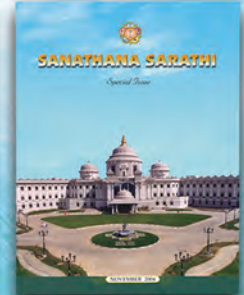
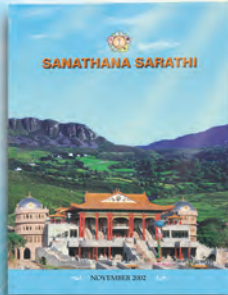
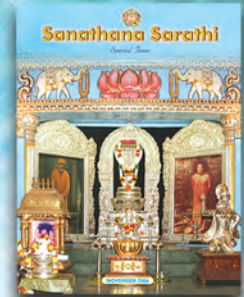
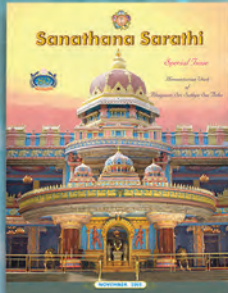




Sanathana Sarathi

Fifty Glorious Years



JANUARY 2008

Sanathana Sarathi

Devoted to the Moral and Spiritual Uplift of Humanity through

SATHYA • DHARMA • SANTHI • PREMA • AHIMSA

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editor@sssbpt.org

subscriptions@sssbpt.org

ISD Code : 0091

STD Code : 08555

Telephone : 287375

Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust Telefax : 287390

General enquiry : 287164

Sri Sathya Sai University -

Administrative Office : 287191 / 287239

Sri Sathya Sai Higher

Secondary School : 287522

Sri Sathya Sai

Primary School : 287237

SSSIHMS, Prasanthigram,

Puttaparthi : 287388

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"Jesus had to face many trials and tribulations. The same is true even today. But with faith, you can face all challenges. Some people thought Jesus was an ordinary man. Even now some people consider Me as an ordinary person. This is a big mistake. How is it possible for an ordinary person to achieve so much?"

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*"Sanathana Sarathi" wishes its
readers a holy and happy New Year*

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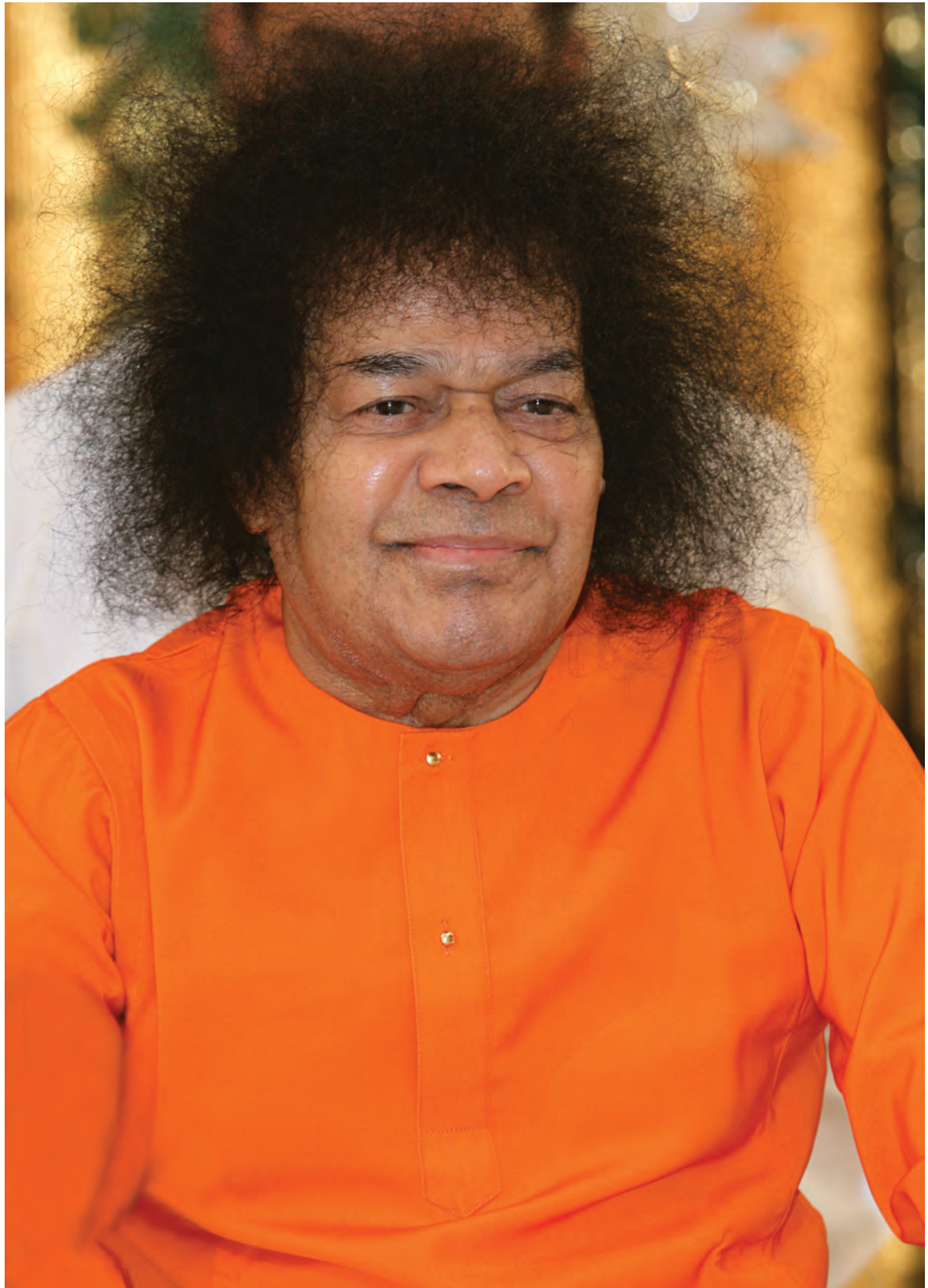
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Editor

G.L. ANAND





YOUR REAL NAME IS BRAHMAN

*One with anger will not be successful in any of his endeavours.
He will commit sins and will be ridiculed by one and all.
His own people will abandon him.*

(Telugu Poem)

LOVE IS GOD, GOD IS LOVE. There is no one without love. The differences, conflicts and quarrels that are prevalent in the world today are mainly due to lack of love in the heart of man.

Know your True Identity

Many people talk in several ways that the world is full of sorrows, miseries and difficulties. But, in fact, nothing of this sort exists. Their supposed existence is nothing but our own delusion. In reality, there is no existence of difficulties in this world, nor is any unrest seen anywhere. Wherever we see, there is only peace, peace and peace. When there is peace in our heart, we will see peace everywhere. On the contrary, if we have no peace in our heart, then we will find restlessness everywhere. All the restlessness, sorrows and anxieties are our own reaction, reflection and resound. These are all of our own making; they don't have any real existence. In fact, reaction reflection and resound are caused by many kinds of our own delusions. When you ask somebody, "What is your name?" he will tell the name given to him by his parents. (Here, Swami asked one of the boys his name and he said, Vikas). Truly speaking, Vikas is not his name. Go to

anybody and ask this question, everybody will reply in the same way. If you ask God the same question, He will say, "Aham Brahmasmi" (I am Brahman). All of us should give the same reply, "Aham Brahmasmi, Aham Brahmasmi." We have no other name except this. Names that we bear have been given to us by our parents; we are not born with these names. Your real



***There is no diversity in this world.
There is only oneness. Ekoham
Bahusyam (the One willed to become
many). One God appears in many
forms. Only those who understand
this oneness can attain total bliss.
Every student should fill his heart
with faith. You have not come here
only for acquiring secular education.
You have come here for learning
Swami's teachings. If you follow these
teachings with implicit faith, you will be
successful in all your endeavours. You
should love Swami's teachings. You
should adore them and follow them.***



name is Brahman. Those who are not able to recognise this truth can never experience true happiness in life.

Embodiments of Love!

Love is the other name of Brahman. Call it love, Atma, Prema, Aham, Brahman, all have the same meaning. Nothing else is seen in this world except love. But we do not understand the true meaning of love. We identify it with worldly and physical relationships. But physical relationships do not connote true love. Real love is that which is ever true. You are not one person but three: the one you think you are; the one others think you are; the one you really are. What others think about you is just their imagination. Your Self is your reality. What does Self mean? It means 'I'. This 'I' is universal and is uniformly present in everybody. However, you can experience this unity only when you cross your little individual 'I' of ego. This is the inner meaning of cross which is worshipped by the Christians. All are one. Nobody is separate from you or against you. You should always treasure this truth in your heart.

All that is born out of Karma and sustained by it is imaginary and ephemeral. As I have told you earlier, you are the embodiments of Brahman. You can realise truth only when you consider yourself as Brahman. So long as you don't recognise this truth, you identify yourself with the name given to you by your parents such as Ramanna, Krishnanna. All these names have been given to you by your parents just for the sake of identification. You are not born with these names. What is the name that you are born with? You do not know this. Suppose one goes to the parents of a new-born child and asks, "What is the name that you have given to this child?" They may say, "We have not yet given any name to the child." There are billions

of people in the world. But none of them seems to have realised the truth that he is essentially divine. People identify themselves by the names given to them by their parents. But they do not know their real name. They do not know the name they are born with. Therefore, they identify themselves with the names given to them and lead a worldly life. The true name of man is one that he is born with and that is Atma. That is Brahman. What is the meaning of Brahman? It means you only. Brahman has no birth or death. Only when you understand this truth can you know your reality.

