



The Glory of Shirdi Sai

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श्रद्धा

गुरुब्रह्मा गुरुर्विष्णुः गुरुर्देवो महेश्वरः ।
गुरुः शाक्षात् परब्रह्म तस्मै श्रीगुरवे नमः॥

सबुरी

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Sai a Beacon for Humanity



EXPERIENCES OF SAI B.A.N.I.S.A WITH SHIRDI SAI - 15

Let us recapture the incident that happened to Shri Appa Sahib Kulkarni in the year 1917 as highlighted in the 33rd chapter of Sai Satcharitra. His wife narrates to him as to how she has donated Re.1/- to a fakir in the name of BABA. Shri. Kulakarni was not happy with his wife's doings and he desired to part with Rs.10/- if he were to come across the fakir again. Indeed he could succeed in locating the fakir and unknowingly he parted with the amount as desired by him This fact establishes well that SAI knows all the thoughts reeling in our minds and hearts from time to time and accordingly organizes the events to take place, to build up one's faith gradually.

I wish to submit that I also underwent a similar experience and intend to share with my fellow devotees. I got married on the day of festival of colors i.e. Holi in the year 1970 in Temple premises of the deity 'SRI KANYAKA PARAMESHWARI' located in Secunderabad. It has become a routine practice for me to visit the temple with all my family members on the day of our wedding anniversary every year. It was the year 1991 and as usual we reached the temple. An old man resembling Sai approached me for dakshina and I gave him a Re.1/- and went inside the temple for the rituals. The priest was busy in reciting manthras and my mind was pre-occupied with thought that, it being day of importance in my life I should have offered Rs.10/- as dakshina to the old man.

We completed the prayer and were leisurely sitting on a bench chit chatting about our past events and milestones. A Sikh sanyasi stood before us and introduced himself as a servant in a GURUDWARA of Nanded and desired some financial assistance. I recalled my thoughts a little while ago and happily parted with Rupees ten as desired. I for the moment felt that Sai himself has accepted the dakshina as was evident from the typical smile he has thrown on me while leaving. The smile resembled the one I regularly see on the huge photograph of SAI adorned in my house

.Will continue

Sri Guru Charitra



Jagath
prabhava
Namaha

Sai Bhakti
Radio



By Shri S.N.Huddar

(As published in Sri Sai Leela English Monthly Magazine
from April 1975 onwards)

*Gurur Brahma, Gurur Vishnu, Gurur Devo Maheshwara
Guru Sakshat Parabrahmah Tasmai Shree Gurave Namah*

Chapter XXXII

Behavior of a Widow: Dead Husband Made Alive (*continued from last issue*)

He applied bhasma to her forehead, gave her 4 Rudra beads and said. 'Tie two in your husband's ears and two around your neck and sprinkle teerth on the body of your husband and on yourself after rudrabhishek to Shri Guru. After doing this, you may observe Sati'. The sanyasi then went away.

The young woman started preparations for observing sati. She called Brahmins, gave prayashchitta to the body of her husband. She took a bath, wore a silk sari and then ornaments, applied haladi kunkum and became ready to observe sati. The body of her husband was taken to the river and she was going in front of the corpse with fire pot in her hand. The young girl of sixteen appeared as bright as goddess Lakshmi and all wondered to see her courage.

A pyre of wood and cow dung cakes was prepared. The young woman offered vayan Haldi Kunkum and mangal sutra to married women, bowed to them and said, 'please inform my parents and father and mother-in-laws that we are staying at holy place and are in good health. Otherwise out of grief they will give up their lives.'

She was praying all the way in the mind. 'Oh Trimurti, your fame is widespread, and you possess all Siddhis. If a complaint is made to a ruler, he gives justice. If one goes to a physician, he gives, medicine for relief. I came crossing 20 villages with the hope that my husband will recover. I am coming to ask you how my husband expired on the way. She saw Shri Guru sitting below an Ashwattha tree and she bowed to him respectfully. Shri Guru, blessed her and said, 'you shall have Sowbhagya forever. She again bowed to Shri Guru and he exclaimed 'you will have 8 sons' the Brahmins accompanying her told Shri Guru, 'her husband has expired and she has come here to see you before observing Sati.'

Hearing this Shri Guru smiled and said, 'Her Sowbhagya is everlasting. Bring her husband's body here immediately. Let me see when he lost his life.'

