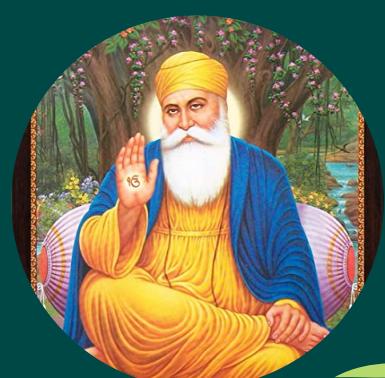
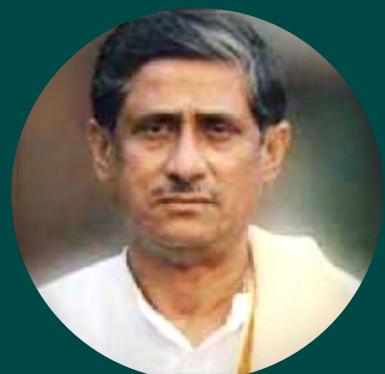
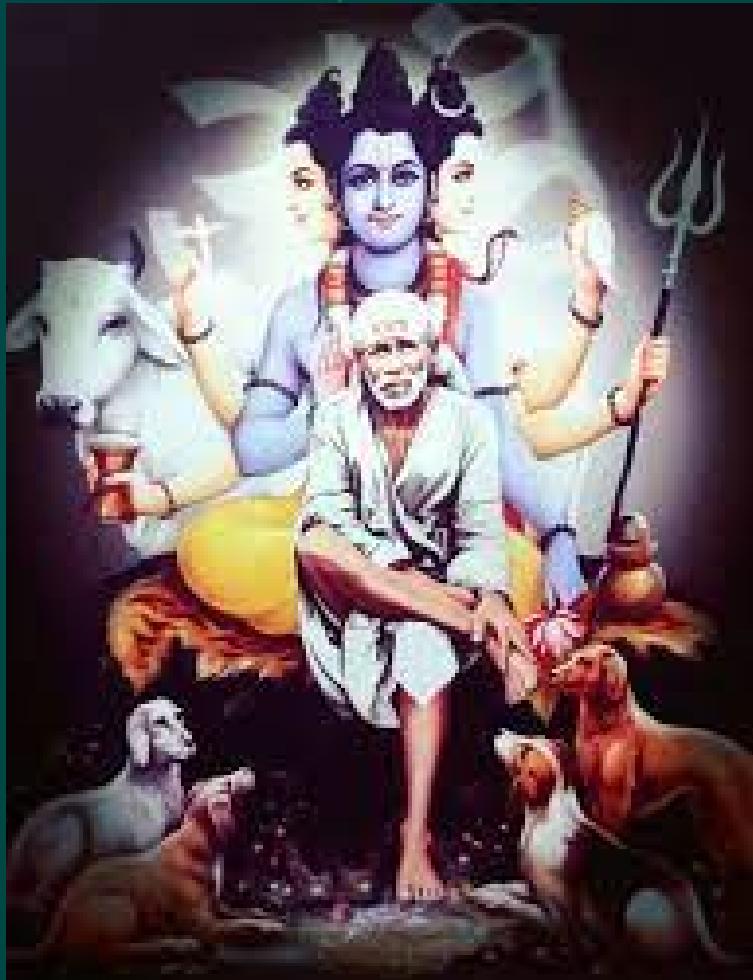


ISSUE 05 • JULY 2021

Sai Creatives



GURU POORNIMA EDITION

SAI DIVINE FOUNDATION



Sai Divine

Faith & Patience


SHIRDI SAI
GLOBAL
FOUNDATION

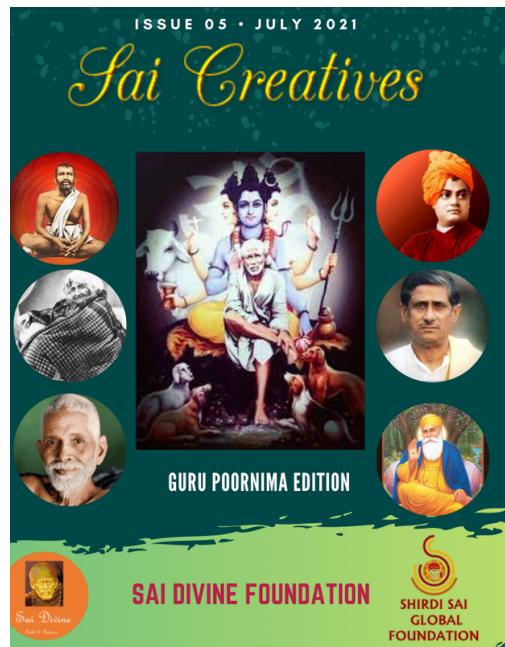
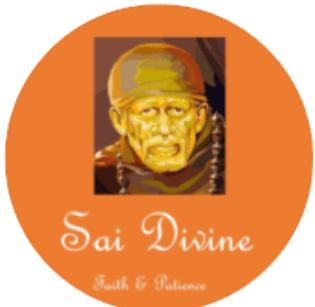


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SAI DIVINE FOUNDATION



EDITORIAL

"Let no man in the world live in delusion. Without a Guru, none can cross over to the shore"- Guru Nanak. If one has acquired many merits in the past birth, then one gets to fall under the motherly *Chaya* of a Guru. Guru helps us maneuver this material world and see God in every animate and inanimate object. Guru makes us understand our capabilities and always ensures the happiness and wellbeing of his disciples. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the people of Shirdi were blessed to live under the merciful eyes of Shri Sai Baba. Shri Sai Baba helped everyone who came seeking help in Dwarkamai and taught us the true meaning of Shradha and Saburi. In the 21st century, we all are truly blessed to get the everlasting love and care of our Guruji, Dr. Chandra Bhanu Satpathy. In the new age, Guruji helps us navigate this mundane life and help us revive when we are in the worst time. I think we can all agree that during this time of uncertainty, our everlasting love for Shri Sai Baba and Guruji Dr. Chandra Bhanu Satpathy has kept us motivated and gave us the strength to persevere during this treacherous time.

This Guru Poornima let us all gather together and pay homage to our respective Gurus. Let us first worship those who have helped us in every stage of our lives – parents. Parents are no doubt the first and everlasting Guru that we all have in our lives. From birth, they teach us how to walk, talk, and survive in this new world. Just like any other parent, Shri Sai Baba and Guruji have always guided us and made us walk in the path of the truth. This year, we are fortunate enough to celebrate this auspicious day at Sai Divine, McKinney – a tiny abode that has become an epicenter of many charitable and religious events. Sai Divine Foundation, Dallas has evolved from a mere foundation to a big family that aims to serve Shri Sai Baba and Guruji, Dr. Chandra Bhanu Satpathy, and serve the community in a time of need.