How do things come into existence? They are created by will power (Here Swami materialised a gold chain and said that He willed it). This is born out of My Will and did not exist earlier. Everything is born out of Divine Will. God is the cause of Maya. The entire creation is the result of the combination of Maya and God. There can be no creation without Maya. Therefore, Maya follows every person like his shadow. We lead our lives under the influence of Maya. It does not leave us like our shadow. It is the cause of all our delusion. When the sun rises, our shadow is very long. When the sun is right on our head, the shadow falls under our feet. Hence, it increases and decreases. Therefore, we should not make shadow as the basis of our lives.

God is the Fundamental Cause of Everything

Embodiments of Love!

It is love that is most important. Love is the basis of faith. Nobody knows where this love comes from. In English, the word love is spelt as L,O,V,E in which L stands for the Lord who is the Creator of the entire universe. Right from an ant to an elephant, all beings have their origin in God. They are all created by God.

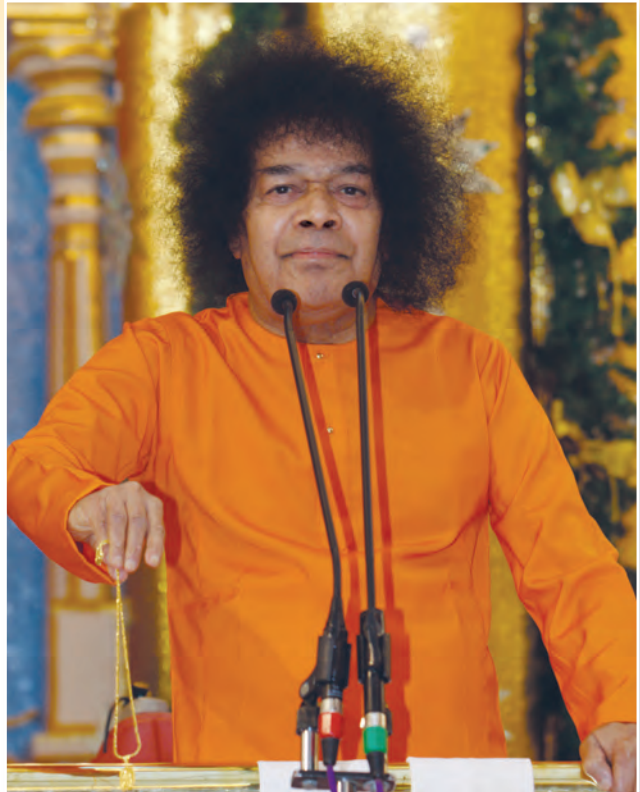
*Not even a blade of grass will move
without Divine Will,*

*People who do not realise this truth get
carried away by their pride of intelligence
and knowledge.*

*But no one, however great he may be,
knows what lies ahead for him in future.*

(Telugu Poem)

What is the origin of the blade of grass? It has its origin only in the Will of God. It is born out of the Divine Will in order to provide protection to small creatures. Every being is born out of Brahma Sankalpa (Divine Will). Without God, there can be no creation. During the summer season, land looks bare without any vegetation. But when there is rainfall, so many plants come out of it. Wherefrom do all these come? They come from rain. Wherefrom does the rain come? It comes from the clouds. Wherefrom the clouds come? They come from the sun. Wherefrom has the sun come? It has come from God. Therefore, everything has its origin only in God. Without God, there can be no air, no sun, no rain, and hence no plants. Therefore, we should not forget God. You may forget anything but never forget God. When you forget God, it amounts to forgetting everything. The fundamental cause of everything is God. We are forgetting this fundamental cause. Without foundation, there can be no walls. Without walls, there can be no roof. Without roof, there can be no house. Therefore, foundation is most important. Pillars can be raised only on foundation, and the pillars support the roof. Similarly, self-confidence is the foundation of man's life, on which the walls of self-satisfaction



*There are a large number of educated
persons in this world. But, in what way is
the world benefited by them? In fact, they
are doing more harm than good in the
world. With strong spiritual base, you will
be protected even if you are not highly
educated. But if you lack spirituality and
have everything, then all this is a big
zero. Hence, fill your heart with devotion
to God. Always think: "I am not this body.
It is merely a vesture I have put on. It is
God within who is doing everything."
God is in you, with you, around you,
above you and below you.*

can be raised which support the roof of self-sacrifice. Then only can we have the life of self-

realisation. What is the use of the pillars of self-satisfaction without the roof of self-sacrifice? But roof cannot stand without foundation, walls and pillars. Therefore, all of you should realise the importance of foundation. This is the fundamental truth. We should never forget this fundamental truth.

Jesus Loved All

Jesus was the son of a carpenter by name Joseph. He was married to Mary, who was chosen by God to give birth to Jesus. When Mary was carrying the holy child, she along with her husband had to travel to Bethlehem in order to take part in the census ordered by the ruler of Rome. They had no mode of transport to reach Bethlehem. Therefore, they went there riding on a donkey. When they reached Bethlehem, all the rooms were occupied and there was no place for them to stay. Ultimately, they knocked on the door of an innkeeper who also told them that no room was available. When Joseph explained to him that his wife was about to give birth to a child, the innkeeper reluctantly gave them a place in the stable. The same night, Mary gave birth to a male child in a corner of the stable. They made a bed for the new-born child in a manger with grass and leaves with a cloth over it. The boy was named Jesus.

Jesus grew up under the loving care of his parents. His parents tried to teach many things to Jesus but he was not receptive to these worldly teachings. Once Mary and Joseph took the child Jesus to a fair in Jerusalem. In the crowd, Jesus got separated from his parents. The parents searched for him everywhere but could not find him. They became anxious when they could not find him anywhere. All the while, Jesus was sitting in the corner of a temple and listening to the

sermon of the priest. Mother Mary ultimately found him in the temple. She rushed towards him and affectionately embraced him saying, "My son, what happened to you? Where had you gone? We have been searching for you." Jesus told her, "Mother, I did not go anywhere. I have been listening to the sermon of the priest in the temple." The priest in the temple said that everything in this world was imaginary and ephemeral; nothing was true. He explained, "You are the only truth. This is true for everyone. Therefore, you should know your reality." Jesus treasured these teachings in his heart.

Contemplating on these teachings, he wandered on the hills in solitude. After some time, he came to the seashore. He found a large number of fishermen sitting there. There he met Peter and asked him, "What is your name?" He replied, "My name is Peter." Pointing to an old man, Peter said, "He is my father". This old man was mending a fishing net. There grew intimacy between Jesus and Peter. Jesus asked him why he was looking sad. Peter replied, "Yesterday, we went into the sea and could not catch even a single fish." Jesus told him to go in a particular direction and promised that he would find a large number of fish. Jesus himself sat in the boat and went with them. They went in the direction indicated by Jesus and caught a large number of fish. All the fishermen came to realise that he was a great man and knew everything. They started honouring him as their preceptor.

Jesus was young in years but much older in wisdom. Therefore, all became his followers. He lived with them and shared his food with them. One day, he distributed a small bread to all of them, and everybody ate to his fill. Moreover, this bread had





If only you have faith, you can achieve anything. Those who worship Jesus with faith are benefited in every way. Some people develop faith only when their desires are fulfilled. But when their desires are not fulfilled, they lose faith. You should have firm faith whether your desires are fulfilled or not. You should keep your faith safe and secure. If you firmly hold on to faith, you can progress to any extent. With faith, even a blind man can see and a dumb man can speak. Therefore, do not give room to doubts.

a unique sweet taste. From that day, all of them developed faith in him and started following his teachings. Though Jesus appeared to be an ordinary person, he was endowed with great powers. Since all the fisherman started following the instructions of

Jesus, they were able to catch more and more fish. Thereby, they grew rich and prosperous. Seeing the prosperity of the fishermen, others thought of following Jesus. When Jesus became popular, some people became jealous of him and started opposing him. Where we have friends, we have enemies also. These enemies of Jesus complained against him, saying, he was deceiving the public. On this complaint, he was ordered to be arrested. In the court, Jesus was asked how he had acquired his powers. He replied that it was all the Will of God. When charges were levelled against him, he kept quiet because he did not want to argue. On the false complaints of the priests, Jesus was given death sentence. The governor was a kind-hearted person and lamented that such a noble man was being crucified for no fault of his. At the time of his crucifixion, Mother Mary came near Jesus and started shedding tears. Jesus consoled her saying, "Why do you cry, mother? The body is temporary. Let them do whatever they wish with this body. You think these people are trying to kill me. I have no death. None can kill me." Mary then asked him, "Are you not the son of this body?" Jesus replied, "Of course! I am related to you at the physical level as a son. But, 'I am I' only. All are my children. All are the embodiments of divinity."

Jesus was not an ordinary mortal. He was divine. But certain people did not have faith in him. It is like that only, even today. Some people have faith, others don't have faith. Some people extol;



some people criticise. However, each one is protected by his faith. If you consider a stone as your deity, then it becomes so. Jesus was subjected to many tests during those days. Jesus protected all poor people and provided food and shelter to them. Once when he was passing through a desert, a woman approached him and asked for food. Immediately, he said “take this” and gave food to her. In this way, whosoever asked for anything, he gave whatever they asked. When he was asked, wherefrom he got all these things, he said, all came to him by his will power and grace of God. There is no power greater than will power in this world. All that is created by God is the embodiment of God. One who recognises this truth will become God Himself. *Brahmavid Brahmaiva Bhavathi* (the knower of Brahman becomes verily Brahman).

You can Attain Anything with Faith and Love

Everything happens by the Will of God. Therefore, it is the duty of man to know the Will of God. Those who have faith in the Will of God are protected. Those who lack faith ruin their lives. For everything, faith is essential. People today have lost both their eyes of faith and are behaving like blind people. They should protect faith like their two eyes. The fundamental cause for the sustenance of entire creation is faith only. Man can attain everything with faith and love. There is nothing that you cannot attain with faith and love.

