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Dasganu Maharaj



Kakasaheb Dixit



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श्री साई लीला

वर्ष २१ अंक ४

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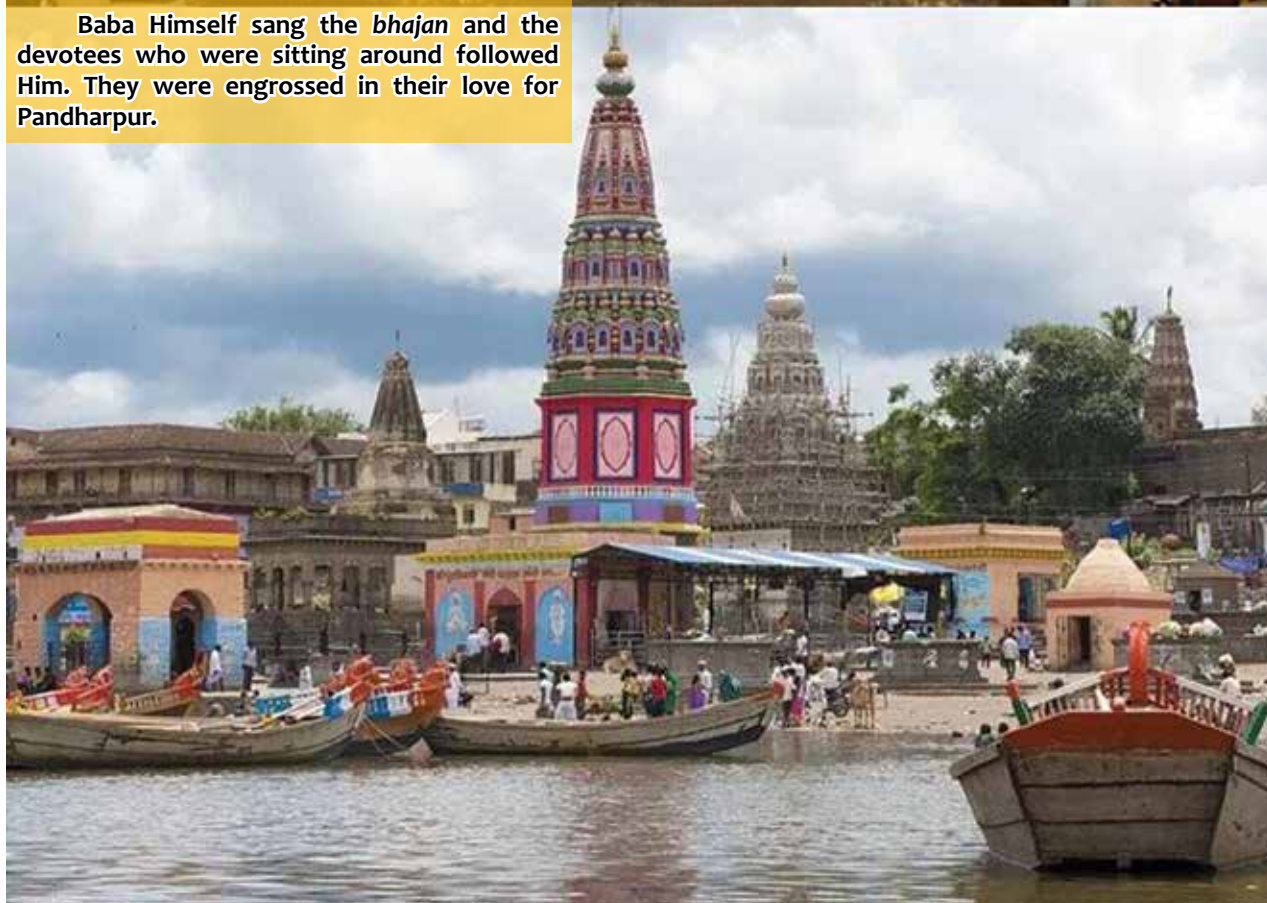
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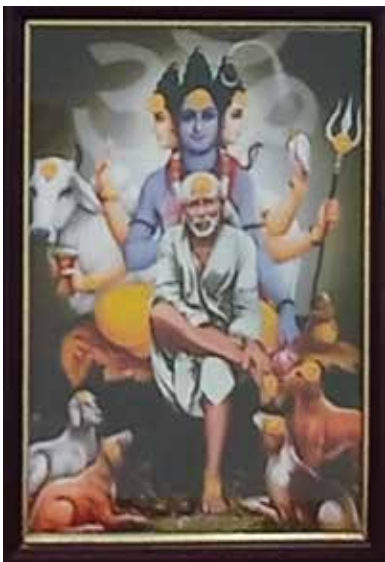
**"I am going to Pandharpur -going, going!
There I will stay! There I will stay, stay!
That is the Abode of my Master!"**

Baba Himself sang the *bhajan* and the devotees who were sitting around followed Him. They were engrossed in their love for Pandharpur.





On the auspicious day
of Vat Pournima,
Thursday, June 24, 2021



***GururBrahma, GururVishnu, GururDevo Maheshwaraha I
Guru Saakshaat ParaBrahma, Tasmai Shri Gurave Namaha II***

गुरु ही ब्रह्मा हैं, गुरु ही विष्णु हैं और गुरु ही भगवान् शिव हैं।
गुरु साक्षात् परब्रह्म हैं।... ऐसे श्री गुरु को नमस्कार है।



Darshan of Lord Vitthal at Shirdi!



... Baba loved the 'Nam-smaran'. He

Himself constantly repeated the words "Allah Malik". He would arrange for a seven day ceaseless chanting of the 'Nam' in His presence, day and night.

On one occasion, Baba commanded Dasganu to conduct such a seven day chanting, when Dasganu sought an assurance from Baba that then Vitthal should appear in person.

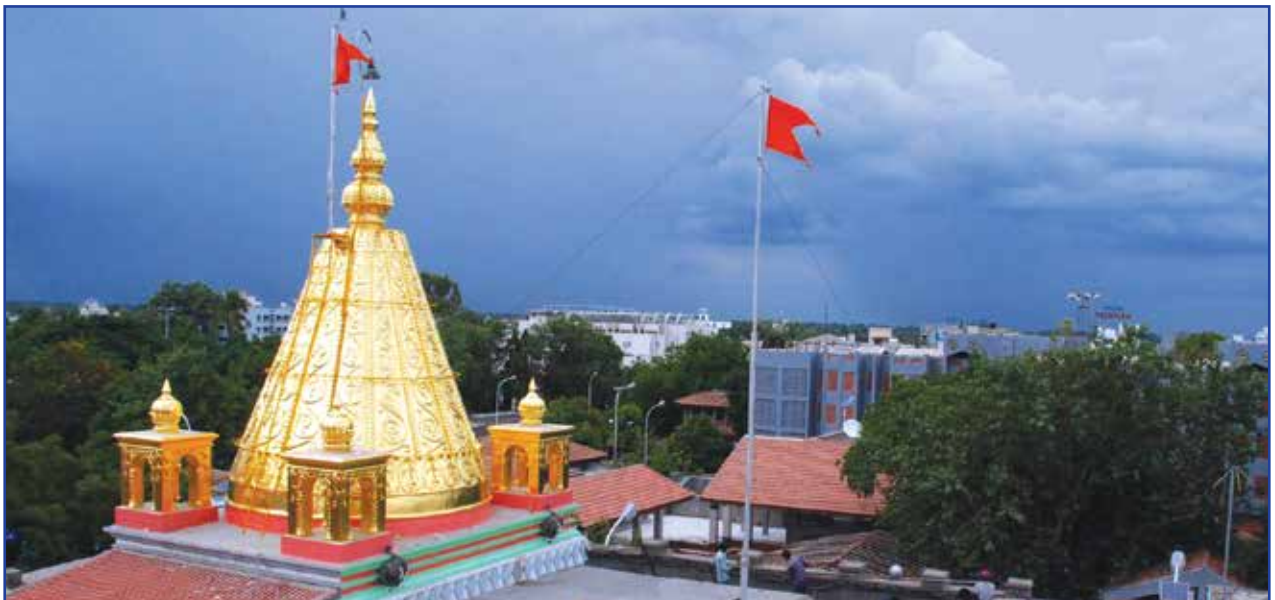
Baba laying His hand on His heart assured him with confidence and told him firmly, "Yes, of course, Vitthal in person will appear. The devotee should be full of faith.

Dankapuri of Dakurnath, or Pandhari of Vitthal, or Dwarka Nagari of Ranchhod are here only, in search of which you need not go a long distance.

Is Vitthal going to come from anywhere else, leaving His private quarters? He would appear here, springing up out of the intense devotion of the devotee.

By serving his parents Pundalik captivated the God of Gods. Seeing Pundalik's devotion, the Lord stood on the brick and waited."

After the seventh day of the chanting, Baba's words came true and it is said that





Dasganu had *darshan* of Lord Vitthal at Shirdi. Thus Baba's prediction was experienced and verified.

Once, when Kakasaheb Dixit was in meditation, after his routine morning bath, he got *darshan* of Vitthal.

Later on, when he went for Baba's *darshan*, Baba surprised him by asking - "Had not Vitthal Patil come? Did you meet Him?"

That Vitthal is very elusive. Hold to Him firmly, otherwise He will slip away, if your attention wavers even for a moment."

This episode took place in the morning. Again, in the afternoon, see further evidence of the joyous appearance of Vitthal.

A hawker from another place outside Shirdi, came to the village with the intention of selling twenty to twenty five beautiful pictures of Vitthal.

It was the exact replica of the image, which was seen in the morning meditation. Dixit was surprised and he recalled Baba's words.

Dixit very lovingly purchased one of the pictures by paying the price to the seller and installed it with devotion for the daily worship.

There is another beautiful episode of the worship of Vitthal being equivalent to

offering respect to Sai. Listen to it with joy and happiness.

Bhagwantrao Kshirsagar's father, one of the leading devotees of Vitthal, often went to Pandharpur.

There was an image of Vitthal in the home. But, when the father passed away, the performance of the *pooja*, offering of the *naivedya* etc. was stopped. Even the rituals at the time of death anniversary were discontinued.

Bhagwantrao also gave up the annual pilgrimage to Pandharpur. But, when he went to Shirdi, Baba recalled his father and said, "He was my friend.

He is my beloved friend's son. That is why I have dragged him here. He does not offer *naivedya*. He starves me also.

He keeps Vitthal also hungry. Therefore, I brought him to Shirdi. Now, I'll remind him and make him do the *pooja*..."

... In Bandra *taluka*, to the north of the township of Bandra, in Santacruz town lived the devotees Dhurandhar brothers.

All the brothers had love and reverence for the saints. They had firm trust in Shri Ram. They had a singular faith in chanting Shri Ram's name. They did not like unnecessarily dabbling in the affairs of others...

Balaram was one of them. He was a devotee of Vitthal and a person of sacred celebrity. He was honoured in every princely court and he was liked by all.

This gem was born on this earth on 19th February 1878, to a devotee of Shri Ram.

He was an ornament of the Pathare Prabhu caste, of a famous family and lineage. In the year 1878, he was born in Mumbai.