This edition of the "Sai Creatives" is dedicated to all the Gurus that have touched our lives and helped us guide through many treacherous avenues. The work in this magazine reflects the hard work that all of our Gurus have put in to ensure that we walk on a path that enables us to unlock our true potential and see the world in a manner that helps us understand the meaning of what is right and wrong. As many of you notice, the majority of the work here in this magazine comes from children. Their work reflects the teachings that their Guru (parents) gave them, and it gives me immense pleasure to see the initiatives that these children take to learn from their Guru. One of the goals of Sai Divine Foundation, Dallas is to help these children recognize and understand the importance of Guru and how even simple teaching from a Guru can benefit them for their entire lives.

No matter what is someone's creed, gender, or age, each and everyone has a Guru who helps them in every moment of their lives. It is impossible to explain the existence and evolution of humanity without the involvement of a Guru. Gurus are the light-bearers of a road of uncertainty and danger. Gurus are the umbrella that protects us from any storm that may loom over our heads. This Guru Poornima, Sai Divine Foundation, Dallas, hopes our Guru Shri Sai Baba and Dr. Chandra Bhanu Satpathy maintain their *Chaya* over us and always guide us on the right path and give us strength in our worst time. From Sai Divine Foundation, Dallas, we would like to wish you all Happy Guru Poornima.

Editor
SAI CREATIVES

GURU POORNIMA MESSAGE

Dr. C. B. Satpathy



Guru Poornima is usually a day of mirthful celebration for the devotees and followers of all Gurus. It is celebrated to acknowledge the greatness and sacrifice of the Guru who imparts spiritual knowledge and spiritual practices. He also protects his disciples from distress and calamities. Guru Poornima is the day to show gratefulness to the Guru who helps the devotees overtly and subvertly when approached. At times, he does so even without being told about trouble or prayed for a solution by a devotee. Keeping a watch on the affairs of his devotees and disciples, he renders innumerable and timely help towards their spiritual and temporal growth. This is known as "Ahetuka Kripa" (unqualified kindness or kindness without strings attached to it). On this day, we revisit and visualise his divine attributes including kindness and render him soulful prayers and conduct special puja in his honour.

However, this year the Guru Poornima assumes special significance because we will approach Shirdi Sai Baba more seriously than before with utmost humility and prayers. Since December 2019, the Covid-19 virus has created global destabilization on all fronts of human existence and panic. In India, its effects were realized in March 2020 and fast-track health care measures were accelerated throughout the nation. It was known as the first wave of Corona infection. These days, the second wave is on. Scientists have forecast the commencement of the third wave, a few months ahead. The impact of Corona on our economy, our very survival, health and hygiene, wealth, education, industry, construction, production and distributions systems, socio cultural and sports activities has been debilitating and depressing. Reportedly, there were more than 187.5 million confirmed cases of COVID-19 across the world and over 4 million people, affected by the virus, died by mid July (see <https://covid19.who.int/>).

Even though the pandemic is affecting the human race so adversely, we have to fight it out. For that we have taken certain essential steps.

- The first thing that, should be done is to pray for peace of the departed souls. We should console their near and dear ones. It includes the diseased persons and also those Corona warriors who, when serving the diseased persons, got infected with Corona and some of them died. Such prayers can be done singly or in groups in real and /or on virtual modes.
- All of us should strictly follow the protective medical advice like maintaining at least two meters distance from each other, wearing the mask, frequent use of sanitizers and soaps, avoid visiting crowded places unless essential to do so. Any overconfidence or neglect will not only be dangerous to the concerned person but also to the society at large.

- One must help the hospital, municipality, police, NGOs, media and social help groups who are active as the Corona warriors.
- One should thus create a hopeful environment through the internet and social media and not create rumors which bring fear and distress to people.
- One should learn the proper and extensive use of internet services and applications to carry on with many functions/activities from home on a day to day basis.
- One should help the children who have been deprived of the opportunity to visit their schools and colleges. They need great understanding, love and psychological support at this time.
- Create a cooperative condition at home so that every member participates in its running and maintenance.
- Finally, one should accept the unexpected changes that have engulfed our existence. Acceptance of change is a sign of progress.

Let us pray Shirdi Sai Baba to give us the wisdom and patience to face the Corona crisis.

May Shri Sai bless us all.

Dr. Chandra Bhanu Satpathy
Gurugram, India



“WHY FEAR WHEN I AM HERE”

by Deepak Varshney

Jai Sai Ram

I don't know how to explain the things which Baba has been doing for us and I many times wonder if I really deserve all of Baba's blessings and love which He always showers on me. Baba is ever-loving and forgiving of our shortcomings. The incident that I am going to describe today shows Baba's love for His devotees and how He takes care of everything at the right time.

In July 2011, while pursuing my doctorate degree in Puerto Rico I had the opportunity to work at Argonne National laboratory at Chicago for three months as part of my project. I had an Indian mentor under whose guidance I had to carry out the work and at the end of my visit he was very happy with my research work. After my PhD completion (in September 2012), I joined the same lab as a post-doctoral fellow. In December 2012, my mentor from Argonne e-mailed me a job opening in my field at a R&D company in Phoenix. I and my wife wanted to settle in India and we were not interested in applying for this job. Also, I always felt that I lack impressive communication skills which would be a deterrent to get a job in US. I thought that I shouldn't apply for this job. Next day when I met my PhD supervisor and discussed about this job opportunity he encouraged me to apply for it and showed his confidence in me. So, I sent my resume to the HR and left everything on Baba. After 2-3 weeks, I got an e mail from the HR that I have been shortlisted for a telephone conversation with the Vice President of the company.

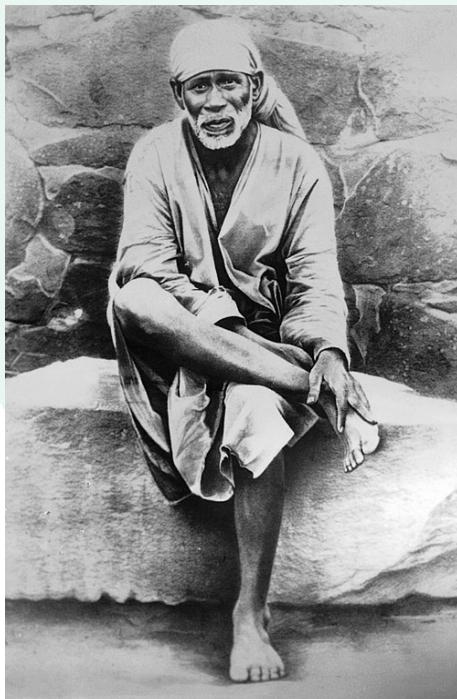
After reading his mail I was a bit scared as I could talk about my research at length but telephonic interview without good communication skills was a different story. When I told about this to my wife, she smiled and said that this job may be difficult to get but let's leave everything on Baba. I told Baba that I have already made my mind to settle in India but You know what is best for us, so, I will go ahead and give the telephone interview. In the last week of Dec, 2012, I had a 45 min telephone conversation with the VP of the hiring company which went good. I was happy that all had gone well by Baba's grace. Then in Jan 2013, I received another e-mail from HR telling me that VP liked my resume and my research work and asking me to come for a presentation and interview. I and my wife were pleasantly surprised after knowing this and regarding it as Baba's will, I decided to go to Arizona. Honestly speaking I was nervous and also sceptical whether it was a good decision. But I decided to give my fears and apprehensions to Baba and like in many previous instances, this time again I told Baba that if you give any signal (His idol or photograph) at the time of interview then I will know that I will get this job. In addition, I said to Him that I want the signal to be miraculous (not obvious).