Therefore, first and foremost, you should have faith. Along with faith, love is very necessary. Only then can we attain progress in all possible ways. Faith is very important for man. Where there is faith, there is love. When you have both faith and

love, you can have everything. You should have strong faith. Life itself is meaningless without faith. With firm faith, everything is possible; you can even change your body. Faith provides immense possibilities to man. Many devotees have faith but they lack love. Without love, faith is of little use. Love and faith are like negative and positive of the electric current. Therefore, both are necessary for achieving anything.

Therefore, students! First and foremost, you should develop faith. There is no life without faith. This faith itself is your Self. Without Self, you cannot render any help to anybody. Therefore, faith itself is help. If only you have faith, you can achieve anything. Those who worship Jesus with faith are benefited in every way. Some people develop faith only when their desires are fulfilled. But when their desires are not fulfilled, they lose faith. You should have firm faith whether your desires are fulfilled or not. You should keep your faith safe and secure. If you firmly hold on to faith, you can progress to any extent. With faith, even a blind man can see and a dumb man can speak. Therefore, do not give room to doubts.

Jesus had to face many trials and tribulations. The same is true even today. But with faith, you can face all challenges. Some people thought Jesus was an ordinary man. Even now some people consider Me as an ordinary person. This is a big mistake. How is it possible for an ordinary person to achieve so much? It may appear to be so if you see with physical eyes. Mistake lies in your vision, not in Me. Your eyes are diseased. Therefore, you should set right your vision. When you are fine, I am also fine. My happiness lies in your happiness. All of you



are not different from Me. You are in Me only (*loud applause*). Take this as the fundamental truth. I am getting all this work done through you because I require some instruments for doing the work. Therefore, I am making you My worthy instruments by imparting Prajnana (constant integrated awareness), Vijnana (wisdom) and Sujnana (discrimination) to you. Hence, lead your lives with firm faith. You think that all the progress in the world is due to education. It is not at all true. There are a large number of educated persons in this world. But, in what way is the world benefited by them? In fact, they are doing more harm than good in the world. With strong spiritual base, you will be protected even if you are not highly educated. But if you lack spirituality and have everything, then all this is a big zero. Hence, fill your heart with devotion to God. Always think: "I am not this body. It is merely a vesture I have put on. It is God within who is doing everything." God is in you, with you, around you, above you and below you (*loud applause*). Hence, have total faith in the principle of divinity. With this, you can achieve anything.

Jesus was Endowed with Great Powers

Students!

You are like nice ripe fruits. But there should be sweetness in the fruit. Without sweet juice, it is not a fruit at all. Therefore, all of you should possess the sweet juice of love, love, love! Without this sweet juice of love, life is meaningless. People even throw away a fruit which does not have sweet juice. Hence, fill yourself with the sweet juice of love. You may worship any form and chant any name of God, but first and foremost you must have faith. God has many names. Though names are many, God is one. Jewels are many, but

gold is one. Without gold, you cannot make any ornaments. Therefore, you should not leave the gold, i.e., God.

Consider faith as most important. You may get the desired result or not, you should remain firm in your faith. Along with faith, develop love also. I am you and you are Me (*loud applause*). There is no diversity in this world. There is only oneness. *Ekoham Bahusyam* (the One willed to become many). One God appears in many forms. Only those who understand this oneness can attain total bliss. Every student should fill his heart with faith. You have not come here only for acquiring secular education. You have come here for learning Swami's teachings. If you follow these teachings with implicit faith, you will be successful in all your endeavours. You should love Swami's teachings. You should adore them and follow them. (Bhagavan sang the Bhajan, "*Hari Bhajan Bina ...*" and continued His Discourse.)

We can attain peace and happiness by doing Bhajans. Hence, you should keep remembering God's Name in your heart at all times. You may perform Japa, Dhyana, Yoga or not, but you must do Namasmarana. There is no easier path than this. Everybody can do Namasmarana whether one is a child, an adult or an old person. Always keep chanting the Divine Name. There is nothing wrong in acquiring degrees, but Bhajan is a must. Do not consider Jesus as an ordinary mortal. He was endowed with great powers. He could pass all the tests. Never consider anyone as an ordinary person. See God in him. Do not observe differences, saying, "He is a gent, she is a lady ..." No, no. Ladies and gents are not different from each other. *All are one, be alike*

Continued on page 12 ...



The dais in Sai Kulwant Hall with beautiful Christmas decorations.

Grand Christmas Celebrations

THE HOLY FESTIVAL OF Christmas was celebrated on a grand scale in a most sacred manner at Prasanthi Nilayam in the Divine Presence of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. The entire Prasanthi Nilayam complex bore a festive look with traditional Christmas decorations on this occasion. All the temples, office buildings and canteens in the complex were beautifully decorated with flowers, Christmas trees, stars and many other decorations. Fabulous decorations were done at the residence of Bhagavan and Sai Kulwant Hall, the venue of the celebrations. At night, decorative lights on all the main buildings presented an enchanting look.

The festivities spanning four days began on the afternoon of 24th December 2007. 35 small children welcomed Bhagavan into Sai Kulwant Hall with floral offerings when He came to the Hall at 4.35 p.m. The programme began after Bhagavan's Darshan in Sai Kulwant Hall at 4.50 p.m. amidst chanting of sacred Vedic hymns by the students of Sri Sathya Sai University. The first item of the programme was presented by the children's choir comprising 56 boys and 57 girls. They began their programme with chanting of Sanskrit verses from the 18th chapter of Bhagavadgita, signifying the underlying unity of all creation. This was followed by singing of Christmas carols. Beginning with a sacred prayer to Bhagavan in Sanskrit followed by



Children's choir and adults choir comprising devotees from a large number of countries of the world presented Christmas carols and devotional songs on Christmas eve on 24th December 2007 in Sai Kulwant Hall.

its translation in English verse, the children captivated all hearts by their melodious singing with the accompaniment of sweet music. They concluded their programme with joyous singing of "jingle bells ..." accompanied by distribution of chocolates by four boys dressed as Santa Claus among devotees in jam-packed Sai Kulwant Hall. Next to enthral the devotees in Sai Kulwant Hall was the adults choir comprising about 750 ladies and gents from 51 countries. There were 38 musicians in the choir playing guitars, violins, viola, cello, flute, saxophone, trumpet, keyboards and percussion instruments. Beginning with traditional Sanskrit prayer to Lord Ganesh, the choir presented in all eleven beautiful Christmas carols with deep devotion and dedication. All the compositions were meaningfully worded and excellently rendered in the true Christmas spirit which suffused the entire milieu and filled each heart with ecstasy. Carol singing which started at 5.00 p.m.

came to a close at 6.00 p.m. This was followed by Bhajans which were also led by overseas devotees. The programme came to a close with Arati to Bhagavan at 6.15 p.m.

On Christmas morning, i.e., 25th December 2007, Bhagavan came to Sai Kulwant Hall at 8.15 a.m. amidst chanting of Vedic hymns by the university students. After showering the bliss of His Divine Darshan on the mammoth gathering of devotees in the Hall, Bhagavan came to the verandah, cut the cakes placed there and lighted candles on them amidst joyous cheers of the devotees.

The first item of the programme was violin recital by the students of Sri Sathya Sai Primary School, Prasanthi Nilayam. They played many Christmas carols, devotional songs and Bhajans on their violins to the delight of listeners in Sai Kulwant Hall and concluded it with the playing of "jingle bells ..." during which many students dressed as Santa Claus came to Bhagavan with bagfuls of chocolates, received His blessings and distributed them among the students and devotees.



The musical presentation of the students of Sri Sathya Sai University on their orchestra in Sai Kulwant Hall on the Christmas morning captivated the audience with thrilling melodies.

This was followed by a musical presentation by the



students of Sri Sathya Sai University on their orchestra. They enlivened the Christmas spirit with thrilling music, playing many Christmas carols, devotional songs and Bhajans. After this, the students sang Christmas carols accompanied by appropriate commentary, singing the glory of Jesus and expressing their love and devotion to Bhagavan. The morning programme concluded with Arati to Bhagavan at 9.40 a.m.

On the afternoon of 25th December, Bhagavan came to Sai Kulwant Hall at 5.15 p.m. and showered the bliss of His Darshan on the yearning devotees on this auspicious day. Soon after Bhagavan's Darshan, Sri John Behner, the coordinator of the Christmas programme, expressed his deep gratitude to Bhagavan for His permission and guidance for Christmas celebrations at Prasanthi Nilayam. He also thanked the Ashram staff, Western Canteen staff and other devotees who helped in various ways in celebrating this holy function on a grand scale. Thereafter, Sri Behner introduced the four speakers who were blessed by Bhagavan to share their thoughts with the devotees on this occasion. The first speaker, Smt. Ines Christina Redini Letonico, from Argentina, dwelt on the significance of surrender and remarked that peace and happiness in life was possible only by complete surrender to the Will of God. The second speaker was Sri Sumeet Tappoo, a renowned singer from Fiji. Beginning his speech with a prayer song in his melodious voice, Sri Tappoo observed that it was a great good fortune of the contemporaries of Bhagavan that they had the opportunity to experience His Divinity. The third speaker of the afternoon was Smt. Poppy Hillcoat of Australia. Smt. Hillcoat narrated many experiences of celebrating Christmas at Prasanthi Nilayam in close proximity of Bhagavan and observed that both Jesus

and Bhagavan emphasised the importance of love in the life of man. While Jesus said "Love thy neighbour as thy self", Bhagavan is teaching "Love All, Serve All," she added. The last speaker who shared his thoughts with devotees was Dr. Michael Congleton, Regional Coordinator of Sathya Sai Organisation of South Pacific Region of the U.S.A. Talking about the medical camps conducted in California and other places, Dr. Congleton observed that service to mankind was the highest spiritual practice. He emphasised the need for practising human values while serving others and dwelt on the need for spiritual discipline in the life of man. After this speech, the day's proceedings concluded with Arati to Bhagavan at 6.30 p.m.

