

'Dear Devotees of Sathya Sai.

The general consensus of those who attended the 16th Annual Satsang, on 18th June, is that it was, perhaps, the most successful meeting we have had over the years. Credit goes entirely to our guest speakers; viz. Mrs. Veena Patel, Wallace Huey, and to Paul Curtin (who played, with skill, the Tibetan singing bowls).

Veena, who joined us from London, gave us the unique opportunity to do Darshan of the Divine Padhugas, that were blessed by Swami. She now wishes to convey her thanks to all the Sai devotees who were present and who gave her such a warm welcome. She hopes to return again some time in the future. She would be very welcome indeed.

Wallace's talk, and 'question and answer' slot, was received with enthusiasm, while Paul's contribution with the singing bowls, allowed us to relax and meditate for twenty minutes; a unique experience!

Our thanks goes out to all who assisted in making this Satsang a memorable one. Thank you! *Ed.*

Man implies three things, -doing, knowing and being. When the body acts alone without regard to the mind and the Atma, that person is considered to be in the animal state. When the mind acts in association with the body without regard to the Atma, that condition is described as demonic. When man acts in consonance with the Atma, he achieves oneness with the Divine. Hence, man has in him these three potentialities, he can manifest himself as an animal, a demon or God. BABA

Doing Seva means...

Prof. Anil Kumar said at a Satsang, that Swami once commented, "Some people offer old clothes to people and announce they are doing service. What are you really doing? Distributing old clothes. This is *not* charity. It is *not* sacrifice. You are simply cleaning out the junk, that's all! So if you want to give clothes, you should give *brand-new* clothes. Only then you can call it a donation, sacrifice or seva. Don't give worn-out, torn-out, old used clothes and call it charity. That's all drama; it is all a stunt. I don't want you to do that."

In this context, I should tell you that in Karnataka State, it costs a donation of 25 *lakhs* per student for medical school. This is *in addition* to the regular college fees and the cost of boarding or lodging. They have to pay *in advance* a donation of 25 *lakhs*! Only then will they get accepted.

Swami laughed and laughed and said, "Instead of studying medicine, if you keep those 25 *lakhs* in the bank, plus the 5 *lakhs* for the college fee, tuition fee, sports fee, games fee, exam fee, library fee, and the 10 more *lakhs* for food and accommodation, that's around 35 *lakhs*. If you kept all of that in the bank, you would get 35,000 *rupees* (monthly) as interest. With that, you could sit cross-legged without studying. You would be a *maharaja*, --a king! Then why go to college? Why study?"

So, education today has become a mockery. For lower kindergarten in Bangalore, you have to pay a donation of 25,000 *rupees*! Just for a three-year-old child to get into L.K.G. - lower kindergarten, -donation of 25,000 *rupees* is required! Education has become so commercial, and Bhagavan is dead-set against that. He doesn't like it.

Lastly, Swami said, "If you want to start institutions in My name, take Me as the ideal and know that whatever I say is Truth. You can verify it wherever you go. My path is very clear and righteous. My words are nothing but Truth. I am the ideal to all of you."

Prof. Kumar also related an incidence as an example of His life. Swami was sitting on His chair when He suddenly called a gentleman from the devotees, -an elderly person, an old man, wearing a *dhoti* with a long shirt.

“Come here!” The man came forward. Bhagavan introduced him to all of us. He said this man was a correspondent for a chain of schools in the State of Karnataka.

Then He looked at him seriously and said, “What is it that you are doing there in those schools? You have named your schools after Me. All your schools are named as ‘Sri Sathya Sai’ schools, but you are collecting money. You are collecting fees. You are collecting money for examinations, sports, library and all that. That is very bad. You cannot bear My Name and collect money. Money and Sai Baba will never go together. You cannot have My Name if you want to collect money like that. I am dead against any fund-raising. Do you understand?”

That gentleman started shivering. “Swami, I beg Your pardon. I understand.”

And Baba said, “Immediately after your return, refund all the money. Refund it all and write to Me. Only then will I permit you to enter Prasanthi Nilayam, not otherwise. It is not proper on your part to put education on sale. -like selling toothpaste or a matchbox. You cannot have education for sale. I don’t like it. Don’t do that!