Some persons soon brought the dead body before Shri Guru. The strings were cut and the cloth covering was removed. The Tirth of rudrabhishek was sprinkled on the dead body and Shri Guru looked at it with his sight full of nectar. Immediately the Brahmin youth sat up as if aroused from sleep. He was ashamed to see himself without clothes. He wore the dhoti and asked his wife why she did not awake him before, why he was brought there and who was the Sanyasi. The wife narrated to him all that had occurred. Then both of them bowed to Shri Guru with devotion and began praying to him. All The persons who had assembled there were delighted to see the miracle.

One cynic person said to Shri Guru. 'This Brahmin died as per his fate. How can he be alive?'

Shri Guru smiled and said, 'I requested Brahmadev to give 30 years' life from his next life to this Brahmin youth.'

All were astonished to hear this. All bowed to Shri Guru and returned. They young Brahmin couple bathed at the Sangam, worshipped Shri Guru devotedly and pleased the Brahmins and the poor by giving in charity.

Will continue...



Excerpts from Sai Leela

THE NEED FOR A GURU AND THE POTENCY OF THE DIVINE NAME

By :—Radhakrishna Swamiji

Man, being a rational being, should always strive to be above animalism, so that divinity in him might be unfolded. Man, coming in contact with the external world, has forgotten his own nature and his natural Home of Bliss.

The mind is always restless with a thousand and one desires and runs after the mirage of transient worldly objects for their fulfillment, in vain. The aimless desires soil the mirror of the heart, and ignorance covers up the horizon of the soul (like clouds gathering around the sun).

Ignorance, or the idea that body is the self, is the root of our degradation. It is Vidya that teaches us that human soul is entirely a separate entity and exists even when the body is no more. She, the Divinity whom we worship as Durga, Lakshmi and Saraswathi during Navarathri, making the soul free from the hold of the external world that strives to tinge it with its own colour and subjects it to endless births and deaths, moulds the soul in a way that it may enter the Land of Bliss as soon as it finally departs from the body.

Brahma Vidya had her full play in the holy hermitages of ancient India, illumined with the heavenly lustre of the divine sages, and held before man a newer world of Bliss that sheds its reflections on the infinite external objects.

Those golden days are things of the past now, and materialism alas! has enveloped our minds. We are going weaker day by day and are missing blessedness in our search after the seeming and elusive happiness in the external world.

Stable and eternal happiness exists in Lord Shri Hari-Krishna— alone, who, for the fresher realisations of His own nature, manifested Himself in Goloka, Sri Brindavana, Mathura, Dwaraka and other such places and taught man that a human heart blazing with endless desires cools only when he can touch Him and entirely gives himself up to Him.

The various incarnations of Lord Sri Krishna appeared on this earth in different ages for different ends, but His highest mission was fulfilled only in His Rasa Lila, which not only held before man the unique stages of Divine Love, but made him able enough actually to taste it. The Lord of Brindavan entered the secret cleft of the human heart and out of His very compassion found out the way of man's deliverance. He established that 'Nama Sadhaya' or constant utterance of the sacred name of Sri -Hari is the only religion and the only powerful antidote for the deadly disease of worldliness. •

Man was asked to take always the Holy Name of the Lord; (Nama Smaran), who is He Himself. The tfama, full of His spirit, would at once suggest the Namj (Sri Krishna) with all His attendants, and a ceaseless flow of divine sweetness would make him deeply absorbed in it. The external world could no longer influence him; rather he, as an instrument of the Lord, would influence it and turn it into an Abode of Peace.

Continued in page 5...





*Jagannathaya
Namaha*



Please enjoy the talk
given by Saibanisa ji
in Telugu

Sri Vishnu SahasraNaamam

VISHNU SAHASRANAMA STOTRAM

**ananta-huta-bhug-bhokta sukha-do naikado-'grajah |
a-nirvinnah sadamarshI lokadhishtanam_adbhutih ||95||**

ananta-huta-bhug-bhokta - om ananta-huta-bhug-bhoktre namah.

- He Who is indra and brahmA of immeasurable greatness.
- He Who is endless, and Who consumes the offerings through fire.

sukha-dah - Om sukha-dAya namah.

- The Giver of Bliss to His devotees.
- The Remover of happiness for the wicked.
- The Remover of tiny pleasures from His devotees (dyati - cuts) so that they can seek the Higher Bliss.
- The Remover of unhappiness for His devotees (a- sukha-dah; dyati - cuts).
- He Who is the source of water for all beings (sukham = udakam = water).
- He Who has given a beautiful body to the jivas.

naika-dah - Om naika-dAya namaH.

- The Giver of many things (Literally, The Giver of Not just one thing).
- He Who is not 'born' just once, but many times (naika-jaH).

agra-jah - om agra-jAya namaH.