On 26th December, Bhagavan came to Sai Kulwant Hall at 4.45 p.m. The programme began at 5.00 p.m. with a brief speech of Prof. M. Veerabhadraiah, a faculty member of Sri Sathya Sai University. Dwelling on the universality of the teachings of Jesus and Bhagavan, the learned speaker observed that both of them give the message of love to mankind irrespective of any differences of religion, race and nationality. After this, Bhagavan showered His love and blessings on the assembled devotees by giving a nectarine Discourse. Bhagavan observed that God and love were synonymous terms and added that all the conflicts and differences which afflicted mankind today were the result of lack of love in the heart of man. (Full text of Bhagavan's Discourse has been given elsewhere in this issue.) The day's programme concluded with Bhagavan's Discourse. At 6.40 p.m. Bhagavan accepted Arati and left for His abode.

Christmas celebrations continued on 27th December also. The programme on 27th December comprised two items, a drama "The



Sathya Sai Education Children of Southern California, U.S.A. enacting a scene from the drama "The Boy Jesus" in Sai Kulwant Hall on 27th December 2007.

Boy Jesus" and a medley of devotional songs. The drama was presented by the Sathya Sai Education Children and Sathya Sai Singers of Southern California, U.S.A. While the children enacted the story of Jesus through their dances and acting, the singers sang the relevant lyrics for each scene. The drama comprising five scenes and eight songs interspersed with appropriate commentary excellently depicted the birth and childhood of Jesus in just 15 minutes.

This was followed by a soul-stirring musical presentation of devotional songs and Christmas carols by the Sathya Sai Singers of Southern

... Continued from page 8

to everyone. Only then can you attain true peace. Lord Krishna said in the Gita, *Mamaivamsho Jivaloke Jivabhuta Sanathana* (the eternal Atma in all beings is a part of My Being). All are one. All of you are an aspect of My Divinity. Therefore, you and I are one; not separate from each other. I am in you, with you, above you, below you, around you. Treasure this feeling in your heart and lead a



Sathya Sai Singers of Southern California and Hawaii presented a soul-stirring programme of devotional music in Sai Kulwant Hall on 27th December 2007.

California and Hawaii. Not only were the songs beautifully worded but their presentation was also most beautiful which enraptured the huge assembly of devotees in Sai Kulwant Hall. The programme which commenced at 5.20 p.m. came to a close at 6.15 p.m. At the end of the programme, Bhagavan blessed the children and distributed candies to them with His Divine Hands. He also materialised a gold chain for the child who enacted the role of Jesus. Bhagavan also showered His blessings on the singers and distributed clothes to them. The programme came to a close at 6.30 p.m. with Arati to Bhagavan.

happy life. Have you understood what I have said? When you go back to your room, do not think that Swami is somewhere else and you are away from Him. Always think, "He is with me, in me, above me, below me." All are one. (*loud applause*).

– From Bhagavan's Christmas Discourse in Sai Kulwant Hall, Prasanthi Nilayam on 26th December 2007.





GOD IS PRESENT IN ALL IN THE FORM OF LOVE

Embodiments of Love!

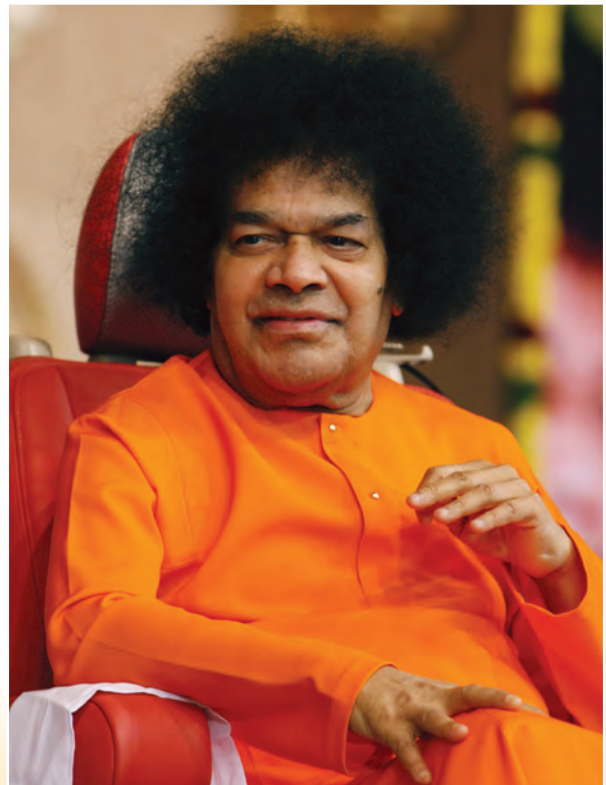
PEOPLE THINK THERE ARE MANY troubles, difficulties and sorrows in this world and thereby they are filled with anxiety and worries. But, in fact, there is nothing like this; it is bliss everywhere.

The Real Meaning of Atma is Love

The world is the creation of God. Right from man, all living beings including animals, birds and even insects are the creation of God. As they are the creation of God, all of them have their origin in bliss. God is the source of all

bliss. *Brahmanandam, Parama Sukhadam, Kevalam Jnanamurtim, Dwandwateetam, Gagana Sadrisham, Tattwamasyadi Lakshyam, Ekam, Nityam, Vimalam, Achalam, Sarvadhee Sakshibhutam* (He is the embodiment of divine bliss, wisdom absolute, beyond the pair of opposites, expansive and pervasive like the sky, the goal indicated by the Mahavakya Tattwamasi, one without a second, eternal, pure, unchanging, witness of all functions of the intellect).

Whatever good or bad you experience is the result of your own feelings. Everything comes from within you. Hence, you should always remain immersed in love. If you have love, you can achieve anything and perform any task. It is love that is responsible for the entire creation and its functioning in this world. There is no greater God than love. Love is God. Whatever you do without love is merely a futile exercise. Hence, treasure love in your heart.



All these difficulties and troubles are only the imagination of man. There cannot be happiness without difficulties. *Pleasure is an interval between two pains.* These difficulties are meant to give you happiness, and not to make you miserable with more sorrows. Hence, whatever comes to you, consider it as God's gift and be happy. Do not consider that it has been given to you for your suffering. Suppose you have pain in the stomach, what will the doctor do? If he performs the operation, it is not for causing pain to you. The pain that the doctor gives is to remove your suffering. Hence, consider difficulties as the means of eradicating your sufferings.

There are millions of living beings in this world. All of them have originated from God. Therefore, the same God is present in all of them. People give many names to God as Rama, Allah, Jesus, etc., but God is only one. Atma is another name of God; it is the same in everyone. The real name of Atma is love. Love is only one, but it is present everywhere and can alleviate all sufferings. One who is endowed with love is free from all sufferings. All of you have come from such a distant place like America. What for? You have come because you have love for Me (*loud applause*). You can attain anything if you have love. God has no specific name. He is present in man in the form of Atma. What does Atma mean? It means love only. It is love that unites all. If you imbibe this principle of unity, then all will become one. When you attain this unity, you will have purity. When you have purity, then Atma Tattwa (principle of the Self) will manifest in you. Therefore, you must have unity to attain divinity. I and you are one. God and you are one. God is not anywhere distant from you. You should develop the conviction that you yourself are God.

Spiritual Practices without Love have no Value

When you say, 'I', it represents unity. You cannot estimate the bliss that is derived from unity. All are one. The fickle mind of man is unsteady and wanders arbitrarily. Only one thing is steady. That is love, love, love. This is what we have to learn today. The same love is present in everyone. All are the children of God. Therefore, God loves all. He has no hatred. He is not the cause for your pain and suffering. God is not separate from you. Wherever you may be, God is present there. God does not forsake you. There is no place where there is no God. You are all the embodiments of God. You have two eyes but you can see a large number of people with them. Similarly, God is one, but He can see all. Where is God? He is in you, with you, above you and below you. There is no need to search for Him. Because our vision is limited to physical level, we see differences. We should not rely on the physical body. *Body is like a water bubble; mind is like a mad monkey.* In one moment, the mind is here and in the next, it flies away to another place. Manas, Buddhi, Chitta, Ahamkara (mind, intellect, mind-stuff, ego) are all temporary like passing clouds. Only one thing is permanent. That is you. You should develop the feeling that you yourself are God.

You may perform any number of spiritual practices like Bhajans, Japa (chanting of God's Name) and Tapa (penance), but love should form the undercurrent of all these practices. In fact, if you have love, there is no need to perform any spiritual practice. There is no use of performing spiritual practices if you do not have love. Fill your heart with love. "*Prema Mudita Manase Kaho Rama Rama Ram...*" (recite the Name of



Rama with your heart full of love). Give highest importance to love. *Love is God. Live in love.* This is the spiritual practice that you have to undertake. Worldly relations are temporary. They are impermanent like passing clouds which come and go. They are your mental reaction, reflection and resound.

(Swami showing His handkerchief) What is this? This is a cloth. It is not merely a cloth, it is a combination of threads. It is not a combination of threads even; it is cotton, which is the creation of God. Everything has emerged from God like threads from cotton. You weave the threads as per your liking. But it is not your liking that is important; what is important is what God likes. There can be changes in the body and the mind. But love is changeless. It is permanent. Everything has birth and death but there is no birth or death for love. The birthless and deathless love is only one. It comes from truth. Truth is one. Truth is God. God in the form of love is present everywhere, wherever you see.