The interview was to be held on Jan 15, 2013. I was excited and nervous at the same time but I knew in my heart that where ever I go Baba is always with me and He will take care of everything. I reached Phoenix around 7 pm on 14 Jan 2013, checked into my hotel, did night aarti @ 8:30 pm, worked on my presentation for a while and went to bed thinking that I was yet to get any signal from Baba.

Next morning, I woke up early, bathed and did Baba Morning aarti (Kakad Aarti). The HR came to pick me and took me to the room where the presentation was scheduled. I opened my laptop and bowed my head to Sai Baba's picture of Samadhi Mandir in Shirdi which is saved as a wallpaper on my screen. I opened my presentation file and made everything ready for the interview committee. After 10-15 min, the committee members entered the room and after a small introduction, I started my presentation and finished it in about 45 mins. Subsequently, the committee was supposed to take my interview in a separate room. I was happy with the presentation but really nervous about the interview. Committee members started asking about my research and future plans. The Q/A session lasted for about an hour and almost at the end of it, the Executive VP of the company came to me and taking out his I-phone showed me an image and asked pointing to it if I believe this guy (Sai Baba)!

I was shocked, surprised and got goose bumps to see the image of BABA!!!

I was not able to say anything and he again asked me, "do you believe this guy?". I replied in an affirmative and he told me that he is a spiritual person and wants to know more about Him. I couldn't have been happier!! I got the signal form Baba and it came from the Executive VP who was an American guy. I didn't expect to see Baba on his phone. I had tears of joy and I was still spell bound as I couldn't believe what I saw and the way I saw it! I can't explain what I felt at that time and at present as I am writing this experience, I still have the same feeling. After the interview I called my wife and she asked, "how did the interview go?". I said to her, "forget about it and I just know that I got selected for this job!". She asked me how was I so sure about it and I told her the whole story. That evening I went to Shirdi Sai temple at Phoenix, offered flowers to Baba and heartily thanked Him. I knew that I would get this job as Baba had blessed me in the form of His photo and that too through a person from whom I could never expect even in my wildest dream. Next day when I landed home at San Juan airport and turned on my cell phone I saw a text from the HR stating that everything looks positive and he expects to see me in Arizona pretty soon. This is the picture of Baba that my executive VP showed me in his phone.



Baba is All-pervading and it is amazing how He puts everything in place for you. If we have Patience and Faith with full submission to Baba then He is always with us taking care of everything and pulling us through this Bhavasagar.

THE THREE GURUS OF LIFE

by Ayesha Satpathy



The word “Guru” derives from the Sanskrit language, and its literal meaning is “dispeller of the darkness.” However, the term “Guru” can be more ambiguous and have other connotations as well. For example, some people regard their Guru as a mentor while others regard their Guru as a savior.

In the journey of life, there are three Gurus: Parents, Teachers, and the Spiritual Guru.

From the moment we were born, our Parents became our first guide to our surroundings. They taught us the norms of our society and the values of our culture. Our Parents were the ones who disciplined us to become good citizens and became our helping hands in times of difficulty.

When we advanced in the pathway of life and started school, our teachers become our second Guru. They educated us with the vast knowledge of the world and broadened our perspective of life. Our teachers expanded our understanding of our society and equipped us with skills that will make us successful.

Ultimately, the purpose of our life is guided by our Spiritual Guru. For example, the legacy of Shirdi Sai Baba has created a divine community of Sai Devotees following Sai'ism. These devotees are guided by the principles of Shirdi Sai Baba and continue to apply the morals to live a prosperous life.

In conclusion, the presence of a Guru is vital for human beings as they navigate through the various stages of life.