He had a western education and was a qualified advocate. He was well-versed in philosophy and was well-known as a learned man, everywhere.

He was greatly devoted to the Deity

Pandurang and supremely inclined towards spirituality. Though his father's family Deity was Ram, his own worship was for Vitthal.

All the brothers held good positions and their conduct was always righteous. As they came from a pure lineage, they had a pure culture. But, Balaram was unexcelled.

He had the ability to put forward well-reasoned, substantive and appealing arguments; he had a simple and pure way of thinking; a sharp intellect, but good and righteous behaviour. These were his virtues and they were worth emulating...

On an auspicious day in April 1912, the opportunity arose for the Dhurandhar brothers to have the Saint's *darshan* in Sai's *darbar*...

Even before their arrival, Baba openly

said, "Today, several people from my *darbar* are going to come here."

Hearing about this loving remark, the Dhurandhar brothers were greatly surprised as they had not intimated anyone of their trip to Shirdi. How did Baba come to know of it?

Later, seeing Sai, they ran and embraced His Feet. Slowly the conversation began and every one was happy and contented.

Besides, when He saw that the people had gathered, Baba spoke again, "See, these are the people of the *darbar*, about whose coming I had spoken."

And, listen to what Baba said further. Every word is true. "Remember that we know each other since the last sixty generations."

Balaram and the brothers, all of them





full of humility, stood before Baba with their hands folded and gazing at the Feet of Shri Sai.

On having Shri Sai's *darshan*, Balaram and all the others felt enthusiastic and excessively devoted and loving. They considered that the trip was worth their efforts.

The eyes were filled with tears, the throats were choked with great emotion, they experienced horripilation over their bodies, and all the eight *sattvik* emotions filled them...

Baba spent one night in the *Masjid* and the next in the *chavadi*. This routine of Baba was continued by Him till the end.

To see the *chavadi* celebration, loving

Balaram was filled with enthusiasm. Therefore, when it was time for the *chavadi* procession, all the Dhurandhars returned.

The men and women of Shirdi village accompanied Baba, shouting acclamations with zeal and started for the *chavadi*.

The horse, whose name was Shyamsunder, was covered with a cloth, woven with golden threads, and was ornamented. He led the procession, prancing ahead.

Various musical instruments, such as the horn, large brass trumpet and the *tutari*, played. The ornamented Shyamkarna, along with the palanquin and Sai were taken in procession. Sai walked along with the devotees, as some held an ornamental umbrella over Him.

Some carried flags and paper decorations in their hands. Some held the ornamental umbrella over Shri's head. Some waved whisks and peacock feathers, and others holding torches surrounded them on all sides.

Taking the harmonious *mrudang*, *tal*, *ghol* and other sweet sounding instruments, a multitude of devotees walked on either side of Baba, doing *bhajans*.

Be this as it may be. When this beautiful procession came before the *chavadi*, Baba stopped and facing in the northerly direction made His ritualistic movements with His hand.

On the right hand, Baba's *Bhagat* (Mhalsapati) walked holding the fold of Baba's garment, and on the left walked Tatya Patil holding a lantern.

Baba's complexion was golden-hued, and when the light of the lamps fell on it, it shone like yellow gold mixed with copper. The beauty of His face was like the light of dawn.

Blessed was the pure *darshan* of that moment. Baba stood facing the north, in deep concentration, and it seemed as if He was summoning someone, as He partially raised His right hand.

From there, He was taken further up to

the *chavadi* and made to take a seat with great honour. Beautiful ornaments and clothes were offered to Him and sandal wood paste was smeared on His limbs.

Sometimes an aigrette of jewels worn in the turban was offered, sometimes a gem-studded ornament for the turban, sometimes a plume, sometimes a golden ornamented crown, sometimes a gold-embroidered cloak.

Necklaces of diamonds, pearls and emeralds were put around Baba's neck lovingly. Some adorned His forehead with a round mark of fragrant musk.

Some washed His Feet and worshipped them, some applied saffron and other fragrances to the body, and put betel leaves in His mouth.

They waved the five-wick lamp, filling it with camphor, over Baba. The beauty of His visage was beyond compare.

The luminosity surrounding Sai's face made Him appear exactly like the image of Pandurang. Dhurandhar was stupified to see it.

Just as no one on earth can bear to see the flash of lightening in the sky, similarly the effluence of Sai's forehead, when it shone, blinded all eyes.

The *Kakad Aarati* used to take place in the early mornings. Dhurandhar and others went there. There too they saw the same lustre on Baba's face.

From then on, till he died, Balaram had complete faith at Sai's Feet. It was definitely established, and it never wavered even a little bit...

... Once, it so happened that Nanasaheb Chandorkar left Nandurbar to go to Pandharpur.

Nana was very lucky. His whole-hearted devotion to Sai had borne fruit. He had the earthly paradise, as he had got the *mamlatdari* of that place.

When he received the orders at Nandurbar, he had to leave immediately. Hurriedly he made all the arrangements, desiring in his heart the *darshan*.

Along with his wife and family circle, he thought of going to Shirdi, as Shirdi was his Pandharpur, and he wanted to pay his respects to Baba.

He did not send a letter to anybody, nor did he send any message. He gathered together all his belongings, and got into the carriage hurriedly.

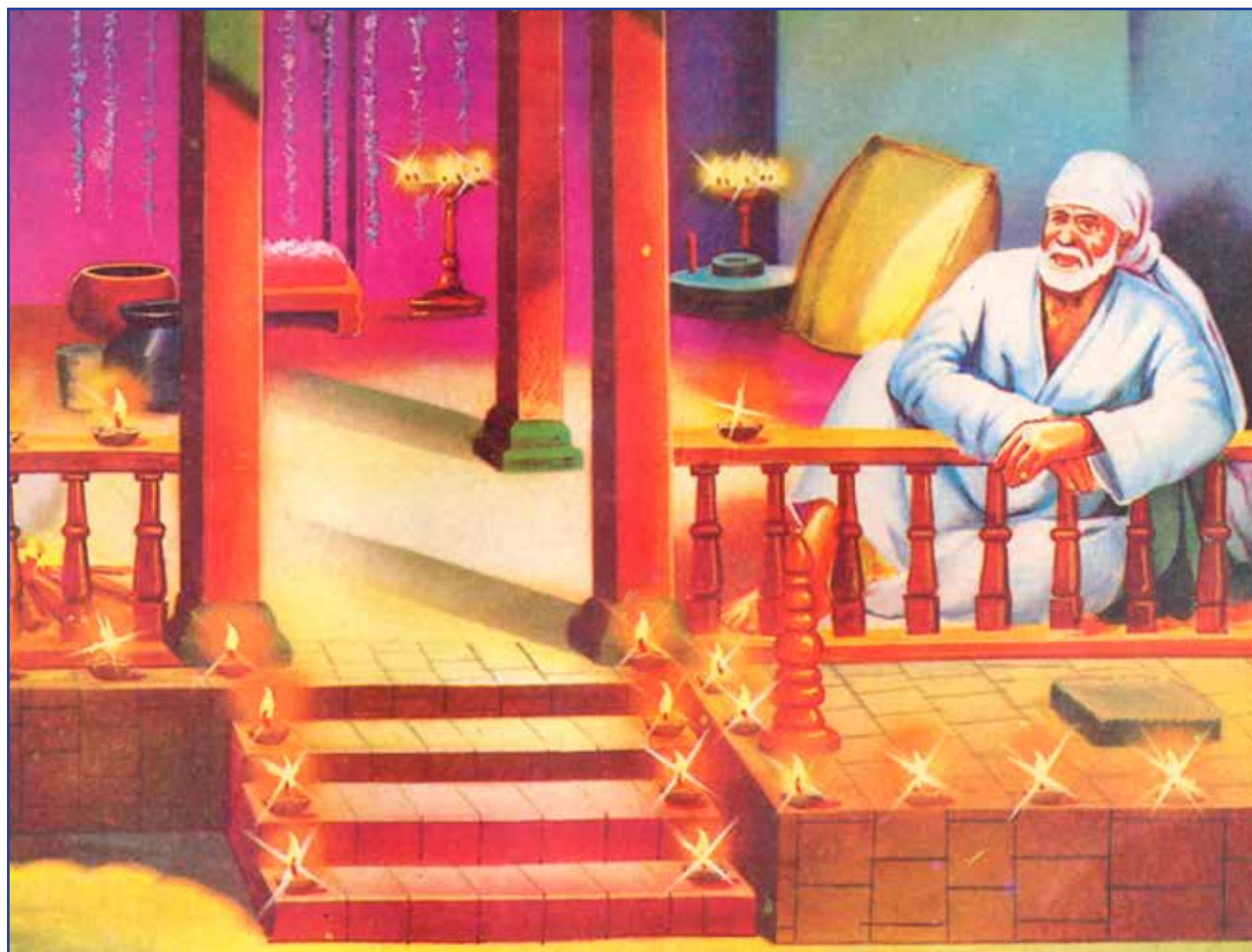
In this way, Nana started, and nobody in Shirdi knew of it. But, Sai knew everything, as Sai was all-pervading.

Nana started immediately. He must have been at the outskirts of Nimgaon. Now listen carefully to the miracle that happened at Shirdi, in truth, at that time.

Baba was in the *Masjid* with Mhalsapati,



Nanasaheb Chandorkar



Appa Shinde and Kashiram, the devotees, were seated chatting.

At that moment, Baba said casually, "Let four of us sing a *bhajan*. The doors of Pandharpur have opened. We can sing joyously."

Sai had knowledge of the past, present and future. He had already learnt the news. Nana was near the stream at the outskirts, when Baba was singing the *bhajan* zealously.

Bhajan

**"I am going to Pandharpur - going, going!
There I will stay! There I will stay, stay!
That is the abode of my Master!"**

Baba Himself sang the *bhajan*, and the devotees, who were sitting around, followed

Him. They were engrossed in their love for Pandharpur. Just then Nana arrived.

He bowed down at His Feet, with his wife, and said that Maharaj should go with them to Pandharpur, and settle there undisturbed and without any worry.

This invitation was not necessary. Already Baba was in joyous mood, and people told him, that He was ready to go to Pandharpur as the *bhajan*'s words indicated.

Nana was extremely surprised and seeing the *leela* was amazed. He put his head at His Feet and was deeply emotionally moved.

Taking His blessings, *udi* and *prasad*, and bowing again, Chandorkar set out for Pandharpur, after getting His permission to go...