There is no Greater God than Love

God is manifest in the breath of man. When you breathe, where does the breath come from? It comes from within you. The breath itself is God. What is its form? It is present in man in the form of Soham, which reveals man's divine identity. 'So' means 'that', 'Ham' means 'I'. Therefore, 'Soham' means 'That I am'. 'That' refers to God. God is present in man in the form of love. Therefore, man should treasure love in his heart safely. Other thoughts come and go like passing clouds. Only love is permanent and eternal. You should perform every task with love. Even if you come across your enemy, you should lovingly greet him, saying 'hello, hello'. Then he will also respond, saying 'hello, hello'



What does Atma mean? It means love only. It is love that unites all. If you imbibe this principle of unity, then all will become one. When you attain this unity, you will have purity. When you have purity, then Atma Tattwa (principle of the Self) will manifest in you. Therefore, you must have unity to attain divinity. I and you are one. God and you are one.



to you. This is the reaction, reflection, resound of your feelings. Whatever good or bad you experience is the result of your own feelings. Everything comes from within you. Hence, you should always remain immersed in love. If you have love, you can achieve anything and perform any task. It is love that is responsible for the entire creation and its functioning in this world. There is no greater God than love. Love is God. Whatever you do without love is merely a futile exercise. Hence, treasure love in your heart. Everybody will be attracted towards this love. It will bestow everything on you. When you look at the world with your physical eyes, you see diversity in it. But, in fact, everything is love. Love is changeless. You should always remain filled with such love. If you follow this principle of love, it will give you the fruit of all the spiritual practices.

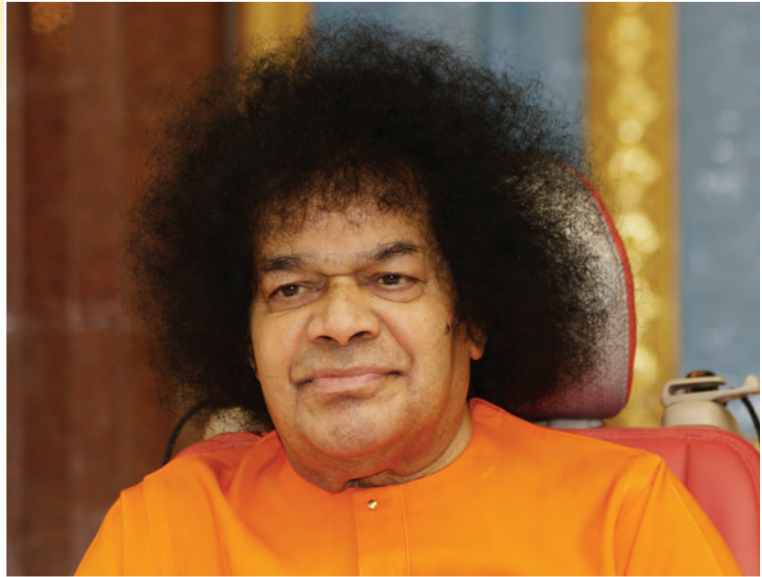
People call God by many names such as Rama, Krishna, Jesus, Allah, etc. But all names refer to the same God. If you call Him Allah, He will respond. Similarly, if you call Him Jesus, Zoroastra or Rama, He will respond. All these names have been given by man. God is not born with these names. The original name of God is love. You may refer



to any dictionary; love is only one and not two. Man may have many physical relationships. You may consider someone as your husband/wife, someone as your son and someone as your daughter. They are all physical and worldly relations. Who has established these relationships? It is you only. Since these are relationships acquired by you, they are subject to change. But love remains the same. With such love, you may chant any name such as Rama, Krishna, Govinda, Narayana, Jesus or Allah. All these names refer to the same God. You may grind rice and prepare various dishes such as Dosa, Idli, etc. You may mix rice with sugar and prepare Payasam (sweet pudding). But rice is the same in all these preparations. In the same way, only one God is present in the entire creation, and that is love. Therefore, you should perform each and every task with love.

Love is the True Form of God

We address others as 'brothers and sisters'. At physical level, they may appear to be separate. Brothers, sisters and all other relationships are one. These relationships are of your own making. But never observe diversity. You may see an old man and a child, but both of them are essentially divine. God is beyond all ages and all forms. Only love is His true form. The



People give many names to God as Rama, Allah, Jesus, etc., but God is only one. Atma is another name of God; it is the same in everyone. The real name of Atma is love. Love is only one, but it is present everywhere and can alleviate all sufferings. One who is endowed with love is free from all sufferings. All of you have come from such a distant place like America. What for? You have come because you have love for Me. You can attain anything if you have love.

same love is present in all forms that you see. Hence, everyone of you should develop love. You may call God as Rama, Krishna or Sai. But it is only a difference in names. God is only one. Love everyone wholeheartedly. Then only can you experience bliss. So long as you have love, you will not be devoid of bliss.

People today observe individual differences. You are not one but three: the one you think you are, the one others think you are, the one you really are. At physical level, you may be identified with



your name, form and village. But in reality, you are divine. This is what you should realise. Recognise the unity of the entire creation. Your worldly relations will also have some value when you recognise this unity. You may add any number of zeroes to 1, the value will go on increasing. If you remove 1, there is no value. That which imparts value to everything is God. *Ekam Sath Viprah Bahudha Vadanthi* (truth is one, but the wise refer to it by various names). The Vedas authenticate the same truth. With love in your heart, you may go to any country, chant any name, perform any spiritual practice. Do not hate anybody. *Help Ever, Hurt Never*. This is what the devotees are supposed to do (*loud applause*). When you call yourself a devotee, you should not observe any differences like “you are not mine, he is mine.” This is not good. If you hate anyone, it amounts to hating God. You should think “God is in me, with me, around me, above me and below me.” Wherever you see, the same God is present there. Develop this feeling of oneness. Then you will attain highest bliss.

Develop the Feelings of Oneness

You have come from different countries and you have different names and forms. But having come here, you are all one (*loud applause*). From today onwards, may you always remain in bliss for ever and ever! People say, “Today is my birthday.” What is the meaning of birthday? It is the day of the birth of the body. Today it is born, tomorrow it may die. But you are eternal. You have no

birth, no death. Be always happy. This is what I desire. Do not allow the differences of mine and thine come near you. All of you have sung the glories of the Lord in one voice. This unity is divinity. Where there is lack of unity, there is diversity. Hence, develop unity. Where there is unity, there is purity. It is purity that attracts God. The white dress that you have put on symbolises purity. Differences are seen when you put on dresses of different colours. You should not give room to differences. Not only in dress, you should observe unity and purity in your mind, feelings and thoughts. All are one. On returning to your respective places, lead your lives with unity, love and bliss. Your Bhajan has made Me happy.

(Bhagavan sang the Bhajan “*Hari Bhajan Bina Sukha Santhi Nahin ...*” and continued His Discourse.)

Consider Bhajan as your Bhojan (food) which satiates your spiritual hunger. You should partake of the food of Bhajan every moment, day in and day out. Right from morning till night, you should constantly do Bhajan till you have life principle in you. This is Swami’s teaching. Perform all your tasks while contemplating on the name of God within you. God is within you, without you, beyond you, below you and behind you. Very happy.

– **From Bhagavan’s Divine Discourse in Sai Kulwant Hall, Prasanthi Nilayam on 15th December 2007 at the conclusion of Bhajan programme by U.S.A. devotees.**

Meditation transcends the senses. With the mind made serene by such meditation, one can bravely enter the activities of life.

- *Baba*

CELEBRATIONS AT PRASANTHI NILAYAM

Parthi Yatra of Karnataka Bal Vikas Students

MORE THAN 2,500 BAL VIKAS students along with 2,500 Bal Vikas Gurus, parents and devotees came on Parthi Yatra (pilgrimage to Puttaparthi) from all parts of Karnataka from 30th November to 2nd December 2007. The Parthi Yatra was organised by Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation of Karnataka.

On the afternoon of 30th November, various groups of these children offered a colourful



Bal Vikas children of Karnataka showcased a rich variety of the folk art of Karnataka in the dances performed by them in Sai Kulwant Hall on 30th November 2007.

bouquet of folk dances of Karnataka at the Lotus Feet of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba and received His blessings. The programme commenced at 5.30 p.m. after the Divine Darshan of Bhagavan in Sai Kulwant Hall. Starting with a Pandhari Dance, the children expressed their ecstasy in song and dance and presented a rich feast of folk art of Karnataka

in 12 dances in colourful costumes. The dance programme ended at 6.20 p.m. on a high note of Bhakti in the beautiful Yakshagana, showing the subjugation of Kaliya serpent by Krishna. The presentation earned the appreciation of one and all not only due to its wide variety but also due to the excellent performance of the children. Bhagavan blessed the children at the conclusion of the programme, posed for group photographs with them and distributed clothes to them. This was followed by a brief session of Bhajans which were also led by the Bal Vikas students of Karnataka. The programme came to a close with Arati to Bhagavan at 7.00 p.m.

On 2nd December 2007, the final day of the Parthi Yatra of the Karnataka Bal Vikas students and devotees, the students of Sri Sathya Sai Vidya Niketan, Bagepalli presented a dance ballet "Shirdi Nivasa Sai" portraying the life story of Shirdi Sai Baba through the narration of Pedda Bottu who was fortunate to be present during the lifetime of both Shirdi



The students of Sri Sathya Sai Vidya Niketan, Bagepalli portrayed the life story of Shirdi Sai Baba in a dance ballet performed by them in Sai Kulwant Hall on 2nd December 2007.