He Who manifests in front of the mukta-s.

a-nir-vinnah - om a-nir-viNNAya namaH.

- He Who is not despondent that the jIva-s are not resorting to Him for redemption.
- He Who is relieved of worry after having liberated a jIva who becomes a mukta.
- He Who is not depressed because He has nothing to wish for.
- He Who is not tired of fulfilling the wishes of His devotees.

THE GLORY OF SHIRDI SAI

lokadhishtanam - Om lokadhishtanaya namah.
The Support of all the worlds.

adbhutah - om adbhutaya namah.

- a) He Who is extremely wonderful.
- b) He Who makes appearances occasionally amongst us.
- c) He because of Whom grains, food etc. exist (Adyam = grains).

Continued from page 3...

The constant utterance of the Holy Name meant for this age purifies the mirror of human soul and the restless mind becomes quiet—

Bhakti reveals herself and the mind becomes free from baser desires and all sufferings. We are then in a position to realise that love is the summum bonum of life, without which life is a desert. Love, is the very life of the soul and the vrey light that enlightens the subtle spiritual stages for the full revelation of Sri Krishna.

The mind is restless for its food, which the external world fails to give it. It finds its own food in the holy Name of Sri Hari, and it was Sri Gouranga and other devotees who humbly went from door to door with the eternal food of the soul and gave it even to the most wretched creatures unconditionally ^freely). We are also aware of the great Bhodendra Swamigal, Sri Desi-kendra Swamigal, and others of the South also who have praised Nama Sankirtm and who have given very great importance to Nama Sadhana. The " Lord's Name " makes our heart free from pride and delusions and makes us humbler than a blade of grass and enduring like the tree. Our passions are divinized! (channelled towards God). We are no longer purushas and Prakritibhava takes us to our natural place for the realisation of the unique joy reigning in Sri Brindavan. The " Lord's Name " rouses in us an intense desire for the attainment of " Vraja Bhava " and makes us constantly remember that unparalleled Lila of Sri Krishna, and at last converts us into the followers of those uncommon cowmaids of Sri Brindavan.

The Lord of Brindavan, the great Deliverer of sinners, was anxious for those whose hearts did not melt with the utterance of the "Lord's Name " for their serious crimes. So, 'Chaitanya Nityananda' Nama was meant for them, which would take no account of any crime and would at once fill the heart with " Krishna Prema."

" I have been born to serve Thee, my Lord. " But I, charmed by Maya, am driven away by the currents of the ocean of the world. Kind'y maks me like the holy dust of Thy Feet and bless me that I may be Thy most obedient servant."

Such a man never wastes a moment and profitably uses his time in studying holy books like Srimad Bhagavata, hearing and explaining the divine Lila, and taking the sweet Name of the Lord. We have been long away from our own home, and it is high time for us to follow the advice of the Lord of Brindavan, who came to the earth to deliver us from the end'ess misery and take us to the place where blessedness reigns for ever. He proved how futile was worldly happiness in comparison with the blessedness which a man enjoyed by serving the Lord with his body, mind and speech. " Sri Nama Sadhana " will gradually transport us into that state, and the mission of our life will be fulfilled. So, f for the welfare of ourselves, our country and the world at large, j we must make the best use of the uncommon gift of the Lord and make 'Sri Nama' the part and parcel of our life. The SADGURU is the great giver of " Sri Nama." So, we should first come under his control and guidance. The Lord still preaches His religion only through the medium of a Sadguru and, as soon as we are desirous of having His company, He appears before us.

Fortunately for us Sai devotees, the Seer—Sri Narasimha-swamiji, as the Sadguru—has found out SRI S AIR AM, the Divine Diamond—Guru and God, both in one—to realise and attain the benefits of human life.

It all depends upon us, in all sincerity, to realise this truth by our wholehearted and ceaseless sadhana.



Children Section

GITA FOR CHILDREN

GITA FOR CHILDREN



‘Arjuna, man alone is the master of his Destiny and not God above. God merely watches and says yes to all that man wants. If he wants to be good, God says yes. If he wants to be bad, God says, “Alright do so if that is what you want”.

If man wants desires to be fulfilled God says go ahead. If on the other hand man wants to be liberated, God not only says yes but helps with great enthusiasm.’

Arjuna asks, ‘You say man alone is the master of his Destiny. But there are certain things not explained by this statement. Let us say there is a poor couple. They have a son who is badly handicapped. These people are very good and highly devoted to You. They are not doing any harm to anybody. Yet they are suffering. Why are they being punished? Don’t tell me they are punishing themselves.’