Jai Shri Sai

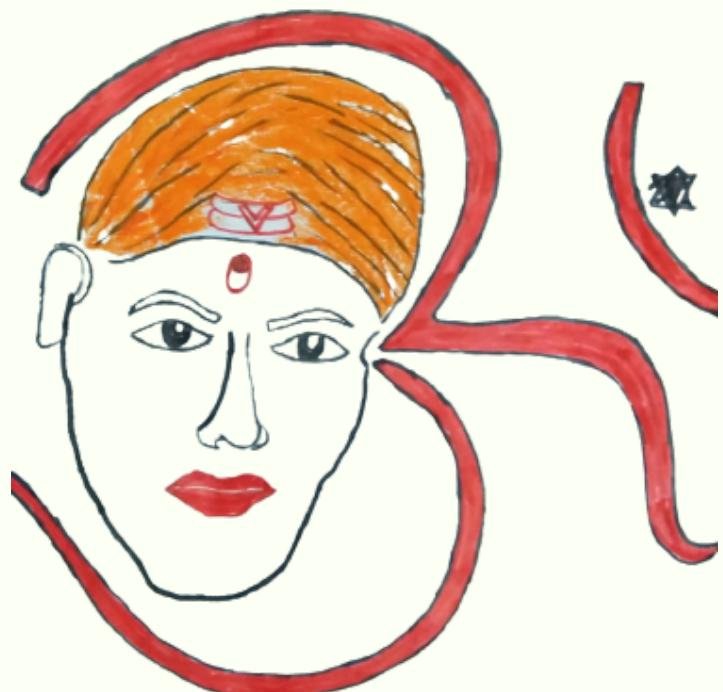


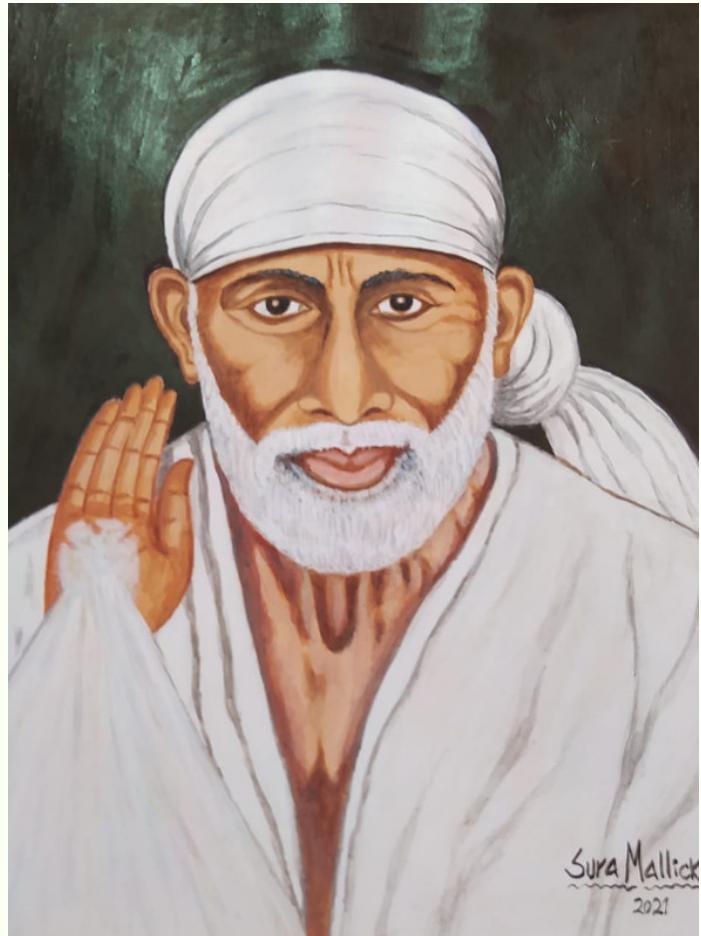
Baba's Kids



Sai Yatish Munagula
Allen, Texas

Sachit Kumar Dash
New Delhi, India





Surendra Nath Mallik
Bhubaneshwar, India



Aryes Mohapatra
Union City, California

Aaradhya Satpathy
Plano, Texas





Happy Guru Poornima

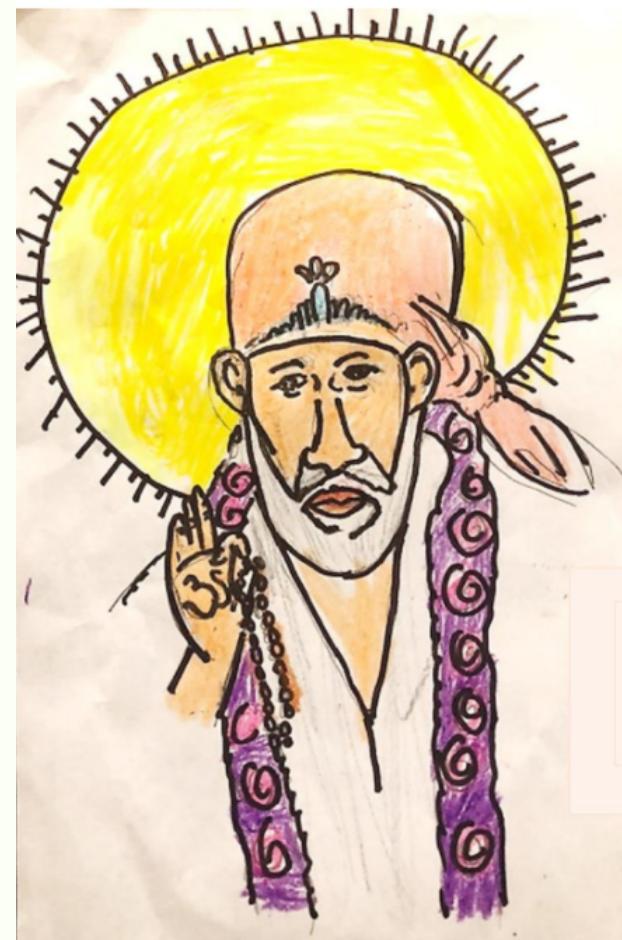


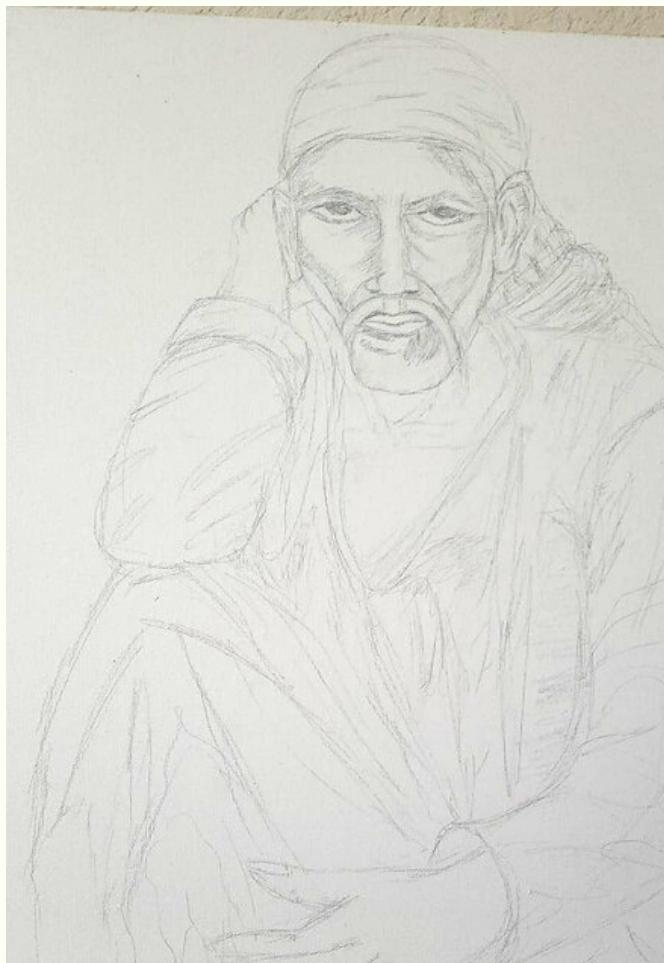
Saatvik Mathur
Plano, Texas



Saiansha Varshney
Nashua, New Hampshire

Arnav Sahoo
Union city, CA





Saanvi Sahu
Austin, Texas

Chitra Sudakar,
Frisco, Texas



HOW TO BE WITH MY SAI ?

by Ranjeeta Bastia

When I see the picture of Sai, I feel my Sai is in this picture.
Then comes a thought, what If I am blind?

When I start to utter Sai's name (the word 'Sai'), I feel Sai is in that sound.
Then comes a thought, what If I am dumb and deaf?

When I start to meditate, I feel Sai is in my breath.
Then comes a thought, what If I can't focus and meditate?

When I close my eyes and listen to my inner voice, I feel Sai in my heart.
Then comes a thought, what If I lose sense of this body.

I am still wondering, how to be with my Sai all the time?

I said to myself, let me go and live where Sai lives. Where does Sai live? I turned to Sai Satcharita for an answer.

Sai made me realize that:

"Sai lives there, where service is offered. Sai lives there, where there is a helping hand. Sai lives everywhere, where there is love and compassion for others without any selfish expectation in return".