Sai Baba and Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. The children enacted main incidents of the life of Shirdi Sai Baba with aplomb and presented thrilling dances along with songs composed and sung by Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba Himself. The ballet also brought forth the main teachings of Shirdi Sai Baba and linked the life story of both the Avatars through the experiences of Pedda Bottu. Bhagavan witnessed the entire presentation, blessed the children at its conclusion, posed for group photos with them and distributed clothes to them with His Divine Hands. The ballet which began at 4.15 p.m. came to a close at 5.05 p.m. This was followed by Bhajans which concluded at 5.30 p.m. when Arati was offered to Bhagavan.

Pilgrimage to Prasanthi Nilayam by Overseas Devotees

Many groups of devotees came from different parts of the world on pilgrimage to Prasanthi Nilayam during the month of December 2007 and received the love and blessings of Bhagavan. The countries from which these fortunate pilgrims came to Prasanthi Nilayam included Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Netherlands, Hungary, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mauritius, Russia, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, U.K., Ukraine and Venezuela. Besides, over 300 youth came from the State of Rajasthan (India) to participate in a youth camp held at Prasanthi Nilayam from 10th to 14th December.

On the afternoon of 15th December 2007, the devotees from California (U.S.A.) presented a Bhajan programme in Sai Kulwant Hall in the Divine Presence of Bhagavan. The programme began at 5.20 p.m. after the Divine Darshan of Bhagavan in Sai Kulwant Hall.

Starting with a Bhajan in

prayer to Lord Ganesh, the ladies and gents singers of the California group enthralled the devotees in Sai Kulwant Hall with their soul-stirring Bhajans which filled each heart with devotion and bliss. In the first part of this Bhajan session, the singers presented Bhajan medley linking one Bhajan with another. The second half of this Bhajan session comprised selected popular Bhajans which were alternately led by ladies and gents groups of singers and were followed in chorus with great devotion by the entire congregation in Sai Kulwant Hall.

After this Bhajan session, Bhagavan suffused each heart with bliss by delivering a nectarine Discourse. Before the Discourse of Bhagavan, Sri Robert Bozzani, a senior devotee from California, gave a brief speech. Referring to the service activities of the Sai Organisation in all parts of the world, Sri Bozzani observed that Bhagavan's love in action was bringing about unity of mankind by prompting cooperation, love and harmony in the world. In His Discourse, Bhagavan observed that it was the power of pure love that bound and sustained the entire mankind. Bhagavan said that it was the power of His love that brought the devotees from America and other parts of the world to Prasanthi Nilayam. He exhorted the devotees to follow His example and love all without any differences of caste, country or religion. (Full text of Bhagavan's Discourse has been given elsewhere in this issue.) The programme came to a close with Arati to Bhagavan at 7.00 p.m. Prasadam blessed by Bhagavan was distributed to all in Sai Kulwant Hall in the end.

Youth Camp of Haryana, Chandigarh and Punjab

More than 300 youth from Haryana, Chandigarh and Punjab came to Prasanthi Nilayam to



participate in a youth camp organised by the Sai Organisations of these States from 3rd to 7th December 2007. The proceedings of the camp were conducted in the Conference Hall where many distinguished speakers addressed the youth and interacted with them. Apart from participating in the proceedings of the camp and performing service activities at Prasanthi Nilayam, the youth presented two excellent dramas in Sai Kulwant Hall in the Divine Presence of Bhagavan on the afternoon of 5th December 2007.

The first drama entitled “God is the only Creator” was presented by the Sai Youth of Haryana and Chandigarh. Through the story of a talented sculptor whose success made him a plaything of his ego and brought about his downfall, the drama depicted how Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba’s Darshan and teachings brought about his transformation and sowed the seeds of faith in his heart. The drama highlighted how Bhagavan is illuminating the path of modern man through His life and teachings and dispelling his delusion caused by his desires, greed, pride and other vices.



The drama “God is the only Creator” enacted by the Sai Youth of Haryana and Chandigarh in Sai Kulwant Hall on 5th December 2007 highlighted how Bhagavan is illuminating the path of man through His life and teachings.

Simple story, excellent acting of the youth and perfect choreography contributed to the success of the drama.

After this, the Sai Youth of Punjab presented the drama “Sai Punjab” showcasing the rich cultural heritage of the State by depicting the life stories of its Gurus, saints and freedom fighters through a dialogue between a Sai Youth and an N.R.I. (non-resident Indian) visitor to the State. The drama particularly highlighted



The drama “Sai Punjab” presented by the Sai Youth of Punjab on 5th December 2007 showcased the rich cultural heritage of Punjab and the sacrifice made by Sikh Gurus and freedom fighters.

the immortal teachings of Guru Nanak and great sacrifices made by Guru Teg Bahadur, Guru Gobind Singh and freedom fighters, viz., Lala Lajpat Rai, Bhagat Singh, Raj Guru, Sukhdev and many other heroes of this sacred land of India. In conclusion, it showed how the teachings of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba and service activities organised by the Sai Organisation of the State were transforming the people and sowing the seeds of unity, purity, divinity, love and sacrifice in their heart. Good acting of the youth, chantings from the sacred texts and excellent rendering of patriotic songs added to the impact of the presentation.

Bhagavan sat through both the presentations, blessed the youth at the conclusion of the programme, posed for group photos with them and distributed clothes to them with His Divine Hands. The programme which started at 5.00 p.m. came to a close with Arati to Bhagavan at 6.15 p.m.

Parthi Yatra of Srikakulam Devotees

More than 5,000 devotees from Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh came on a pilgrimage to Prasanthi Nilayam from 8th to 10th December 2007 to seek the benedictions of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. These devotees took out a grand procession on 8th December 2007 in Puttaparthi village carrying reverentially a photograph of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba in a decorated palanquin followed by Bhajan singing groups and various other groups of devotees.

On the afternoon of 9th December 2007, Bal Vikas children of this district performed a musical dance drama “Jagame Saimayam” in Sai Kulwant Hall. The drama commenced at 4.30 p.m. with the lighting of the sacred lamp by Bhagavan which is proposed to be carried to all the villages and towns of this district to spread the Divine Name and sacred teachings



Bal Vikas children of Srikakulam district performed a musical dance drama “Jagame Saimayam” in Sai Kulwant Hall on 9th December 2007, highlighting the teachings of Bhagavan.

of Bhagavan in the entire district. The drama highlighted the teachings of Bhagavan and showcased the Seva being done by the Sai Organisation of this district. Embellished with beautiful dances of the children, melodious devotional songs and sweet music, the drama earned the appreciation of one and all. Bhagavan blessed the children at the end of the drama and distributed clothes to them. He also materialised a gold chain for one of the children and a gold ring for one of the organisers. Besides, Bhagavan sat on the swing brought by these devotees and posed for photographs with the children. This was followed by a brief talk by one of the organisers and Bhajans led by Srikakulam devotees. The programme came to a close with Arati to Bhagavan at 6.00 p.m.

On 11th December 2007, singers and musicians of this group presented a delightful programme of devotional music. The first item of the programme comprised devotional songs in Telugu which were rendered by two renowned musicians Sri G. Anand and Sri B.A. Narayana. Sri Anand also sang a few selected Telugu poems of Bhagavan with aplomb. Both the singers enthralled the listeners for nearly one hour and earned their appreciation. This was followed by a Jugalbandi rendered excellently by a group of Srikakulam musicians. At the end of the programme, Bhagavan blessed the singers and musicians, posed for group photos with them and distributed clothes to them. He also materialised a gold ring for Sri G. Anand. The programme which started at 5.25 p.m. came to a close with Arati to Bhagavan at 6.45 p.m.

Mother Easwaramma’s Life Story in Burra Katha

The folk art of Burra Katha came alive at Prasanthi Nilayam when three students of Sri

Sathya Sai University presented the life story of Mother Easwamma in Sai Kulwant Hall on the afternoon of 19th December 2007 in this art form of Andhra Pradesh. The students donning the traditional dress of Burra Katha artistes commenced the programme with prayer to Lord Ganesh. Embellished with beautiful songs set to folk music and pithy dialogues, the life story of Mother Easwamma and the glory of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba was portrayed in chaste Telugu through this traditional art form to the delight of listeners in Sai Kulwant Hall. All the songs had a fine lyrical quality and were rendered with aplomb by the students. Similarly, the dialogues describing various facets of the life of the Divine Mother and glory of Sathya Sai Avatar were excellently delivered by the students in the traditional style of this art form. The programme which began at 5.50 p.m. after the Divine Darshan of Bhagavan in Sai Kulwant Hall came to a close at 6.55 p.m. with Arati to Bhagavan. Bhagavan witnessed the entire programme and blessed the students at the conclusion of this presentation.

Youth Camp of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh

More than 1,100 youth came from different parts of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh to participate in a youth camp organised by the Sai Organisation of this region from 17th to 21st December 2007 at Prasanthi Nilayam. The youth experienced the bliss of Bhagavan's Darshan in Sai Kulwant Hall, took part in Seva activities at Prasanthi Nilayam and participated in the proceedings of the youth camp. On the afternoon of 17th December, the participants were addressed by Dr. G. Venkataraman, former Vice Chancellor of Sri Sathya Sai University, in Sai Kulwant Hall in the Divine Presence of Bhagavan. The distinguished

speaker dwelt on the teachings of Bhagavan and repeatedly emphasised the importance of love which could unite the entire mankind and create an environment of peace and harmony in the world. Dr. Venkataraman exhorted the participants to realise God who is present in all humans and other living beings in the form of love by loving all and serving all. On the subsequent days, the proceedings of the camp were conducted in the Exhibition Hall on the ground floor opposite the shopping complex where many distinguished speakers addressed the participants.

