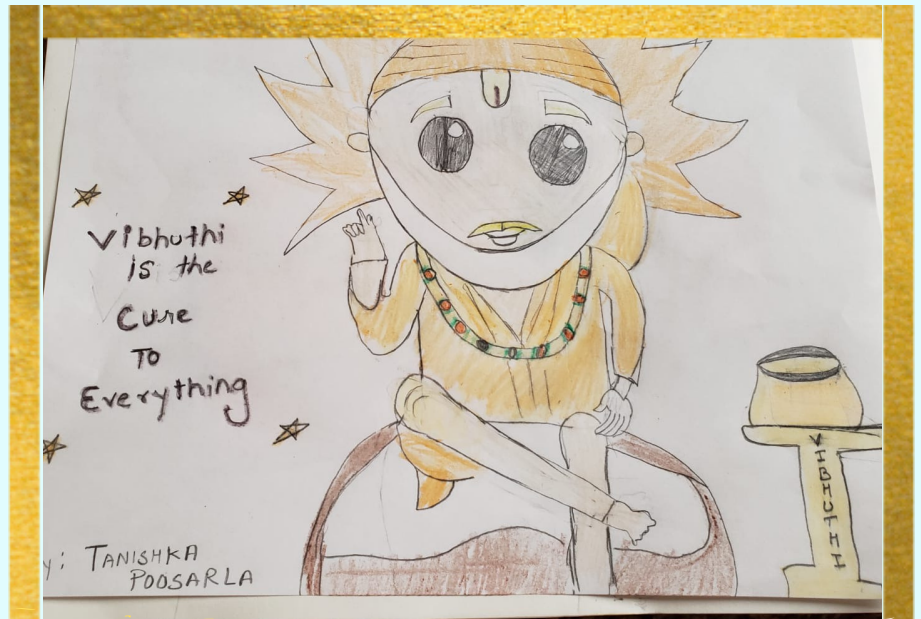


Aryes Mohapatra
age 7
Grade 2
California

"Saburi (patience) ferries you across to the distant goal."

**Aryes Mohapatra
California, USA**

**"Always think of God and
you will
see what He does."**



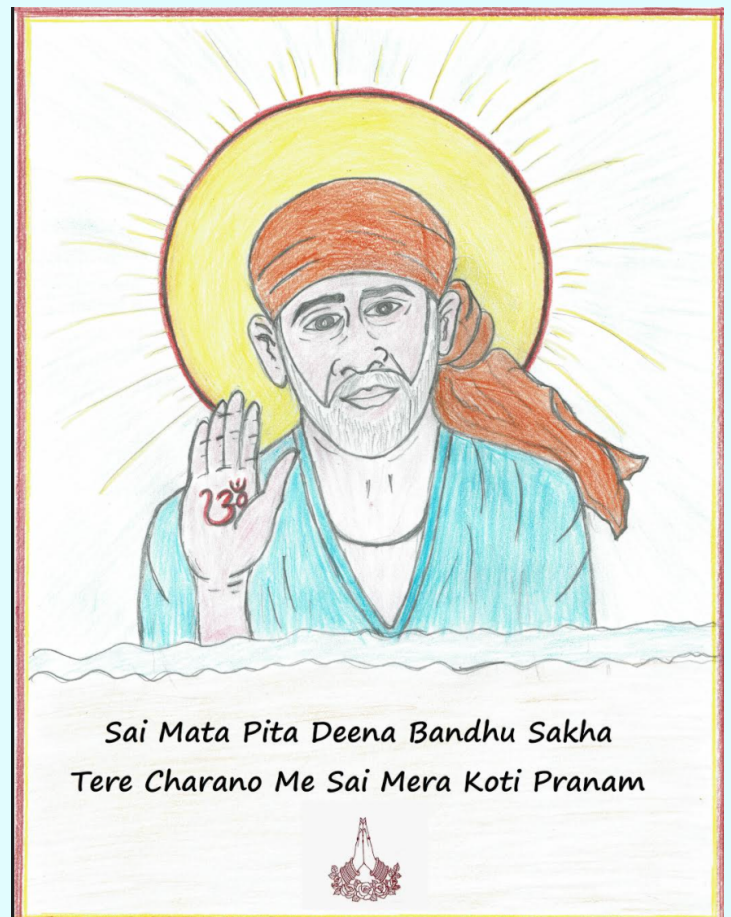
**Tanishka Poosarla
Plano, Texas**



**"Have faith and patience. Then
I will be always with you
wherever you are."**

**Myra Hagavane
Houston, Texas**

"Let us be humble."