- SHRI SAI SATCHARITA -



एकत्व की परिभाषा – साईंनाथ – पंढरीनाथ

“अहं भक्तपराधीनो ह्यस्वतन्त्र इव द्विज।
साधुभिर्ग्रस्त हृदयो भक्तैर्भक्तजन प्रियः॥
साधवो हृदयं मह्यं साधुनां हृदय त्वहम्।
मध्यन्त ते न जानन्ति नीहं तेभ्यो मनागपि॥”

(“हे मुनि! मैं भक्तों के बस में हूँ, इसलिए जैसे कि अस्वतन्त्र हूँ, ऐसा हूँ। मेरे भोले, सरल हृदय भक्तों ने मेरे हृदय को वश में किया है; क्योंकि सभी भक्तजन मुझे प्रिय हैं।” – श्रीमद् भागवत महापुराण, नवम स्कंध, अध्याय ४, श्लोक ६३)

भक्त पुंडलिक ऐसे ही भक्त थे। उन्होंने भगवान् पांडुरंग को अपने अधीन कर लिया था। पुंडलिक भगवान् विष्णु के परम भक्त, वेदशास्त्रों के ज्ञाता, तेजस्वी एवं तपस्वी और माता-पिता के भक्त थे। वे त्रिकाल सन्ध्या एवं साँझ-सवेरे विधिवत् अग्निहोत्र भी करते थे। ब्राह्मण कुल में जन्मे भक्तराज पुंडलिक संसार को असार मानने वाले एवं अनासक्त थे। सांसारिक सुखों का त्याग करके ईश्वर-प्राप्ति के मार्ग पर चल पड़े थे। तीर्थाटन करते वे ‘शालिग्राम’ नामक जगह पर पहुँचे, तब वहाँ रहने वाले एक तत्त्वज्ञानी से उनकी भेंट हुई। उनके सान्निध्य में वे भगवान् विष्णु की भक्ति में लीन रहने लगे। भक्त पुंडलिक की भक्ति की पुष्टि के लिए भगवान् ने नारद जी को उनके पास भेजा। देवर्षि ने भक्तराज को भक्ति-बोध देते हुए कहा, “हे द्विजवर! भगवान् तो सर्वव्यापी हैं। सर्वेश्वर हैं। आप अनन्य भाव से उनकी शरण में जाइये। विष्णु के अलावा परम आनंददायी कुछ भी नहीं है। वे ही सबके माता-पिता-बंधु-सखा हैं। वे ही जगदाधार हैं। उनकी शरण में जाकर ‘ॐ नमो नारायण’ मन्त्र का जाप कीजिये। यही मन्त्र विष्णु का साक्षात्कार करायेगा।” इस तरह उपदेश देकर नारद जी चले गये। फिर तो भक्त पुंडलिक ने नारायण मन्त्र का निरंतर जाप आरम्भ किया। भक्तराज पंढरपुर धाम के प्रतिष्ठाता बने थे। महाराष्ट्र में सोलापुर में चन्द्रभागा नदी के तट पर पंढरपुर मंदिर है, जहाँ श्री कृष्ण पंढरीनाथ, विठ्ठल, विठोबा और पांडुरंग नाम से विख्यात हैं। श्री कृष्ण का यह स्वरूप महाराष्ट्र के संतों का आराध्य स्वरूप है।

यह बात बिल्कुल सत्य है कि माता-पिता और गुरु की अवहेलना करके परमात्मा की आराधना कागज़ के फूल के समान है। परमात्मा से भी बढ़ कर माता-पिता की सेवा सर्वश्रेष्ठ है। कहते हैं न कि :-

“ले लो, ले लो, दुआएँ माँ-बाप की
सर से उतरेगी गठरी पाप की”

भक्त पुंडलिक मन-वचन-कर्म से अपने माता-पिता की सेवा करते थे। एक दिन भगवान् कृष्ण रुक्मिणी के साथ भक्तराज पुंडलिक को मिलने आये। भगवान् ने भक्तराज का नाम लेकर आवाज़ दी। पुंडलिक ने प्रश्न किया, “कौन है?” प्रभु ने कहा, “मैं कृष्ण भगवान् आपसे मिलने आया हूँ। आपकी माता-पिता के प्रति भक्ति देख कर मैं प्रसन्न हुआ हूँ। यदि कोई दूसरा होता, तो अपने सभी काम छोड़ कर दौड़ा आता। पुंडलिक ने नम्र भाव से कहा, “इस समय मैं अपने माता-पिता की चरण-सेवा कर रहा हूँ। अभी वे सोने ही वाले हैं। अभी मैं अपने आसन से उठ नहीं सकता। कृपया आप जहाँ खड़े



हैं, वहीं पर थोड़ी देर प्रतीक्षा कीजिये। भक्तवत्सल प्रभु वहाँ पड़ी हुई एक ईंट पर खड़े रहे।

माता-पिता की सेवा से निवृत्त होकर जब पुंडलिक आये, तब भगवान् ने उनसे वरदान माँगने को कहा। भक्तराज पुंडलिक ने कृष्ण से वरदान माँगा, “आप हमेशा इसी स्थान पर, इसी रूप में स्थित रह कर भक्तों को दर्शन दीजिये।” तब से भगवान् श्री कृष्ण पंढरीनाथ दोनों हाथ कमर पर रख कर भक्तों को दर्शन दे रहे हैं। इसी स्थिति में भगवान् ने अपना स्वरूप वहीं पर स्थिर कर दिया। इसके बाद इस स्वरूप मूर्ति के आसपास मंदिर का निर्माण हुआ।

कैसी निःस्वार्थ भक्ति! माँगने को तो भक्तराज सुख-संपत्ति-ऐश्वर्य भी माँग सकते थे; लेकिन उन्होंने अपने लिए नहीं, अपितु संसार के सब लोगों के लिए ईश-दर्शन का वरदान माँगा। उन्होंने सिद्ध कर दिखाया कि भगवान् को पाने के लिए माता-पिता की अनन्य भाव से सेवा करना परम आवश्यक है। माता में सभी तीर्थ विराजमान हैं, और पिता में सभी देव विराजमान हैं।

एकात्म की परिभाषा - साईनाथ - पंढरीनाथ विषय पर विस्तृत निरूपण करूँ, उससे पहले मैं आदर सहित भक्तराज दासगणू महाराज का जिक्र करना चाहता हूँ, जिन्होंने अपने पदों में साईनाथ का अंतःकरण से यशोगान किया है। श्री साईनाथ स्तवन मंजरी में दासगणू जी ने बाबा को पंढरीनाथ दर्शाते कहा है :-

**“पूर्ण ब्रह्म हैं संत सहारे,
पंढरीनाथ रूप तुम धारे,
करुणा सिंधु जय दयानिधान,
पांडुरंग नरसिंह भगवान्”**

शिर्डी और पंढरपुर के बीच करीब ३०० किलोमीटर का फ़ासला है; मगर दासगणू जी रचित, समाधि मंदिर में गाई जाने वाली छोटी सी आरती में, ३०० कि.मी. का फ़ासला केवल तीन मिनटों में तय कर लिया है।

**“शिर्डी मेरा पंढरपुर, साई बाबा रमावर।
शुद्ध भक्ति चन्द्रभागा, भाव पुंडलिक जागा।।
आओ आओ भक्त जन, करो बाबा की वंदना।
‘गणू’ कहे आओ साई, अब काहे देर लगाई।।”**

दासगणू जी ने अपना सर्वस्व साई को अर्पण करके यह सिद्ध कर दिखाया कि साईनाथ ही वास्तव में

पंढरीनाथ हैं। पंढरीनाथ श्री कृष्ण का स्वरूप हैं, तो उस हिसाब से श्री साई समर्थ भी भगवान् कृष्ण और भगवान् विष्णु का ही अवतार हुए न! बाबा आज भी वर्तमान हैं। बाबा के ग्यारह वचनों में बाबा कहते हैं :-

**“मुझे सदा जीवित ही जानो,
अनुभव करो सत्य पहचानो।”**

श्री साई सत् चरित में कई जगहों पर विविध ढंग से यह बताया गया है कि साईनाथ - पंढरीनाथ में लेशमात्र अंतर नहीं है। आईये... ऐसे कुछ उदाहरणों के ज़रिये इस सत्य को जाने - पहचाने।

करीब ९५ साल के वृद्ध भक्त गौली बुवा पंढरी के वारकरी थे। वे ८ मास पंढरपुर और ४ मास गंगा किनारे रहते थे। प्रतिवर्ष वे वारी लेकर पंढरपुर जाते और लौटते समय साई दर्शन के लिए शिर्डी आते थे। वे बाबा को एकाग्र होकर निहारते रहते थे; और कह उठते थे कि साई तो पंढरीनाथ हैं! श्री विठ्ठल के अवतार हैं!! गौली बुवा, विठोबा के परम भक्त ने प्रत्यक्ष अनुभव किया कि श्री साई ही वास्तव में पंढरीनाथ ही हैं। दोनों में एकात्म की परिभाषा और क्या हो सकती है!

एक बार दासगणू जी ने तीर्थराज प्रयाग जाकर स्नान करने का निर्णय किया। वे बाबा की अनुमति लेने गये। बाबा ने कहा, “इतनी दूर जाने की ज़रूरत ही क्या है? अपना प्रयाग तो यहीं पर है। जैसे ही दासगणू जी बाबा के चरणों पर नत हुए, तो साई-चरणों से गंगा-जमुना की धारा वेग से प्रवाहित हुई! दासगणू जी को कुछ प्रेरणा हुई और उनके मुख से साईनाथ की स्रोतस्विनी बहने लगी; वे कह उठे :-

**“शिर्डी मेरा पंढरपुर, शिर्डी तीर्थ समान।
यहाँ विराजे विठ्ठल मेरे, साँवरे घनश्याम।
प्रणाम मेरा स्वीकार करो, साईनाथ भगवान्।।”**

दासगणू जी ने महाराष्ट्र में बाबा को घर-घर पहुँचाया है।

नानासाहेब चाँदोरकर परम साई उपासक थे। वे नंदुरबार के मामलतदार थे। उनका स्थानांतरण पंढरपुर में हो गया। साई भक्ति फलदायी हो गई। उन्हें पंढरपुर, जो ‘पृथ्वी का स्वर्ग’ समझा जाता है, वहाँ रहने का सुनहरा मौका प्राप्त हुआ। नानासाहेब को पंढरपुर जल्दी रवाना



होना था। इसलिए पूर्व जानकारी दिये बिना ही शिर्डी को जाने उद्यत हो गये। वे अपने पंढरपुर अर्थात् शिर्डी में जाकर विठोबा अर्थात् साई के दर्शन करना चाहते थे। नानासाहेब के आने की जानकारी किसी को नहीं थी। बाबा तो सर्वज्ञ - सर्वव्यापक हैं। उनसे क्या छिपा है! जैसे ही नानासाहेब नीमगाँव पहुँचे, द्वारकामाई में सन्नाटा छा गया। बाबा म्हालसापति, अप्पा शिंदे और काशीराम से बातें कर रहे थे कि अचानक बाबा ने कहा, “चलो, हम चारों मिल कर भजन करें।...