(This, perhaps, could be a pointer for all educational institutes for the future. *Ed.*)

The *Truth* About Sai Baba

It is not possible for mere mortals, at this point in time, to understand the *true* nature of Sai Baba.

A recent “Thought for the Day”, stated, “*Vedanta (Vedic philosophy) declares: ‘Brahman is Sathya (Truth), the Cosmos is Mithya (illusory)’. Your primary concern must be to understand whether you are real or unreal, or what in you is real and what is unreal. It is only when you have recognised the truth of your own being that you can recognise the world as illusory and your own Self as the only reality. The realised person asserts: ‘I am Brahman’, Wherefrom has this statement emanated? What does it mean? It is a spontaneous expression and not the result of a thought or feeling. The ‘I’ is boundless Infinite. When the finite individual merges in the Infinite ‘I’, the ‘I’ alone remains.*”

Faced with this statement, we must now pull back and view the Being we call Swami, in a totally new light.

It appears that He donned the human mantle for us to be ‘comfortable’ with, whereas His reality is none other than TRUTH itself. It is TRUTH that has donned the familiar form; it is TRUTH that speaks to us; it is TRUTH that has come into this sad world of ours, to renew it, to reshape our thinking, and set us on a new and glorious path. For He has stated: “*The time is approaching when all humanity will live in harmony. That time will be here sooner than one expects...It is not what anyone can imagine...It is beyond all comprehension. I can see that its beauty is magnificent beyond all dreams.*”

We have now arrived at the most auspicious time in this world since the moment of Creation! What a glorious event we are about to experience unfolding. We are the most fortunate of beings to have been born into this Yuga, to see and experience the Lord descend on this planet and take on human form to guide humanity at this most critical junction in its history, for which Swami has come; “The Dawn Of Truth”.

The world will never be the same again. *Ed.*

Whatever is not in man cannot be anywhere outside him. Whatever is visible outside man is but a rough reflection of what is in him. BABA

“The Whole of Life Is Artificial, today.”

One day Swami was speaking to a group. Suddenly, He turned to a 70 year-old doctor and said, “*You underwent heart surgery, right?*” The doctor replied, “Yes, Swami.”

Then He said, “*I know, -you are a doctor and also a patient. That doesn’t matter. I know, very good. All the doctors said that you are find now, right?*” “Yes, Swami.”

Sai Baba said, “*I may be here, but I know all that is happening everywhere, -I know.*”

This doctor said, “Swami, I have a pacemaker inside. With this pacemaker, I am able to manage. It is artificial, Swami.”

Swami said, “*Everyone is artificial in this world, not only you. All life is artificial today. Don’t worry. Not only your pacemaker! Everyone is artificial. All life is artificial. Don’t worry.*” And then He asked, “*Ah, where is your heart? Where is your heart?*”

“Swami, it is inside.”

“*Oh, ho, your heart is inside, but art is outside. So, when the art comes from the heart, it will be interesting. But today, even the art is also artificial. Art is not coming from the heart, so all life is artificial.*”

That’s what Swami said.

The pain that another suffers from, which you seek to assuage, is really your own pain.

When you alleviate another’s suffering, it is your suffering that ends. Service can be effective only when the feelings of “I” and “Mine” give place to “Him” and “His”. It is when your attention is monopolised by the body and its needs, that egoism grows in strength.

When you direct your attention to the Antaratma (Inner Self) which is God, then, you find the same God in all and a flood of reverence fills you and sanctifies every act of yours. BABA.

BABA & HIS DIVINE MESSAGE

“Your mission has begun. Those are My words to you, My devotees. Each of you has a unique and valuable part to play in this lifetime. Only those whom I have called can serve Me.

“My Mission has now reached that point in time when each one of you now has work to do. This planet has a purpose in the great galaxy in which it is held. That purpose is now unfolding before our eyes. I call upon you to radiate the Devotion within you so that its unseen power will envelop all who come into your orbit. To successfully perform your part always remain centred upon Me. Allow yourself to impart that purity of heart within you towards all human beings and all living creatures, and do not reach for the fruits of your work.

“This part of My Mission is performed in absolute silence. You are My instruments from whom My Love will pour. Be always aware that the moment you let your ego descend upon you, My work ceases. When you have overcome your negative unmindfulness you will again become My Source.