**Ranjeeta Bastia
Plano, Texas**

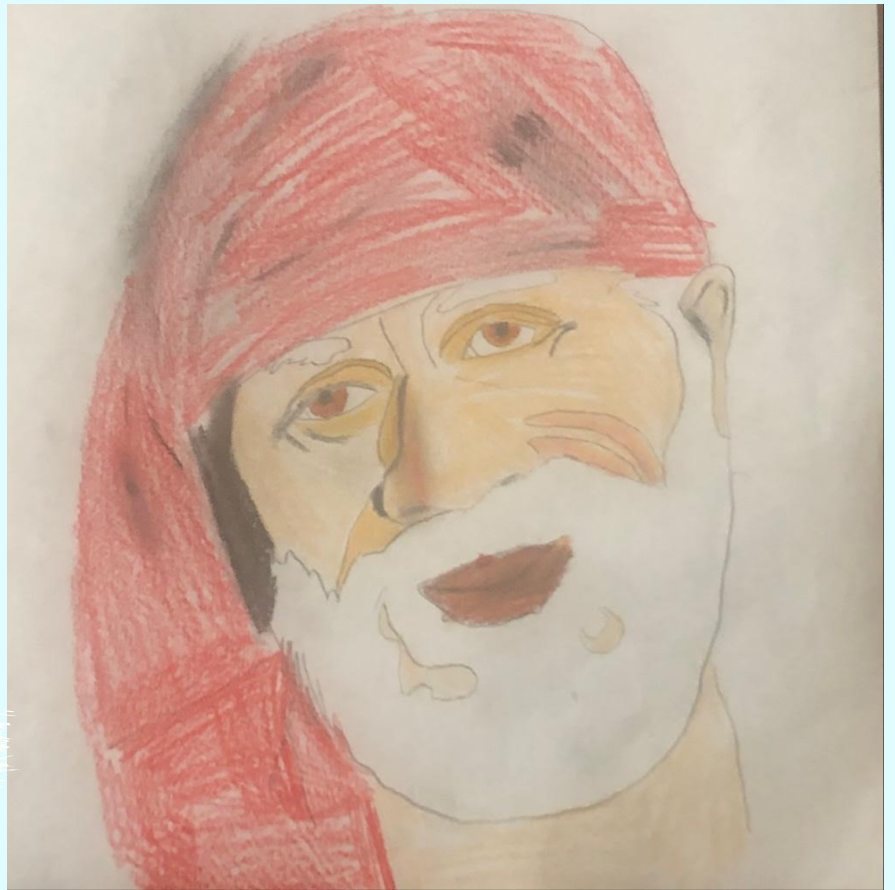


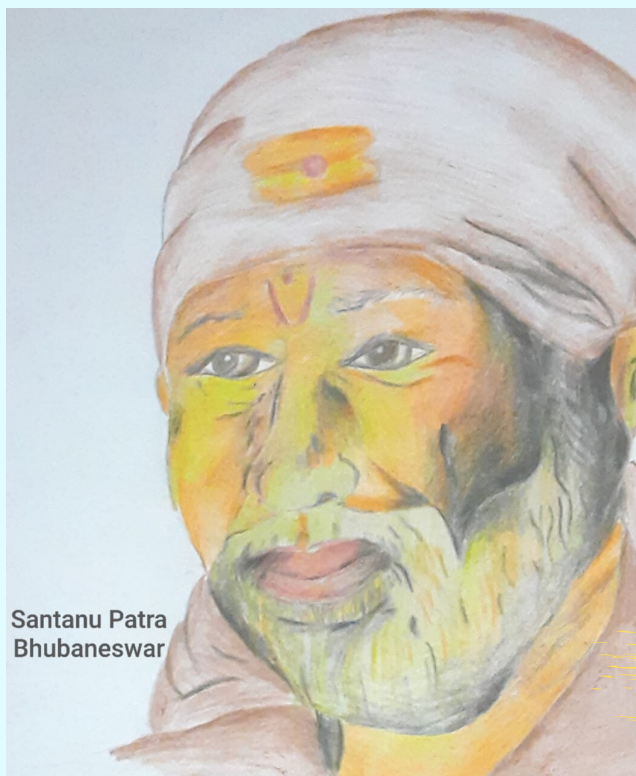
"Speak the truth and truth alone".

Siddhiksha Mohanty
Pune, India

"Put full faith in God's providence."

Sai Yatish Munagala
Plano, Texas



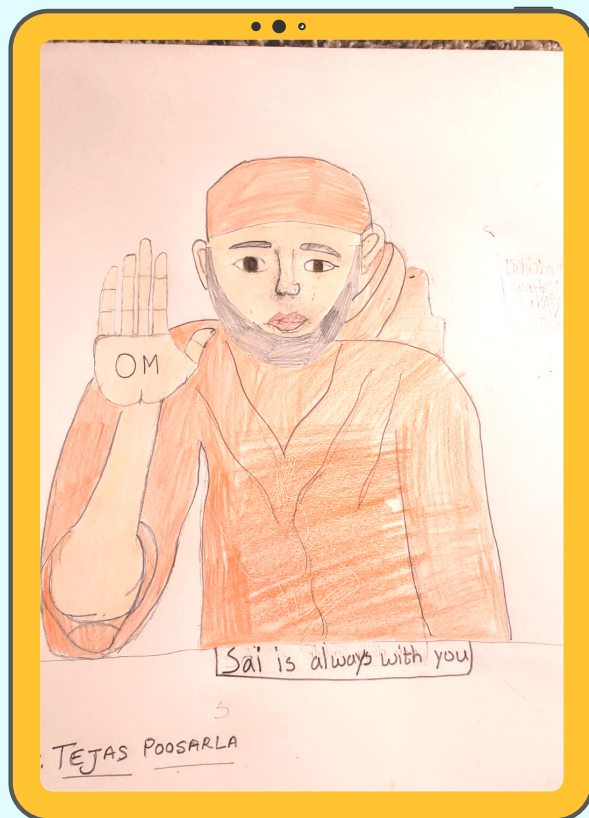


Santanu Patra
Bhubaneswar

"Look to me and I will look to you."

**Santanu Patra
Bhubaneswar, India**

"God will show his love. He is kind to all."



**Tejas Poosarla
Plano, Texas**

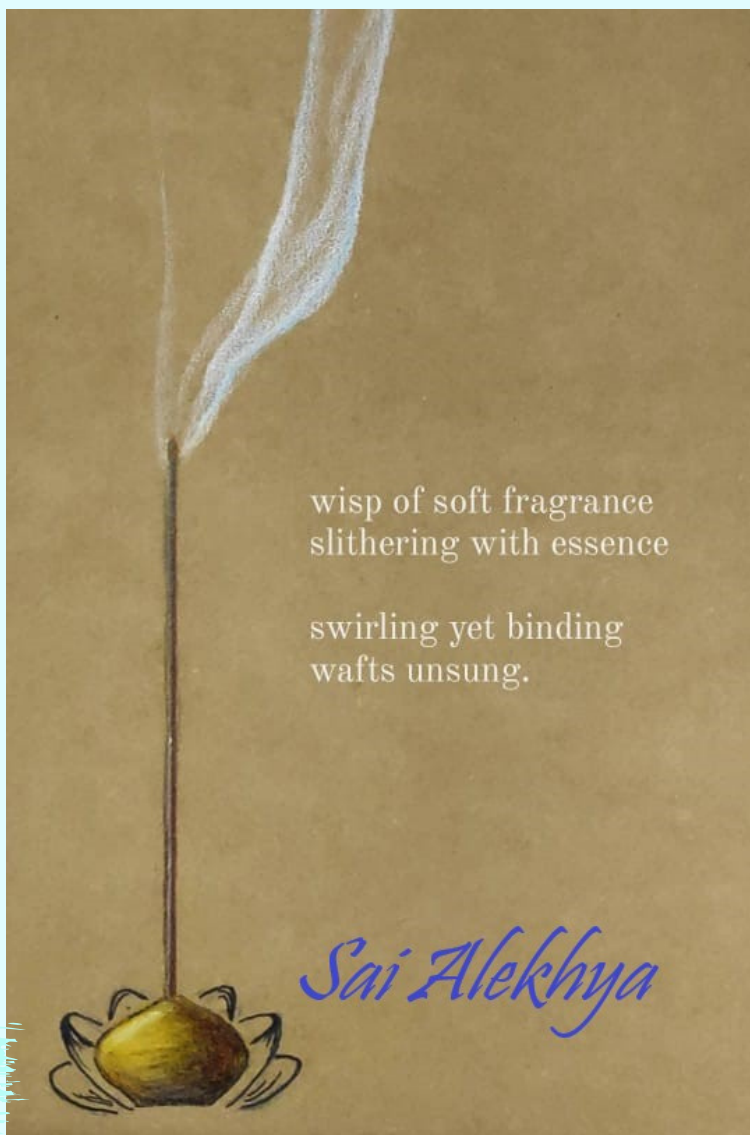


"My eye is ever on those who love me."

Sachit Kumar Dash
New Delhi, India

"I look on all with an equal eye."

Sai Alekhya
Plano, Texas





Prateek Garnayak
Class - VII
Talcher, Angul, Odisha, India

"Why fear when I am here?"

**Prateek Garnayak
Talcher, Odisha, India**

"Surrender completely to God."



**Aaradhya Satpathy
Plano, Texas**

BABA ORCHESTRATED THE PATH TOWARDS GURUJI

Deepak Varshane
Arizona, USA



Jai Sai Ram

All spiritually elevated souls work in unison towards guiding the mankind to a spiritual path. I have been reading this in Sai Satcharitra since 2010 where we see examples of such behavior in various chapters. By Baba's grace I experienced this phenomenon in my own life in the year 2016.