On 20th December, the Sai Youth of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh presented a musical drama entitled "Manav Seva is Madhav Seva" (service to man is service to God) and also devotional classical songs sung by one of the participants of the youth camp. The drama, based on a Chinna Katha of Bhagavan, highlighted the importance of Seva (service) as the sure means of earning the grace of God. Set in the backdrop of the Viswanath Temple of Varanasi, the drama portrayed how among all the devotees of the Lord, a Sai Youth serving the sick and destitute was chosen by the Lord as His greatest devotee. Embellished



A scene from the drama "Manav Seva is Madhav Seva" (service to man is service to God) enacted by the Sai Youth of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh in Sai Kulwant Hall on 20th December 2007.

with excellent devotional songs and thrilling dances, the drama depicted how the Sai Youth were adopting service as the highest Sadhana and translating the teachings of Bhagavan in their life. The drama which started at 5.50 p.m. after the Divine Darshan of Bhagavan in Sai Kulwant Hall came to a close with the excellent theme song of the drama at 6.15 p.m.

After the conclusion of the drama, Sri Gautam Kale, a Sai Youth of Indore, enthralled the devotees with his devotional songs in classical style and earned the grace of Bhagavan who showered His blessings on him and materialised a gold ring for him. Bhagavan also blessed a dancer of the drama with a gold ring. This was followed by Bhajans which were also led by the Sai Youth of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. Meanwhile, Prasadam was distributed to all the devotees in Sai Kulwant Hall. In the end, Bhagavan blessed the participants of this programme and posed for group photos with them. The programme came to a close with Arati to Bhagavan at 6.50 p.m.

Divya Prema: A Dance Drama

The students of Sri Sathya Sai University made a very educative and illuminating presentation entitled "Divya Prema" (divine love) based on a few selected episodes from the Ramayana in Sai Kulwant Hall on 23rd December 2007 in the Divine Presence of Bhagavan. The story was unfolded through excellent lyrics interspersed with thrilling



A scene from the drama "Divya Prema" enacted by the students of Sri Sathya Sai University in Sai Kulwant Hall on 23rd December 2007.

dances and dialogues between Lord Rama and his two sons Lava and Kusha who came to His court and sang His story in verse as taught to them by Sage Valmiki. The narration particularly highlighted the dedication of Sravana Kumar to his parents, and the intense devotion of boatman Guha and forest dweller Sabari for Lord Rama through related episodes from the Ramayana. The entire presentation was perfect and flawless in every respect and enthralled the audience for nearly one hour. Bhagavan witnessed the performance, blessed the students in the end and posed for group photos with them. The programme which began at 5.35 p.m. came to a close at 6.35 p.m. with Arati to Bhagavan.

Instead of making our lives artificial, we should make them joyful and natural. It is our duty to share the blessings of our inner freedom and joy with others around us in society. This is true brotherhood of man. Our Sai Organisations should keep this aim constantly before them. All are the children of God. All are brothers and sisters. This universality of kinship is possible to be attained only through pure spiritual motives and selfless acts of kindness and love.

— Baba

FELICITATION OF AN ARDENT DEVOTEE

IN A GRAND FUNCTION HELD IN Sai Kulwant Hall on the afternoon of 28th December 2007, Sri K. Gopal Rao, former Chairman, Andhra Bank and an ardent devotee of Bhagavan for more than 40 years, was felicitated on his 100th birthday. Offering his felicitations to Sri Gopal Rao on



Bhagavan showering His blessings on Sri Gopal Rao after honouring him with a shawl at the felicitation function held in Sai Kulwant Hall on 28th December 2007.

this occasion, Dr. G. Venkataraman, former Vice Chancellor of Sri Sathya Sai University, described a few incidents from the life of Sri Gopal Rao, highlighting his total surrender to Bhagavan and Bhagavan's total protection to him in all challenges of life. He particularly referred to the all India strike of the bank employees during his tenure as Chairman of Andhra Bank, and narrated how Sri Gopal Rao faced it firmly with success against all odds with the grace of Bhagavan. Citing Sri Gopal

Rao as the example of an ideal devotee, Dr. Venkataraman observed that throughout his long association with Bhagavan, Sri Gopal Rao's faith never faltered and he obeyed the command of Bhagavan implicitly without any ifs and buts.

Speaking on this occasion, Sri Gopal Rao expressed his deep gratitude to Bhagavan for His unbounded grace on him. He narrated how Bhagavan had brought him to His fold more than 40 years ago by choosing him to translate His Discourse though he was not that proficient in Telugu during those days. He also narrated how Bhagavan had come to his rescue whenever he faced any serious problem in life during the last 40 years.

In conclusion, Sri Gopal Rao exhorted the devotees to follow the teachings of Bhagavan implicitly, develop firm conviction that Bhagavan is present in all and serve

all considering them as the embodiments of God.

After this, Sri K. Chakravarthi, Secretary, Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust, offered his felicitations to Sri Gopal Rao by garlanding him. Thereafter, Bhagavan showered His blessings on him and honoured him with a shawl. This grand function which began at 5.35 p.m. came to a close at 6.35 p.m. with offer of Arati to Bhagavan. Prasadam was distributed to all in the end.

NEWS FROM SAI CENTRES

RUSSIA

FROM 1ST TO 8TH JULY 2007, 184 Sai volunteers from 14 countries including United Kingdom and Germany held a medical camp in the town of Lodeynoye Polye near the historic city of St. Petersburg. They rendered selfless service with love to 2,970 patients at the medical camp. The medical team also visited five neighbouring towns to serve the needy. Patients with different ailments were given the best medication and advice with utmost care and love. The dental team performed major procedures. In addition to the medical work, Sai volunteers carried out renovations of a nearby orphanage, school and children's home. New toilets were built for the school and old furniture was repaired and painted. The classrooms, corridors and toilets were cleaned and scrubbed.

The medical camp volunteers and all devotees were blessed by Bhagavan's miracle and a tragedy was averted. Russian devotees travelled about 1,600 km in coaches and vans to greet the medical team. As they were driving overnight, one of the van occupants heard a strong inner voice urging her to chant Sai Gayatri. At that moment, the van skidded in the rain-drenched road and rolled over three times while the devotee chanted Sai Gayatri. With Bhagavan's grace, not one of the eight occupants of the van had a bruise or scratch on them. Many camp participants, Russian Sai devotees and patients shed tears of joy and gratitude for the grace of God that they received and the love they were able to give to others.

U. S. A.

The Sathya Sai Baba Organisation of America conducted a medical camp in St. Louis, Missouri at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church on 13th October 2007. A total of 333 patients were seen by 21 physicians and 136 volunteers at the medical camp. A unique feature of this camp was a bone marrow drive.



The Sathya Sai Baba Organisation of America conducted a medical camp at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in St. Louis, Missouri on 13th October 2007. A unique feature of this camp was bone marrow drive, as a result of which 45 persons including the Chief Executive of St. Louis County registered as bone marrow donors.

Bone marrow transplant for blood cancers requires bone marrow donors. The National Bone Marrow Donor Programme identified a great need for the bone marrow donors from ethnic minority groups. Since the genetic traits for a marrow transplant are inherited, the likelihood of obtaining a match is highest within an ethnic group. This will help save lives of patients suffering from blood cancers. The medical camp screened potential donors and obtained



relevant genetic information through a mouth swab. All camp attendees were encouraged to register for the bone marrow programme. A total of 45 attendees including the Chief Executive of St. Louis County registered as marrow donors. The remainder of the medical camp consisted of health screening and health education including tests for blood glucose, hypertension, cholesterol, dental hygiene, obesity, mammograms, osteoporosis and hearing. In addition, free reading glasses were handed out as needed, bicycle helmets were given to children and car seats to infants. Children were given a complete physical by two paediatricians. The video entitled 'His Work', showing Bhagavan's magnanimous humanitarian projects was continuously screened during the camp. Distinguished guests included Charlie A. Dooley, County Executive, Lewis E. Reed, President, and Melba Moore, Health Commissioner of St. Louis City.

From 1st to 3rd September 2007, a regional retreat was held at Camp Henry Horner in Ingleside, Illinois. The theme of the retreat was "Feeling the Presence of God – Living in Loving Service". As part of the retreat, a free medical camp was conducted. During the camp, 89 patients were screened for hypertension, diabetes and cholesterol abnormalities. Health education was provided on nutrition, exercise, heart disease, stroke and cancer. Several of the participants diagnosed for the first time at the health screening had abnormal findings with their blood pressure and / or blood tests. These patients were referred to appropriate facilities for further treatment. The camp also provided continuity of care for those screened in the past.

MEXICO

Tabasco and Chiapas are agricultural states located in the Gulf of Mexico. Over a million people were left homeless after torrential rains and floods, which lasted for more than a week in October. A medical camp was held immediately following the disaster



The Sathya Sai Organisation of Mexico organised a medical camp in Villahermosa, a village in a region devastated by floods, from 9th to 11th November 2007 and provided treatment to 445 patients.

in the village of Villahermosa from 9th to 11th November 2007. Local government officials welcomed a team of Sai devotees including physicians and support personnel at the airport and escorted them to the camp site where the Municipal President greeted them. During the three-day medical camp, 445 patients were seen and treated, specially for acute waterborne illnesses. In addition, preventive health measures and health education was provided. The people including government officials were deeply moved and grateful for the loving selfless service rendered by the team of volunteers from Sathya Sai Organisation.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

On 23rd October 2007, the Bosniak Institute, a renowned cultural centre located in Sarajevo, hosted an interreligious meeting titled "Face to Face" which discussed common spiritual basis



Bhagavan's teachings on unity of faiths were explained in the interreligious meeting "Face to Face" hosted by the Bosniak Institute, Sarajevo on 23rd October 2007.

of all religions. The Sathya Sai Organisation of Bosnia and Herzegovina received an invitation to participate in the meeting. The meeting was attended by approximately 150 people from various organisations including 10 from the Sathya Sai Centres. One of the presidents of the Sai Centre was invited to speak on behalf of the Sathya Sai Organisation. He said that through the universal human values of Sathya, Dharma, Santhi, Prema and Ahimsa, one could understand unity in diversity. He also quoted Bhagavan Baba, "There is only one religion, the religion of love; there is only one language, the language of the heart; there is only one caste, the caste of humanity; there is only one God and He is omnipresent." The participants present were deeply moved by Swami's words and message. Following this, there were numerous enquiries

to know more about the life and message of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba.