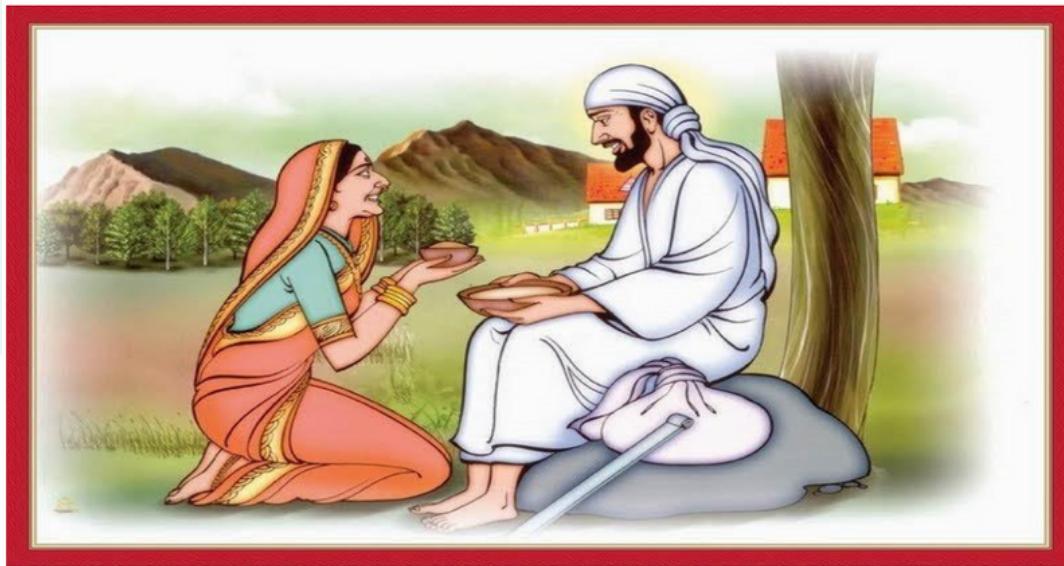
How beautiful is this thought!! When I receive love and compassion, Sai is there in it. When I show love and compassion, Sai is there in it. "Sai" is that emotion itself. That love stays around eternally and I can stay with my Sai eternally, even when I am no longer constrained to this body.

I am not sure if this is the right way to think, but Sai is the guiding light, he knows the truth and he is the truth himself. When I float in the sea of uncertainty and confusion, surprisingly I am not feeling afraid anymore. I know My Sai is with me and I have nothing to fear.

Om Sri Sai Ram.

THE LEARNINGS FROM THE LIFE OF SAI BABA

by Dhanvi Krishna



Life gives us so many learnings from the events in our life and also from the experiences of others. At times the situation might be depressing, frustrating and struggling but there's always a brighter side when we have firm belief that our Guru Almighty Sai Baba is always with us as a guide in our journey of life. During this devastating situation many people are in grief and need a pillar to give mental and physical support. The best soothing way to calmly face the situation in the given circumstances is keeping our full faith in Sai Baba who gives us the inner strength and patiently think of the teachings of Baba. There are many learnings we can learn from the life of Sai baba and the events that took place in Shirdi.

We meet several kinds of people, who posses many good qualities and maybe even expertise in a certain field. However sometimes we underestimate a person's caliber just by their looks. A perfect example of this is Sai Baba because he is an incarnation of Lord Dattatreya, but appears as a beggar. Moreover, many villagers of Shirdi like Mhalsapati and Baija maa saw through his appearance, and understood that he was a God. Whereas others were unable to do the same and thought that Sai Baba was a normal person or a beggar. If one looks back in time, specifically Sai Baba's life at Shirdi, one will realize that many people did not even get a chance to know him as they were judging his knowledge through his appearance.

Sai Baba's moral for goodness gives us hope for humanity and possibility about finding the good in others. Seeing others act altruistically makes us feel connected to one another and reminds us of our shared humanity.

HUMANITY IN OUR LIFE

by Shriya Krishna



A new life's intention of taking birth is to continue the simple but predestined cycle of Karma. Every human on this planet is entangled in their duties and liabilities. Simply, because every action accomplished, intended to create good or bad, will yield a result in regards to action. Hence, it is the intention of the human that takes precedence over the act, not the result itself. Thus, in crucial situations the determination to create good thoughts and kindness for humanity accumulates good karma.

Every moment we go through different situations in order to learn the soul lesson. That's how the "Cycle of Karma" plays its role which is "what goes around comes around". To elaborate, no matter which circumstances a person is in, whatever they said or did to others, kind or unkind, will always return back to them.

In our holy book named "Sai Satcharitra" in the story of the snake and the frog, it shows how people are reborn according to the karma of their past lives. Also, in the second edition of 'Bhagavad Gita' it gives another example of karma, "Animal killers do not know that in the future the animal will have a body suitable to kill them. That is the law of nature." At the same time, if someone prays to Sai Baba with true faith and patience then the bad deeds will lessen as a result of the person's positive thoughts for others. Thus, they will become respectful, loyal and honest to mankind. Thereby, getting the same because of karma.

However, Sai Baba knows every action and thought of our mind. As in "Sai Satcharitra", when Shri Nana Saheb Chandorkar was going to give a surprise visit in Shirdi to Sai Baba because of his transfer to Pandharpur. Sai Baba already knew about it and started to sing, with the chorus being "I have to go to Pandharpur and I have to stay there, for it is the house of my Lord" with other people of Shirdi. This teaches us to have devotion with faith and patience in our deeds and humanity to serve mankind and nature.

With the moral to be righteous and kind to people, we should be able to uphold it in our actions. Thus, selflessness becomes a virtue when we accommodate others in our lives despite the discomfort involved while believing in the principle of

" Sabka Malik Ek Hai".

SAI COMES TO MY LIFE



"An intense desire was born within me to know more about Shri Sai which grew almost to the point of pain. When in meditation, I would often imagine the posture in which Shri Sainath had been laid to rest. I would think about the last cloth He wore. Would He still be like that even today? Would it be possible somehow to see His body under the Samadhi? Would He resurrect Himself like Jesus Christ and appear before the world in flesh and blood? A sadness would descend over me. Only If I had been born when He was in his flesh and blood.

The search of Him was growing within my mind. I brought a photograph and started worshipping him daily. Earlier, I used to listen to a recital of Vishnu Sahasranama after leaving my bed as a morning ritual. It was now replaced by Sai Aarti. Gradually, Sai took over my existence. For months I remained in an ecstatic mental plane. No one knew of the storm raging within me, not even my family members."

(excerpt from the chapter "Sai Comes to my Life" from the book Shirdi Sai Baba and other Perfect Masters. The reference is in the article titled "**Sai Comes to My Life, Page - 23 to 38 at P27, Para 1**)

गुरु गोविन्द दोऊ खडे

by Padmaja Puppala



गुरु गोविन्द दोऊ खडे , काके लागू पाय।
बलिहारी गुरु आपने , गोविन्द दियो बताय॥

- SANT KABIR

‘Guru and God, both are standing in front of me, whom should I offer my regards first? I will offer my regards to my Guru first as He is the one who showed me the path to reach God.’

These are the lines by Kabir, who narrated the significance of a Guru in each of our lives. A Guru gives you the powers to decide which path will lead you on your spiritual journey and guide you in all walks of your life. Each individual's life is complicated where there is happiness and suffering, pleasure and pain, full of opposite values throwing the life in different directions. Hence, one needs a guidance, a support, a distinct light to lead our lives. And it's only a 'Guru', whose vision and wisdom will help you reach your destination amidst all the chaos of life.

Every mind is a cauldron of dilemmas, confusions, anxieties which needs a light of knowledge and understanding of a 'Guru', to save your mind and soul attain the peace and answers to your troubles. In Sanskrit, we can split the word, Guru into 'GU' (Ignorance or darkness) and 'RU' (Knowledge or light). Every person walking through darkness or ignorance needs an enlightenment in form of Guru for guidance and progress.