“The multiplication of My Love will be felt throughout the world. I have prepared you for this work over many incarnations. I have drawn you to Me. I have made great steps in My Mission over these past Incarnations. My Work is ceaseless and so your work, too, is without end.

“Know that I am within you and without you. There is no difference. Rid yourselves of petty matters forevermore. You are now Me and I am now THEE. There is no difference. My Darshan will pour forth from Me to, and through, you. You may be unaware of this constant action. Be ever pure of heart and soul, and mankind in your lifetime will benefit from your unique qualities.

“Others, too, will join Me in this Mission when I draw them to Me. The time is approaching when all humanity will live in harmony. That time will be here sooner than one expects. Before it arrives be prepared for whatever is needed to reveal to every living thing the true purpose of existence. It is not what anyone alive can imagine. It is not something that one can try to aspire to. It is beyond all comprehension. I can say that its beauty is magnificent beyond all dreams. And as each of you perform your silent work, I will embrace you to My Heart, and henceforth your souls shall be lifted up and your eyes will reveal My Presence within.

“This I say to all My Devotees from the Lord’s Mountain Top, where all the Universes become one.

“Be about My Work, My beloved Devotees. Your breath will carry the scent of the Blossoms of Heaven. Your example will be that of Angels. Your joy will be My Joy.”

On another occasion, Swami wrote the following;

“My Dears! The time will come when the whole of this dream will vanish. To everyone of us there must come a time when the whole Universe will be found to have been a mere dream, when we shall find that the soul is infinitely better than its surroundings. In this struggle, through what we call environments, there will come a time when we shall find that these environments were almost zero in comparison with the power of the Soul. It is only a question of time, and time is nothing in the infinite. It is a drop in the ocean. We can afford to wait and be calm. With Blessings.

Sri Sathya Sai Baba.”

Misjudgment

A lady in a faded gingham dress and her husband, dressed in a homespun threadbare suit, stepped off the train in Boston and walked timidly without an appointment into Harvard University President’s office.

The Secretary could tell in a moment that such backwoods, country hicks had no business at Harvard.

“We want to see the President,” the man said softly. “He’ll be busy all day,” the Secretary snapped. “We’ll wait,” the lady replied.

After many hours, the Secretary grew frustrated and finally decided to disturb the President.

“Maybe if you see them for a few minutes, they’ll leave,” she suggested. He sighed in exasperation and nodded. The President, stern faced and with dignity, strutted towards the couple.

The lady told him, “We had a son who attended Harvavy for one year. He loved Harvard. He was happy here. But about a year ago, he was accidentally killed. My husband and I would like to erect a memorial to him, somewhere on campus.”

The President wasn’t touched...he was shocked. “Ma’am,” he said, gruffly, “We can’t put up a statue for every person who attended Harvard and died. If we did, this place would look like a cemetery.”

“Oh, no,” the lady explained quickly. “We don’t want to erect a statue. We thought we would like to give a building to Harvard.”

The President rolled his eyes and glanced at the gingham dress and homespun suit and exclaimed, "A building! Do you have any earthly idea how much a building costs? We have over seven and a half million dollars in the physical buildings here in Harvard."

For a moment the lady was silent, and turning to her husband, said quietly, "Is that all it costs to start a University? Why don't we just start our own?" Her husband nodded. The President's face wilted in confusion and bewilderment.

Mr. and Mrs. Leland Stanford got up and walked away, travelling to Palo Alto, California, where they established the University that bears their name, 'Stanford University', a memorial to a son that Harvard no longer cared about.

You can easily judge the character of others by how they treat those who they think can do nothing.

(Sourced from 'Heart2Heart'.)

People feel that adhering to truth is difficult. Actually, it is untruth that creates difficult problems. All kinds of plans have to be made to cover-up a lie. But to stick to the facts, as they are, is easy. People should come to realise that it is easy to be good. It is going astray that causes difficulties. One cannot always avoid committing a wrong, but one should learn a lesson from it, and avoid repeating it. BABA.

The Building of Prasanthi.