I had moved to Arizona in Mar 2013 and sometime in Jul 2014 we became friends with a Sai devotee family who were from Orissa. They had a picture of Guruji (Dr. C.B. Satpathy) at their home and from them we came to know a lot of things about Him. We were so much attracted by His spiritual grandeur that we started researching about Him and read lot of literature written by Him. We became internally linked to Guruji in 2014 but till Feb 2016 we did not have the fortune of seeing Him in person or meeting Him. I intensely longed to see him in person and seek His blessings. The turn of events that took place before I really met him still amazes me and gives me goosebumps.

Around 3rd week of Jan 2016, one night I got a dream in which I was in a room with my wife and my mother and Guru ji was sitting on a chair surrounded by a lot of devotees and I was standing in front of Guru ji and crying. When I woke up in the morning, I was delighted that I saw Guru Ji in my dream and took His blessing but I was not able to understand why I was crying in front of him. But then I was happy that I met him even if it was in a dream!

Within a week of this dream, I was shocked by the news that my father passed away in India due to a sudden heart attack! I was heartbroken at his sudden demise. I was not even able to reach India for his last rites. I reached there after the cremation had already been done. We stayed in India for less than a month and I wanted to go to Shirdi for Baba's Darshan because it is our custom to always have Baba's darshan at Shirdi whenever we make a trip to India. We had a return flight from Delhi to US on Mar 2, 2016 and I wanted to go to Shirdi around Feb 25. But my wife did not like the idea of travelling so close to the departure date as we had a 6 months old daughter. Shirdi visit with the whole family was not feasible at the last moment and I was not happy about it.

I called our friend in US and told her about my mental agony, then she suggested that if we cannot go to Shirdi we can go to 'Sai ka Aangan' in Gurgaon which is a replica of Shirdi and the best thing was we can meet Guruji there!. My wife was also happy by this idea as we revered Guruji a lot though we hadn't met him and she thought that it would be almost like visiting Shirdi! I want to give one more fact here, my wife had given up rice for something and had taken a vow that she would only start it after she visits Shirdi and nevertheless to add that she loves rice! This India visit was her chance to visit Shirdi n resume eating rice but that was not possible. It had so happened that one of our close friend had given up drinking tea and she was supposed to go to Shirdi to resume it but when she visited 'Sai ka Aangan', even without her telling anything Guruji asked her to drink tea there only and said that 'Sai ka Aangan' is no different than Shirdi! so our friend resumed drinking tea from that day without visiting Shirdi. Going with the example of our friend, my wife thought that she will also resume eating rice after she visits 'Sai ka Aangan' n meets Guruji!

In the evening of Feb 28, we went to Sai Ka Angan to meet Guruji. Thanks to my friends who helped us in taking Guruji's Darshan. At that time, my mind was filled with myriad of thoughts, I was excited to meet Guruji at the same time sad due to my father's sudden demise and about not being able to go to Shirdi. Around 6:30 pm we were called to a room for meeting Guruji. As soon as I entered the room I saw Guruji sitting on a chair with devotees around Him. We sat among other devotees and straight away Guruji looked at my wife and asked her in a strong voice, "When did you go to Shirdi?" She said, "Guruji, in 2012 when we last visited India". We all were so surprised with this question of his! He just asked something that was going on in my wife's mind! The words that followed this question were even more significant. He added, "Nothing is here....go to Shirdi! Why are you here?". Without even asking, Guruji gave my wife the clarity that she shouldn't think that visiting Sai ka Aangan is like visiting Shirdi, she has to go to Shirdi to complete her vow!! What a beautiful way of giving clarity to a simple devotee! She just nodded her head surprised and shocked at Guruji's directions. Then He talked to my mom who was crying inconsolably and then I stepped forward and told him about my father's demise and then the whole set up looked so familiar! It was the same room and everything was taking place the way I had seen in my dream on 16th Jan! Then I came to know the meaning of my dream.

When we came back home, I was sure that I should go to Shirdi but my wife had decided that she would not go with a 6 months baby and would wait for our next visit to break her vow. I decided to go alone and prayed to Baba to give me one final signal that I should come to Shirdi. Next morning one of my mother's neighbors came and told my mother that your son should go to Shirdi to take Baba's darshan. She added that as the devotee eagerly waits to meet his Guru, the same way Guru also waits for His Bhaktas and longs to see them! I regarded this as a final signal and decided to go to Shirdi alone and come back the next day. This leela of Baba made my Shirdi trip possible and I had a blissful darshan of Baba and came back in time on March 1. My visit was short, but it gave me the satisfaction of seeing Baba. I was thankful to Baba and Guruji for guiding me and giving me strength to sail through that stressful time.



Devotees' Experiences



“

On February 3rd 2015, by Sai Baba's grace and with the help of Pujya Guruji we established a temple in Khantapada district in Balasore town, Odisha.

Before the establishment of the temple, I and my husband were very worried about everything for setting up. Mostly we were concerned about finances as everything to be used in the temple has to be newly purchased items. It is a different scenario for setting up a new Home in which we can use old items, but for the Temple every item has to be new.

In September 2014, I was doing my weekly Parayan and on the last day of the Parayan, when I was about to complete my Puja at around 1pm, a Salesman rang our DoorBell. When I opened the Door, the Salesman told me that a complete set of Non-Stick Kitchen appliances are available at Rs 600/-. It was a promotional offer from the company that every 10th house in their area shall get all the appliances at a discounted rate along with a guarantee card. Without any second thought, I purchased all the appliances at the discounted price. The salesman also told me that each and every other person in their area had rejected the same offer to which this raised a question mark in my mind that how come this scenario is possible, which still persists in my mind till date.

After a few days of the above incident as the date for "Prana Pratishtha" of Sai Baba was nearing, we required pure honey for one of the rituals. Astonishingly, we found a tree near the temple which had a bee-hive and then we made arrangements to get honey from the bee-hive. We got around 5kg of honey from the same which was used for bathing Sai Baba during the Prana Pratishtha ceremony.

Dharitri Panigrahi

Sai Shweta Charitable Trust
Khantapada, Balasore, Odisha.

Jai Sree Sai

“

We are currently living in Bhubaneswar. In 2007 my husband got promoted and had to move to Balungaon. I was worried because for first time we had to stay away from my in-laws. One of my neighbors is great devotee of Baba. At that time I was not that aware of Baba's presence . I told that her to pray to Baba for my decision. She asked pick a number,I chosed 25 . She had a book with her and asked me to read the message with the number 25. There has massage that 'your journey will sucess'. After that I finally decided to sift to Balungaon. And after 2 years we transferred back to Bhubaneswar. That 2 years living in Balungaon had brought a great change in my life. And this was all Baba's blessings. Since that very day I do feel Baba's presence .

Jai Shree Sai !