SRI LANKA

Sri Sathya Sai Organisation of Sri Lanka commemorated the sixth anniversary of the Cancer Hospice on 14th July 2007 in Hanwella near Colombo. The hospice provides care for terminally ill cancer patients. Meals and accommodation are provided free of charge



A Bhajan session was held at the Cancer Hospice in Hanwella near Colombo as part of the function to commemorate its sixth anniversary on 14th July 2007.

to the patients. The event was attended by 150 people and began with a Bhajan session at the Sarva Dharma shrine located at the entrance of the hospice. The chief guest was Hon. Reginald Cooray, the Chief Minister of Western Province. He distributed awards to the hospice nurses who had completed a Nurses Training Programme. Dr. Praneeth Abeyasundara, Head of the Department of Sociology, University of Sri Jayawardanapura, addressed the guests on human values in Seva. He said that the hospice provided an opportunity for all to render selfless service with love in accordance with Swami's teachings. Wheelchairs were



donated to the hospice by the Aturugiriya Sai Seva Samithi on this occasion.

UKRAINE

From 31st July to 11th August 2007, the Sathya Sai Organisation of Ukraine held its seventh summer family camp on the coast of the Sea of Azov near Kerch located in the Crimean Peninsula. The camp was attended by 121 active members of the Sathya Sai Organisation together with their families from



The Sathya Sai Organisation of Ukraine held its seventh summer family camp on the coast of the Sea of Azov near Kerch from 31st July to 11th August 2007 which brought together 121 active members and their families from 14 towns in devotion to Bhagavan.

14 towns. The daily events were conducted in the blissful background of the olive groves scattered along the sea coast. Sai devotees from participating Sai Centres made theatrical presentations, plays, musicals and pantomime acts on select themes such as 'Thought', 'Word', 'Action', 'Unity of Thought, Word and Action' and finally 'Your Life is My Message'. On one of the days, a 12-hour Bhajan session was held. There was also a day of silence. Educare-based classes were held for children. Sai Youth took active

part and organised games, songs and Bhajans for all. Evening Bhajans were conducted by children. The camp brought together families from across Ukraine in love, harmony and devotion for our Beloved Lord.

– Sri Sathya Sai World Foundation

BHARAT

Andhra Pradesh: Khammam district Mahila Vibhag (Ladies Wing) distributed six wet grinders, two sewing machines, one carpenter kit, one iron box to selected needy persons in Sattupalli village on 6th October 2007 to enable them to eke out their livelihood. They also gave new clothes and blankets to selected 65 poor people on that day. The district arranged Seva activities at Bhadrachalam pilgrim centre such as queue maintenance and supply of drinking water to thousands of pilgrims during Ganesh festival. The district conducted an orthopaedic medical camp at Madhira town in which 450 patients were examined and given medicines. The district gave Amrutha Kalasams (food provisions for one month) to 64 selected families in Satyanarayanapuram village.

Vizianagaram district conducted a free medical camp in Gangada village on 2nd October 2007, treating 500 patients and examining 182 children. All were given free medicines. The district conducted a medical camp at Tekkali, treating 235 patients and carried out blood grouping for 185 people on 14th October 2007. The district opened a Women's Old Age Home in Laxmipuram village on 28th October 2007.

Visakhapatnam district conducted 82 hours Akhanda Bhajan at Sri Sathya Sai Bhajan Mandir, Susarla Colony from 25th October 2007 to 28th October 2007.

The district gave Amrutha

Kalasams to 36 selected poor families in Dibbameedapalem on 28th October 2007. It also gave a sewing machine to a poor woman of the village. The district conducted a free eye check-up camp in Chintala Agraharam village on 31st October 2007, examining 234 eye patients and selecting 36 persons for cataract operations. The latter got operated in a Rotary eye hospital on 1st November 2007.

Assam: Recognising the needs of the inmates of Tarun Ram Phukan Memorial Leprosy Centre in Boko in the district of Kamrup, about



Sai devotees distributed essential items of daily use to the inmates of Tarun Ram Memorial Leprosy Centre in Boko, Kamrup district, Assam on 28th November 2007.

70 km away from Guwahati city, a group of Sai devotees from Guwahati visited the leprosy centre and distributed a number of essential items on 28th November 2007. The inmates were also provided a 30 metre long flexible pipe to carry water to their vegetable garden.

Haryana and Chandigarh: Sai Organisation of Hisar organised a Grama Seva (village service) camp in village Dhani Gujran on 28th October 2007. Gayatri Yajna was performed on this occasion in which 600 villagers and 60 Bal Vikas children of the village participated. After the Yajna, Narayana Seva was performed

wherein food was served to 800 people. Four needy families of the village were selected for providing means of livelihood. A rickshaw cart, a fodder cutting machine and two sewing machines were provided to these families. A veterinary camp was also organised wherein 210 cattle were examined and necessary treatment provided.

Jammu and Kashmir: On Deepavali day, Sai Organisation distributed sweaters and woollen garments to Kargil War orphan children residing at Apna Ghar, Trikuta Nagar Extension, Jammu. About 30 children who are living in this orphanage belong to Muslim, Hindu and Buddhist communities. Sai Organisation has given them training with regard to chanting of Veda Mantras, Bhajans, Slokas and other activities of the Sathya Sai Seva Organisation. These children who are in the age group of 2 to 14 years are being looked after by way of rendering helping hand to them in different fields of life including education.

Karnataka: Bhagavan's 82nd Birthday was celebrated with Nagar Sankirtan and Bhajans in all the Samithis of Bangalore. Besides, 8,200 food packets were distributed throughout the city to the needy, and fruits were distributed to the patients in hospitals/maternity homes and orphanages along with Swami's photo and Vibhuti.

A Sai Sathyanarayana Vrata was held at Channapatna in Bangalore Rural District on 23rd September 2007 in which 1,008 couples from all the districts of Karnataka took part. The couples in traditional dress provided for the occasion performed the Puja most devotedly for universal peace and welfare. The Puja materials also included the Kalasha (sacred vessel) containing holy water of various rivers of the country. The Puja was carried out



1,008 couples performed Sri Sai Sathyanarayana Vrata with great devotion on 23rd September 2007 at Chennapatna in Bangalore Rural District for peace and welfare of the world.

amidst chanting of Rudram. The presence of Swami was felt by everyone when the Puja was in progress. The Vrata concluded with Mangalarati and distribution of Prasadam. A music programme was presented by the artistes of Ayyannar College of Music and Narayana Seva was performed on this occasion.

Kerala: 82nd Birthday of Bhagavan was celebrated on 23rd November 2007 in all the districts with colourful programmes comprising spiritual and Seva activities. An 82 hours Bhajan was conducted all over the State from

8 a.m. on 1st November to 6 p.m. on 4th November 2007.

Under Sri Sathya Sai Village Integrated Programme, activities have been started at micro and macro levels in 131 adopted villages. At the micro level, the basic needs of the villagers are fully taken care of. Sai Organisation is taking steps to replace small huts with beautiful houses in many villages. Four such houses have already been given to the deserving families, one each in village Nayarambalam in Ernakulam district, Ambalamukku in Thiruvananthapuram district, Omallur in Pathanamthitta district and Bilathikulam in Kozhikode district.

For effective implementation of Sri Sathya Sai Village Integrated Programme, Sri Sathya Sai mobile clinic was inaugurated in Thiruvananthapuram district on 17th November 2007. All facilities for different types of medical check-ups, lab tests, etc., are arranged as part of this mobile clinic. Now this is going to the interior parts of the district and taking care of patients who are in an immobile condition.

At the micro level, Sai Youth and Seva Dal volunteers are reaching out to villagers at their



A hut replaced with a new house for a deserving family in village Nayarambalam by the Sai Organisation of Kerala. Such houses are being constructed in the State as part of Sri Sathya Sai Village Integrated Programme.

doorstep and taking care of their entire well-being.

All over Kerala, Mahila Vibhag (Women's Wing) is taking the message of Bhagavan to every nook and corner of the State under the programme "Satsanga Groups". Such groups are formed in all parts of the State and regular classes are arranged for women.

Manipur: A grand function was held at Mantripukhri Prasanthi Mandir, Imphal (Manipur) on 23rd November 2007 to celebrate the 82nd Birthday of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. The inaugural function of the newly-formed Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation of Manipur was also celebrated along with the celebration of 82nd Birthday of Bhagavan. The programme began with Veda chanting. This was followed by Bhajans in which more than 750 devotees took part with deep devotion. After the Bhajans, the State President and four District Presidents of Manipur addressed the devotees and elaborated on the teachings of Bhagavan. Thereafter, two distinguished



Narayana Seva was performed and blankets were distributed to the children of Orphanage Centre, Lei-Ingkhol, Imphal as part of 82nd Birthday Celebrations of Bhagavan by the newly-formed Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation of Manipur on 23rd November 2007. Photo shows office bearers of the Sai Organisation with the children of the orphanage.

speakers gave talks on "Sai Mission" and "Ceiling on Desires".

At the end of these celebrations, Narayana Seva was conducted and food was served to the children of Orphanage Centre, