



Shri Ganesh Temple, Ganpatipule

Unprecedented Occurrence, Unique Experience

This Sai only is Gajanan Ganpati | This One only is Ekdant Gajkarna | This One only is Vikat Bhagnardan | This is Vighnakananvichhedak || O Sarvamangalamaangalya | Lambodara Ganraya | Ever Inseperable Form of Sai | Take (us) to eternal happiness ||...

Go on a pilgrimage to Shirdi | Hold steadfast to Baba's Feet | Who is the Benefactor of the helpless | Fulfills desires of devotees | Inspired by Him | I wrote this stotra (devotional verse) || Else with my ignorant hands | How could such a verse be created | In the (Hindu calendar) year 1840 | In Bhadrapad (month) shudh paksh | On the day of Ganesh Chaturthi | In the second half of Monday || (*This stotra was penned in the lifetime of Shri Sai Baba on 9.9.1918. After that, just after 37 days Shri Sai Baba shed His mortal coil on Tuesday, October 15, 1918.)

According to the above quoted verse in 'Shri Sainath Stavanmanjari and Shri Sai Sumananjali' written by H.B.P. Sri Dasganu Maharaj and published by Shree Sai Baba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi, the stotra-writing in Shri Sainath Stavanmanjari completed 95 years this year on Shri Ganesh Chaturthi (on Monday, 9-9-2013, Bhadrapad, Shudh Paksh). When Sri Sharad Warekar, who built the Shri Sainath temple at Kotawade in Ratnagiri district of Maharashtra, was informed on Sunday, 8-9-2013 of this unprecedented occurrence, he was overwhelmed with emotion. He could not comprehend how to celebrate this occurrence. For, Dasganu belonged to the Sahastrabuddhe family, who originated from Kotawade village in Ratnagiri. And in this region, inspired by Shri Sai Baba and with His blessings the Shri Sai Baba temple was built and the idol of Shri Sai Baba was installed!...

Just as he was wondering what exactly to do in such a short time, Saiganraya only gave him the inspiration...

Next day on Monday, 9-9-2013 at about 11 a.m. he came to the Shri Ganesh temple at Ganpatipule in Ratnagiri. He sincerely prayed to Shri Ganraya. He told the worshippers present about the rare occurrence of Shri Ganesh Chaturthi and Shri Sainath Stavanmanjari. The worshippers were overjoyed to be present on a rare occasion like this. All of them read the nectar of the holy book 'Shri Sainath Stavanmanjari', charged with devotion. The satisfaction derived from that reading was very much evident on their face. They expressed that it was their great fortune. Tears of joy flowed from the eyes of Sri Sharad Warekar after this unique experience. He felt that Sai only is the Doer and He only gets things done.

– **Rambhau Dhanvatkar, Vaibhav Joshi**

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* Sai Experiences *

...Sai *Leelas* beyond limits

I consider myself most fortunate for being born in a household that inherited spirituality and had a *satvik* (positive) environment. It is only because of the good deeds of this family that I found solace at Shri Sai Baba's Feet, reveled in the devotion of Sai and have undertaken the work of spreading the glory of Shri Sai baba. I firmly believe from the bottom of my heart that it is Shri Sai Baba alone Who is getting this done by me. I myself became an annual subscriber of the bi-monthly published by the Sansthan, 'Saileela (Marathi)' in 1997. It was as if Shri Sai Baba was coming to our house once in every 2 months. The awakening write-ups and the remarkable Sai experiences pulled me more and more towards Shri Sai Baba, I became curious to know more and more about Him. As I felt the need to be associated with 'Saileela' forever, in the very next year I subscribed to life membership by paying Rs. 1000/- only. One experiences and feels to be with Shri Sai Baba while reading this periodical. It came to my mind that I should pass on this blissful experience and joy to my acquaintances too. I, therefore, gave them information about Saileela (Marathi) and Shri Sai leela (English-Hindi) and encouraged them to subscribe. Having made many subscribers, I get a different form of joy. Even today Shri Sai Baba gets me to do this *seva* and I prayed at His Feet that He make me do this forever. Baba has rewarded me immensely for this. Now I will tell you how I turned to be devoted to Baba...

My birthplace is Karajgaon in Chandurbajar taluka of Amravati district. I took a liking to saint Danaji Maharaj of this village when I was in 7th standard. He used to call me to the temple daily for *darshan*.

Later I completed my engineering education at *Shrikshetra* of saint Gajanan Maharaj in Shegaon. At that time I gained His grace too. Though the saints appear different to the common people's eyes, how they are inter-connected to each other is well brought out by example in Shri Sai Sat Charita –

As time flows, the saints choose the place of their liking and appear in human form, to fulfil some mission. But, in reality, they are not different from one another. The place - time - person though different, a saint realises the essence of the personality of other saints. They are all united inwardly, as they are only.

(chapter 21, verses 14-15)

That is why they put their devotees in the care of each other for their further journey. The same happened to me.

After completing my engineering education in 1994, I got a job in the junior college in my own village. Till 1996 I had no inclination towards Shri Sai Samarth. I had also never gone to Shirdi. But, Shri Sai has affirmed – **“Whether my people are in the country or thousands of miles away, I pull them towards me with a string tied to the legs like the offsprings of a bird.”** In the same way Baba pulled me towards Him. In 1997 I had gone to my younger sister's place in Dhule. When I asked her husband about Shirdi, he said that Shirdi was close by. As there was a direct bus, I went from there itself to Shirdi. My first pilgrimage to Shirdi, a place sanctified forever by the stay of the Lord Incarnate, and the first *Darshan* of the *Paramatma* doubly blessed my very being. Every grain of that place purified by the touch of Shri Sai Baba excited me. Immersed in Sai, I returned home.

I got married in 1999. I was blessed with a daughter in 2000. Every year I was taken on a pilgrimage to Shri Sai Samarth in Shirdi. In 2002, my wife, daughter and me had the opportunity to have *Darshan* together. With the worship materials in hand, going in a line with a deep longing we entered the *Samadhi Mandir* for the

Darshan of Shri Sai Samarth. While absorbing the pleasant form of Shri Sai Baba, my eyes were going through the picture of the very fortunate Sai devotees, who had been blessed to live in the very company of Shri Sai Baba. I was envying their good fortune. Soon we reached the *Samadhi*. As soon as my head touched the *Samadhi*, my mouth spontaneously spoke out, 'let me have a son'. I am still fascinated by this spontaneous utterance, as this thought did not cross my mind even once through the line...

And on Wednesday, May 14, 2003, on the auspicious day of Nrisinha *Jayanti* at 6.30 p.m. we were blessed with a son. Our joy knew no bounds. I informed the child's grandfather this good news on telephone. Next day news came from the hospital that the child was unwell and would have to be shifted to Nagpur. I felt like sand slipping below my feet. This sudden turn of event, when everything was going good, shook me hard. I did not know what to do. At that time even my daughter was running temperature. It was a Thursday. After somehow arranging for my daughter, I rushed to the hospital in the afternoon. I was so frightened that instead of talking to the doctor myself, I asked my father-in-law to talk to him. At that time I learnt that the child's vomit had entered his chest. I was very frightened. I rushed to get an ambulance. One ambulance was parked outside the hospital. The driver was having tea. He agreed to leave soon after having the tea. I too asked for tea. But, leave alone tea, I was not in a frame of mind to even have water. Instantly he made an informal enquiry. After I mentioned my name and village, taking my father's name, he enquired whether I was the son of that uncle. As soon as I answered in the affirmative, he put down his half-drunk cup of tea and rushed towards the ambulance. I was also following him. As I told him to fetch the oxygen cylinder from the dispensary, he pacified me stating not to worry about anything. I was virtually in tears. As I approached near to the ambulance, to my astonishment, I saw the word 'Saiprasad' behind the ambulance and inside was seated an idol of Shri Sai Baba. I was stunned. From the dispensary we left for Nagpur...

Since the oxygen pipe was not properly placed on the child's nose, the skin near the nose turned red. Stopping the vehicle near Mojhari we enquired for a doctor; but there was no doctor available. Then we got the pipe properly placed at Tivas by a doctor. I sat in the vehicle itself. That doctor turned out to be a relative. When we went ahead 10 to 15 kms. the headlights of the vehicle shut down. The driver checked whether the wires connected to the battery were intact. I went blank. Since *Shrikshetra* Takarkhed was in front, I folded my hands and prayed to saint Lahanuji Maharaj... Within 5 to 10 minutes the vehicle was restored as before and we reached Nagpur at 12.30 a.m. Other relatives were already present there...