‘पंढरपुरला जायाचें जायाचें।

तिथेच मजला राह्याचें।

तिथेच मजला राह्याचें।

घर ते माझ्या रायाचें।।’ ”

मतलब, ‘मुझे पंढरपुर जाकर वहीं रहना है। वह मेरे स्वामी का घर है।’

नानासाहेब आ पहुँचे और पंढरपुर जाने की बात की। भक्तगण ने नानासाहेब को बताया कि बाबा तो पहले से ही पंढरपुर के भाव में हैं। नानासाहेब की आँखें भर आईं। वे पंढरपुर के लिए रवाना हो गये।

सान्ताक्रूज़, मुम्बई के बालाराम धुरंधर प्रभु जाति के थे। वे मुम्बई के उच्च न्यायालय में वकील थे। वे किसी समय शासकीय विधि विद्यालय, मुम्बई के प्राचार्य भी थे। वे पंढरपुर के भगवान् विठोबा के परम उपासक थे। वे परिवार सहित एक बार गुरुवार के दिन शिर्डी आये। भाग्यवश उसी रात को उन्हें चावड़ी उत्सव देखने का मौका मिला। आरती के समय बालाराम को चावड़ी में बाबा का मुख भगवान् पांडुरंग जैसा नज़र आया। दूसरे दिन काकड़ आरती में भी उन्हें बाबा का मुख ओजस भरा पंढरीनाथ जैसा लगा।

तो, आपने देखा कि साई केवल संगमरमर की मूर्ति ही नहीं हैं, वे तो हर भक्त के भाग्यविधाता हैं। साई हमेशा, पहले भी और आज भी, भक्तों के लिए दौड़े चले आते हैं।

मेरे प्यारे साई भक्तों, बाबा की एक बात अपने मानस पटल पर अंकित कर लो।

“मैं यहाँ कुछ कहता हूँ, और वहाँ वह घटित हो जाता है।”

अंत में, मैं साईनाथ को छोटी सी प्रार्थना करके इस लेख को लिख कर अपने कलम को विश्राम देता हूँ।

“हे साईनाथ, हम मूढ़मति, अज्ञानी और अबोध हैं। हमारे सभी कार्यों को आप ही यशस्वी बनाने में समर्थ हैं। अगर मगरूर हो जाऊँ, मैं तुमसे दूर हो जाऊँ, वहीं मेरे गुनाहों का मुझे आईना दिखा देना।”

- विनय घासवाला

१०/३०२, लाभ रेसिडन्सी, अटलदरा,
वडोदरा - ३९० ०१२, गुजरात.
संचार ध्वनि : (०) ९९९८९९०५६४



Baba said, “This is our Dwarkamai! When sitting in the lap of the *Masjid*, she safeguards the children, and there will never be any question of worrying. This *Masjidmai* is very kind. She is the Mother of all the innocent and faithful devotees. Anyone may face any difficulty, She will readily protect. Once a person settles in her lap, all his difficulties are solved. He who lies in her shadow, he will be on the throne of happiness. That is that Dwarka, Dwaravati!”

SHRI SAI BABA'S ROUTINE



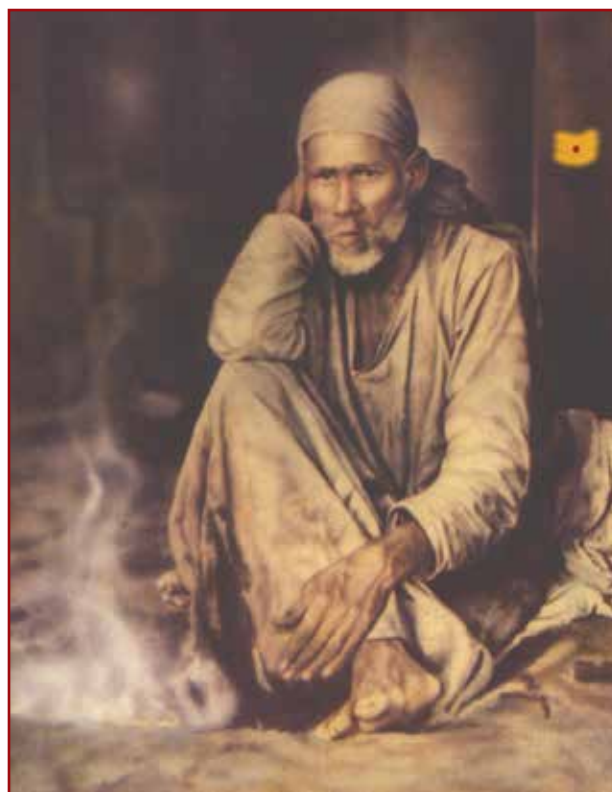
... Shri Sai Maharaj's routine was practised with great regularity. He woke early in the morning and sat near the *dhuni*, a little while later He performed His purificatory rites and evacuation of bowels etc. which He cleared off with His own hands. Then, He would sit quietly for a while. During that time, Bhagoji Shinde, a person by that name, would remove the bandages on Maharaj's right arm and massage the whole body also. Then, he would fill the *chillum*, light it and give it to Maharaj to smoke and after Maharaj smoked it, He would give it again to Bhagoji to smoke. This would happen for five or six times and then Bhagoji would leave. This Bhagoji was stricken with leprosy, but Maharaj never took objection to service by him, nor did He



change His routine which involved him even by a jot. After Bhagoji left, Maharaj would remain seated for a while and at that time, some regular devotees came and rendered services; and afterwards, Maharaj would get up to wash His face. The way Maharaj washed His face was worth watching. He poured as much water as He desired on His arms, feet, face, ears and cleaned all these parts with great delicacy.

As Shri Eknath Maharaj has described : "All the hair on the body was scrubbed. But, the body was not massaged for that purpose. Thus He was not bringing in any distinction between any creature and himself, which may otherwise cause injury."

This was also the way in which the bath took place. After the face was washed, He went into the village for alms. He went to the five fixed places for alms and stood at a fixed spot. He would receive *bhakri* or dry preparations as given and eat a little bit, on





His return to the *Masjid*. He would remain in one place for a while after eating. At that



time, a large crowd of the devotees gathered and Maharaj would impart knowledge in the form of stories (parables). Sometimes, during the sitting Maharaj would purchase bananas, guavas and mangoes and distribute to the crowd and even fed them with His own hands. When I say 'fed with His own hands', I mean that Maharaj would peel the bananas, He would cut the guavas into pieces Himself and also the mangoes were pummeled and given by Him (to suck). After this sitting, Maharaj would go to *Lendi Baug* and would remain there generally for one hour. From the time of His return from *Lendi Baug* till 2 O'clock in the afternoon, He would remain in the *Masjid*. During that time, the devotees performed Maharaj's *pooja*, worship, *aarati* etc. Then after Maharaj's lunch, He would go again to *Lendi Baug*; He would return





from there after three fourths of an hour approximately and would remain in the *Masjid* till evening. He would step out just a little in the evening and return immediately and stay in the *Masjid*. Normally, there would be three sittings during the day. One in the morning after breakfast, second on return from *Lendi Baug* and the third around five in the evening. During all the three sittings, Maharaj would impart knowledge in story form. Maharaj's words would clear the different problems and doubts of the different persons gathered there and they would get solutions for the different matters concerning them. Maharaj did not speak on deep *vedantic* issues openly, nor did He give lectures on the *upanishads*. His teachings were essentially relating to good conduct. To cleanse the disciple's mind and then to sow the seeds of knowledge in it,



is the *shastric* way of the *Sadguru*; and thus Maharaj acted; therefore, His teachings were relating to morals and ethics. But, instead of the open verbal teachings, one received from Maharaj priceless and several scholarly examples and experiences and therefore, those devotees who came with full faith to Maharaj, received the highest banefit.

Out of the devotees coming to Maharaj, the large majority were those who came with desires and wishes to fulfil, but Maharaj fulfilled their desires and turned their minds towards their greater welfare without they being aware of it. Maharaj has taken *avatar* for the welfare of the people and He looked after the welfare of all. There is not an iota of doubt about that. His *leelas* and His attributes cannot be correctly described.

“God has infinite attributes. He who behaves child-like can be compared to God. Just as one cannot count the particles on the earth, no matter how much time one spends, similarly one cannot adequately describe the powers of such a One!”

Yet the collection of Maharaj's *leelas* to the extent possible will be for the benefit of all...

One of Baba's children
Hari Sitaram Dikshit

- SHRI SAI SATCHARITA -



Shri Sai Maharaj's Experiences...

Too many days have passed since 1923; it has been long since all of us visited Shirdi together. Such an opportunity had not come. Thus, we were very eager and curious to know when such a chance would come when we visit Shirdi and take Shri Sai Mauli's *darshan*. It was very unfeasible and difficult to travel by train at night and take or change other vehicles to get down at Shirdi in winters due to children's health condition. So, we made a plan to go by road travelling by bus, starting at 8 in the morning to reach Shirdi by six in the evening.

We thought a 18-seater bus was most convenient for all of us, so we decided to hire it; however, we boarded it late at 12 noon that day which was 27th December, a Sunday. Still we considered that it would be 8 o'clock in the evening in this 8-hour journey. We had planned that after a one-day halt at Shirdi, we would travel to Pandharpur, Sajjangad, Jejuri, Bhimashankar, and finally return home on 3rd January; however, Shri Sai Mauli's miracle was unique.

We commenced the journey from Santacruz and just before reaching Kurla, the vehicle got punctured. It took almost an hour to get the work done. Two more hours were wasted at a nook on Nashik road. Due to the driver's skill and alertness, we could cross Thalghat at night, and at 11.30 in the night, we reached Panchvati where he parked the motorbus. He made enquiries there and took the road to Manmad.

At 5 in the morning, we left Yevle. The bus must have thought that the night has passed now it would be daytime, so again, there was another puncture at this time. It took time and till 7.30 in the morning, we were there. Then at 8.30 o'clock, we reached the holy Godavari river, and we took a bath. There is a guava plantation garden a mile away from Kopargaon, we took guavas on the way and

reached Shirdi at 10.15 on Monday morning. We realized that the bus took 22 hours to reach Shirdi, which is just an 8-hour travel.

On reaching Shirdi, Tatyaji Kote Patil and other devotees convinced all guests to stay till Thursday, when *chavdi* and palanquin procession is undertaken. They wished that we should not leave before Friday. However, Baba drew our mind and interest so much that we decided to spend the entire Christmas vacation in Shirdi and return only before the last day of the leave. Thus, we cancelled our plan to visit other places like Pandharpur, Jejuri, etc. and informed of the changed plan through letters. On Thursday morning, we went to Shukleshwar, then Kacheshwar and returned to Kopargaon. In the afternoon, we had our lunch in Shirdi and went to Rahata market in the evening in the motorbus and returned to Shirdi. Watching the palanquin procession at night was indeed a blissful experience that refreshed the mind. On Friday morning, the 1st of January 1932 we left Shirdi and reached Sangamner safely.

On our return journey, we planned to visit Bhimashankar and via Talegaon, wished to visit Mumbai, but that was not what Baba had planned. Sai Baba had made the journey from Mumbai to Shirdi obstacle free and smooth. Yet, while returning, Tatyaji Patil had suggested not to travel in the evening past 7. He had asked us to take a halt in residential areas. We too had taken a similar decision to halt. We thought that we would reach Narayangaon in the afternoon and Bhimashankar in the evening till 6 o'clock. However, we reached Narayangaon itself at 7 in the evening. Tatyaji Patil had given the reference of Bhima Patil and we enquired, but found out that he had left for Pune.

Now, the question of our night-stay arose. Where do we take a halt? Even before we thought about the question, Shri Sai

Baba's miracle had begun. The person who informed about Bhima Patil was a policeman, and on hearing about our concern and plan, he himself exclaimed, "Pradhan Sir, you have not recognized me, but I know you. When you were staying in a bungalow in Khadki, my senior policeman would send me at your service. Junnar is almost 7 miles from here, but the road to Bhimashankar is very risky. It is night, and you have small children along with you. The police quarter is nearby. Once the police personnel comes, everything will be taken care of."