Rasmita Patra

Bhubaneswar, India

BROWN

“

A few years ago I was supposed to go to Sambalpur from Bhubaneswar.Both the places are in the state of Odisha(India). I was supposed to board the overnight train at 11:30pm It takes 40 minutes to reach the station from my place. I always like to reach the station a little early. That day was no exception I reached the station around 10:30 PM.It was the month of November so a chill was in the air.I sat down on a vacant chair ,pulled the zipper of my coat up and settled down to wait. I usually carry something to read but that day I forgot so I simply looked around .I realized that life was being played out ,right in front of me .I wondered about the people,their journeys ,not just where they were going or coming but their journeys of life, their struggles,success,losses,joys and dreams.I was lost in my thoughts when suddenly ahand touched me,bringing me back.A frail voice “Madam chai,Kulhar ki chai,Malai wali”.(Madam Tea,Tea in an earthen cup, with cream) A young boy in a brown shirt stood before me with a tea kettle. Steaming hot tea on a cold winter evening is hard to resist..I think I bought the last cup of tea.As soon I paid him, he ran to the nearest tea stall and kept his kettle. He pulled out a couple of crumpled notes n some coins from his pocket and gave it to the stall owner,By then I realized that I had named him Brown.Of Course because of his shirt color .Brown looked very tired,He cleaned himself in the nearby tap and walked slowly behind the space I was sitting.I turned and kept watching.Brown pulled out a bedding roll which was stuck behind a pillar and nicely rolled it out .He sat on it and lighted a oil lamp in front of the pillar .I could make out that a small picture of Lord Shiva was pasted on the pillar.In that moment , in the flickering light of the lamp a sense of peace overcame me .and I felt closer to God than ever before.After a couple of minutes , Brown stood up,hugged the pillar tight and laid down looking tranquil .Train arrived and I boarded . As I sat staring at the night sky with it's twinkling stars of hope ,I kept thinking about Brown ,his faith and his trust .Did he really go to sleep happy as he looked ?What comfort the cold pillar gave him?There were more questions than answers.

Jai Shree Sai !

Jeeni Mohapatra

Plano, Texas



My Experiences with Sai Baba

Sangita Sarangi
Bhubaneswar, India

Om Sai Ram...

In the whole world, Shri Sai Baba is the repose of the poor and meek, whose unconditional love cannot be described in words. As a follower of Sai Baba, we always try to bring out the glory that Sai Baba has bestowed upon us.

Sai Baba's life is unfathomable, which is just impossible to recount fully and satisfactorily. His 'life' is a great Ocean with boundless, infinite and innumerable extraordinary stories. In order to bring out the best experiences that I have encountered with Sai Baba, I pray to him with my folded hands to bless and help me in best narrating the sweet memories he has given to me.

On 12th March 2017, I got a call from a Sai devotee (I call her Mausī) who informed me that she is very anxious to visit Shirdi and asked me whether I could accompany her. I said I will inform after discussing the same with my husband and my husband agreed for my travel as he too was going on his official tour. I immediately booked train tickets to Shirdi via MP quota with the help of a Sai Baba Devotee.

Before going to Shirdi, I informed about my travel to one of my close friend, Chandana, another Sai Baba Devotee from Baripada (the native place of Pujya Gururji Dr. C.B. Satpathyji) that I am travelling to Shirdi in March. She informed that she is also travelling to Shirdi on 20th April, 2017 for a Bhajan Program that is being organized by their singer's group of Sai Baba Temple, Baripada. I wished her luck for the program. However, it never crossed my mind that I could sing in the program. I and Mausī started for Shirdi on 16th March and reached on 17th. That day was "Rang Panchami" in Shirdi, a festival celebrated among localites in Shirdi. We reached Hotel, freshened up and when we went outside near Dwarkamai, we saw Sai Baba's Palanki was coming. Localites were playing "Holi" colors. We also joined them and enjoyed the festival and went inside the temple.

October 15th 2018, would have marked the Centenary year of Sai Baba taking "Samadhi". For that purpose, since 2017 in Temple premises Bhajans, Kirtans, dance programs were organized by people across India. On March 17th, a singer from New Delhi was conducting his program in Shirdi near Gate No.3. The place was very much crowded with audiences. Me and Mausī were enjoying the festival when suddenly a middle aged man from the crowd came near me and told "Aap chahen to gana gaa sakti hain" (If you want you can also sing on the stage). I was astonished hearing this and it came to my mind whether Sai Baba through this man is asking me to sing. I couldn't control my emotions and became eager to talk to Chandana about this incident.

I keep sharing my childhood experiences to people that I take part in singing competition in school but I had never learnt music. However I started learning music in the year 2015, yet I was amateur with regards to "Sur", "Laya" and "Taal" of music. After sharing my experience with Chandana, I requested her whether I can sing with their group at Shirdi.

She immediately agreed to this and asked me to join their group and sing in Shirdi. I used to learn music using Harmonium only but never practiced or sang with other musical instruments. While learning music, I always dreamt of singing in front of Pujya Guruji.

On April 15th 2017, I travelled to Baripada (my in-laws place). When Chandana came to know that I have come to Baripada, as she too lives there, she asked me to come to Sai Baba temple (where their group sings Bhajans every evening at temple) and practice along with their group. Their group played various types of musical instruments. When I went and practiced with them with different instruments, I could match the right "Sur & Taal". That notion itself made me feel very nervous and it kept revolving in my mind that how would I perform as program was just a week ahead.

We reached Shirdi on 21st April 2017. Many singers from different states had come to Shirdi for performing. Singers from Hyderabad and Agra sang really well and that made me more nervous. I started crying in front of Sai Baba and questioned him whether I will be made a laughing stock in front of so many people. But a friend of mine consoled me that Sai Baba has called you with a purpose and that everything will be fine and the program will go well. I returned back to hotel and had "Udi" mixed with water, but still I felt nervous. On 22nd April 2017, the day of our program (at evening), I went to temple and touched Sai Baba's Samadhi, post which my nervousness went and I became confident. Our performance went very well. After closure of our program, two ladies from the Maharashtra group approached us and requested us for our Email-ids for any future events. That itself was a big compliment for our Group.

After coming under Sai Baba's companionship, everyone's life undergoes a change. Perhaps this incident was a turning point in my life as this made me sing and practice more Bhajans and encouraged to perform in front of more audiences. After reaching from Shirdi, I even got a chance to perform in front of Pujya Guruji in one of the programs conducted in Odisha.

In 2020, during the Pandemic time through a friend I got a chance to join the Sai Divine Foundation Group (America Group). I never knew anyone but the people in the group made me feel very homely and treated me very well like one of their family members. Therefore I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to each and every member of the group for accepting me (as I am from Odisha) and giving me the unexpected love.

Thus, I conclude that Pujya Guruji, Dr. C.B. Satpathyji from Odisha (Baripada) had stated that whoever comes under the feet of Sai Baba, everyone will get their piece of divine experience based upon their faith. We should always try to walk on the path as described by Sai Baba. As we get experiences in our life, we feel happy. Similarly, I feel Sai Baba and Guruji might also feel happy seeing us putting efforts in making life of ourselves and other people better.

I always try to improve my nature towards others and want to bring a change in the society. I pray Sai Baba and Guruji keep showering their blessings on me in order to keep achieving the same.



Blessings of Sai Baba

Anupama Mohanty
Bhubaneswar, India

Om Sai Ram... Om Sai Ram... Om Sai Ram...

Guru is the Creator (Brahma), Guru is the Preserver (Vishnu), Guru Deva is Destroyer (Maheshwara). Guru is the absolute (singular) Lord himself, Salutations to Shri Guru Sainath Maharaj.

Sai ! You are my savior. I am very fortunate to have your blessings.

You are my guide and also you are my strength and encouragement in my life.

I have surrendered myself at your lotus feet.

I would like to share my feelings regarding the fixation of my only daughter's marriage. One day my son-in-law's family came to our home to see my daughter for marriage negotiation. On that day they finalized the marriage proposal and asked for our consent. We requested to inform them within a week. After their departure, I was in a full tension mood regarding making the decision whether to accept the marriage proposal or not.

It came to my mind to go to Sai Baba temple for a decision. With my daughter, I went to Tankapani Road Sai Baba's temple which is close to our home. When we reached there, at that time evening Aarti had already started. We participated in Arati (prayer) standing in front of Baba and surrendered myself before him with tearful eyes, I prayed for his help.

After a few minutes, I saw a beautiful butterfly enter the prayer hall and sat on the feet of Sai Baba till the end of the prayer and then flew towards my daughter and sat on her head as well. I was astonished to see the scene of a miracle happening.

I felt that Baba permitted this marriage proposal to proceed further. I bow my head on the feet of Baba and say you are the only decision maker.

With Baba's blessing my daughter's marriage was successfully done and she is leading a happy married life.

Baba says... Trust in Me and your prayer shall be answered...

Experiences with Shri Shirdi Sai Baba

Ashok Kumar Senapati

Plano, Texas

Om Shri Sai Ram...

Offering my humble pranams at the divine lotus feet of our beloved Bhagavan Sadguru Shri Sainath Maharaj, who is our sole refuge and who makes us realize that self-realization is the reality and the worldly pleasures are illusion. I am invoking Shri Sainath's grace to write some of the experiences in my life.

Since my childhood years in India, GOD has been very kind to me. My parents were devotees of Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa and Swami Vivekananda. I followed their path.

Since childhood, I used to sing bhajans by inspiration from my parents. Fast forward, I got married in a family who were staunch devotees of Shri Sai Baba. There is a Shirdi Sai Baba temple in our local city in USA. I would like to share some of my experiences that reinforced my faith in Shri Sainath.

I used to go to the local Baba temple with my wife and daughter regularly, but I was lacking Bhakti (Devotion). I had the interest in singing bhajans only, which was motivating me to go to the temple regularly, but I did not know any Sai Bhajans that time. My wife helped me to learn one Sai Bhajan and I started singing that bhajan in the temple and the temple bhajan team started liking my singing and also urged me to come regularly to sing bhajans at Baba temple. Eventually with Baba's blessings I learnt some more Sai Bhajans but honestly, I had little knowledge about Baba that time.

It was a fine Saturday evening, me and my family were hastily entering to the same Baba temple for Dhoop (evening) Aarti. While entering to the temple, I had a glance on a very tall and elderly person with torn clothes who was standing near a pillar close to the temple door. He asked me specifically "Can I have some money please ?"... Since we were running late for the Aarti, so I could not pay attention to him and we entered to the temple for offering the Aarti as a ritualistic way. The evening Aarti was about to be done and we got chance to offer it at the lotus feet of Baba for a few seconds or so and took Baba's darshan. As soon as we were done with offering Aarti, my wife asked me to go back outside and give the money to the person who was asking. It was only 30 seconds or so between the time we entered and offered Aarti, and came out. But to my surprise, I could not find the same person even if I did a thorough search in nearby complex. Within 30 seconds nobody can go that far, which means he literally vanished. At that moment we realized that he was no other than Sai Baba. I felt very dejected that I could not offer the money to him. When I recalled his figure and dress code, and style of walking etc. it was exactly tallied with Shri Sai Baba of Shirdi. I burst into tears and my hair stood on end. We drove back home burst out crying the whole time because we missed the opportunity to offer Dakshina which was asked by Baba. From that day onwards, I realized that this Deva is a crest jewel and incarnation of GOD who can appear in astral form anywhere and anytime. I began a new lease of life.

I felt myself much obliged to those especially my in-law's family and my wife who spurred and helped me to come to Sai path and I can't repay their debt. If this little miracle or Leela had not happened, my faith would not have reinforced in Shri Sainath. But that was not to be. As fortune favored me, I was drawn to Sai path like a sparrow with a string fastened to its feet. This particular visit to the temple engendered in me a never-failing love for Sainath's feet.

After a month or so, another miracle happened. My wife was working in a city which was 45 minutes' drive from my workplace and my daughter's day care was 15 minutes' drive from my workplace. Since I had only one car that time, so I used to pick up my wife first around 5:30pm and pick up my daughter next around 6:30pm on weekdays regularly and it was my usual practice to come back to work again after dropping them at home. Those days, we used to offer Shej (night) Aarti regularly at 9pm at the lotus feet of Baba. One fine afternoon I left my workplace to pick up them and started driving. Within a mile or so, my car did hit badly to a speed bump on the road and my steering wheel was a little bit out of balance and also for some time I felt that the tire got punctured and then immediately I invoked Baba's help. Since I was running crunch in time in order to pick them up on time, so I did not even get down to check it but I prayed to Baba sincerely and invoked his help because if there is flat tire I will be stuck there for a while until it is fixed and my wife and daughter will be stuck at work and day care respectively. To my surprise after a while I felt better with regards to driving and kept on driving and Baba made me forget about the flat tire. I reached on time in both the places and picked them up and dropped them at home and also came back to work as usual to finish rest of the work as planned for that day. It was around 8:30pm or so, when I was walking out of the workplace building, I suddenly recalled about the flat tire incident and I was scared by thinking that if there is really a flat tire then what would I do now and I won't be able to reach home on time to offer the Shej (night) Aarti to Baba. While thinking this, I came out of the building and from a distance suddenly I noticed a yellow sticker on my car window. I unlocked my car from a distance and came nearby. I took out the sticker and read the messages in that yellow sticker. The message was kind of as follows...

Your car got a flat tire... I have fixed it and filled up some air in it so that you can reach home safely... Have a blessed day...

I cried ceaselessly and burst into tears... I felt so much divine energy around that place and time... I drove back home and as soon as I entered home the Shej Aarti was commenced by my wife exactly at the same time. My faith reinforced more and more in Shri Sainath. Wonderful and inscrutable is the Leela of Baba and there is no end to His Leelas. Baba gave me such experiences that I became his devotee.

"Our Sai is the sole Dispenser and Protector, always think of Him. He will take care of his devotees. Surrender to His feet with body, mind, wealth and speech, i.e. completely and then see what He does."

With Baba's permission, let me now make a halt here, reserving my other experiences for future editions.

Sadguru Shri Sainath

Shaswati Samal
Bhubaneswar, India



"Sadguru" the word and its meaning is so wide that it is much beyond its literary definition. Sadguru comes to the world as "gracious representative" of Supreme Lord-Shri Hari and his role is so widespread and significant in the creation of material universe that to realise this hard truth of his presence in the worldly life, we like common men take years after years, ages after ages and many births. Sadguru is the savior of all living beings like humans, animals, birds etc as well as consciousness and unconscious objects. The force behind gradual progress, self-realization and liberation of the living being is that of Sadguru. He is the center of mercy, compassion, forgiveness and power.