As the vehicle was turning towards the dispensary, my eyes fell on the marble idol of Shri Sai Baba inside the eatery in front. My hands folded from the ambulance itself. After climbing the stairs as I was going towards the counter, I saw a beautiful idol of Shri Sai Baba in a small temple there. Shri Sai Samarth, Gajanan Maharaj of Shegaon and Tajuddin Baba of Waki were present in picture form in the paediatric unit, where the child was admitted. These saints were re-assuring 'Fear not; we are with you'. When I went to the lab for the blood test, there too Shri Sai Baba's picture was giving *Darshan* on the tile of the wall. Mentally I prayed to Shri Sai that let the report be normal! In two hours the report was just that. After 21 days of treatment the child was discharged from the dispensary on June 4.

During this time, I went to the Shri Sai Baba temple on Wardha road, twice, and took *Darshan* of Shri Sai Baba. I felt His compassion. I passed on the entire burden to That Lord Sai. When I was paying obeisance with folded hands a rose flower from the head of Shri Sai Baba's idol fell on my hands. I was experiencing such *Leelas* of Shri Sai Baba one after another. This is a testimony of Shri Sai Samarth revealing His omnipresence to His devotees...

Being a Blessing (Grace) of Shri Sai Baba, I named my son 'Sai'. He is 10 years old today and is studying in the fifth standard...

In June 2006 I came to Paratwada from the village for my children's education. I had purchased a plot for educational purpose here near a reputed school in 1999. For the convenience of commuting, I rented a house in Kandali and started staying there. During that time work on the Shri Sai temple in Shri Sai Nath colony recommenced and was completed in a short time. A very attractive marble idol of Shri Sai Baba was brought from Jaipur and consecrated in the temple as per *vedic* rites in 2007. In spite of not being in my mind and the financial inability, Shri Sai Baba made me purchase the plot in front of the Shri Sai Baba temple in Shri Sai Nath colony. My Sai Mother did not stop at that, He got me to build a house on that plot and time and again He gave me evidence of toiling with me till I went to stay in that house...

I had great financial problem to buy the said plot. At that time Shri Sai sent a customer to me to buy my plot, which I had purchased in 1999. He purchased the plot at the very price I quoted. When it comes to dealing in plots there always is some bargaining. But, in this deal there was nothing like that. That gentleman purchased the plot on the auspicious day of the manifestation of Shri Gajanan Maharaj of Shegaon...

Our living in Shri Sai Nath colony is going on very happily under the influence of Shri Sai Baba's teachings. I am able to participate in all the programmes of the Shri Sai Baba temple except for very rare exemptions. They include daily worship, *Aarati* and other programmes, *Mahaprasad* on Thursday night, *Kakad Aarati* throughout the Kartik month done through Sri Dilipbhau Tadas, Bhagwat week function and such other programmes. All this is the Grace of That Sai Mother. Therefore, as stated in Shri Sai Sat Charita –

Embracing the ocean, rivers forget their identity,

Thus devotees surrender to You, You sink all differences of the devotees...

May this devoted river ever be allowed to be merged in the Sai ocean, this is my heartfelt prayer at the Feet of the Supreme Lord. Baba too has promised –

“Even if I shed this mortal coil, yet I will come running for my devotees. I will always bear your burden, this is My promise.”

- Santosh Devnathrao Charjan

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Shirdi Sai Baba's *Leelas* in my life led me for Sai *Prachar*...

Srikant Sharma, resident of Bangluru recalls that it was late 80s; he was suffering from severe *asthma* problem then and had to take three Deriphyllin Retard tablets every day to manage his breathing. He was working for private firm and financially he and his family were not strong.

In his office there was a colleague by the name Rajesh, who would greet everyone with a 'Sai Ram', and Srikant would be left wondering about his greeting, as he did not know about Sai Baba. One day Rajesh invited Srikant to come to Shirdi for Baba's *Darshan* and said that all his (Srikant's) problems will end. But since, the trip would incur an expense of Rs. 1500, and since, he did not have it, he gently refused. But, Rajesh and another friend Praveen were not ready to give up on Srikant and persuaded him to come, by saying, that you pay the money later.

On June 7, 1989 Srikant reached *Samadhi Mandir* and took Baba's *Darshan*. He felt a perceptible change in his mind and body. After having the *Darshan*, when they were returning, on June 11, 1989, a strange thing happened; at around 2 a.m. Srikant was breathless and gasping for breath. Praveen immediately put Baba's sacred *Udi* in his mouth and asked him to chant Sai *Taraka Mantra*, 'Om Sai, Shri Sai, Jay Jay Sai...' After sometime he dozed off and slept peacefully. In the morning when he got up, he realized he had no difficulty in breathing and stopped taking his medicines. Whenever the breathing issue would arise, he would take the *Udi* and chant Sai's Name. From that day till this day he did not touch those medicines, with Baba's Blessings.

From that first *Darshan* of Baba, Srikant became an ardent devotee and started sharing His *Leelas* with everyone.

On July 20, 2009, Rajesh, who had formed Shri Dwarkamai Seva Trust at Rajaji Nagar, wanted to visit Shirdi to buy Sai Baba's *Moorti* and *Paduka*. For this purpose he invited Srikant; but since, the latter was suffering from (suspected) case of viral fever and severe joint pain, addled with no money for travelling, he refused. But, Rajesh persuaded him saying, he will bear the cost of the travel and stay, and Srikant relented.

Then Rajesh invited another Sai devotee, Venugopal, who after seeking Baba's permission by putting chit, agreed to come. Rajesh rushed to railway station, at that time he got waiting list ticket 137, 138 and 139 respectively for the onward journey by Karnatak Express and for the return journey he got the confirmed ticket from Pune on July 25, 2009 by Udyan Express.

On July 22, 2009, when Srikant reached the station at 5.45 p.m. the PNR was waiting list Nos.17, 18 and 19, meaning one can board the general compartment, but not get the sleeper berth. Srikant was disappointed on seeing the waiting list numbers and called Rajesh; but both Rajesh and Venugopal were in Rajaji Nagar Sai Baba temple to have *Darshan* before heading for Shirdi.

Rajesh told Srikant that they will reach the station in 15 minutes and not to worry too much. They arrived at the station and immediately checked with a ticket checker that their waiting list Nos. was 17, 18 and 19 and nothing could be done as the train was full. He told them to contact another ticket checker who was standing near the next coach.

Immediately, the trio rushed to another ticket checker and requested him for a sleeper berth; but he too refused to help; but he was kind enough to ask them to board S4 compartment and wait for him. They were happy to hear this and took their luggage and started moving towards S4 compartment. While moving Srikant once again went to the ticket checker and requested him to arrange for a sleeper berth for the three and told him that they are going to see Shirdi Sai Baba. The moment he heard this, the ticket checker told them to occupy seat Nos. 41, 42 and 43 in coach S4. The train started on time at 7.20 p.m. and the ticket checker never showed up! And those who came to inspect their tickets later did not find anything odd with the tickets!

All reached Shirdi and had good *Darshan*. On July 24, 2009 they went to a shop and purchased the idol of Dwarkamai Sai Baba and Sai Baba Paduka and got the *Pooja* done at *Samadhi Mandir*, Dwarkamai and *Chavadi*. They went back to their room at 2.30 p.m., where they found 15 missed calls on Rajesh's mobile

phone from his brothers, sisters and wife. Rajesh called up home and came to know that his mother was very critical and admitted to an Intensive Care Unit, and the doctors had given up hope, as she was ailing and not responding to medicines.

The family had gathered in anticipation of her transition. Rajesh was asked to rush back; but found that the timing for the flight was possible only the next day at 1.30 p.m. Their train reservation too was for next day, now the only option was bus service. Rajesh left Shirdi by bus the very same day at 4 p.m. to reach Bengaluru next day at around 11 a.m.