The concerned policeman was informed and he made all the arrangements to stay at the inspection bungalow. He also made arrangement for our meal and after all preparation, he said, "Sleep well, we shall see further things tomorrow morning." We had our meal and went to sleep comfortably. Before going the police had ordered his servant that all our luggage should be well packed and kept in the motor vehicle. He ordered the care taker of the bungalow to look after our morning chores, and keep hot water ready for bath. The servant informed us about these commands in the morning. Since the luggage was all packed, we inferred that everything should be boarded on the motorbus. While doing so, a *brahmin* brought some morning snacks for us. We took bath, had tea and snacks and got in the motorbus. We took along the tools needed to repair a puncture in case the situation arises.

On a very warm note, we took the policeman's leave and left Narayangaon on Saturday at 8.30 am. From thereon, we directly reached Khed. It did not get punctured till then, but few miles further, the spring broke down. It was a wise decision that we did not go to Bhimashankar. But, how do we go on from here? Just then, we saw a blacksmith in a nearby farm. It was a remote area; there were no human settlements in the vicinity. It is indeed a surprising incident that how the vehicle broke down in such an isolated

area, how easily and immediately we came across an expert blacksmith, as if Baba had sent him for us, all these events are amazing and unfathomable. That person repaired the broken spring tentatively and we could hardly reach Talegaon at 8 pm. From there, we decided to board a train to travel further. On enquiring, we were informed that the train was at 1 o'clock past midnight and the next was at 8 am next day.

During this enquiry, a Muslim mechanic suddenly came there, an acquaintance of the driver, who repaired the motorbus whenever there was any damage or problem with the vehicle. At the same time, a young patrol agent, Mr. Baburao Mahadev Bhalerao, came there riding a cycle. He came near the vehicle and wished that we stay at his home for the night. Even the mechanic assured us that he will fit a new spring in the motorbus and by the next morning, the bus would be ready.

Indeed, we stayed in Talegaon. There was a Vitthal temple built by saint Tukaram opposite to Mr. Bhalerao's residence. We paid our obeisance and had our dinner, after which we comfortably went to sleep. In the morning, we shopped at Talegaon market, the motorbus was repaired and ready and we left Talegaon at 9 am. Mr. Bhalerao accompanied us on a bicycle. There was a glass factory a mile away. We visited the factory. Mr. Bhalerao was indeed very warm and cordial; his behaviour was like that of a saint. He left us. At around 11 o'clock, we reached the base of Ekvira Aai temple. We climbed the hill on which the temple is situated and took the *darshan*. The priest of this temple came with us and we dropped him at Lonavala.

The journey went smooth from this point onwards and we crossed Borghat and reached Panvel. The spring functioned fine yet, the petrol did not drip into the machine and thus at 6 pm, we were again stranded. Later, it was almost 8 when at Ghantali, where we took *darshan* and finally, at 10 pm, we reached home at Santacruz.

On return, we came to know that a person who had some enmity with the owner of the vehicle, wanted to put him in trouble and so he had conspired and had done a lot of changes in the engine. But, because the driver was alert and because he was a devotee of Sai Baba, he drove straight to Shirdi and as mentioned above, he overcame all the hurdles and repaired whatever faults occurred. Sai Baba brought us safely home.

From the day the motorbus left for the journey till the return which lasted for 8 days, there was protective shield of Sai Baba, a *sudarshan*. Otherwise, chances were that a terrible accident would have taken place and the vehicle would be smashed.

If the same motorbus was to be repaired

at a workshop in Mumbai, it would have taken 3 gallon petrol. According to this it would have taken 125 gallons for our journey. But, it took 30 gallon petrol only. Shri Sai Baba's miracle is indeed unfathomable and we could experience this every place and every moment throughout our journey. Our time was spent singing in His praise.

Mrs. Chhotubai M. Pradhan

Sai-Pradhan Baug, Santacruz,

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This was a characteristic of the pilgrimage to Shirdi, that if a devotee would try to return without Baba's permission, he would be inviting trouble. But, once permission is given, it was impossible to stay in Shirdi even for a moment. If one stayed on, difficulties would be faced. This was the experience of all. Those who disobeyed His wishes, suffered on the way. Some were robbed; and they remembered their experience till the end of life. If He asked them to eat a little and then leave, and if still a person hurriedly left without food, he would not catch the train and would also go hungry. Many devotees experienced this... An European gentleman, residing in Mumbai, came for Sai's *darshan* with some inner motives... He did not follow the advice of the people at Shirdi and left without Sai Baba's permission. He suffered on the way. At first, the carriage went well. Later on, the horses left the track. When they were beyond the well at Saul, a bicycle came in the way. The gentleman was seated in the rear of the carriage. Suddenly the carriage gave a jerk. It lost its balance and overturned on the road. With great efforts the carriage was controlled. The man got dragged for some distance. Then he was picked up and put into the carriage, which then moved forward again. Shirdi was left behind on one side. Mumbai was on the other side. The carriage was then taken in the direction of the hospital, at Kopergaon. So be it. The man stayed there for some days, repentant and distressed. He was undergoing the punishment due to his disobedience, as per his destiny.

साईं तेरे गुण गाऊँ

साईं तेरे गुण गाऊँ

गुण वे कैसे मैं पाऊँ

राग न मैंने साधे

सुर सटीक ना लागे

कंठ सुरीला कित पाऊँ

साईं तेरे गुण गाऊँ

गुण वे कैसे मैं पाऊँ

महिमा बड़ी तुम्हारी

मति छोटी है मेरी

मति महती मैं कित पाऊँ

साईं तेरे गुण गाऊँ

गुण वे कैसे मैं पाऊँ

श्रद्धा भक्ति न मुझमें

शब्द पिरोता हूँ मैं

रस किस घट से मैं लाऊँ

साईं तेरे गुण गाऊँ

गुण वे कैसे मैं पाऊँ

लगन लगी क्यों तुमसे

धुन यह उठी कहाँ से

कैसे तुमको बतलाऊँ

साईं तेरे गुण गाऊँ

गुण वे कैसे मैं पाऊँ

हनुमान की प्रभुताई

छाती फाड़ दिखाई

मैं जीव न देव कहाऊँ

साईं तेरे गुण गाऊँ

गुण वे कैसे मैं पाऊँ

जैसा जो भी मेरा

सब तेरा ही प्रेरा

गाऊँ या गाल बजाऊँ

साईं तेरे गुण गाऊँ

गुण वे कैसे मैं पाऊँ

भक्ति बिना गति नाहीं

तुम बिन मिले न सोई

नाथ कृपा कैसे पाऊँ

साईं तेरे गुण गाऊँ

गुण वे कैसे मैं पाऊँ

हे साईनाथ! तुम्हारी कृपा बिना तुम्हारी दिव्य लीलाओं का गुणगान करना सम्भव नहीं। वेद-पुराण भी संत और सद्गुरु की श्री कीर्ति को बखान करने में असमर्थ हैं। फिर मेरी बिसात ही क्या? तुम्हारे परम विद्वान भक्त हेमाडपंत जी ने कहा है, वाणी में इतनी सामर्थ्य नहीं; मौन, केवल मौन ही सद्गुरु की विरुदावली का वर्णन कर सकता है। पर, भोजन स्वादिष्ट हो, और सब मिल-बैठ कर, चटखारे ले-लेकर उसके स्वाद की चर्चा करते हुये न खायें, तो भोजन का आनंद ही कहाँ आता है! इसलिए, हे नाथ, मुझ पर कृपा करो, मुझे विवेक बुद्धि का आशीष दो, ताकि मैं तुम्हारी अद्भुत लीलाओं का गुणगान और तुम्हारे लीलामृत का मधुरस तुम्हारे भक्तों में बाँट सकूँ। एकांत में मौन रह कर तुम्हारी सुमधुर लीला-कथाओं का रसास्वादन भला कैसे हो सकता है! अस्तु, मैं अनन्य भाव से तुम्हारी शरणागत होकर, तुम्हारे पवित्र नाम का स्मरण और कलिमलहारी स्वरूप का ध्यान कर, प्रेम और श्रद्धा भाव से अपने मन-मानस की समस्त चेष्टाएँ तुम्हारे चरणों में समर्पित करते हुए तुम्हारी दिव्य लीला-कथाओं का वर्णन करूँगा। भवबंधन से मुक्त होने का इससे उत्तम कोई और साधन नहीं है। जो भी प्रेम और श्रद्धा भाव से तुम्हारी लीला-कथाएँ सुनता-सुनाता है, तुम उसे मुक्ति प्रदान करते हो।

मुझे अनुमति और आशीष दो, प्रभु! आज मैं मुम्बई के एक महानुभाव, हरि कानोबा की कथा सुनाऊँगा। उन्होंने अपने मित्रों और संबंधियों से तुम्हारी अनेक अद्भुत लीलाएँ सुनी थीं, पर शंकालु स्वभाव होने से उन्हें विश्वास नहीं होता था। इसलिए, वे स्वयं तुम्हारी परीक्षा करने का निश्चय करके शिर्डी गये। उस समय उन्होंने सिर पर ज़री की पगड़ी और पैरों में नई चप्पल पहन रखी थीं। वे मसजिद में जाकर तुम्हें प्रणाम करना तो चाहते थे, पर नई चप्पल उतार कर कहाँ रखें, इस बात की चिंता उन्हें ज़्यादा थी। आखिरकार, मण्डप के एक सुरक्षित कोने में चप्पल रख कर उन्होंने मसजिद में जाकर तुम्हें प्रणाम किया। पर, उनका ध्यान अब भी अपनी नई चप्पलों पर ही अटका हुआ था। वे तुमसे उदी और प्रसाद लेकर लौटे, तो देखा की मण्डप के कोने में रखी हुई चप्पल गायब थीं। बहुत खोजने के बाद भी चप्पल नहीं मिलीं, तो वे उदास होकर नंगे पाँव अपने स्थान पर, जहाँ वे ठहरे हुए थे, वापस आ गये। पूरा समय वे तुम्हारा ध्यान छोड़ कर अपनी नई चप्पल के चिंतन में ही डूबे रहे। कुछ देर बाद वे अपने विश्राम घर से बाहर आये, तो देखा कि एक बालक हाथ में डंडा, डंडे के कोने में चप्पल का जोड़ा लटकाये ज़ोर-ज़ोर से बोल रहा है, “बाबा ने मुझे यह डंडा हाथ में लेकर रास्तों में घूम-घूम कर, ‘हरि

का बेटा ज़री का फेंटा', यह पुकार लगाने को कहा है, और यह भी कहा है कि जो कोई कहे कि 'चप्पल हमारी हैं', तो उससे पूछना कि क्या उसका नाम 'हरि' और उसके पिता का 'क' से शुरू होता है? साथ ही यह भी देखना कि वह ज़रीदार साफ़ा बाँधे हुए है या नहीं? तब उसे ये चप्पल दे देना।" उस बालक की पुकार सुन कर हरि कानोबा की खुशी का ठिकाना न रहा। वे लपक कर बालक के पास गये और बोले, "हाँ, हाँ, यह मेरी ही चप्पल हैं। मेरा ही नाम 'हरि' और मेरे पिता का 'क' से कानोबा है। यह मेरा ज़री का साफ़ा देखो।"

शिर्डीनाथ! उस दिन, उस क्षण, हरि कानोबा को उनकी चप्पल तो मिली ही, साथ ही तुम्हारी अनमोल कृपा का वरदान भी मिल गया। उनके मन में तुम्हारी महानता को लेकर जो शंका-कुशंकाओं के बादल छाये हुए थे, अब छूट गये। मानस



के क्षितिज में ज्ञान के सूरज का उदय हो गया। उन्हें विश्वास हो गया कि तुम सर्वज्ञ, सर्वव्यापी, अंतर्धामी, परमात्मा ही हो; अन्यथा तुमने कैसे जान लिया कि उनका नाम 'हरि' और उनके पिता का 'कानोबा' है, जब कि वे तो तुम्हारी परीक्षा लेने हेतु पहली बार शिर्डी आये थे। इसके बाद वे सदा-सदा के लिए तुम्हारे भक्त और तुम्हारी असीम कृपा का पात्र बने रहे।

साई कृपा अनमोल

सबको मिले बेमोल

ध्याये जो साई को माने

भला हमेशा अपना जाने

मनुआ भगति रस घोल

साई कृपा अनमोल

सबको मिले बेमोल

मन अपने जो साई राखे

साई लीला अमृत चाखे

पाये विभूति अमोल

साई कृपा अनमोल

सबको मिले बेमोल

हरदम गाये गुण साई के

सब सुख पाये वो जीवन के

मोक्ष जतन बिन मोल

साई कृपा अनमोल

सबको मिले बेमोल

मेरा साई घट-घट वासे

क्यों ना अपने भीतर झाँके

मन की किवड़ियाँ खोल

साई कृपा अनमोल

सबको मिले बेमोल

साई रमावर! अब एक अन्य संशयालु सज्जन की कथा सुनाता हूँ। उन्होंने तो तुम्हारे बारे में धूर्त, ढोंगी, पाखंडी, असंत और न जाने क्या-क्या अपशब्द कह डाले थे। लेकिन, तुमने उन्हें भी अपनी लीला दिखा कर अपना भक्त बना लिया। कैसे? अब वह सुनिये। तुम्हें तो सब पता है नाथ। फिर भी सुनाता हूँ। तुम्हारे परम भक्त काकासाहेब दीक्षित के भ्राता श्री भाई जी नागपुर में रहते थे। सन उन्नीस सौ छः में उनका परिचय हिमालय के एक स्वामी सोमदेव जी से हो गया। जब स्वामी जी नागपुर आये, तो भाई जी के यहाँ ठहरे। वहाँ तुम्हारी कीर्ति सुन कर उनके मन में भी तुम्हारा दर्शन करने की इच्छा जागी। सब मिल कर शिर्डी आये। स्वामी जी दूर से मसजिद के शिखर पर लहराती ध्वजाओं को देख कर ठिठक

गये। उनके मन में कुशंका के सर्प ने फ़न उठा कर फुफकारा, “यह संत नहीं, असंत है। माया का दास, कीर्ति का लोभी, ढोंगी, पाखंडी बाबा मालूम होता है।” उनके साथियों ने कहा, “स्वामी जी, दूर से केवल ध्वजाएँ देख कर आपका यह हाल हो रहा है। जब द्वारकामाई में रथ, घोड़ा, पालकी और दूसरी क्रीमती वस्तुएँ देखेंगे, तो क्या दशा होगी!” यह सुन कर सोमदेव स्वामी बोले, “मैं ऐसे पाखंडी असंत का दर्शन नहीं करना चाहता।” कह कर वे लौटने लगे। तब उनके साथियों ने उन्हें समझाते हुए कहा, “आप व्यर्थ की शंका कर रहे हैं। द्वारकामाई के संत को कीर्ति, माया और ऐश्वर्य की वस्तुओं से ज़रा भी लगाव नहीं है। यह सब तो उनके भक्त गण अपना प्रेम और श्रद्धा भाव व्यक्त करने के लिए उन्हें भेंट करते हैं।



अब इतनी दूर चल कर शिर्डी आ ही गये हैं, तो द्वारकामाई में उनसे भेंट करने में क्या हज़ है?

साईनाथ! साथियों के बहुत आग्रह करने पर सोमदेव स्वामी न चाहते हुए भी, तुम्हारा दर्शन नहीं, बल्कि तुमसे भेंट करने के लिए तैयार हो गये। किन्तु, यह क्या? मसजिद के मण्डप में पैर रखते ही सोमदेव के मन-मानस में एक आश्चर्यजनक परिवर्तन हुआ। तुम्हारे मुखमण्डल की आभा की एक झलक पाते ही उनके मनोभाव बदल गये। विचार परिवर्तित हो गये। तुम्हारे तेज की आँच से उनकी सभी कुशंकाएँ बर्फ़ की तरह पिघल कर बह गई। तुम्हारे विषय में उनके मन में जो दूषित विचारों के कल्मष पल रहे थे, सब द्रवित होकर आँखों की राह प्रेम और आनंद के आँसू बन कर बहने लगे। उन्हें अपने गुरु के शब्दों की याद आ गई, “मन जहाँ अति प्रसन्न और आकर्षित हो जाये, उसी स्थान को अपना विश्राम धाम समझना चाहिए।” सोमदेव स्वामी को अनुभव हुआ कि द्वारकामाई ही वह स्थान है और साई बाबा ही वे संत हैं जिनकी शरण में आकर आज उन्हें परमानंद की अनुभूति हुई। बाबा! वे तो अब तुम्हारी चरण-रज में लोटना चाहते थे, पर तुमने उन्हें फटकार दिया, “दूर रहो। हमारा सामान हमारे पास रहने दो; खबरदार, जो कभी इस मसजिद की सीढ़ी चढ़े। ऐसे संत का दर्शन ही क्यों करना चाहिए, जो अपने स्थान पर ध्वजाएँ फहरा कर रखता हो? चले जाओ यहाँ से।” सोमदेव तुम्हारी डाँट-फटकार सुन कर हक्का-बक्का रह गये। उन्होंने देखा कि तुम (बाबा) तो बड़े दयालु हो। सबको गले लगाते हो। उदी-प्रसाद देकर सभी भक्तों को सांत्वना, सुख और संतोष देते हो। फिर मेरे (सोमदेव) साथ ऐसा रूखा बर्ताव क्यों? अंततः सोच-विचार करने पर उन्हें महसूस हुआ कि तुम (बाबा) सचमुच सर्वज्ञ, सर्वव्यापी और अंतर्दामी हो। अवश्य ही उनके अंतर्मन में तुम्हारे विषय में पहले जो विषाक्त विचारों और कुशंकाओं के अंधड़ चल रहे थे, उन्हें ज्ञात हो गये थे; इसीलिए उनके साथ ऐसा बर्ताव किया। सोमदेव स्वामी ने तुम्हारे क्रोध को अपने लिए तुम्हारे आशीर्वाद के रूप में ग्रहण किया और सदा-सदा के लिए तुम्हारी शरण में आकर तुम्हारे परम भक्त बन गये।

जय हो साईनाथ! तुम्हारी जय हो!! तुमने ऐसे न जाने कितने पतित, पापी, बैरी और संशयालु व्यक्तियों को अपना कर अपना भक्त बनाया है। उनके मनोविकार मिटा कर उन्हें निर्विकार और पवित्र किया है। ऐसे ही एक बार नानासाहेब चाँदोरकर के दूषित मनोविकार को तुमने शुद्ध किया था। याद है न, बाबा?

नानासाहेब और म्हालसापति अन्य लोगों के साथ मसजिद में बैठे तुमसे चर्चा कर रहे थे। तभी बीजापुर से एक

यवन परिवार तुम्हारा दर्शन करने आया। उनमें से एक महिला ने अपने चेहरे से घूँघट हटा कर तुम्हें प्रणाम किया और फिर घूँघट डाल दिया। नानासाहेब उसके रूप-सौंदर्य की एक झलक देख, इस कदर आकर्षित हुए कि वे फिर एक बार उसकी छवि को देखने के लिए लालायित हो उठे। नानासाहेब की मन की कथा और मनोदशा तुमसे छुपी नहीं थी। छुपती भी कैसे! तुम तो समंदर पार बैठे भक्त के मन का हाल जान लेते हो। नानासाहेब तो तुम्हारे करीब ही बैठे थे। इसलिए यवन परिवार के जाने के बाद तुमने चाँदोरकर जी से कहा, “नाना! ईश्वर ने यह सृष्टि बहुत सुंदर बनाई है। इसे देखो, जितना जी चाहे निहारो, पर मन में बुरे विचार मत लाओ। मन में कुविचार नहीं, तो किसी से भयभीत, लज्जित या विचलित होने की आवश्यकता भी नहीं। मन तो स्वभावतः चंचल होता ही है और इंद्रियों का स्वभाव है, अपने विषय पदार्थों की ओर दौड़ना। मन पर नियंत्रण रखोगे, तो इंद्रियाँ भी नियंत्रण में रहेंगी। मन को निरिच्छ बना कर ईश्वर के सौंदर्य को निहारोगे, तो इंद्रियाँ सहज और स्वाभाविक रूप से तुम्हारे वश में रहेंगी। ध्यान रहे, इंद्रिय विषयों में लिप्त रहोगे, तो जन्म-मृत्यु के चक्कर से कभी न मुक्त हो पाओगे। विषय पदार्थ इंद्रियों को सदा पथभ्रष्ट करते हैं; इसलिए, विवेक को सारथी बना कर मन पर लगाम कसते हुए इंद्रिय रूपी घोड़ों को विषय पदार्थों की ओर जाने से रोकना चाहिए। तभी तुम्हारी मुक्ति का मार्ग प्रशस्त हो सकेगा।”

हे दयानाथ, साईनाथ! नानासाहेब चाँदोरकर की तरह मुझ पर भी दया करो। मेरा मन भी बहुत चंचल है। इंद्रियों के घोड़े बेलगाम हैं। मुझ पर कृपा करो, कृपानाथ!