Sadguru is the savior of all living beings like humans, animals, birds etc as well as consciousness and unconscious objects. The force behind gradual progress, self-realization and liberation of the living being is that of Sadguru. He is the center of mercy, compassion, forgiveness and power.

Sadguru emerges into somebody's life, when the time comes for the soul to be cut off from the sinful deeds of the living soul. Perhaps, the sinful phase which had dominance in my life took 44 years(my birth year 1967 to 2011) to feel and realize the essence of merciful Shri Sainath...He gradually entered in the periphery of my life in the form of Vibhuti (sacred ash), calendar, photos or in the way of different idols. Sometimes even in the form of Prasad (offerings) which I have received from holy place Shirdi. I stared at his sympathetic face, his gracious and compassionate look has magnetic attraction which never allowed me to move my eyeballs from his face. Many times, tears rolled on my cheek, when my heart was filled with emotions. The unspoken feeling of my heart was expressed in the form of different poems. My anxiety know Sadguru Sainath more, I had extensively read the Shri Sai Satcharitra. Besides, I took part in the Samuhika parayan (mass gatherings), and found great joy and peace in chanting his name. He also quickly dragged me into the circle of his grace to guide me towards the spiritual path as another devotee.

Our faith got strengthened multiple when he (Baba) gave me and my family darshan at Shirdi. I had received the courage and determination at the time of crisis in my life. Which resulted to address small and big problems with lot of patience and courage. The problems never troubled me as they used to be earlier. A very frightened, fearless person like me could gradually become fearless, self-reliant by his grace. With different experiences, I realized his divine existence directly or indirectly.

I may say in short, it is the Guru (the teacher) who attracts the disciples at the right time through the right method.

(When the Guru's power reaches the disciple through the waves of thought, the disciple is devastated by the touch of this wave and arouses in him a strong anxiety for the near gain of the Sadguru (Dibya Prasnotari by Chandra Bhanu Satpathy)

Once, I had a great desire to send Bombay Green Mango in our garden to Shirdi as there was no flower in the mango tree for several years. When I had put Baba's vibhuti (sacred ash) at the root, that year we could notice the tree had bore with mangoes and we experienced the taste of delicious fruits.

While I was thinking how to send a few mangoes for prasad (offering) to Shirdi, I came to know that our neighbor with his family was planning to visit Shirdi for Baba's darshan. I handed over a packet of Mangoes to him for offering at Shirdi. Since they were going to Shirdi for the first time, they were a little confused about how and where to give the mango packet to the priest. I requested my neighbour to hand over the packet to the priest while going for darshan in the queue.

After reaching Shirdi, my neighbor telephoned me and narrated, when they were lined up for Baba's darshan, how surprisingly an unknown priest came to them and enquired about the stuff inside the packet. Later, he took the mangoes and placed them near Baba's Samadhi (grave) for offering and returned them one mango as part of offering.

On hearing their experience, tears welled up in my eyes. Then, I realized the truth behind the events described in Shri Sai Sattcharita. I remembered the words in Gita---

"patram puspam phalam toyam
yo me bhaktya prayacchati
tad aham bhakty-upahrtam
asnami prayatatmanah."

If one offers Me with love and devotion a leaf, a flower, fruit a water, I will gladly accept it.

About five years ago, my father's lungs were filled with water and I was informed that his left lung was damaged. After about three months in the hospital without any improvement, the doctors called it cancer and discharged him to home. But due to the grace of the best doctor, Shri Sai Nath, he was able to recover from his illness and today is fit and fine.

We have read in Shri Sai Satcharitra that as and when Baba wanted to send a message, he came in the dream of his disciples. He also some time, warned them about the danger in future and showed them the right way to survive. Even in 1918, Shri Sai Nath had came in the dream of many devotees and informed them about leaving of his physical body.

Kakasaheb Dixit and Shyama Dixit Wadare had dreamt of the same thing at one time in which Baba had appeared and told them to build a temple along with Wada (Chapter-39).

Several such instances have been described in Shri Sai Satcharitra. It has been more than a century of Baba's Mahasamadhi, still Baba comes in the dreams of his devotees.

Let me cite one such recent instance, my son's first posting was in Gurugram, I left Bhubaneswar house and the memory of our pet and the garden over there. My husband was also not in a position to accompany us. Since, I was away from home state, the emptiness for being far from my close ones was forcing me into the situation of loneliness. I was also missing those days when I used to pluck and gather varieties of flowers from the garden, my regular prayer, offerings to Baba. The day, when I felt distressed for some reason or other, I simply imagined Baba's presence by my side and my gesture to bow down before his strong bright face filled with compassion. All mental disturbances faded away when my feeling got stronger that Baba has showered all his blessings upon me. In such situation, once my mother had telephoned me from Bhubaneswar and told me that she had seen a strange dream. As per her narration, "I was lying on her lap and we both were sitting near a temple corridor. She asked me why I was looking sad? then, her loving touch had put me to deep sleep." This clearly realized me Sadhguru's symbolic love and affection towards his devotees.

I think every devotee has got some or other miraculous experience in his life. It is our fortune that due to which, we have got such a great Sadguru in our life whose presence and super power we not only feel and realize at the time of need but throughout our life.

Each individual irrespective of any social strata and community should develop strong faith in Sadguru, who will save us from any kind of deviation and guide towards the right path.



The Two Lizards

Saanvi Nayak
Plano, Texas



OM SAI RAM

One Morning, Sai Baba was sitting on his front porch with a close friend when he saw a lizard that was going up and down the stair railing. Baba told his friend that the lizard is very happy because her sister is coming today. The friend of Baba sat silent making out the meaning of Baba's words. At Once, a gentleman came on horseback to see Baba. He wanted to proceed further, but his horse would not go, as it was hungry and wanted some food. He took out a bag of oats from his shoulders to bring to bring oats and dashed it on the round to remove dirt. Then out came a lizard, running to her sister and kissed her and the two of them danced with love. All this is very wonderful and proves the omniscience of all – Knowing nature of Baba.