"Sathyam Sivam Sundaram, 1"

The Prasanthi Nilayam was inaugurated on the 23rd November, 1950, the twenty-fourth birthday of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. It took about two years to build. Baba can be said to be the architect and engineer who directed the entire work for construction. His suggestions had to be accepted by the engineers, for they found them much better than their own. They recognised Sai Baba had a greater sense of perspective, a finer aesthetic point of view than they had. Baba was a hard taskmaster, but with immeasurable compassion. His Grace overcame the most insurmountable obstacles! For example, huge heavy girders for the central prayer hall came from near Trichinopoly by train to Penukonda, but how on earth could they be brought over the District Board Road, sixteen miles long, with a sandy stream at the seventh mile? How could any truck with those things sticking out negotiate the acutely angled corners of the village on the ninth mile? After Bukkapatnam was reached, there were three miles of a track that can be referred to, only by courtesy, as a road and then the broad expanse of sand which the Chitravathi River, spreads across, as distance of three furlongs! There were the dilapidated culverts to be gone over, the slutches to be dragged through, and if and when girders arrived at the spot, the task of hoisting them to the top of the high walls. The engineers gave up all hope of bringing the girders to the village and asked Baba for some alternative proposals for roofing the prayer hall.

One night, in the small hours, the chief engineer was awakened by a loud noise in front of his house at Anantapur. He peered into the darkness and was surprised to find a crane from the Tungabhadra Dam Works, put out of action and unable to move! He ran to Puttaparthi and told Baba that if only it could be made to operate, the owner could be persuaded to travel up to Penukonda and bring the girders along. Sai Baba Materialised some Sacred Ash and gave a small quantity to the engineer who piously scattered it over the engine of the crane and asked the driver to set it going. With a grunt or two, the engine started, the wheels turned, and the crane moved towards the girders! Lifting them with its giant arms, it somehow passed over all culverts, turned acutely round the corners, lurched over the Vankaperu slush, and puffed up the Karnatanagapalli Hill! There the engineer said its strength was nearly exhausted. It could not possibly draw all that weight through the sands. So Sai Baba himself sat near the driver and handled the wheel and the crane unloaded the girders near the work spot.

The grumbling of the engineers did not stop with this achievement. In fact, they became even more exasperated. They asked, "Of what use is all this trouble when it is humanly impossible to hoist them on the walls? Humanly impossible, yes, but when there is the Divine Will, there is a Way! Labourers were brought from the Tungabhadra Dam, ropes were fastened, pulleys were rigged up, and in order to make the girders lighter, each girder was pulled up amidst shouts of "Jai Sai Ram!" (victory to Sai Who is Rama!) from the throats of hundreds of devotees in the Presence of Sai Baba. The girders were set in place and all went well!

You have to make your love pure. To do so, you must develop forbearance, which is a serene patience and self-restraint under all circumstances, giving good to all, even to those who may want to harm you. There is nothing greater than having this quality of forbearance.

Forebearance is equivalent to truth itself. Forebearance is the heart of righteousness (dharma). Forebearance is non-violence; in practice. Forebearance is contentment, compassion; truly, it is everything in all the worlds. Only when you have developed patience and forbearance will you be able to attain the Lord. BABA

Heart Patient Wakes Up to Mystery Surgery.

(Sourced from the Hindustan Times, 2002)

You may have heard about telepathic healing and psychic cure, but a heart patient who had undergone "Divine Surgery" is drawing huge crowds in Takdah. Sarala Chhettri (25) was to leave for Puttaparthi, on Dec. 12, for heart surgery. But Sarala's parents claim that they woke up to find their daughter already 'operated' upon. Nobody was seen or heard entering the house in the night though. The Chhettri home has been swarming with believers and sceptics since then...to witness the 'miracle' and the blessed patient.

The Chhettris are disciples of Sai Baba and they believe the operation was a "Divine Intervention". Sarala was diagnosed having a heart ailment last year. She was being treated by a doctor from Vellore, who visits Siliguri once a month. He asked Sarala to go to Vellore for surgery. But neither her father, Madan Kotwal, nor her husband, Hari Karki, could afford the treatment. so they sought Sai Baba's help.

"We decided to take her to Puttaparthi, as the surgery would be free at Sai Baba's hospital, with minimal cost to us", said Mr. Kotwal.

On the morning of Dec. 12. when Sarala's father went to wake her up, she did not respond to repeated calls. So he pulled away the blanket to find her chest was bandaged and there was post operative surgery dressing, complete with gauze and leucoplast. Her wrists had marks like those made by IV drips for saline or blood. There were about 36 stitches running down the middle of her chest to abdomen.

Sarala showed some signs of recovery from her 'sleep' only the following night, (Thurs. 12 Dec.), when she could not speak, but gestured for some water.

The following morning, Friday, the family found that Sarala's dressings had been changed overnight, and the old dressings left behind on the table next to her bed, while Sarala was still not fully conscious.

"An X-ray will reveal whether a surgery had been performed or not. A metal wire is used to tie the sternum together after cardiac surgery and that will be revealed in the X-ray," a doctor said.

Doing some service programme because it is being done elsewhere is a sign of ignorance. The programmes must satisfy a local need, solve a local difficulty. They must rise out of felt needs and should be adapted to local conditions. One must take into consideration whether the place concerned is urban or rural, industrial or

agricultural, a developing economy, a tribal settlement or a hill station. The person who borrows ideas from another region and executes it might feel satisfied that he has achieved some concrete programme, but do the people whom he tried to benefit feel and better or happier? That is the test. Do not crave for publicity; crave for the joy that shines on the faces of the people whom you help. The flower that is in your heart gets fragrance from the service that you do, and so it becomes acceptable to God. Love is the essence of that fragrance.

BABA

The Atma in the Individual, the Jiva-atma, is Eternal, Immortal, Full: There is no Death: what appears so is the shifting of Its centre. BABA

Unforgettable Moments With Sai

Recollections of
Mr. C. Krishnan in the 1960s

In those days very few people really knew that Swami was God in human form. They felt that He was a holy man with some special powers, -that is all. Many came to see Him but worship of Him was still taboo.

For example, in those days, Swami used to stay in the West Wing of the Mandir and would walk along the veranda in the first floor towards a room in the East Wing for His meals. People would gather below and watch Him walk across. But if anyone joined his palms as a gesture of worship, that person would be ridiculed. And Swami also contributed to the process by throwing the veil of *Maya*. He moved with people like a friend.

Nobody had heard of God moving around like a friend and that often made people to overlook His Divinity. He just did not disclose His Divinity to all. He would casually call someone, take that person to the Interview room and spend time chatting with that person! A Brahmin scholar named Brahman, once asked, "Are You really Rama?" Swami coolly replied, "Yes, I am indeed Rama." My head began to reel. I began to tell myself, "Rama is God and this Swami is man. How can man become God? How can I accept this claim? Looks like I am going to have a problem here! Am I supposed to give up one God for another? If I did that, it would be a great mistake." Turning to my relative, I said, "Look, I'm not happy with what's happening here. It is a grave mistake for a man to declare that He is God. He asserts that He is Rama, whereas you and I worship the Lord Muruga. I think this is not the place for us. Let's go back!" He did not agree and I fell silent. The next day Mr. Brahman was floored when Swami declared, "*I am Krishna and I know it all*", referring to some passages from the Mahabharata and some items not found in the usual texts, that Mr. Brahman knew of.

Swami simply replied, "*I am everything!*"

(It was some time before Mr. Brahman could accept the Universality of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba and returned to Puttaparthi. *Ed.*)

The importance of the mind in the process of transformation should be properly understood, because it is the mind that is the cause of both bondage and liberation. Your own actions are the cause of your happiness or sorrow. Do not blame others for your condition. Every thought, every word and every action has its reflection, resound and reaction. It is a sign of weakness to blame others for your troubles. You have to bear the consequences of your own actions. If they are unbearable, pray to God for relief. God alone can give relief in such cases. BABA

What Is Spirituality?

Swami answers, "It is the resolute pursuit of Cosmic Consciousness."

"Spirituality aims to enabling a person to manifest in all its fullness the Divine Cosmic Consciousness, that is present both within and outside oneself. It means getting rid of one's animal nature and developing the Divine tendencies within one. It means breaking down the barriers between God and Nature, and establishing their essential oneness.

"Today, people think that spirituality has no relation to mundane life, and vice versa. This is a big mistake. True Divinity is a combination of spirituality and social obligations. National unity and social harmony are founded upon spirituality. It is the divine that links spirituality and social existence."

SEVA DAL'S TO THE RESCUE!

During a routine visit to St. George's Hospital, Mumbai, on 11th June 2006, the Fort Samiti Seva dals came upon a 5 year old child, whom the local police found at the Railway station. He was admitted to the children's ward, for convulsions, and listed as an 'unknown' case. The Seva dals provided medication for the child and when he was well enough he would have been taken to a remand home but for their intervention. They asked him his name so that they could drop him off at his home; but his answers were incomplete. He did give one piece of guidance, that his name was 'Ganesh Bamare', and was from 'ShriRampur'. His accent suggested he was from Maharashtra. However, he did convey to the Seva dals that his house was in AshokNagar and that there was a printing press near his house.

With this limited information, they checked with the police, only to be informed that there were about seven 'ShriRampur' villages within Maha-rashtra. Fortunately the child was able to tell them that there was a big Shirdi Baba temple near his village, after been shown a picture of Shirdi Baba. Word was passed along the Seva dal network, from villages and towns within Maharashtra, and posters were put up with his description, from which his father recognised his missing son. The father of the child had never been to Mumbai before, but the volunteers gave him the address in Mumbai and money for his travel.

On the 17th June, Ganesh's father arrived at the hospital and the child literally sprang from his bed into his father's arms. Young Ganesha had been missing from his home since May 9th 2006. His father furnished evidence of identification, and the child was handed over to him.

After the requisite treatment at the hospital, the Seva dals made arrangements for him to be treated every six months; father and son returned home.

It appears that young Ganesha had been running away from home frequently, due to utter poverty.

The Seva dals gave them packets of Vibhuti and Baba's photos, to insulate them in future from their worries.

The dedication of the Sai volunteers and the energy that dear Swami pumped into each of them, facilitated a lost child find his home.

Swami says, if you "*take one step towards Me, I will take ten towards you.*" How, true!

Baba's Conversations With Students

Swami has often stated, ***"Tell Me your company, I shall tell you what you are"***

1. *"You have to join good company and run away from bad company. As is the company, so you become. Sand, in the company of air, goes up. That very same sand, in the company of water, goes down. Fire, in the company of green grass, gets extinguished. That very spark of fire, in the company of dry grass, will burn everything. Therefore, you have to be very careful."*
2. *"You should always search for an opportunity or wait for an opportunity to be involved in good actions, in good deeds. They are very necessary in life. They speak of your spiritual path. Without good service activities, you cannot be spiritual and you cannot be religious."*
3. *"It is better to have fewer contacts. Too many contacts take you towards socialisation and that will disturb your state of mind and your thinking process. So, with fewer contacts you can be true to yourself, maintain your own ideology, hold on to your own character, continue your own process of thinking and go by your own chosen path of life. For all those benefits, you have to have minimum contacts."*
4. *"When you mix and mingle, you should see that you do not touch anyone. Because when you touch, those vibrations of the other will reach you. The vibrations of the other person will come to you. By the constant touch of the other person, you naturally lose your concentration."*

Swami's letter to an Elderly Widow

Some years ago, Sai Baba wrote a letter of comfort to an elderly woman grieving her husband's passing. In it He stated the following:

"Wedding binds two persons together as husband and wife. What were they to each other minutes before? The one would not have worried for the other if the wedding had not happened?"

"Where were the son and the brother before they were conceived and born? Life is an interlude between what was and what will be. This interlude should be used not to lament over what cannot be helped or set right, but to seek God, see Him and take refuge in Him. Your husband lived such a life in the light of Truth he had glimpsed. He did no wrong to anyone; he loved and served the suffering and the illiterate. He salvaged many families from penury and infamy. He helped many young people to go through college. Many sick persons were saved by his timely donations. He was ever cheerful and spread cheer wherever he went. And, at last, God willed that he cast away the body that limited him. Of what profit is it now to calculate what might have happened, had he not gone to Madras that day?"

"Your duty from now on is to sustain the fame he had earned, to follow the ideals he had placed before himself. Your husband is here, in My presence now, and he will be there forever as he had wished to be when alive. Swami will not allow him to be separated from the Presence. He is now free from bonds and boundaries."

You are indeed fortunate that destiny drew you to him and gave you so many years of loving companionship with such a fine person. His thoughts were pure; there was no blemish of envy, hatred, or greed in him. So his place is with Me, forever. I am writing this letter to you in order to shower on you the cool rain of love. That rain will scotch the flames of grief that are now raging in you. Your husband is at Prasanthi Nilayam, in the presence of Sairam, having attained that climax by his spiritual attainments. BABA."