अरज करूँ मैं तुमसे

मन मेरा मेरे बस में नाहीं

बेलगाम घोड़ा मन चंचल

इत उत भागे भटके पल-पल

काबू में यह आये कैसे

एक ठौर जो ठहरे नाहीं

अरज करूँ मैं तुमसे

मन मेरा मेरे बस में नाहीं

ध्यान भजन में चित ना लागे

विषय भोग के पीछे भागे

उड़े तोड़ पिंजरा ज्यों पंछी

पकड़ हाथ वो आये नाहीं

अरज करूँ मैं तुमसे

मन मेरा मेरे बस में नाहीं

मैं मूर्ख हूँ मन के बस में



कैसे राखूँ मन को बस में

दुष्ट बावरा बस में आये

जुगत करो अब तुम ही कोई

अरज करूँ मैं तुमसे

मन मेरा मेरे बस में नाहीं

— दास कुम्भेश

बी-२०३, जूही, सेक्टर २, वसंत नगरी,

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नित्य प्रतीति से करना अनुभव

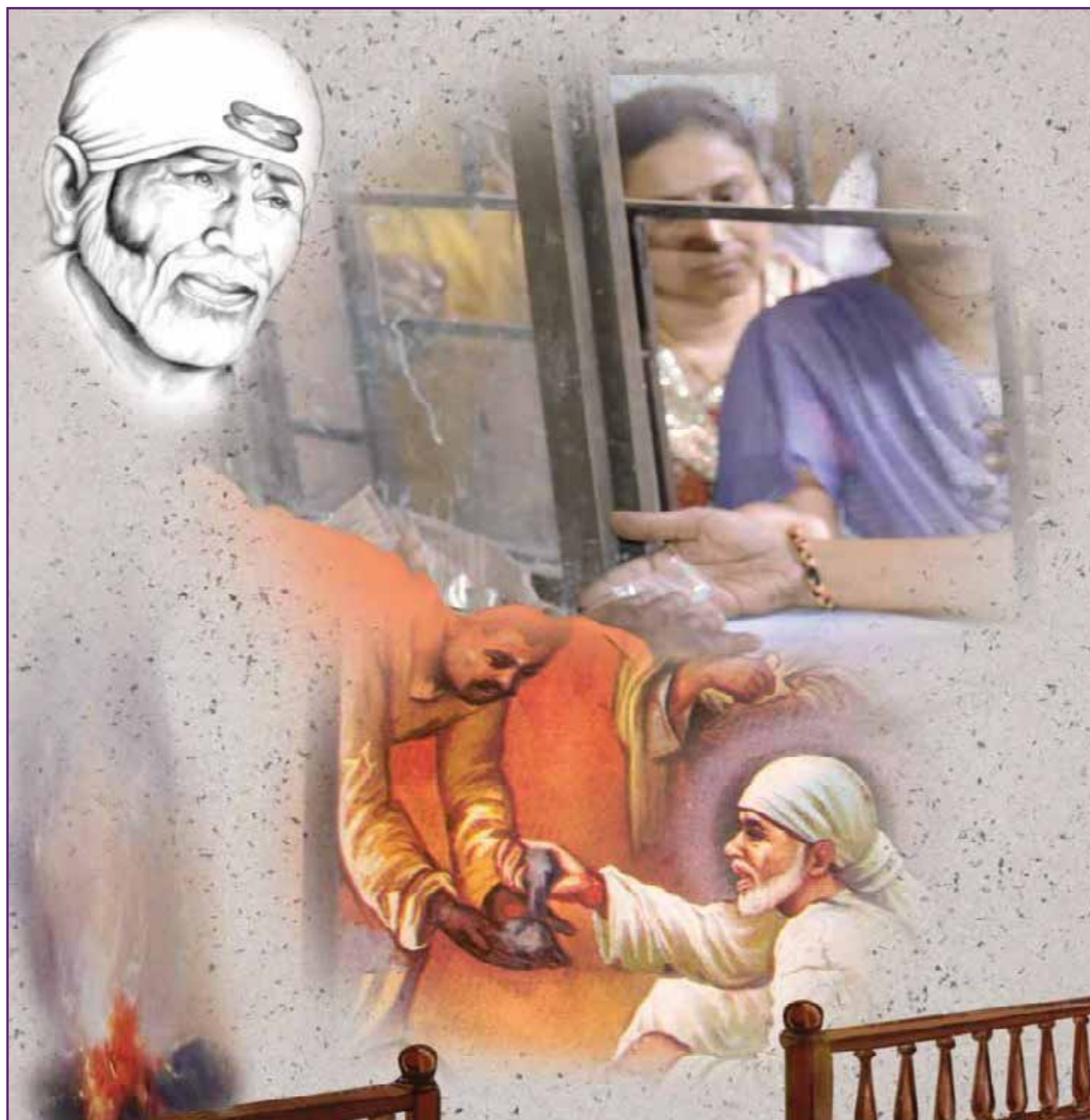
(मई-जून २०२० अंक से क्रमशः)

(८३) बाबा ने उदी के प्रभाव से कार दुर्घटना में गूँगी हो गई छोटी लड़की को वाणी प्रदान की -

अंधेरी (मुम्बई) के एक साईं भक्त की बेटी कार से टकराई। बुरी तरह घायल होने से अस्पताल में भर्ती करना पड़ा। वहाँ इलाज हुआ। वह लड़की स्वस्थ तो हुई, मगर

बोलने की शक्ति खो बैठी। दवाईयों और दूसरे उपचार भी बेअसर रहे। आखिरकार बाबा की उदी उसे दी गई। बाबा की उदी लेते ही वह तत्काल बोलने लगी। इस चमत्कार से परिवार में हर कोई अचंभित हो गया।

(८४) अपने करीबी मित्र की बेटी को बाबा ने लक़वामुक्त किया।



इस बारे में बताते हुए हैद्राबाद के श्री वाय. नागार्जुन राव कहते हैं :-

“१९७० में मुझे निजी काम के लिए मुम्बई जाना पड़ा। वह मुम्बई की मेरी पहली मुलाकात थी। मुझे मुम्बई स्थित और आसपास के कई दर्शनीय स्थल देखने का मौका मिला। उस दरमियान एक दिन यकायक शिर्डी जाकर श्री साई बाबा की समाधि के दर्शन करने की भावना मेरे मन में उत्पन्न हो गई। यह भावना भक्ति से नहीं, उत्कंठा से उद्दीप्त हुई। लेकिन, खबर मिली कि मेरी पत्नी का भाई अमेरिका से मुम्बई आने वाला है; इसलिए मेरी शिर्डी भेंट रद्द होने वाली थी।

मैं बहुत ही हताश हुआ। मन ही मन बाबा की प्रार्थना करने लगा, ‘बाबा, अगर आप भगवान् हैं, तो मुझे शिर्डी आने का अवसर प्राप्त करा दीजिए!’ इसी बीच एक अजीब सी घटना घटी। किसी कारणवश मेरे साले साहब को सफ़र के दौरान काफ़ी समय के लिए रुकना पड़ने का समाचार मिला। इस घटना ने मेरे मन में साई भक्ति का बीज बोया। अब मैं शिर्डी भेंट से लाभान्वित होने वाला था।

तत्काल मैं ऐसे व्यक्ति की तलाश में जूट गया जो मेरी शिर्डी यात्रा में सहायक बन सके। जब मैं अंधेरी (मुम्बई) से दादर (मुम्बई) लोकल ट्रेन में से जा रहा था तब अकल्पित एक साई भक्त से पहचान हुई। उससे मैंने शिर्डी यात्रा के बारे में अधिकाधिक जानना चाहा। उस साई भक्त ने मुझे शिर्डी यात्रा की पूरी जानकारी दी।...

... इस प्रकार मेरी शिर्डी यात्रा पूर्व आयोजित कर श्री साई बाबा ने मेरी इच्छा पूर्ति की।

स्नानादिक क्रिया से निवृत्त होकर मैं दर्शन के लिए निकला। उस दर्शन से मेरा मन भर आया। पल भर में ही शिर्डी की हर एक चीज़ साई स्पर्श से पुलकित लगने लगी। बाबा के दर्शन किये, और ज़िंदगी भर सुख, समृद्धि और शांति देने की प्रार्थना की। बाद में मैंने श्री साई बाबा पर लिखी कई किताबें पढ़ीं, और मैं इस निष्कर्ष तक पहुँचा कि इससे किसी की भी यही भावना होगी कि श्री साई बाबा सिर्फ़ लोकोत्तर पुरुष ही नहीं, बल्कि सर्वशक्तिमान

दयालु, कृपालु ईश्वर हैं। उसके बाद बाबा के प्रति मेरे मन में उपजी श्रद्धा आहिस्ते-आहिस्ते निरंतर वृद्धिगत होने लगी।...

एक बार मेरे करीबी मित्र की पुत्री को दुर्भाग्यवश लक़वा मार गया। यहाँ तक कि वह अपने हाथ को भी हिला नहीं सकती थी। सभी इलाज नाकाम रहे। मेरा मित्र हताश हो गया। उसने अपनी बेटी के स्वास्थ्य लाभ की सभी आशाएँ छोड़ दीं। वह दिन-ब-दिन उदास रहने लगा।...

उसकी यह शोकाकुल अवस्था देख कर मैंने मित्र को शिर्डी से लायी उदी में से थोड़ी सी उदी दी। मैंने उससे कहा, ‘बेटी के असरग्रस्त हाथ पर श्रद्धा से यह उदी लगा दो।’...

हालाँकि वह बाबा को मानता नहीं था, फिर भी मेरा मन रखने के लिए उसने उस उदी का स्वीकार कर मेरी विनती के अनुसार वह उदी उसकी बेटी के असरग्रस्त हाथ पर लगाई। उसने मुझसे कहा कि यदि उदी के प्रभाव से उसकी बेटी पूर्ण रूप से स्वस्थ हो गई तो वह बाबा को भगवान् मान कर उनकी पूजा करने लगेगा।...

बाबा की उदी ने अपना प्रभाव दिखाया। बहुत बड़ा चमत्कार हुआ! निस्तेज हाथ में ऊर्जा आने लगी। बाबा की चुटकी भर उदी ने लक़वाग्रस्त लड़की को लक़वामुक्त कर दिया!! यह सुधार देख कर डॉक्टर भी अचंभित हो गये। वे इस बात से संदिग्ध थे कि लक़वाग्रस्त हाथ में जान आ जायेगी। कुछ ही दिनों में लड़की पूर्णतया स्वस्थ हो गई।...

साई बाबा की यह असीम कृपा देख कर मेरे दोस्त का रोम-रोम पुलकित हो उठा। वह साई बाबा का निस्सीम भक्त बन गया।”

(क्रमशः)

अंग्रेजी में संकलित, सम्पादित -

ज्योति रंजन राऊत

८/ए, काकड़ इस्टेट, १०६, सी फेस रोड,

वरली, मुम्बई - ४०० ०१८.

ई-मेल : jyotiraut15@gmail.com

अंग्रेजी से हिंदी अनुवाद - **विनय घासवाला**



Shirdi News

* Public Relations Office *

Shree Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi

- Translated from Marathi into English by

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Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi In No Way Connected To Shri Saibaba Sevabhavi Sansthan, Shirdi Organization

Considering the increasing outbreak of corona-virus in the country as well as in the state, Shri Saibaba *Samadhi Mandir* has been closed for the *darshan* from April 5, 2021 as per new guidelines issued by the state government. Under these circumstances, fraudulent and synonymous organization known as Shri Saibaba Sevabhavi Sansthan, Shirdi, is found to be demanding online donations on account of Thursday *Annadan* from devotees through online, PayTM and Google Pay type of payments. Hence, it has been informed by the Sansthan's Chief Executive Officer Shri Kanhuraj Bagate that Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi is in NO WAY connected with the activity and *Annadan* of the organization.