बाबा से फरियाद

बाबा शब्द ही इतना प्यारा
के हर किसी को लगे न्यारा

शिरड़ी, में वास तुम्हारा, पर नज़र है सब पे
जो दिल से पुकारे तुम को, हो जाते हो उसके

अवगुण सुगुण बनजाते हैं
जब साथ मिले साईनाथ का
मनजीलें आसान हो जाते हैं,
तो डर किस बात का

„सबके मन को पढ़ने वाले
श्रद्धा सबूरी“ सिखाने वाले
आज तेरी ये धरती, महामारी से जूझती
बेचैन बेबस हर पर रहती

बस तुम्ही हो संसार की नैया को पार लगाने वाले
हर पल विनती है तुम से, हे ऊपर वाले

कुदरत को तो बक्श दिया तुमने, इस मानव को सहारा दो
तेरी करुणा के हम हैं अभिलाशी, गुहार लगाए सब जगवासी

भक्ति को शक्ति दो, रोगी को सेहत दो
बेसहारा को सहारा दो, डुबते को किनारा दो

सबकी फरियाद सुन लो बाबा,
फिरसे जग में उजियारा भर दो बाबा

—: ऊँ साई राम :—

डॉ. अर्चना पटनायक
नई दिल्ली

Om Sai Ram

Padmaja Puppala
Plano, Texas

Sai Leelas are like an ocean, for which one does not see an end. Yes, and for me, I consider myself blessed to add a small drop of my story into His vast ocean of blessings. Baba has His Blessed Hand on each and everything existing on this entire universe. His 'Shradha' and 'Saburi', takes everyone on the righteous path for those who are trying to overcome their struggles and achieving their life goals. My Story too begins from somewhere like one of the worldly struggles of our journey in life. Child-birth is believed to be another life for any woman and for my mother too, it was same or maybe more than this phenomenal experience, when I was born. Due to error in forecasting the delivery date and time, my mother's condition became serious and her entire body started turning blue. My grandparents and everybody at home got apprehensive and rushed her to a big hospital in the city. The doctor checked my mother and said, 'it was late and they have to operate, but they cannot assure anything for both the mother and the child. My grandparents agreed for any consequence and poured Baba's Vibhuti in my mother's mouth and silently prayed for their daughter's safety as they sent her with the doctor and the nurses. After few long hours of procedures, formalities and the cesarean, I was born, healthy and safe. But my mother's condition continued to be serious even after 48hrs of the surgery. And it was during this 48hrs, that my mother in her unconscious body saw 'Someone' who was draped in yards of cloth blessing her and asking her to go home. Suddenly she regained her conscious and when she opened her eyes, she saw that the doctor was trying to wake her up. Even though her eyes were open, she kept looking for that 'Someone' and that Divine being. While looking around she found Baba's photo on the wall of the hospital's room. Her eyes filled with tears rolling down her cheek, thanking Him for being there with her. Miraculously she recovered in a fortnight and returned home healthy and safe along with me. Baba was always with me and my family throughout our lives. The next divine blessing I experienced was when I was taken to the hospital for my time of giving child-birth. I had labor pain for 48hrs and when it was close to the time of delivery, my baby's position reversed and I was completely exhausted. As always, my family who believes in Baba's Vibhuti in all good and bad times, and that day too my anxious mother applied Vibhuti on my forehead and poured some in my mouth. The nurse next to me watched this and suggested to my mother to apply it all over my stomach. My mother applied it all over my stomach and within half an hour, the position of my baby changed and in another one hour my daughter was born. Baba is always with us, no matter where we are and what we do. Our 'Shraddha' and 'Saburi' keeps us closer to Him. There are countless experiences, big and small where I felt Baba's presence. Visit to Shirdi makes each one of my family feel His divine presence in every nook and corner of the place. We experience an immense feeling of peace, happiness and satisfaction In Baba's Shirdi. I express my gratitude for everything in this life and pray that Baba be with us all forever !!

Baba's Subtle Message

Narayana Chikkala
Allen, Texas

Baba's Satcharitra chapter 39. - OM SAI RAM.

Saranagathi. - Surrender to God completely (trikarana suddhi - purity in thought, deed and speech) and not just bow. While doing namaskar to God/Guru we pay reverence to the prapancha (wordly) gnana and atma (soul or who am I) gnana that he holds and our dependence on it. Surrendering moves us from trust to faith. Faith is to hold on to the beliefs after knowing the teachings.

Ignorance is the absence of knowledge. Chitha vrithi, anything coming out of samskaras is ignorance. Pure/God consciousness is ultimate knowledge. Without rejecting ignorance, one needs to have the ability to differentiate between these two, and live in the material world without getting affected by it. Similar to how the lotus maintains purity even though part of dirty water, we need to elevate our consciousness while being in the samsara/material world.> Baba's message from Ch. 39 on Agnana - I am a Jiva - is ignorance as 'I' represents ego and the combination of body+soul is ego. Body is the soul-is ignorance as body is actually not the soul. Jivatma is in the body and 'I' am not just the body. Calling God, world and jiva are different is ignorance - Eshwara (the embodiment of Brahma, Vishnu and Maheshwara) became the brahmanda and since Jivatma is inseparable from paramatma, we evolved from paramatma and we are in paramatma. So God, world and jiva are inseparable. We are all in him who is himself the universe and resides in us!!!! Basically he is all over inside, outside, all over and part of us!!

From Baba's feet and his fingers denotes: Left foot symbolises materialism while right symbolises spiritualism. Pray to Ganapathi before doing pranayama who is the giver of yoga to concentrate on the right foot. Babas hand gesture-Thumb represents buddhi, index finger and middle finger represents ego and mannat. Mannat: is overdrawing your merit balance ahead of time. You borrow blessings ahead of time and pay back later by fulfilling your promise by performing the mannat. With budhi we separated the other two aspects which are reasons for bondage and rebirth.

"Within the body resides the Supreme Lord in the form of light (Angustha Purusha) in our Guru: Baba. He is said to be the Witness, the one who Permits, and the Supporter, Transcendental Enjoyer, the ultimate Controller, and the Paramatma".

Sai's Grace

Dr. Kamalakanta Das
Bhadrakh, Odisha, Bhubaneswar

I am the lord of all beings and creatures. I live in the soul of all the beings.

The whole world is within me. I am the controller and director of the universe. I am the Creator, Preserver and Destroyer. This visible world is my form.

The lord Ram and Rahim are both one and the same. Thus, their devotees must avoid disputes among themselves..

-:Margadarshi(Guide):-

Sai Kripa Naseeb Hotee Hey Kaise ?
Jo Karte Hain Sai Ke Charno Mein
Arpan Do Paise - Shraddha Aur Saburi - Kare Muraad Pooree

How to receive Sai's grace ?

Whoever offers two coins of Faith and Patience at the lotus feet of Shri Sai, their desired will be fulfilled.

-:Prayer:-

Mangalam Shirdi Gramam Mangalam Sai Daivatam
Mangalam Charitram Tasya Sai Namewa Mangalam.
Mangalam Sai Nathasya Bhaktanam Chastu Mangalam
Mangalam Chastu Bhutanam Jagataa Mastu Mangalam.

Twam Ekam Saranyam Twam Ekam Varenyam
Twam Ekam Jagat Palakam – Swa – Prakasam
Twam Ekam Jagad Kartru – Patru – Prahatu
Twam Ekam Param Nischalam Nirvikalpam Sainath Twam Namami

Apni Chakki Mein Sai Mere Duhkh Dard Pesh Do...
Oh Lord Sai, please grind my sorrows and pains in your hand-mill...