“Walk For Values” in Canada

(sourced from ‘Heart2Heart’ Radio Sai.org)

Two ‘Walk For Values’ events were held in Canada in 2004 and 2005, now the Sathya Sai School of Canada’s annual ‘Walk For Values’ was held this year on Sun. 28th May.

Values awareness is spreading like wildfire across Canada and beyond. Apart from the grand event held in Toronto, 13 other Canadian cities walked the values walk, to express their support for the universal human values, propounded and exemplified by Sri Sathya Sai Baba. Apart from 14 Canadian cities, where supporters of the Sathya Sai School, sought pledges of self-transformation, Sai Schools in other countries, such as Scotland, replicated this unique event in their communities.

Sponsored each year by the students and parents of the Sathya Sai School of Canada, the theme for this year’s Walk for Values was “A Walk for Me, My Family and My Community’.

The event has grown, over the years, and attended by well over 3000 participants. This year the cities of Edmonton, Regina and Saskatoon, proclaimed May 28th as Human Values Day.

This Walk is not a fund-raiser, nor a Walk provoked by protest or anger at any social or political injustice. “This year’s Walk is most appropriate in the wake of violence and bullying in our schools, drugs on our streets, gang wars in our neighbourhoods, and greed and corruption in our institutions.”

The theme underscores the adage of humanitarians like Mahatma Gandhi ; *‘Become the change you want in the world’*.

Mr. Bas Balkisoon, Member of the Provincial Parliament made a statement at the opening of the Ontario Legislature, complimenting the school for this event. He said, “This Walk has now become a trailblazer for cities across Canada, 12 of which held their own Walk for Values on the same day. Mr. Speaker, this Walk was not about raising funds, or provoked by anger. Instead it was focused on character building and encouraging role models in the community. Walking together as kindred spirits, participants raised awareness of the need to practice the value of tolerance, understanding and respect values that are gradually being eroded by negative forces.

“Walkers conveyed their messages of human values through songs and decorated floats.

“The participants’ demonstrations of understanding, peace, and commitment to positive change show us all the importance of recognising our values.

“Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Sathya Sai School of Toronto, in their efforts in making a difference in our community, our province and Canada, through their Walk for Human Values. Thank you.”

You have no need to run about in search of God, for, you are yourself God. God resides in your heart. He is the All-pervasive motive force. Have firm faith in this truth. Like fire in the match stick, divinity is latent in man. The fire in the stick becomes manifest when it is struck against the side of the box. So too, when the Jivi (individual) contacts Deva (God), the flame of Jnana (wisdom) shines brilliantly. BABA.

“Hatfield Centre” Sai magazine

For some time, now, I have been receiving regular copies of the Hatfield Centre magazine, which has been ably produced by Mr. D. Amirthanandan. An excellent quality magazine!

Alas, it will be no more, as Amir has been unwell, and will be unable to continue its publication. However, all is not lost! The Centre’s Chairperson, Mrs. Pathmini Bala, will soon make articles and information, ‘on-line’, on an upgraded website. Should any of our readers be interested, you need only log-on to; chair@hatfieldsaicentre.org.uk and you will receive notifications and e-bulletins regularly.

It only remains for me to wish Amir every good wish and good health, for ages to come. He has done Swami’s work with dedication and devotion to duty, for many, many years.

‘Our Congratulations’..

...goes to our SSEHV Coordinator, Ms. Rosemary Marron, who has recently completed a sizable Report on EHV in this country, which will be presented to Swami on the occasion of His next Birthday.

It wasn’t an easy task bringing together all the relevant answers to the many questions that had to be completed. She is to be congratulated, and her service will have its own Sai Blessing.

As long as you are overcome with fear and anxiety, you will not be able to accomplish anything. Be courageous! Know that you are the *Atma*, not the body; then you will be without fear. God, can help you achieve great things, but only if you base your actions on true knowledge and remain fearless. BABA.

New House for Sai Geetha

With the advent of a new indoor stadium to be constructed shortly, devotees were distressed and concerned that Sai Geetha may end up homeless, as the site for the stadium will be constructed where Sai Geetha is now housed.

Swami wouldn’t permit such a thing to happen! While Sai Geetha’s house and a number of trees are being sacrificed for the new stadium, Swami’s pet elephant will be housed in a beautiful brand-new house adjacent to the planetarium. Sai Geeta deserves nothing less, for all the years of devotion to his beloved Baba. *Ed.*

The Easiest Path

(Sourced from: Daily News & Analysis, Mumbai)
Hemadpant from Chapter X, Sai Sathcharitra

Though Sai Baba acted outwardly like an ordinary man, His actions showed extraordinary intelligence and skill. Whatever He did, was done for the good of His devotees. He never prescribed any asana, regulation of breathing or any rites to His bhaktas, nor did He blow any mantra into their ears. He told them to leave off all cleverness and always remember “Sai”, “Sai”. “*If you did that,*” He said, “*All your shackles would be removed and you would be free.*” Sitting between five fires, sacrifices, chantings, eight-fold Yoga are possible for the Brahmins only. They are of no use to the other classes.

The function of the mind is to think, it cannot remain for a minute without thinking. If you give it a Sense-object, it will think about it. If you give it to a Guru, it will think about Guru. This is the natural remembrance, worship and kirtan of Sai. Hearing the stories of the saints

is not so difficult as the other sadhanas mentioned above. They (stories) remove all fear of this Samsar (worldly existence), and take you on to the spiritual path.

So listen to these stories, meditate on them, and assimilate them. If this is done, not only the Brahmins, but women and lower classes will get pure and holy. You may do or attend to your worldly duties, but give your mind to Sai and His stories, and then, He is sure to bless you. This is the easiest path, but why do not all take to it?

The reason is that without God's Grace, we do not get the desire to listen to the stories of Saints. With God's Grace everything is smooth and easy. Hearing the stories of the Saints is, in a way, keeping their company. The importance of the company of Saints is very great. It removes our body-consciousness and egoism, destroys completely the chain of our birth and death, cuts asunder all the knots of the heart, and takes us to God, Who is pure Consciousness.

Monday 10th July 2006.

Today is Guru Poornima.

Sai On Surrender

"Why get agitated? Let Me take care of all your business. I shall be the One Who will think about them. I am waiting for nothing else than your surrender to Me, and then you do not have to worry anymore about anything. Say farewell to all fears and discouragement. You demonstrate that you do not trust Me. On the contrary, you must rely blindly on Me.

"To surrender means: To turn your thoughts away from troubles, to turn them away from difficulties you encounter and from all your problems. Leave everything into My hands saying, 'Lord, Thy will be done. Thou think of it.' That is to say, 'Lord, I thank You, for You have taken everything in Your hands, and You will resolve this for My highest good.'

"Remember that thinking of the consequences of a thing is contrary to surrender. That is to say, when you worry that a situation has not the desired outcome, you thus demonstrate that you do not believe in My love for you. You will prove that you do not consider your life to be under My control and that nothing escapes Me.

"Never think, 'How is this to end? What is going to happen?' If you give into this temptation, you demonstrate that you do not trust Me to deal with it...yes, or no? Then you just stop being anxious about it! I shall guide you only if you completely surrender to Me, and when I must lead you into a different path than the one that you expect, I carry you in My arms.

"What seriously upsets you is your reasoning, your worrying, your obsession, your will to provide for yourselves at any price. I can do so many things when the being, as much in his material necessities as in his spiritual ones turns to Me saying, 'You think of it,' then closes his eyes and rests quietly. You will receive a lot but only when your prayer will rely fully on Me. You pray to Me when in pain so that I intervene, but in the way you desire it. You do not rely on Me, but you want Me to adjust your requests.

"Don't behave like sick ones who ask a treatment to the doctor, all the time suggesting it to him. Do not do that; rather, even in sad circumstances, say: 'Lord, I praise and thank You for this problem, for this necessity. I pray You arrange this as You please for this terrestrial and temporal life. You know very well what is best for me.'

"Sometimes you feel that disasters increase instead of diminish. Do not get agitated. Close your eyes and tell me with faith: 'Thy will be done. You think of it.' And when you speak thus, I accomplish a miracle when necessary. I only think of it when you trust Me totally. I always think of you, but I can only help you completely when you rely fully on Me."

The body is a house given to you on rent. The owner is God. Live there as long as He wills, thanking Him and paying Him the rent of Faith and Devotion. BABA.

For Centre & Group Meetings
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