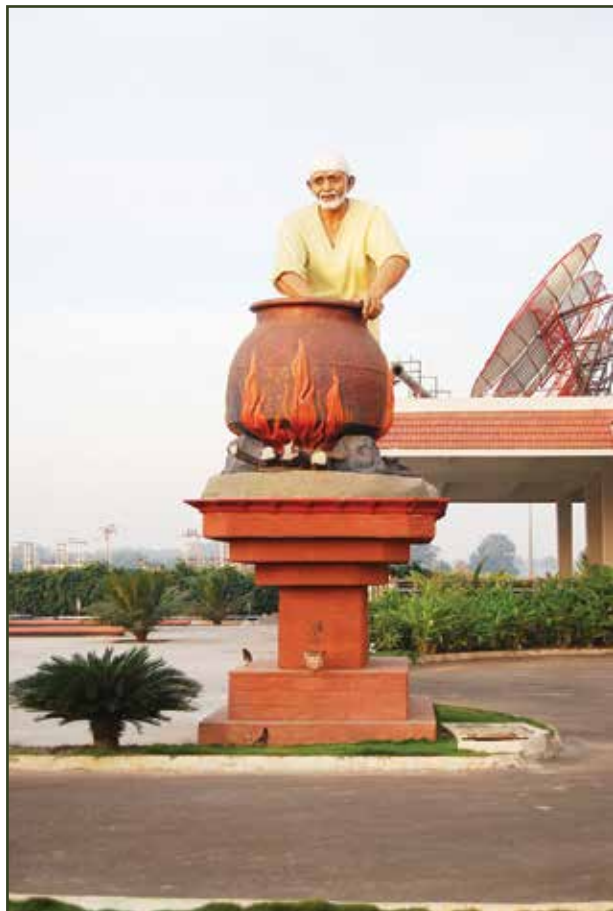
Shri Kanhuraj Bagate said that *Shri Kshetra* Shirdi is a well-known religious location in the country and the devotees across overseas arrive here for Shri Sai Baba's *darshan*. As donations for *Annadan* is the most important service according to the teachings of Shri Sai Baba, innumerable devotees are making donations for food service at Shri Sai Prasadalya directly or online. Presently, taking into consideration the rising spread of corona-virus, in the country and in the state, as per the new guiding suggestions of April 4, 2021 of

the state government, the Shri Sai Baba *Samadhi Mandir* has been kept closed for the *darshan* from April 5, 2021 till further orders. Under these circumstances, it is noticed that some fraudulent agencies using identical or synonymous names with Shri Sai Baba and the Sansthan are cheating and mis-guiding the devotees of Shri Sai Baba through website, facebook pages and other social media accounts and collecting cash as well as online donations from devotees.

Thus, similarly the fraudulent Shri Saibaba Sevabhavi Sansthan, Shirdi, not connected to the Sansthan, is found to be demanding donations on account of Thursday *Annadan* from devotees through online, PayTM and Google Pay type of payments. Shri Saibaba Sevabhavi Sansthan, Shirdi is in NO WAY connected with Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi and this fraudulent organization can deceive the devotees. Therefore, the Sai devotees are requested to take a note of the same and be aware and cautious while making donations, stating so, Shri Kanhuraj Bagate has appealed to all devotees to get in touch with authorized and authentic websites of the Sansthan such as www.sai.org.in and online.sai.org.in for the donations to Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi.



Consecration of Goddess Annapurna Idol in the Sansthan's Shri Saiprasadalaya at Shirdi



The idol of Goddess Annapurna was consecrated on **Friday, May 14, 2021**, on

the auspicious occasion of *Akshay Tritiya* and the *Jayanti* of Goddess Annapurna in





the Shri Sai Prasadalya, by the auspicious hands of the Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan, Shri Kanhuraj Bagate and his wife, Sou. Sangeeta Bagate.



The Deputy Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan, Shri Ravindra Thakare, Administrative Officer, Dr. Akash Kisave, Head of the Shri Sai Prasadalya department, Shri Vishnu Thorat, Head of the Temple department, Shri Ramesh Chaudhary, Temple Priests, Shri Balasaheb Joshi, Shri Dilip Sulakhe and employees were present on the occasion.

The *Annadan* work started by Shri Sai Baba has been continued unceasingly by the Shri Saibaba Sansthan. Considering the day-to-day increasing number of devout-devotees coming for the *darshan* of Shri Sai Baba from around the world and the nation, the Sansthan has erected a grand Prasadalya on the 7 acres Sansthan-

owned plot in the Nimgaon-Korhale jurisdiction so that the devout-devotees can easily avail the benefit of the *prasad*-meal. This Prasadalya has obtained I.S.O. certification. 6000 at one time and daily 50 to 55 thousand devout-devotees avail the benefit of the *prasad*-meal in this Prasadalya. Prior to this, the idol of Goddess Annapurna was not installed in such a grand Shri Sai Prasadalya. The idol of Goddess Annapurna was installed and consecrated on the auspicious occasion of *Akshay Tithiya* and the *Jayanti* of Goddess Annapurna in the Shri Sai Prasadalya, by the auspicious hands of the Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan, Shri Kanhuraj Bagate and his wife, Sou. Sangeeta Bagate.



Swab Test Examination of COVID-Suspect Patients started....

Having received the recognition from AIIMS and ICMR through AIIMS Nagpur, the RT-PCR lab for testing COVID-suspect patients in the Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi-run hospital, the swab test diagnosis of COVID-suspect patients has been started, informed Shri Kanhuraj Bagate, Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan.

Shri Kanhuraj Bagate stated, "Being the second wave of the corona-virus presently, the infection is spreading on a large scale. Hence, the health service for patients was stressed. On top of that in the initial period there was a shortage of RT-PCR lab for diagnosis of COVID-19 patients. Oxygen generating project from the donation of philanthropic Sai devotees and the RT-PCR lab by the Sansthan have been erected." Recently the inaugural programmes of the oxygen generating project and the RT-PCR lab test functioning

by Shri Uddhav Thackeray, Chief Minister of Maharashtra and Shri Ajitdada Pawar, Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra, were held.

In order to get the recognition of ICMR for the said lab, sending a proposal through AIIMS, Nagpur, following it up, the recognition was obtained from them. 600 tests are being done in 8 hours in this lab, in future it is planned to make it functional for 24 hours. Stating that the testing of swabs from patients has been started in this lab, more and more patients in Shirdi and surrounding regions are benefitting from this lab, COVID infected patients can be diagnosed soon and it is possible to give them treatment immediately. And, besides this, having got the authentic test report, the spread of COVID-19 will also be controlled, stated Bagate.



Seminar on the Possible Third Wave of COVID-19

Taking cognisance of the possibility of small children getting afflicted on a large scale in the possible third wave of COVID-19 in the state, renowned Paediatrician Dr. Krishnakumar Chouthani (Shrirampur) spelt out guidelines at the seminar organized by the Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi to discuss measures to be undertaken.

Shri Kanhuraj Bagate, Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan, Shri Ravindra Thakare, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Akash Kisave, Administrative Officer, Shri Vijay Kote, Shirdi Villager, Dr. Pritam Vadgave, In-charge Medical Director of Shri Sai Baba Hospital, Dr. Maithili Pitambare, Superintendent of Shri Sainath Hospital, Dr. Ujwala Shirsat, Paediatrician, Dr. Anant Bhange and all medical officers of Shri Sai Baba Hospital and Shri Sainath Hospital were present at this seminar.

The second wave of the corona virus ongoing presently, it is spreading on a large scale. Also, the third wave being expected to follow thereafter, various experts have opined that the small children would be afflicted in large numbers in this wave. Also, Shri Uddhav Thackeray, Chief Minister of Maharashtra, upgrading the health facilities in the state, has set up a committee of paediatricians. Similarly, the Sansthan too, prior to this, has undertaken various measures to treat and contain the spread of corona. This seminar was organized to undertake measures, keeping in mind the third wave.

Paediatrician Dr. Krishnakumar Chouthani stated at the seminar that “presently the second wave being on in the state and in the country, it is being forecast at many levels about the third wave coming very soon and also the threat being more for small children”. This





has to be handled seriously, stating so, Dr. Chouthani guided about the care to be taken and the right medicines and their proportion.

Paediatrician Dr. Ujwala Shirsat presented the information about the

various measures and treatment procedures at this seminar. Shri Kanhuraj Bagate, Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan, thanked Dr. Chouthani for being present at this seminar.



Felicitatation of Retired Employees of the Sansthan...

21 employees, in the employment of the Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi, who completed 60 years of age, were felicitated at the hands of Shri Kanhuraj Bagate, Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan.

Shri Ravindra Thakare, Deputy Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan, Shri Babasaheb Ghorpade, Chief Accounts Officer, Dr. Akash Kisave, Administrative Officer, head of all departments, employees, retired employees and their families were present at this farewell function.

The employees of the Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi, who completed

60 years of age as on May 2021 and retired, included a total of 21 employees from various departments along with Shri Raghunath Aher, Deputy Executive Engineer in the Public Works department, Shri Sanjay Patani, Supervisor in the Security department, Shri Mukund Kapre in the Temple department, Smt. Lilee Vidyateel, Lab Technician in the Shri Sainath Hospital.

All these employees were felicitated on behalf of the Sansthan by Shri Kanhuraj Bagate, Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan, Shri Ravindra Thakare, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Shri Babasaheb Ghorpade, Chief Accounts Officer and Dr.



Akash Kisave, Administrative Officer.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Executive Officer of the Sansthan Shri Kanhuraj Bagate stated that “the retirement of these employees has created a very big void in the Sansthan. Today the Shri Saibaba Sansthan is ranked 2nd in the country. The contribution of these retired employees in this journey of progress is noteworthy. While they were working, their name was not etched in any foundation stone; but their contribution being certainly noteworthy, they have contributed a great deal in the popularity of the Sansthan. The future generation should follow the

ideals of these employees and carry on the work further”. Stating so, Shri Bagate congratulating them for having rendered their best service for many years, gave his best wishes for their health and further progress.

The Sansthan’s Deputy Chief Executive Officer Shri Ravindra Thakare and the Chief Accounts Officer Shri Babasaheb Ghorpade spoke on the occasion. Retired Deputy Executive Engineer Shri Raghunath Aher expressed his feelings.

The programme was anchored by Prof. Shri Vikas Shivgaje of the Sansthan.



The *Dhuni* was kept alight regularly in the *Masjid*. It burned day in and day out, throughout the year. Baba gave a handful of the ashes from it, when bidding farewell. He gave the ashes as ‘*prasad*’, smeared it with His thumb on the forehead and together with it placed His hand on the head, wishing for the well-being of the devotees.

- SHRI SAI SATCHARITA -



श्री विठ्ठल रुक्मिणी मंदिर
प्रान्ति पंढरपूर
रखुमाई मंदिर
रोड, व

श्री विठ्ठल रुक्मिणी मंदिर
पश्चिमद्वार

पश्चिमद्वार
(Exit / बाहेर)



श्री साईबाबा संस्थान विश्वस्तव्यवस्था, शिर्डी के लिए मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी द्वारा गणेश आर्ट प्रिंटर्स, एम.आर. ट्रेड सेंटर, शॉप नं. ७, वाडिया पार्क, अहमदनगर - ४१४ ००१ में मुद्रित और साई निकेतन, ८०४ बी, डॉ. आम्बेडकर रोड, दादर, मुम्बई - ४०० ०१४ में प्रकाशित।

* सम्पादक : मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी, श्री साईबाबा संस्थान विश्वस्तव्यवस्था, शिर्डी