-:Shri Sai SadGuruve Namah:-

Guru Brahma Guru Vishnu
GururDeva Maheshwara
Guru Saakshaat Param Brahma
Tasmai Shri Sai SadGuruve Namaha

Na Gurordhikam Tatwam, Na Gurordhikam Tapah
Na Gurordhikam Jnanam Tasmai Shri Sai SadGuruve Namaha

Shri Saibaba is the conscious GOD of this Era...Even if he is infinitely beyond all qualities and forms, still he had possessed the human form to shower his mercy for the welfare of his devotees. By offering my prayers at the lotus feet of the perfect master Shri Satchitananda Saibaba, I am surrendering myself at his holy feet because for me he is the supreme form of all the GODS and GODDESSES.

-:Assurances of Sadguru Shri Sainath:-

Chhod Sareer Chala Jaoonga, Bhakt Hetu Dauda Aaoonga
Mujhe Sadaa Jeevit Hee Jano, Anubhav Kar Satya.

Even after leaving this earthly body, I will come running to help my devotees.
I am ever living, you must experience such truth.

Atal Satya Sai Bachan, Bhakt Hoye Wey Dhanya
Mere Charno Mein Dhanya, Jinke Preet Mahan

Shri Sai's assurances are full of firm truth, all the devotees became blessed. Blessed are the devotees whose love is great.

He who remembers me is always in my mind. I need no conveyance – a carriage, or a horse, a plane or a train.

“I APPEAR WITHOUT AN INSTANTS DELAY, WHEN I AM LOVINGLY CALLED”

I do not need a door to enter. I am always everywhere.
For the one who places his burdens on me and has become one with me.
I manipulate all his actions like the actions of a marionette.

Mere Aur Ananya Bhav Se DekhoTo Mein Bhee Tumhare Aur Aise Hee Dekhunga

With undivided faith, whoever surrenders at my lotus feet and also whoever worships, remembers and meditates upon me with love, I bless such devotee with salvation.





CHARITY



Monthly Food Drive on Sept 2020 to Salvation Army



Volunteers sorting items for Monthly Food Drive on Oct 2020



Volunteers sorting items for back to school drive on Sept 2020



Monthly Food Drive on Oct 2020 to Family Gateway,



Volunteers sorting items for Monthly Food Drive on September 2020



Volunteers sorting items for Monthly Food Drive on Oct 2020

EVENTS

CULTURAL EVENTS AT SAI DIVINE



GANESH PUJA CELEBRATION - 2020

NEWS & EVENTS

DR C. B. SATPATHYJI'S VISIT TO MORADABAD

Dr. C. B. Satpathyji visited Moradabad on 26 September, 2020. He spent some quality time in the School campus, took a round of the school building and discussed the functioning of the school in the changed Covid-19 scenario. In the evening, he visited Shri Sai Karuna Dham temple. After offering prayers at the Feet of Shri Sai Baba, he took a round of the Temple and gave instructions for its improvement.

GURU PURNIMA CELEBRATION, SAI KA AANGAN

The auspicious Guru Purnima was celebrated at Sai Ka Aangan on 5th July 2020 by the resident priests, amidst the pandemic restrictions. The rituals began with Shri Sainath's Mahabhishek, followed by the hawan conducted amidst chanting of mantras. Palki was taken out in the evening. Dr. Satpathyji visited the Temple to pay respects to Shri Sai Baba and see that Covid -19 guidelines are aptly followed.

SAI KA AANGAN, GURGAON

An adorned palna of Shri Krishna was placed in the Dwarkamai on the occasion of Janmashtami on 12th August 2020. Dr. Satpathyji visited the Aangan on this day and offered prayers at the shrines. He also examined the implementation of Covid -19 guidelines.

Sai Ka Aangan reopened its doors to devotees for darshan during special timings on 1st September 2020. Keeping in mind the safety of the visitors and staff at the Temple, guidelines have been implemented for all, in accordance with Government norms. Sensor taps and a gong have been installed to minimize touch areas. Dr. Satpathyji visited Sai Ka Aangan for darshan and inspected the preparations for reopening of the Temple on 3rd September 2020.

6th October 2020, marked the completion of twenty years of the Aangan's Bhoomi Pujan. The priests performed a hawan in commemoration of the same. Weekly Palki on Thursdays and the monthly Shri Satyanarayan puja are conducted on a regular basis by the priests. Devotees have been requested not to participate in the pujas in order to prevent the chances of contamination.



SHRI GURU PRAARTHANAA

Source : Shri Guru Bhagavat Volume 1

Author - Dr. C.B.Satpathy



(1 & 2)

Oh Shri Gurudev (Oh the Reverend Master) ! My soul ever yearns for Your feet. Only when I meditate on Your holy feet, my mind gets absorbed in it . Otherwise the illusion wrought by the play of 'Maya' surrounds me with mundane worries. Repeatedly getting defeated at the hands of 'Maya' (worldly illusions) , my ' Jeeva ' (inner being) cries aloud to Shri Hari (God) for redemption.

(3 & 4)

Problems like disease, anxiety, wordly worry, grief, poverty and repentance, each as powerful as the other, stifles the human beings ('Jeevas'). In the spur of a moment mighty waves of thought arises in the ocean of mind with tumult. Each worry is like a wave, which does not allow the heart to ever remain peaceful.

(5 & 6)

The distressed human beings run after the Priests, offer them gifts and 'Dakshinas' (religious donations), They visit the temples where they lament bitterly. They perform religious rites like taking bath in river Ganges, undertake twelve 'Vratas' (Penances), worship of the Deities and fasting as per prescribed rules and procedures of their religion, yet they continue to suffer.

(7 & 8)

Oh Sadguru (Oh the master) ! You are the very soul of the devotees. When any devotee faces a time of crisis, Your compassionate divine play begins then. When the devotee becomes despondent, You come into his life from somewhere unexpectedly. You sprinkle (smoothen) his (devotee's) heart with drops of compassionate love and bestow on him knowledge energy and strength.

(9 & 10)

Oh Gurudev (Oh the Master)! The divine power of God (Shri Hari) flows through Your compassionate looks, when You cast Your kind glances towards any devotee. When You shower Your grace on anyone, the many forces of nature become his servant (start helping him), because all the forces of nature and its five elements are under Your command.

(11 & 12)

Fire and Air mo e according to You will., as also, the other five elements of nature like water, earth and the sky. Oh Sadguru (Oh Master)! You are my friend, brother, mother and my ever-forgiving father. Kindly be seated in the innermost recesses of my heart and keep on accepting the flowers of devotion that I offer.

To be Continued...

SHRI GURU BHAGAVAT

Shri Guru Bhagavat originally written in Odia language is an unparalleled creation of Dr. Chandra Bhanu Satpathy, after his sojourn and evolution in the spiritual realm. Guru Bhagavat in the Odia language runs into seven volumes containing 29,000 verses. This book elaborately depicts the theme of devotion towards the Guru with the basic features of Guru tradition. This treatise contains invaluable aspects of human life, the greatness and uniqueness of Shri Guru, the different levels of Guru, the Guru-disciple relationship, the different types of disciples and the importance of rendering services to the Guru. There are many facets to Shri Guru Bhagavat of which a few are listed below:

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- For householders / professionals, in simplest possible and practicable words explains Dharma, and applicability of Dharma in everyday situations.
- For everyone, simplifies the concepts of Karma Yoga, and the Science of Death. Guiding each of us on Faith vs Blind Faith with historic examples.

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