Krishna smiles and replies, ‘I am glad you asked this question because this is a common confusion that people have. You see, people accumulate positive and negative points in every birth. This account has to be settled. Often it is not settled in one lifespan and there is a carry over. In the example that you gave, both the parents and the handicapped boy are settling the account of their respective past Karma. Men do not realise that they are the masters of their own fate; the fault lies not in the stars but in themselves.’

‘The solution to all this, as I have already told you, is to totally surrender to God and let Him shape your life. But unfortunately, people think of God only when they are in trouble and more or less forget Him when things are going smoothly. This kind of part-time devotion will simply not work! Beware!!’

‘In such matters, you must draw a lesson from the Wise. They too live in this very same dual world with all its pairs of opposites. But their outlook to these is very different.’

‘The Wise man constantly tells himself, “It is wrong to imagine that some things in this Universe are good and other things are bad. If everything is God, how can anything ever be bad? Impossible! Things only appear to be bad even though they are good in the core. It is like in a play enacted by a drama troupe. All the members are good people really, but in the play some may act as the good guys while others may play the role of bad guys. God’s Cosmic Drama is no different”.’

‘The point that I am trying to make is simply that the Wise man is above duality that most people are in the grip of. What deludes ordinary people does not delude the Wise man.’

‘Creation is a clever puzzle designed by God. It fools 99.9999% of the people. Sometimes it even makes them believe that the transient is Eternal and that the Eternal does not exist! Everyone sees people dying all the time and yet, most people do not realise that they too would have to go one day. If they did, would they not give serious consideration to what they must do with their lives? Do you see anyone doing that? Hardly!’

● ‘Incidentally, this is where Karmaphala Tyagam (Renouncing the results of actions) that I taught you earlier comes in handy. When you are truly engaged in Karma Yoga, the world just flits by. You are so immersed in working for God and offering everything to Him, that you couldn’t care less about duality and all that stuff! You will get wet only when you go out into the rain without an umbrella. If you stay at home, how can you get wet?’

● ‘In short, while the Sankhya Yogi truly rises above delusion, the Karma Yogi bypasses it neatly by firmly attaching himself to God. I might add that God likes the Karma Yogi very much. Do you get the hint Arjuna?’

Will continue





*Jagadheka
dhivakaraya*

Namaha

Sri Sai Satcharita

Saibaba-The Invocation of the Divine

The service we offer at the Sadguru's feet is our Veda-Shastra-Purana. Prostrating at his feet in obeisance is, to us, yoga, ritual sacrifices, penance and all such means of deliverance.

The sacred name of the Sadguru is our Veda-Shastra; 'Sai Samarth' is our 'mantra' or the sacred chant. It is also our only 'yantra' and 'tantra'.

Sai takes his devotees to that supreme state in which, self experience brings them the conviction that 'Brahman alone is real', and a constant awareness stays with them that 'this world is an illusion or maya.'

The 'highest bliss', 'the joy of Self-realization', 'the happiness of being One with the Brahman' – all this is a tangle of idle words. What we need is an abidingly blissful state of mind.

Once this state of mind is firmly rooted and remains constant, happiness, peace and contentment come to us. And this is the most perfect state one can attain in this life.

Sai is a mine of such blissful happiness. Like the ocean, he is complete and full in himself. His devotee is blessed with good fortune and will never want for this Supreme Bliss.

Shiva and Shakti (the Supreme Spirit and Divine Energy), Purush and Prakriti (the Supreme Soul and Nature), Pran and Gati (the vital airs and their motion), the lamp and its brilliance – all these are modifications of the Pure Brahman. They are really One, but are considered as different.

'Brahman does not like to be alone', and 'desires to be many', so says the Shruti. Though the company of the other is desired and liked, yet they all again become one.

In the state of Pure Brahman, there is neither Purush nor Prakriti. Where the sun shines perpetually, can there be night and day?

..Will Continue



Sri Sooktam:

*Shrī-Varcasyam-Aayussyam-Aarogyamaa-
Vidhaat Pavamaanam Mahiyate |
Dhanam Dhaanyam Pashum Bahu-Putra-Laabham
Shatasamvatsaram Dīrgham-Aayuh ||35||*

Meaning:

35.1: (*Harīh Om, Salutations to Mother Lakshmi*) O Mother, Let Your Auspiciousness Flow in our lives as the Vital Power, making our lives Long and Healthy, and filled with Joy.

35.2: And let Your Auspiciousness manifest around as Wealth, Grains, Cattle and Many Offsprings who live Happily for Hundred Years; who live Happily throughout their Long Lives.

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BOW TO SHRI SAI ~ PEACE BE TO ALL