Shirdi Sai Baba, is one Satguru, who has taught moral code of love, forgiveness, charity, contentment, inner peace and devotion to God. Baba has healed and given guidance to every soul who approached Him with devotion. Hundreds of thousands of miracles are attributed to Him in His life. His teachings create faith in His devotees and they reach self-realization and bliss. Every chapter in 'Sai Satcharitra', is a mixture of anecdotes, stories with a message and philosophy of life. Lakhs of people in India and belonging to the Indian diaspora around the world look forward to 'Guru Poornima' every year to render their gratitude and devotion to all their teachers and mentors who have enlightened the society and its people.

CEILING ON DESIRES

by Sampriti Senapati

Baba says: "Desires are like luggage which is a heavy burden in the journey of life. Less luggage more comfort makes travel a pleasure. Therefore, gradually reduce your desires."

So how should we "gradually reduce our desires?

Well, there are many way possible ways, but I will only state five factors in this Article.

Food, Money, Time, Energy and Information.

Food wasting is a very big thing in our nation. Worldwide, there are lot of people without food. As children in this wealthy nation, we take food for granted. Instead of wasting food, we should finish it. Or better yet, don't take as much. Only take as much as you can eat. We must only eat food that is Satvik (or good, clean & pure). I have encouraged my parents to allow me to serve myself. This way, I take what I want and don't waste food.

Money is very important in a person's life. Although not everyone has the same amount, we still all value money. When buying something, we should all stop to think, do we really need this? Is this a thing you can afford? And last but not least, can you live without it? When buying something, we shouldn't waste money. When we have money that we can spare, we should donate the money for a good cause. Every time we want to buy something, we must ask ourselves three questions: "Do I need it? Can I afford it? Can I live without it?" If the answer to first two is "no" or you answer the last one with "yes", then don't buy it. I will ponder upon these questions every time I want to purchase something.

Time, 24 hours of a day that everyone has. Time is like the most valuable thing in our life. It is important to manage your time wisely because "time waste is life waste !". Every day I try to plan my tasks and prioritize them. This way, I do not waste time and procrastinate. Time is a resource that everyone has the equal amount of. However, you can't save time today to use tomorrow. Because it resets, one must understand the importance of using it wisely.

Energy, there are three types of energy: physical, mental and spiritual energy. Physical energy includes your body's fuel and natural resources. Electricity is a physical energy that is often wasted. I am trying to save energy by becoming conscious of things I accidentally leave on. Mental energy refers to your mind's ability to function. Sleep provides your brain with the energy to do well.

Information, the popular saying "Curiosity killed the cat" is true. Especially with the technology we have today, time and energy are wasted by trying to get unnecessary information. I only get the information that I need and carry on. It is hard not to follow social media as human nature is curious, but it must be wisely followed.

OM SAI RAM

by Sanvi Nayak



SAI BABA'S LAST DAY

In his last days, Sai Baba taught religious books to his devotees and explained to them the inner knowledge of the book.

Shirdi Sai Baba Samadhi It used to happen every day in the morning and evening. Baba Sai became very weak on October 8, 1918. They sat on the wall of the mosque. Aarti and Pooja were as usual. Devotees were not being allowed to go to Sai Baba who had fallen ill. Some people had come to the village with a leopard to make money by showing some spectacle. When the cheetah came in front of Baba, Sai Baba looked into the eyes of the sick leopard. The leopard also saw Baba in such a way that he was saying, O Sai Baba, now liberate me from this world. There were tears in the leopard ' s eyes. Baba helped the leopard with his liberation. Baba Sai was weakening day by day in his last days, but he did not stop giving him knowledge to meet his devotees even in his illness. They had already done everything in the name of their devotees. All his devotees were deeply saddened by Baba ' s illness and prayed that Sai Baba should recover quickly. The last day was Tuesday, October 15, 1918, Vijayadashami, and Sai Baba was very weak. As usual, devotees were coming to see him. Sai Baba was offering him prasad and Uri. The devotees were also receiving knowledge from Baba, but no devotee thought that today was the last day of Baba ' s body. It was 11 a.m. It was late in the afternoon, and it was going on. A devik Prakash baba ' s body was filled with aarti and Baba Sai ' s face seemed to be changing every time. Baba gave darshan of all the deities to his devotees in a jiffy. Baba Sai asked his devotees to leave me alone. Sai Baba, who had left, then had a deadly cough and vomited blood. A devotee of Tatya Baba was close to death. He was now cured. He did not even know what miracle he had recovered. He started coming to Baba's residence to thank Baba, but Baba's worldly body was left. Sai Baba had said that after he died, his body should be placed in Butti Wada.

OM SAI RAM

गुरु गोविंद दोहर खड़े,
काके लागूं पाँव ।
बलिहारी गुरु आपने,
गोविंद दियो मिलाय ॥

GURU PURNIMA

by Yogesh Puri

Guru govind dono khade,Kaake lagu paaye
Balihari guru appno govind diyo bataye

Meaning -Teacher and Lord are both
there,whom to be adore.But teacher you are
great ,who told us that God is greater.

What does Guru Purnima mean?

Guru or teacher has always been considered akin to a God in the Hindu culture. Guru Purnima or Vyasa Purnima is the day to celebrate and pay our gratitude to our Gurus. Guru Purnima is celebrated to honor our teachers, who remove the darkness from our minds.

An age-old Sanskrit phrase 'Mata Pitah Guru Daivam', says that the
 -First place is reserved for the mother
 -Second for the father,
 -Third for Guru
 -and forth for God.

Teachers have been given a higher place than Gods in Hindu tradition. Guru Purnima is a traditional Hindu celebration, dedicated to enlightened spiritual masters known as gurus. This auspicious day falls on the first full moon after the summer solstice, in the Hindu month of Ashad (July to August). Since gurus are often regarded as a link between seekers and the divine, Guru Purnima is seen as a sacred day, in which gurus are revered like Gods.

Short Story which explains the importance of Guru

Surdas was an eager student who wanted to learn about Spirituality. He met a Guru who accepted him as his disciple. The Guru found that Surdas was hampered by his quality of getting angry easily, which prevented him from learning. Thus, the Guru decided to make Surdas shed his anger.

The Guru said 'Dear Surdas, chant the God's name during all your activities for one month, then take a bath and come back to me. Surdas followed the Guru's instructions and the day after the month was over, he went to meet his Guru.

On his way to Guru's ashram, a sweeper on the street carelessly put dirt on his clothes. Surdas got angry and scolded the sweeper, 'What are you doing, you fool? Now I have to go back wash and dry these clothes and bathe again! Such a waste of time!' The Guru had observed the scene and when Surdas reached the ashram he told him,'Dear Surdas, you are not yet ready for further spiritual practice. Chant the God's name during all your activities for another month, take a bath at the end of it and come to see me.'

After a month, he eagerly went to his Guruji's ashram and the same thing was repeated. Surdas again became angry and blamed the sweeper. After bathing, he met his Guru who asked Surdas to chant God's name for one more month.

One month passed and this time the same incident happened when Surdas went to meet his Guru. However, this time Surdas addressed the sweeper softly saying "Thank you. You are my master. You have helped me to overcome my anger." The sweeper felt bad for his action.