The moment he reached Bengaluru, he rushed to the hospital, applied Sai Baba's sacred *Udi* on his mother's forehead and she was taken for 'Endoscopy'. After some time, the results came, they were negative and the sugar which had shot up earlier, started responding to the medicine. She was discharged from the hospital on July 30, 2009 which was a Thursday.

These *Leelas* of Sai Baba with every passing year made Srikant take up Baba's *prachar* as *seva*. He and his friend Munireddy with Baba's Blessing started a free Sai Portal called www.saiamrithadhara.com on September 28, 2009 on Vijayadashmi at exactly 2.30 p.m. at Baba's *Samadhi* time.

On this website they flash news regularly from across the globe pertaining to Sai Baba and related activities. They have been able to quench the thirst of thousands of devotees with Sai Baba's nectarine teachings.

Srikant has undertaken the ambitious task of having a comprehensive portal by the centenary celebrations of Baba's *Mahasamadhi* on Dassera in 2018 and is working tirelessly for it.

Then on November 15, 2009 Srikant with a deep desire to serve Kannada speaking Sai devotees, started www.saiamrithavani.blogspot.in, this again is a fountain of Sai Ambrosia to Kannada Sai devotees. Srikant zealously updates the site with love and devotion.

In 2012, he wrote 'Shirdi Guide', a pocket sized booklet priced at Rs. 10, which had 11 sayings of Baba, places to visit in Shirdi, information on Shri Sai Sansthan Trust, Shirdi, etc.

His latest two offerings to the Sai world on Guru Pournima this year are - 'Shri Shirdi Sai Baba Samagra Kaipidi' and 'Shri Shidi Sainatha Sagunopasana' in Kannada.

As told by [Srikant Sharma](#)

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Written in English by [Shamshad Ali Baig](#)

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Baba cures both physical and mental afflictions

With the permission of Shirdi Sai Baba I begin with my Sai Baba experience. Whenever my family and I faced any problem, Sai Baba has rescued us.

A few years back I was immersed in my work and I was totally self centered - thought only about my success, bank balance, etc. and I did not socialise nor did any social work. At that I got a call from Sai Baba to visit Shirdi, may be it was a sign for me to mend my ways.

On October 5, 2003 we reached Shirdi. My wife was suffering from physical discomfort; but I did not pay attention to her. We reached Kopergaon, which is on the way to Shirdi. We took an auto rickshaw there, after fixing the fare charge of Rs. 60/- . But as soon as we reached Shirdi, the rickshaw driver started asking for Rs. 80/-. I got angry with his demand and told him that 'I would report this matter to the police'. On this the rickshaw driver replied that 'You keep your money with you and I will think that I gave the money to a beggar of Baba.'

This was our first visit and we were doing everything in haste. As a result of this we forgot to climb the three steps of the *Masjid*. But, we realized that without Baba's permission no one can climb the steps. And those who do, their wishes are fulfilled by Baba.

After coming back from Shirdi I immersed myself in work. My wife's ill health was getting worse with each passing day; yet, I couldn't pay attention to her. On December 4, 2003, when my wife called up and cried over the phone, I hurriedly went home. I and my landlord took my wife to Wockhart hospital, where Dr. Chandrashekhar did Colonoscopy and Biopsy and told us to do CT scan immediately; because he suspected cancer. My family's difficult times had begun. Dr. Chandrashekhar advised us to visit Dr. Nandkumar from Malaya Hospital. I admitted my wife to Malaya Hospital on 9 and she was operated. From that day I started chanting 'Om Sai, Shri Sai, Jai Jai Sai...'. After the operation we had to do a course in Chemotherapy and Radiotherapy. But, in Bengaluru, since, I did not have friends and relatives I started feeling lonely and helpless; so I decided to do the rest of the treatment in Kolkata. We sold off all our things for handful of rupees and went to Kolkata.

In Kolkata we found out that Radiotherapy was not so good, as it was in Bengaluru. Again we decided to go to Bengaluru to Malaya Hospital and do the Chemotherapy. In a few days we realized our condition was pitiable. At that time I recalled the words of the rickshaw driver and it saddened and filled me with remorse. From that day we started chanting 'Sai... Sai...' day and night.

Dr. Nandkumar Jairam told us to meet Dr. Kilara for Chemotherapy. When we met Dr. Kilara, he told that this treatment has no guarantee of curing the tumour, which was not treated even after operation. The doctor persistently gave us no hope and said only a miracle can save her.

My wife got depressed and started crying and said that I don't want to undergo the treatment. I told my wife that I believe in miracles. We have to fully submit ourselves at Sai Baba's Feet and leave everything to Him. When all the roads close, Baba creates a new path.

When out of six cycles of Chemotherapy, three were completed then the blood test showed that the diseases had come down from 75.9 percent to 1.9. The doctor was taken aback by surprise; but was happy for us as this was rare. After the complete treatment when the CT scan was done, an astonishing thing happened, not a single cancer tumour was found! Even more astonishing was the fact; in any Chemotherapy hair loss, weight loss, and ill health are the side effects. With Sai Baba's Grace my wife was exempted from these side effects.

Today my family - my wife, me and our daughter are ever present to Baba's Kindness. I have also realized that one should serve the society in whatever way we can.

As told by [Subroto Banerjee](#)

Written in English by [Rohini Tribhuvan](#)

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Shri Sai Sat Charita is a University and Sai Baba is its Chancellor

Shri Sai Satcharita, a book penned by Govindrao Dabholkar alias Hemadpant, after being blessed by Baba, is a University and Sai Baba is its Chancellor!

Ramchandra Patil, Madhavrao Deshpande, Bayjabai, Tatyia Kote Patil, Lakshmibai Shinde, Kakasaheb Dixit, Abdul Baba, Kaka Mahajani, Nanasaheb Rasane, Nanasaheb Chandorkar, Chandrabai Borkar, Govindrao Dabholkar, Shyamrao Jaykar, and others passed out from this University. Seeing their results, I too decided to follow their footsteps, I secured admission to the Dabholkar authored Sai Sat Charita University on May 18, 1974. I can say with conviction that it was the result of the good deeds of my parents.

Some of the lessons in this University are : *** Let Faith and Perseverance be with you always. Keep your soul peaceful. * Gradually reduce your compulsive desires for everything if you want to live life in peace. Do not snatch and grab other's things. Strive hard. You will reap what you sow. That will stand in good stead for you alone. * One person will work and the other will get the results, this is not how it works here. You cannot get a first class in this University by just sitting at home, enjoying and giving bribe. Those who study is guided by the Chancellor, and will find right answers to their questions. * Give up your ego. Those who cannot avoid even a bit of their lust; he will never get 'Brahmagyan' (Knowledge of the Brahman).**

The speciality of this University is that it runs round the clock (day and night). Since the students are studying continuously, the Chancellor is ever alert. Today we see that without giving donation it is not possible to get admission to schools. But, in this University you get admission without any expense. We can study sitting at home. Thereby in this spiritual University you get some of your answers by intuition. Students are taught through the realm of dreams or various types of revelations. Students in this University should also be devoted and have steadfast faith. Those who are fortunate can easily get success in this University.

Sai Nath, like the loving mother tortoise nurtures His students here, vigilantly watching over them day and night, and across the seven seas.

A student engrossed in the accumulation of wealth once came to Sai, the Chancellor, to seek **Brahmagyan**. Sai then explained to him - to attain **Brahman** one has to surrender the five vital airs, the five organs of knowledge, ego, intellect and mind. One who does not have a bit of renunciation cannot succeed to attain this.

The University has many interesting events that are exemplary lessons to learn from. Once, Kakasaheb Dixit was subjected to an examination in this University. The examination was to judge whether the *Guru's* orders were obeyed or not. Even the 52 carat (purest of) gold had to go through the test by fire. In spite of being a *Brahmin*, taking up a weapon Kakasaheb Dixit, without any hesitation got ready to kill a goat, and passed the Chancellor's examination. In this University we should surrender the propriety and impropriety (of the act)

dominated mind at the Feet of Sai, the Chancellor of the University. Surrendering the power of your actions, act as per the rules of the University set by the *Guru's* commands.

If action is done without ego then realization will not take much time. One student, Pundalikrao, was advised – if your attitude is ego-free, you are entitled to attain the Supreme Self. You will easily cross the ocean of life. The Chancellor of this University has promised the students – all those who will study will get success according to their capability. Each one will get whatever one asks for as per their capability. Everyone will get assistance in this University. Do not compare your progress with others or you will be sorry.

Like in other places no one can pass here by paying money. There will be no caste discrimination.

Even Lord Krishna had a *Guru - Rishi Sandeepani*, which also implies the importance of a Guru is paramount. Sacrificing the ego of being the Lord, Krishna worked at His *Guru's ashram*.

In this University the pupil is taught how to attain happiness, peace of mind, which cannot be obtained even after spending billions of rupees.

A smart Chancellor is aware about His students' flaws. Chancellor Sai states - "Even if I am physically here, and you are beyond the seven oceans, whatever you do there is known to me here".

No one can avoid the destiny of present joy and sorrow dictated by past actions. Prayer and remembering Lord's Name, brings success in their respective class. Bapusaheb Buti was a student of this University. He gave his *wada* (bungalow) to this University, where the Chancellor resides today. Sai Baba stated, "Whoever lay their feet on the soil of Shirdi will have all their obstacles removed. Whoever climbs the steps of my *Samadhi* will see their sorrows disappear."

"Has anyone gone astray after surrendering to me? Show me anyone!" To prove this experience of Sai Baba's promise practically, must have been the objective of Govindrao Dabholkar in establishing this University, which has 53 classrooms (chapters). Surprisingly Dabholkar, the builder of this University, was initially not prepared to accept Baba as the Chancellor of this University. He was a learned intellectual. He had acquired theological knowledge. He would not accept everything that anyone said. His rebellious mind was not prepared to accept Sai Baba as a Chancellor. Kakasaheb Dixit, Nanasaheb Chandorkar, Bhate and Nulkar – these students would try to convince Dabholkar. These students would do a full length prostration to Baba even on a dusty surface. Seeing all this, he would be surprised. But, he used to watch all this unaffected as a neutral spectator. He had read the *Vedas* too. Dabholkar thought that everybody depends on one who endeavors on one's own strength. His mind entertained the ego of action. He used to think that Dixit had toured the world and read world literature and yet, why was he being so condescending. What have these wise people seen in this *Fakir* and accepted Him as their *Guru*. These people do not think rationally.

But, once he witnessed Baba grinding at the quern. The quern has two layers. One is firm faith and the other perseverance. We can conclude that this grinding gave Dabholkar the direction. Light emerged from darkness. This moment became very important and significant. The foundation stone laying work of Shri Sai Sat Charita University began at that very moment. Dabholkar appointed Sai Baba as the Chancellor. Dabholkar voices - "Baba! You are a Diamond Incarnate. I will cage You in decorative words. You please forgive me". At that time Baba placing His hands on Dabholkar's head blessed him saying, "Shri Sai Sat Charita University will be built by you".

What will the *Sadguru* teach? One should develop oneself. The Divine Visionary and Master of the three worlds Sai Baba got recognized as the Chancellor of this University after liberating Dixit from blind faith.

I have accepted the path of doing whatever work I get in this University. I entertain hope in my mind that I will undertake this work diligently with the assistance of the Chancellor. The Chancellor should guide and show me the path for this work as per His method. One student of Sai Satcharita University is Ujjwala Borkar.

As told by [Ujjwala Borkar](#)

Written in English by [Vishwarath Nayar](#)

साई बाबा की हिदायतें...

बाबा ने कहा है...

दुःख और दुर्भाग्यग्रस्त मनुष्य को शांति और सुख की प्राप्ति के लिए, ज्ञान और भक्ति रूप अमूल्य रत्नों की सहज उपलब्धि कराने हेतु, 'श्री साई सत् चरित' जीवनी सागर में डुबकी लगा कर मैंने जो पाया साई भक्तों को अर्पित कर रहा हूँ...

साई बाबा ने कहा है कि -

“मेरे चरित्र और उपदेशों के श्रवण मात्र से ही भक्तों के हृदय में श्रद्धा जागृत होकर सरलता पूर्वक आत्मानुभूति एवं परमानंद की प्राप्ति हो जाएगी। आत्मानुभूति के लिए गुरु की शरण में जाना होता है। इस मार्ग में उन्नति प्राप्त करने के लिए केवल श्रद्धा और धैर्य - ये दो गुण सहायक होते हैं।”

अहंकार के विनाश होने पर ही, बौद्धिक आवरण लुप्त होकर ज्ञान प्रकट होता है।

बाबा की विशुद्ध कीर्ति का वर्णन निष्ठा पूर्वक श्रवण करने से मनुष्य के पाप नष्ट होते हैं और मोक्ष की प्राप्ति होती है। कथा श्रवण करने से और नाम कीर्तन करने से इन्द्रियों की स्वभाविक विषयासक्ति दूर होती है और साधक वासना रहित होकर आत्मसाक्षात्कार की ओर अग्रसर हो जाता है। कलियुग में भगवत् कीर्तन ही मोक्ष का साधन है।

“जो अधार्मिक तथा दुष्ट जनों की संगति से दूर रहता है, सबसे अभिमान रहित दया और नम्रता का बर्ताव करता है, अन्तःकरण से मेरी उपासना करता है वह नित्यानंद का अधिकारी हो जाता है।”

साई बाबा ने धूनी में लकड़ी के टुकड़े डाल कर जलाने का अर्थ बताया कि मनुष्य ने इस तरह से अहंकार, इच्छाएँ और कुविचारों की आहुति देनी चाहिए।

“यदि माँगने की अभिलाषा है तो ईश्वर को ही माँगो। सांसारिक मान व उपधियाँ त्याग कर ईश्वर कृपा व अभयदान प्राप्त करो। सांसारिक साधनों से कुपथगामी मत बनो। अपने ईष्ट को दृढ़ता से पकड़े रहो। समस्त इन्द्रियों को और मन को ईश चिन्तन में प्रवृत्त रखो। किसी पदार्थ से आकर्षित न हो। सदैव मेरे (साई) स्मरण में मन को लगाए रखो। देह, सम्पत्ति व ऐश्वर्य की ओर प्रवृत्त न हो। तभी चित्त निर्भय, स्थिर व शान्त होगा।”

जब व्यक्ति अहं व इन्द्रिय जन्य सुखों की तिलांजली देकर ईश्वर की शरण में आ जाता है, तब उसे ईश्वर के साथ अभिन्नता प्राप्त हो जाती है तथा उसकी कोई जाति-पाँति नहीं रह जाती। साई बाबा प्राणियों में और जातियों में किंचित् मात्र भी भेदभाव नहीं रखते थे। वे स्वयं ज्ञानावतार होकर भी सदैव अज्ञानता का प्रदर्शन करते थे। उन्हें आदर-सत्कार से सदैव अरुचि थी।

सन्तों का हृदय मोम से भी नरम तथा अन्तर्बाह्य मक्खन जैसा कोमल होता है। वे अकारण ही भक्तों से प्रेम करते हैं और उन्हें अपना निजी सम्बंधी समझते हैं।

मानव शरीर प्राप्त होने पर ही ज्ञान प्राप्त होता है कि शरीर नश्वर और विश्व परिवर्तनशील है और इस प्रकार धारणा कर इन्द्रिय जन्य विषयों को तिलांजली देकर तथा सत्-असत् का विवेक कर ईश्वर-साक्षात्कार किया जा सकता है।

शरीर को सदा ही ईश्वर दर्शन या आत्मसाक्षात्कार के निमित्त लगाए रखना चाहिए। यही जीवन का मुख्य ध्येय होना चाहिए। पूरी लगन और उत्साह पूर्वक अपने ध्येय, आलस्य और निद्रा को त्याग कर, हमें सदैव ईश्वर का ध्यान करना चाहिए।

“फकीरी ही सच्ची अमीरी है। उसका कोई अन्त नहीं। जिसे अमीरी के नाम से पुकारा जाता है, वह शीघ्र ही लुप्त हो जाने वाली है।”

बाबा त्रिकालदर्शी थे। उनके उपदेशों की उपेक्षा करके उनके भक्त दुर्घटनाग्रस्त हो जाते थे। तात्या कोते पाटिल को बाबा ने कहा, “शीघ्रता न करो, थोड़ा ठहरो। बाज़ार जाने का विचार छोड़ दो और गाँव के बाहर न जाओ।” लेकिन तात्या ने बाबा की आज्ञा की अवहेलना की और मार्ग में दुर्घटना घटित हुई। एक अन्य अवसर पर एक यूरोपियन महाशय भी बाबा के आदेश की उपेक्षा कर ताँगे में बैठ कर खाना हो गए। फलस्वरूप बीच में ही दुर्घटनाग्रस्त होकर उनको अस्पताल में दाखिल होना पड़ा।

बाबा भिन्न-भिन्न रूपों में अपने भक्तों की परीक्षा लेते हैं और उन्हें दर्शन देते हैं। एक समय श्रीमती तर्खड शिर्डी आई और सन्ध्या समय वह मस्जिद में जाकर बैठी, तब बाबा ने उनसे कहा, “माँ! आज तुमने मुझे बड़े प्रेम से खिलाया। मेरी भूखी आत्मा को बड़ी सान्त्वना मिली। सदैव ऐसा करती रहो। तुम्हें कभी-न-कभी इसका उत्तम फल अवश्य मिलेगा।... पहले भूखे करा भोजन कराओ, बाद में तुम भोजन करो; इसे अच्छी तरह ध्यान में रखो।” जब श्रीमती तर्खड बाबा की बात समझ नहीं पाई, तब बाबा ने कहा, “भोजन करने से पूर्व तुमने जो कुत्ता देखा और जिसे तुमने रोटी का टुकड़ा खिलाया, वह यथार्थ में मेरा ही स्वरूप है। इसी प्रकार अन्य प्राणी भी मेरा ही स्वरूप हैं। मैं ही उनके आकारों में डोल रहा हूँ। जो इन सब प्राणियों में मेरा दर्शन करता है, वह मुझे अत्यन्त प्रिय है। इसलिए द्वैत या भेदभाव छोड़ कर तुम मेरी सेवा किया करो।”

“राम और रहीम एक ही हैं और उनमें किंचित मात्र भी भेद नहीं है। फिर तुम अनुयायी क्यों पृथक्-पृथक् रह कर झगड़ते हो। न झगड़ो और न परस्पर प्राणघातक बनो। सदैव अपने हित तथा कल्याण का विचार करो। श्री हरि तुम्हारी रक्षा अवश्य करेंगे। योग, तप, वैराग्य, ज्ञान आदि ईश्वर के सभीप पहुँचने के मार्ग हैं। यदि तुम सफल साधक नहीं बन सकते, तो तुम्हारा जन्म व्यर्थ है। तुम्हारी कोई कितनी ही निंदा क्यों न करे, तुम उसका प्रतिकार न करो। यदि कोई शुभ कर्म करने की इच्छा है, तो दूसरों की भलाई करो।”

बाबा “दासानुदास, मैं तुम्हारा ऋणी हूँ,” बता कर विनम्रता का पाठ पढ़ाते हैं। अवतार कार्य में उनका सदृश आचरण भी ऐसा ही था।

सन्तों की कथा का श्रवण ही सन्तसमागम सदृश है। सन्त-सान्निध्य का महत्व अति महान् है। इससे दैहिक, बुद्धि, अहंकार और जन्म-मृत्यु के चक्र से मुक्ति मिल जाती है।... विषयों से निश्चय ही विरक्ती मिलती है तथा सुखों और दुःखों में स्थिर रहने की शक्ति प्राप्त होती है और आध्यात्मिक उन्नति सुलभ हो जाती है।

सन्त साधारण सा साधा जीवन व्यतीत करते हुए भी दूसरों को सान्त्वना और सुख पहुँचाते हैं। भगवान् श्री कृष्ण ने कहा है, “सन्त मेरी आत्मा है। वे मेरी जीवित प्रतिमा और मेरा ही विशुद्ध रूप है। मैं स्वयं वही हूँ।”

सन्तों के लिए सज्जन और दुर्जन प्रायः एक समान ही हैं। वे दुष्कर्म से दूर रहने की और सत् कर्म करने की शिक्षा देते हैं। क्योंकि उनके हृदय में भगवान् वासुदेव निवास करते हैं - वे उनसे पृथक् नहीं हैं।...

संकलनकर्ता :

- डा. जगदीश चन्द्र वर्मा



Shirdi News

* Public Relations Publicity Section *

Shree Sai Baba Sansthan Trust (Shirdi)

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Shri Guru Pournima Festival 2013

This year too, like every year, *Shri Guru Pournima* festival was celebrated on behalf of the Shree Sai Baba Sansthan Trust in Shirdi from Sunday, July 21 to Tuesday, July 23 amidst loud chanting of Shri Sai Baba's Name in a very auspicious environment.

Lakhs of devotees took the *Darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi* on the main *Shri Guru Pournima* day.

This year the number of devotees surpassed all previous records.

The *Guru-shishya* tradition is very ancient. *Ashadhi Pournima* is celebrated as *Guru Pournima* to express gratitude to the teacher by the student. *Vyas Pooja* is therefore observed as *Guru Pournima*. Since Shri Sai Baba's Mortal Incarnation this day is celebrated in Shirdi, this day has an extra-ordinary significance. Scores of devotees having faith in Shri Sai Baba come to Shirdi on this day and take *Darshan* of Shri Sai Baba's *Samadhi* and participate in the festivities.



Fifty *Palkhis* (Palanquins) had come from different states, including Maharashtra, for the *Shri Guru Pournima* festival. Specially the *Palkhi* from Pune of Shri Sai Baba *Palkhi* Ceremony Committee drew everybody's attention. It was the 25th year of this *Palkhi*. Hence they celebrated this year as silver jubilee year.

About 3000 *padayatris* (pilgrims on foot) arrived in Shirdi along with this *Palkhi*. Similarly, Shirdi reverberated with the sound of *Nadbrahma*, the 100-strong troupe of drummers that accompanied the *Palkhi* from Pune. Dr. Yashwantrao Mane, Deputy Executive Officer of the Sansthan greeted the *Palkhi* at the Khandoba temple. Commemorating the silver jubilee year the *Palkhi* committee offered very attractive floral decorations in the *Samadhi Mandir* and the surrounding premises. Free accommodation during the festival period was arranged for the *padayatris* of *Palkhis* at the newly inaugurated facility in the service of Sai devotees – Shri Sai Ashram Dharmashala - 2.

The *Kakad Aarati* of Shri Sai Baba was done at 4.30 a.m. on the first day of the festival on Sunday, July 21. After that a *Shobhayatra* (Procession) was taken out at 5 a.m. of Shri Sai Baba's Photo, *Pothi* (holy book) and *Veena*. The Member of the Sansthan's 3-members Managing Committee and Executive Officer, Sri Kishore More carried the *Pothi*, Deputy Executive Officer Dr. Yashwantrao Mane and the Temple Chief, Sri Ramrao Shelke carried the Photo of Shri Sai Baba and the *Purohit* (priest) of the Sansthan, Sri Upendra Pathak carried the *Veena* and participated in the *Shobhayatra*. Local Sai devotees and those from outside were present in large numbers in this *Shobhayatra*. After the *Shobhayatra* reached Dwarkamai, the continuous reading of Shri Sai Sat Charita, the *Pothi*, commenced. Executive Officer Sri Kishore More read the first chapter, Deputy Executive Officer read the second chapter, Sai devotees Mrs. Kartiki Pasarkar, Sri Sandesh Khot and Sri Prakash Sonsale read the third, fourth and fifth chapters respectively. At 5.20 a.m. Shri Sai Baba was given the Holy Bath. At 6 a.m. Executive Officer Sri Kishore More and Mrs. Manjushri More performed the *Padya-pooja* (worship of the holy feet) of Shri Sai Baba in the *Samadhi mandir*.

At 12.30 noon, the mid-day *Aarati* of Shri Sai Baba was done.

A programme of *kirtan* was presented by H. B. P. (*Hari Bhakta Parayan*) Sri Gangadhar Narahar Vyasabuva (Dombivli) from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on the stage adjoining the *Samadhi Mandir*. At 7 p.m. the *Dhoop Aarati* of Shri Sai Baba was done.

At 7.30 p.m. Sri Chanchal Jamdar (Indore) presented his programme 'Saigeet-Sat Charita in *Bhajans*' (devotional songs) from the stage adjoining the *Samadhi Mandir*. All the artistes who participated in this programme were felicitated on behalf of the Sansthan. At 9.15 p.m. a *Shobhayatra* of Shri Sai Baba's *Palkhi* was taken through the village. Local devotees and those from outside joined this *Shobhayatra* in large numbers. Troupes of various musical instruments – cymbals, *lezim* and band players registered their presence in the *Shobhayatra*. Dwarkamai was kept open throughout the night for the *Parayan* of Shri Sai Sat Charita, in lieu of the festival.

The main day of the festival was on Monday, July 22. The *Kakad Aarati* of Shri Sai Baba was done at 4.30 a.m. After that at 5 a.m. a *Shobhayatra* of Shri Sai Baba's Photo, *Pothi* and *Veena* was taken out from Dwarakamai, through *Gurusthan*, to the *Samadhi Mandir*. Chairman of the 3-Members Managing Committee and Principal District and Session Judge of Ahmednagar Sri Jayant Kulkarni carried the *Pothi*, Executive Officer Sri Kishore More and Deputy Executive Officer Dr. Yashwantrao Mane carried Shri Sai Baba's Photo and the *Purohit* of the Sansthan Sri Upendra Pathak carried the *Veena* and participated in the *Shobhayatra*. Local devotees and those from outside joined this *Shobhayatra* in large numbers. After the completion of the

Akhand Parayan, Shri Sai Baba was given a Holy Bath and thereafter “*Shirdi Majhe Pandharpur*” *Aarati* was done. At 6 a.m. Chairman of the 3-Members Managing Committee and Principal District and Session Judge of Ahmednagar Sri Jayant Kulkarni and Mrs. Anuradha Kulkarni did the *Padya-pooja* of Shri Sai Baba.

The mid-day *Aarati* was done at 12.30 noon.

A programme of *kirtan* was presented by H. B. P. Sri Gangadhar Narahar Vyasabuva from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. At 7 p.m. the *Dhoop Aarati* of Shri Sai Baba was done.

From 7.30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Sri Vinod Nakhwa (Thane) presented his programme, ‘*Me Mumbaicha Hay Koli*’, on the stage adjoining the *Samadhi Mandir*. All the artistes that participated in the programme were felicitated on behalf of the Sansthan. At 9.15 the *Shobhayatra* of Shri Sai Baba’s golden chariot was taken out from the *Samadhi Mandir* to Dwarkamai and through the village. Troupes of various musical instruments – cymbals, *lezim* and band players and *bhajan mandals* registered their presence in the *Shobhayatra*. Being the main day of the festival, *Samadhi Mandir* was kept open throughout the night for *Darshan*.

From 12 midnight to 5 a.m. the next day several artistes presented their programme.

On Tuesday, July 23, the concluding day of the festival Shri Sai Baba was given the Holy Bath at 5.05 a.m. At 6 a.m. the Deputy Executive Officer Dr. Yashwantrao Mane and Mrs. Daivashala Mane performed the *Padya-pooja*. After that at 7.30 a.m. the Sansthan’s Executive Officer Shri Kishore More and Mrs. Manjushri More did the *Rudrabhishek* at Gurusthan. At 10.30 a.m. H. B. P. Sri Gangadhar Narhar Vyasabuva presented *Gopalkala kirtan*.

As per the tradition every year, after the *Gopalkala kirtan*, at 12 o’clock the *Dahi Handi* (pot of curd) was broken. After that the mid-day *Aarati* was done. H. B. P. Sri Gangadhar Narhar Vyasabuva was felicitated on behalf of the Sansthan.

At 7 p.m. the *Dhoop Aarati* of Shri Sai Baba was done.

At 7.30 p.m. *Sai Bhajans* programme by Poonam Khanna (New Delhi) and at 9 p.m. *Sufi* and *Bhakti sangeet* programme by Sri Jairaj Kalasi (Pune) were presented from the stage adjoining the *Samadhi Mandir*. All the artistes were felicitated on behalf of the Sansthan.

On the occasion of *Guru Pournima*, Sai devotee from Hyderabad Sri J. R. Rao offered two golden lamps of 987.400 grams worth Rs. 24,26,000/- in memory of his mother at Shri Sai Baba’s Feet and Sai devotee Sri Vijay Shah of Delhi offered a golden plate of 58 grams costing Rs.1,37,000/-.

Sairaj Decorators of Mumbai and their associates did the very attractive electric lighting in the temple and the surrounding premises free of cost for the festival. Various television channels provided live telecast of the festival, facilitating *Darshan* to countless Sai devotees. On all the three days of the festival free *Prasad Bhojan* was served to devotees at the Sai *Prasadalay* from the donations offered by philanthropic Sai devotees – K. Padmini of Chitoor, Parthasarthy Narayan Thorat of Shirdi, K. Gunas Shekhar of Chitoor, Prayag Singh – Ayush Singh of Garva, Natrajan Nandgopal of Chennai, Santosh Kumar Verma of Lucknow, Kamal Narayandas Balani of Indore, Sunil Agrawal of Mumbai, K. A. Vasanta Patnaik of Hyderabad, Kamam Narayan of Hyderabad, Rajesh Aher of Suratgad, Dr. Jailakshmi Reddy of Hyderabad, Ansh Prakash Jain of

Ahmednagar, Pravin Srivastav of Delhi and Bhagawati Verma – Chaturbhuj Verma of Jhansi and others. First Aid Care centres were provided at 2 places for the devotees during the festival. For emergencies and ambulance in the temple premises and a medical team in the *Darshan*-line in two shifts were provided.

On the auspicious occasion of the *Guru Pournima* festival, the phase 2 of Shri Sai Ashram, built from the donation given by Sai devotee Sri K. V. Ramani's Shirdi Sai Trust, Chennai, was dedicated for the service of Sai devotees.

Under the guidance of the Chairman of the 3-Members Managing Committee of the Sansthan and Principal District and Session Judge of Ahmednagar Sri Jayant Kulkarni, Committee Member and District Collector of Ahmednagar Dr. Sanjeev Kumar, Executive Officer Sri Kishore More and Deputy Executive Officer Dr. Yashwantrao Mane, all the administrative officers, head of the departments and employees of the Sansthan made special efforts for the successful conduct of the festival.



'Shri Sai Nath Sagunopasana' and 'Shri Sai Nath Stavanmanjiri' in German language

'Sai Charitra Darshan' in English and Hindi languages

Publications

released by the Chairman of the Sansthan's 3-Members Managing Committee and
Principal District & Session Judge of Ahmednagar.

The holy *Granth* (book) Shri Sai Sat Charita written by late Sri Govind Raghunath Dabholkar alias Hemadpant with the very Blessings of Shri Sai Baba has great significance for the countless devotees of Shirdi Sai Baba. This *Granth* is a collection of Shri Sai Baba's ideology, strange *Leelas* and welfare-oriented advices. It is a priceless treasure. It has played a very significant role in spreading Baba's discourse far and wide. This *Granth* is in verses in Sanskrit and ancient Marathi languages. Late Lieutenant Colonel Sri M. B. Nimbalkar first translated the more difficult chapters 16, 17, 39 and 50 word by word into meaningful prose for Sai devotees, who could not understand Sanskrit and ancient Marathi. These chapters were published in the Sansthan's publication, 'Saileela' in the January 1987 to August 1987 editions. The immense response and demand of Sai devotees to this spurred the late Lt. Col. Nimbalkar to write the balance chapters too into understandable prose. Of these, chapters 1 to 27 were published in the 'Saileela' editions from May 1989 to July-August 1993 chronologically. Late Sri Nimbalkar published all these chapters in a book form in 1993. The second edition of this book was published in 1996. On the request of the Nimbalkar family Shri Sai Baba Sansthan published the third edition on the auspicious day of Ram *Navami* in 2004. The present edition is the eighth published through the Sansthan and has sold over 70,000 copies. The book is receiving overwhelming response.

In 2009 the Sansthan's public relations officer Sri Mohan Yadav's writing of the essence of this book into a adapted form titled 'Sai Charitra Darshan' was published. He received invaluable assistance for this work from the chief editor of the Daily Lokmat group, Sri Vijay Kuvalekar. The second edition of the book has been published after the great response from Sai devotees. Dr. Amruta Kasture, head of the English department of the Government College in Bhilai (Chhatisgarh) translated this book in English and Hindi languages. Sterling Publications has published these English and Hindi translations in book form. In the present stressful, fast paced life, it may not be possible for Sai devotees to read whole chapter of the *Granth* at one go. For such Sai devotees this book will help them to get a glimpse of the life of Shri Sai Baba in a nutshell. Similarly, the English and Hindi translations will certainly reach the glory of Shri Sai Baba to Sai devotees all over the country and the world.

These books and the booklets, 'Shri Sai Nath Sagunopasana' (Marathi Aarati) and 'Shri Sai Nath Stavanmanjiri' (Marathi) published by Shri Sai Sansthan and translated in German language by Sri Govind Madhav Damale of Pune were released by the Chairman of the Sansthan's 3-Members Managing Committee and Principal District and Session Judge of Ahmednagar at Shirdi on the main day of the *Guru Pournima* festival. Member of Parliament Sri Bhausahab Wakchoure, Political Editor of The Times of India (Mumbai) Sri Praful Marpakwar, Chief Editor of Daily Lokmat News Group Sri Vijay Kuvalekar, Sri S. K. Ghai of Sterling Publications (Delhi), Sri Jalinder Chandgude of Prajakta Publications, Dr. Smt. Amruta Kasture, Member of the 3-Members Managing Committee of the Sansthan and Executive Officer Sri Kishore More, Deputy Executive Officer Dr. Yashwantrao Mane, public relation officer Sri Mohan Yadav and others graced the occasion.

Member of parliament Sri Bhausaheb Wakchoure, in his address at the function called for the translation of the book in Telugu looking at the growing number of Sai devotees from Andhra Pradesh. Sri Vijay Kuvalekar stated that in the changing times the new generation will find the life teachings of Shirdi Sai Baba in a nutshell very useful and will help to reach out to the common people at large. Sri Jayant Kulkarni, Chairman of the Sansthan called upon Sri Mohan Yadav to pen the expectations of the devotees from the Sansthan. Senior journalist Sri Praful Marpakwar, Sri S. K. Ghai of Sterling Publications, Sri Jalinder Chandgude of Prajakta Publications and Dr. Smt. Amruta Kasture also addressed the gathering. Professor of the Sansthan's Junior College Sri Vikas Shivgaje compered the proceedings and delivered the vote of thanks at the function.



Apheresis Department in Shri Sai Nath Blood Bank

A new Apheresis department has been started at the Shri Sai Nath Blood Bank run under the auspices of the Shri Sai Baba Sansthan Trust (Shirdi). Through this the platelet corpuscles are removed from the donor's body and the other constituents are returned to the body. Thus this machine is used to prepare the Single Donor Platelet (SDP), informed Dr. S. K. Pathare, the Medical Superintendent of the Sansthan.

Informing further, Dr. Pathare stated that only after all the investigations are done, the donor's platelets are accepted. It is necessary that the donor's pre-investigation count should show 2,00,000 cu. m.m. corpuscles. Platelets, being subtle corpuscles, are formed in the hollow of the bones. They significantly help in stopping flow of blood and in the blood clotting process.

After taking out this corpuscle from the donor's body, it is normally replenished in about 72 hours. Thereafter the donor can once again donate the same. That means a donor can donate the corpuscles after every three days. Such corpuscles are termed as SDP. For this the donor's age should be 18 to 60 years. All the conditions for regular blood donors are essential for this too. Thus, the donor should not have taken Aspirin-like medicines in the last 1 or 2 days. So also the donor should spare 2 to 3 hours for the platelet donation. Dengue patients and patients with other viral fever, cancer, aplastic anaemia, heart operation, contagious and other kinds of ailments that cause platelet-like corpuscles to be destroyed on a large scale or not formed at all are administered SDP to prevent or stop blood flow, thus, saving the life of the patient.

Before this, Random Donor Platelet (RDP) used to be prepared at the Shri Sai Nath Blood Bank and continues to be prepared even now. But, one SDP bag is equivalent to 5 to 6 RDP bags. And, it is also taken from one donor only. Therefore, the threat of infection to the patient from multiple donors is reduced. For every new donor a new sterile needle and a new sterile kit is used and disposed after use. Thereby ailments like HIV are not spread. The Sansthan has kept the cost of SDP at a reasonable Rs. 7,500/-. Private Blood Banks charge Rs. 10,000/- to 12,000/- for this. Therefore, Dr. Pathare appealed that more and more citizens register to donate platelets at the Sansthan's Blood Bank and contact for more information on telephone number (02423)258525.



Free Blood for Thalessemia Patients

Free blood is provided from the Blood Bank of Shri Sai Baba Sansthan Trust (Shirdi) for Thalessemia patients. This time about 60 patients registered. 30 to 35 of these avail benefit of this project every month. Besides, tablets for this ailment for one month are also given free of cost to the patients. This project gives big relief to the Thalessemia patients.

One to four packets of blood is given to patients as per their need free of cost. When a patient is admitted to the Sansthan's hospital for blood, he is provided the blood after receiving very nominal charges. Besides, every patient is given tablets for one month costing Rs.1300/- . Every month 25 patients avail of this benefit.

11,000 blood packets were collected by this Blood Bank by the end of the year. The devout voluntarily donate blood on entering Shirdi out of their faith on Shri Sai Baba. Last year 14,000 packets of blood were given to the patients.



Exclusive *Panchkarma* Service for female patients in Shri Sai Nath Hospital now 3 days every week

Exclusive *Panchkarma* Service has been started for female patients in the Shri Sai Baba Sansthan Trust (Shirdi)'s Shri Sai Nath Hospital three days in a week. The *Panchkarma* section is functional in the *Ayurved* department of the hospital since four years.

Till now the service for female patients was available only on Thursdays. The growing demand for this service from female patients has prompted the Sansthan to provide this every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. The special treatment to be provided in the *Panchkarma* service to female patients include, *Swedan* (sweating after massage for *vat* disorders), *Raktamokshan* (eliminates toxins and purifies blood for skin disorders), *Niruh Basti*, *Matra Basti* (medicated anemas for *vat* disorders), *Netratarpan* (eye disorders), *Shirodhara* (insomnia, mental stress and strain, hair disorders), *Upakarma – Kati Basti* (all types of back and spinal pain), *Manyabasti* (neck and spinal disorders), *Janubasti* (osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, gout) and other disorders. Nurses and an *Ayurvedacharya* will be provided full time.

Pleasant and Pious *Parayan* Ceremony of Shri Sai Sat Charita in Shirdi



The *Parayan* (continuous reading) ceremony of Shri Sai Sat Charita was organized in Shirdi on behalf of the Shri Sai Baba Sansthan Trust (Shirdi) with the co-operation of Natya Rasik Sanch (Shirdi) and the villagers of Shirdi from Wednesday, August 7 to Thursday, August 15, 2013. Daily 8 chapters were read from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. by male readers and from 1 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. by female readers. Several cultural and religious programmes were held for the occasion.

In the morning on the first day of the *Parayan* ceremony a *Shobhayatra* of the *Granth* (holy book) Shri Sai Sat Charita, was taken from the *Samadhi Mandir* via Dwarkamai and taking *Darshan* of Gurusthan to the *Parayan mandap*. Dr. Yashwantrao Mane, Executive Officer of the Sansthan, Sri Bhausahab Sable, Administrative Officer, Office bearers of Natya Rasik Sanch, priests of the Sansthan, villagers and Sai devotees participated in the *Shobhayatra*. On the arrival of the *Shobhayatra* in the *Parayan mandap* the *Parayan* commenced after the worship of the holy book Shri Sai Sat Charita and the *Kalash* which was done by Executive Officer Dr. Yashwantrao Mane.

On this day Sri Shravan Madhav Choudhary's discourse was held from 5.45 p.m. to 6.45 p.m., then from 9 p.m. to 10.15 p.m. *bharud samrat* Sri Chandrakant Khandagale of Wakadi presented Eknathi *bharud* and Sri Bhausahab Kote of Shirdi presented a social reform programme on female foeticide.