This time as Surdas approached his Guru's hermitage, he could see his Guru standing in front of the hermitage welcoming him. Guru told Surdas that he is now ready to teach him.

- Only a Guru knows what a student is lacking and can give solutions.
- As a student, you must have faith in Guru's words and follow them with devotion.

HOW TO TURN KARMIC SITUATION TO YOUR LIFE MISSION

Karma comes from Desires. Karma means Action and the results of action. Thinking is action. Any thought will bring about a reaction. You experience the present life as a result of the past coming into the present. Karma is law of cause and effect. Some karmas (or karmic situations) seem to be good and some are appearing to be negative. The theory on Karma, explains that "We reap the fruits of the seeds we grow. Good actions bring its own results and bad actions bring its own consequences. There is no accident or haphazard things in this world." I know this seems cruel and some of you might rise objections as to why some people would have to die from Corona virus now, alone in hospital grasping for air, some people would have to perish while helping others on the front line, some people have no shelter to shelter under and some others can afford have all the medical care to fight off the disease.

The Root Causes of Life's Struggles

Life doesn't end with death, according to Yogic philosophy. We need to look deeper into the cause of our struggles or luck which might come from beyond this life. The law of cause and effect, when applied can be very simple: If we enjoy peace and health now, it is because we have contributed to peace and health of someone sometime. If we suffer from loneliness, it is we have created isolation in somebody. If we face a situation that seems like a choice between being selfish and survive or being compassionate and humble and risking our lives, it is because in the past when confronted with these situations we have always chosen the former. We are being given this same choice again in order to choose differently. Similarly, if we feel that lying or manipulating a situation will be to our advantage, we need to choose honesty and straightforwardness and find strength in having good character, of doing the ethical thing. Genuinely helping another person to attain more material comforts in their life will manifest in yours as a boon of good fortune.

Take Responsibility of your life and choices.

Karma does not work differently at work, in private life. There is also a group collective karma. You are born in a certain era, certain society, certain level of technological development. Everything is interrelated. By improving your character at work you improve your happiness at home. By improving your relationships at home you improve your business as your energy will flow better. Cultivating contentment with what you have already been given releases you from the karma of constant restlessness of desiring more. Giving freely and charitably results in greater wealth coming your way. Stinginess, in the contrary, brings with it a sense of lack, of never having enough. Maintaining pure intentions, which come from your heart, brings lasting peace of mind; whereas, sometimes following the head and other times the heart brings confusion, fragmentation, and problems in the future. Seeking inspiration from the wise people while avoiding back-biting and gossiping attracts supportive people that will be key to your success. In the same manner, negativity, divisiveness, and bringing your competitors or coworkers down will return to you in the form of stress and fear. Inflexibility and desire for control bring you more situations that you can never control. But, letting go of the need for control and realizing that you may not be aware of subtler forces at work gives insight into the interconnectivity and self-regulating nature of creation. Everything is, in fact, perfect; we just often fail to see it. Cultivating belief in this truth brings great peace and relaxation.

The twelve areas of Karma in this life.

The more you identify with your karma, the more your karma becomes real. To be free from it you have to know it, so you don't identify with it. These are 12 areas of karma, intertwined with each other.

- The body:

The body is said to be a battlefield where the karmic lessons are learnt. From the seed of karma, sprout out the body and mind. With the body you inherit certain psychology pertaining to the gender. When you are born you are born in a body belonging to a certain race and culture. The collective karma will come with it. You are born white, yellow or black. The karmic condition comes with it, depending on the era you are born in. You also inherit from the moment you are born a certain amount of life force. Some are born healthy with lots of life force. Some are born weak, not so healthy. Some are born with fire element constitution, prone to action. Some are born with water element, prone to emotions. The karma with the body is already there, male, female, strong, and weak.

- The family, relatives and resources.

Then you have the karma of the family, the relatives, people that you live with in your early life. You might be supported or not supported. You have karma of having money or not having money no matter what you do.

- Your karma relating to your abilities in communication and your self will or not. Your relationship with siblings.
- Relationship karma with your emotional heart and happiness, your mother, and your home, house and property.
- Then you have the karma with your children, your physical children or your creativity, which is your children in an abstract manner.
- This is the karma about your health and diseases and challenges.
- You have karma with your partner either easy or difficult.
- You also have difficult invisible karmas, hidden. This relates to the energy within the psyche, the area of spiritual insight or death.
- You have karma with your Guru, your spiritual teacher, your father and also your dharma, your faith.
- Ten is your karma with work, career, your name and fame, place in society, in some cases frustrating, some cases fulfilling.
- You also have karma with your friends, your community, your gain

There is no Good karma and bad karma. Try to be free from all karma

Life is not only challenges but there will be some good things happening and some bad. Life is a combination of both good and bad karma. That means certain conditions that we are born in are easy, things that we didn't have to do anything and yet they came to you.

There will be favorable conditions according to what we wish and desire and there will be the unfavorable conditions that we have to struggle with.

Keep even mind in all conditions, in fact, good or bad karma is just karma. In reality there is no good or bad. There is no good life, no bad life, no superior life, no lucky life, no unlucky life. It is just specifically *your* life and then you have to learn from it in order for you to be free from all karmas.

Increasing karmic credits, diminishing karmic debits.

Life is a series of pluses and minuses. You have to see the condition from the inside, to understand the plus and minus in the karmic bank balance of your life, not from the outside. From the inside means from your level of consciousness. Your journey is the journey of Self Realization, towards absolute consciousness of Oneness.

In this journey, you can record your debts as the things that you yet have to learn, and credits as the things you have learned. *Credit giving (+)* Selfless actions, study, introspection, meditation. Anything that helps us bring awareness will give us credit; Follow dharmic rules of conduct is accumulating credits. Any action that will make us wake up is credit. *Debits adding (-)* : anything that makes us become more ignorant will give us debt. Any action that will make us become thicker in our ego separation and illusion is debt. The balance of plusses and minuses shows your progress and the accumulation of plusses can bring about a total payment of all debts i.e. liberation from karma.

What is Karma Yoga?

Karma Yoga is the way to work through karma by changing your sense of yourself and the identification with your actions. In Karma Yoga your motivation needs to be pure. Motivation stems from the heart, the true inner feeling. Develop the attitude of being an instrument only, be detached. Offer the results: In praises or censures, in success or failures, keep the mind even. It's not about me, it's not about them. It's not about whether I like them or they like me, it has nothing to do with this. You offer the results of your action, that means you offer this karma up in order for you to continue to progress. Do the best you can: Make effort but learn to let go. Do your duty and persevere, this too shall pass. Your karma dictates to you your specific duty. There is no accident, no duty is an accident. If you follow your duty you learn even though it is difficult. At every station in life, you have specific duty. Follow the discipline of your duty and you will be learning greatly. Many doctors and nurses actually now are going through intense karma doing their duty, even risking their lives to save others. They are on the front line, like in a war. This reminds us of the sublime teaching long ago of Arjun, the warrior-disciple in conflict who receives on the battle field the revelation about the immortality of the soul, the teaching on karma yoga and duty and the self-knowledge in action.

Every karma is unique

You can only understand your own karma; you cannot understand another person's karma. You can look at someone else's life so that you can learn from them. The scriptures say it is much better that you focus on your own karma and not someone else's, even though it is easier for you. Let's say you have a situation that is really difficult for you to deal with, but a friend will look at you and say, "I don't know why you have such big problem about this. If I am you, I'll do this, I'll do that." In karmic difficulty, it is as if you are blind while another person can see your problem easily. It is said that you can take people's advice, you can hear other people, but you yourself have to deal with it. So don't compare, it is not necessary to compare.

Turning karma to Karma yoga and find your life mission:

- Dharma is right living, right action. Karma Yoga attitude helps you to turn your karma to Dharma. You can turn your karma to karma yoga by being selfless and dedicating your service without expectation. Your selfless service is unique to you. For you, it turns your whole attitude around and touches your soul. It opens your life up to new horizons. Then, you turn your selfless service into your life mission when you understand that this sublime attitude has to be kept throughout life.

You cannot solve the problem on the same level of consciousness that created the problem at the first place, so your life mission is to go back to this place of selflessness that will set you free. Examples, A homeless abandoned woman opens shelter for homeless women and teach the women self-esteem and self-confidence. A grieving wife due to loss of beloved husband to disease, speaks out about the virtue of love beyond death, and becomes selfless worker to help people with disease. A person becoming jobless and bankrupt due to economy crisis turns into a founder of a company helping people to express creativity and improve earning through wise capital ventures. A scientist who lost family due to virus now dedicates life work to study viruses and to find cures and vaccines. A political critical activist wanting always things to change now dedicating oneself to nourish and care for ecology, relying on the grace of the Mother Nature.

Take care of your duty in the present and the future will be taken care of:

Dharma is duty. It is transforming your karma into an unselfish duty. It means putting the ego at the service of others and the greater good. Not thinking of ourselves first and only, but sharing in everyone's happiness, being an honorable contributor to the betterment of society, and opening oneself to the whole of creation will turn karma into dharma. It will improve life in all aspects. The result is not necessarily immediate, however; patience and knowledge of how karma works will see you through to the benefits. Yoga teaching says try to be good and to do good all of the time no matter what the situation is. Karma can be understood and released. Growing spiritually requires that we turn our karma into dharma.



“
Jay Shri Sai 🙏
Jay Shri Guru Dev 🙏

"I would like to share the 108 Deepam Puja that I did at my home on one of the Thursdays. I made a white dress for Baba as I dreamt Baba in a white dress that same morning. It was an amazing experience."

-Disha



EVENTS

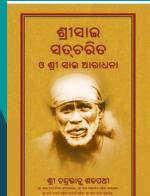
The Covid Pandemic has led many to the unprecedented challenge of isolation. Sai Divine Foundation has continued zoom sessions as an opportunity for devotees to connect while acquiring knowledge about the Great Sadguru.



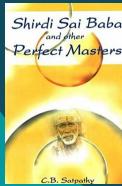
SHRI GURU BHAGAVAT



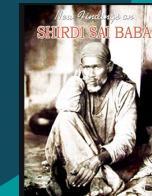
GOPYARU AGOPYA



SHRI SAI SATCHARITA



SHIRDI SAI BABA AND OTHER PERFECT MASTERS



NEW FINDINGS ON SHIRDI SAI BABA

Sai Divine



Shri Sai Baba is in God state. He sees himself in every one and hence love everyone

-Dr. C. B. Satpathy

Charity Drive (Food)

At Sai Divine foundation, we believe that we must help those who are in dire need. The volunteers distributed food items to the homeless community in downtown Dallas. It is a continued effort that is possible due to our pujya Guruji's blessings and the constant support provided by our volunteers.



SHRI SADGURU

Source : Shri Guru Bhagavat Volume 1

Author - Dr. C.B.Satpathy



(1 & 2)

Oh the mighty Sadguru (Oh the Perfect Master) ! In the world of the Gurus (Masters), You stand out as the tallest MERU (mountains peak). The other Gurus, Saints and Pundits are all under Your divine shelter. The 'Kul-Gurus' (the Guru of the Clan), 'Vidya-Guru' (Guru imparting formal education) , 'Kama-Guru' (the Guru whispering mantra in the ear) or 'Mantra-Guru' (Guru chanting mantras), are all created by you.

(3 & 4)

You come in the life of the devotee in various forms of relationships. In some birth (You come) as a friend or a brother and in some other birth, as a son or father. Even when processing the divine power of 'Sahaja Yoga' (highest transcendental stage). You got embodied as a worldly man. Even when You act like an ordinary man. You are God within.

(5 & 6)

Oh Gurudev (Oh the Master) ! You remember all the relationships (with the devotees) of the past lives, but the ignorant devotee does not recollect. Such relationship of one life creates (leads to) relationship in ensuring lives as well. You attract Your devotees towards you, who were linked with karmic debts of past lives with You. Oh the witness of the Inner-Self, You are aware of the Karmic debts of each devotee.

(7 & 8)

Oh the Seer of the cycles of life. You are ever awake like a night sentinel. Being pulled by the karmic debts of the past lives, devotees come under Your protection. Due to 'Punya' (the accumulated virtues) of the past lives, the devotee attracts a Guru (SadGuru). Once Guru's grace is evoked, the passage to his good fortune opens a under.

(9 & 10)

The Sadguru (Perfect Master) is like the Sun, which fills the devotees with rays of knowledge. Father and mother are the initial (childhood) Gurus followed by the 'Kul-Guru' (Guru of the Clan) or 'Vidya-Guru' (Guru impacting formal education). Before imparting divine knowledge, the Sadguru (Perfect Master) destroys (cut-off) the devotee's Ignorance. Thereafter, the spiritual power of the Sadguru evokes pious thoughts in the mind of the devotee.

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:

- For spiritual wanderers, it stands like a lighthouse and shows the divine path towards knowledge, devotion and pious activities.
- 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.

Best Features

Single place to get all languages of Shri Guru Bhagavat books and music/audio

Readers are using this online platform to read, recite, discuss Shri Guru Bhagavat through mobile phone, tablets and other devices in India and abroad. Application is in high demand during Covid/lockdown phase for daily, weekly or monthly activities performed by groups of peoples.

Special Feature

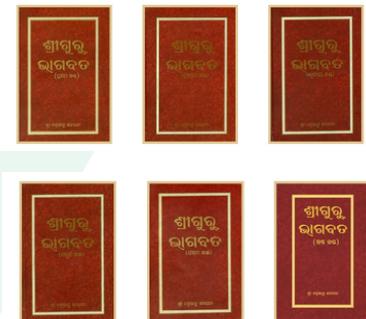
All stanzas written in the poetic meter (each line with nine letters in a couplet form), nabakshari chhanda.

- ◆ Full screen mode view
- ◆ Text size changeable
- ◆ Bookmark page
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- ◆ Easy to navigate between pages, shlokas and books
- ◆ Fully functional even without internet connection

Application QR Code:



Application Link
iOS: <https://apple.co/2Pi77Xh>
Android: <https://goo.gl/oC7PCh>





Sai Divine

Faith & Patience

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