On Thursday, August 8 Dr. Ramdas Awhad of Kopergaon presented a talk for the promotion of *Ayurved* from 5.45 p.m. to 6.45 p.m., Sri Sadashiv Gaiwal of Mumbai presented a *bhajan* programme from 7.30 p.m. to 8.45 p.m. and Sri Bhimrao Jadhav's (of Kopergaon) discourse was from 9 p.m. to 10.15 p.m.

On Friday, August 9 the *haldi-kumkum* programme of ladies was held from 5.45 p.m. to 6.45 p.m., Adarsh Prathmik Vidya Mandir of Shirdi presented a cultural programme from 7.30 p.m. to 8.45 p.m., discourse by Sri Gnyandeo Gondkar of Shirdi from 8.45 p.m. to 9.15 p.m. and Sri Anil Kangare presented a programme of dance by children from 9.15 p.m. to 10.15 p.m.

On Saturday, August 10 discourse by Mrs. Madhuri Shinde of Shirdi from 5.45 p.m. to 6.45 p.m., *bhajan* programme by Sri Manhar Udas of Delhi from 7.30 p.m. to 8.45 p.m. and Padma Ramaswamy, Balgopal Bhajan Mandal of Mumbai presented a programme from 8.45 p.m. to 10.15 p.m.

On Sunday, August 11 Mrs. Kalpana Mane of Shirdi presented a Bharatanatyam programme from 5.45 p.m. to 6.45 p.m. and Mr. Sunil and Mrs. Shivani Sargam of Delhi presented programme of devotional songs on Radha-Krishna from 7.30 p.m. to 10.15 p.m.

On Monday, August 12 *kirtan* by H. B. P. Sri Kiran Maharaj Bhagwat of Shirur from 6.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m., Kuchipudi dance programme by Adv. N. Kamala of Vishakapatnam from 7.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. and discourse by Sri Dilip Pawar alias Pawarkaka of Pune on 11 promises of Shri Sai Baba – a spiritual journey from 8.45 p.m. to 10.15 p.m. were held.

On Tuesday, August 13 Sri Mahesh Kudalkar of Kudal presented Nritya Najrana programme from 7.30 p.m. to 10.15 p.m.

On Wednesday, August 14 the reading of chapter 53 (epitome) was done from 7 a.m. to 8.30 a.m. After that the worship of the holy book Shri Sai Sat Charita was done by the Sansthan's Executive Officer Dr. Yashwantrao Mane and Mrs. Daivshala Mane from 8.30 a.m. to 9 a.m. Mrs. Sumitra Kote Chairperson of Shirdi Municipal Council, Mrs. Jaishree Thorat ex-chairperson of SMC, Sri Hemant Jadhavar, Chief Accounts Officer of the Sansthan, Sri Appasaheb Kote, Chairman of Natya Rasik Sanch, Sri Ashok Nagare, Vice Chairman, Sri Bhausahab Sabale, Secretary, Sri Ashok Gondkar, Treasurer, Sri Subhash Ghuge, Joint Treasurer and others alongwith the readers (of the holy book) and villagers graced the occasion. After that, *Sai Bhajan* programmes by Paras Jain, Kishore Gagare and Pravin Mahamuni were presented from 10 a.m. to 11.45 a.m. A grand *Shobhayatra* of the holy book Shri Sai Sat Charita to the beat of drums, cymbals and *lezim* was taken through Shirdi village from 3.30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Floats depicting the life of Shirdi Sai Baba were presented in the *Shobhayatra*. Readers of the holy book Shri Sai Sat Charita and villagers were present in large numbers in the *Shobhayatra*. Sri Rangnath Vaidya of Shirdi presented his comedy show 'Ekapeksha Ek' from 7.30 p.m. to 10.15 p.m.

On Thursday, August 15, H. B. P. Sri Madhavrao Tukarampant Aajegaonkar of Parbhani presented his programme 'Kalyache Kirtan' from 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon. *Mahaprasad* was served from 12.30 p.m. to 4 p.m. A puppet show 'Raja and Rancho' was presented by Sri Rajkumar Suryakant Javkar of Mumbai from 7.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. Kumari Asha Sawliram Jadhav of Shirdi presented her programme 'Sai Sargam' from 8.45 p.m. to 10.15 p.m.

All the above programmes were held in the *mandap* beside the Hanuman temple. Nearly 5000 readers from Shirdi and all over the globe.



Free cataract operation and distribution of spectacles to poor needy patients

Under the joint auspices of Shri Sai Baba Sansthan Trust (Shirdi) and Sai devotee Dr. Prakash Gangwani, a free eye check-up camp was organized at the Shri Sai Nath Hospital on Sunday, July 14, 2013. 480 poor needy patients from Shirdi and surrounding regions availed the benefits of the camp. 101 patients, who were found to be requiring cataract operation, were operated free of cost on behalf of the Sansthan from Monday, July 15 to Wednesday, July 17. So also, 380 patients were provided free spectacles from the contribution made by Dr. Prakash Gangwani.

Ophthalmologist Dr. Sunil Sontakke, Dr. Mrs. Manisha Bajaj and employees under the leadership of the Sansthan's Medical Director Dr. Kaushik Makwana and Medical Superintendent Dr. Sanjay Pathare made great efforts for the successful conduct of the camp.



Free *Ladoo- Prasad* to Devotees in *Darshan* Line

On the auspicious occasion of Independence Day, Chairman of the 3-Members Managing Committee of Shri Sai Baba Sansthan and the Principal District & Session Judge of Ahmednagar Sri Jayant Kulkarni and Executive Officer of the Sansthan Dr. Yashwantrao Mane handed over the *Ladoo Prasad* packets to devotees in the *Darshan* line to mark the inauguration of the free *Ladoo Prasad* to devotees on behalf of the Shri Sai Baba Sansthan Trust (Shirdi).

The decision to give *Prasad* in the form of *laddoos*, like in Tirupati, to Sai devotees coming for the *Darshan* of Shri Sai Baba was taken in 1993-94. Rs. 5/- was then charged for a packet of 2 *laddoos* weighing 100 grams. Initially the demand for these *laddoos* was lukewarm. Gradually the sweetness of the *Motichur Ladoo Prasad* made of pure ghee spread all over the country and the demand grew steadily. The overwhelming demand and the rise in cost of production compelled the Sansthan to give a packet of 3 *laddoos* weighing 150 grams for Rs.10/- from August 1, 2003 as per the decision of the Sansthan's Managing Committee on July 12, 2003. As per this decision the *Prasad* in the form of *laddoos* were available to Sai devotees till August 14, 2013.

Sai devotees had to stand in line for *Darshan* and again stand in line for the *Ladoo Prasad*. To reduce this inconvenience to the devotees, the historical decision to give a free *ladoo* packet to devotees after the *Darshan* in the line was taken by the 3-Members Managing Committee of the Sansthan at the meeting on July 26, 2013. Chairman of the 3-Members Managing Committee of the Sansthan and the Principal District & Session Judge of Ahmednagar Sri Jayant Kulkarni, Member and District Collector of Ahmednagar Dr. Sanjeev Kumar, Executive Officer Sri Kishore More and Deputy Executive Officer Dr. Yashwantrao Mane were present at this meeting. With approval granted by the Judge of the Aurangabad bench of the Mumbai High Court Sri N. H.Patil and the Judge Sri A. I. S. Chikka to this historical decision of the 3-Members Managing Committee, the free distribution of *Ladoo Prasad* commenced on the auspicious day of August 15, 2013. As per this decision each devotee coming in line for the *Darshan* of Shri Sai Baba is being given a packet of 2 *laddoos* weighing 50 grams. The decision to give free *Ladoo Prasad* will burden the Sansthan's treasury with an additional Rs. 23 crores every year. Taking into consideration the possible inflow of devotees on Independence Day, the Sansthan prepared 1 lakh packets of *Ladoo Prasad* on the first day of free distribution. On the first day 73,050 devotees were distributed the free *Ladoo Prasad*. Obvious glee lit the faces of the recipient devotees and they expressed gratitude to the Sansthan for this gesture.

As per the decision of the 3-Members Committee Sai devotees wanting to take home more *Ladoo Prasad* can get each packet of 3 *laddoos* weighing 150 grams for Rs. 20/-. Shri Sai Baba Sansthan has become the first temple trust to give *Ladoo Prasad* free of cost in the *Darshan* line in the country and Sai devotees are welcoming this decision.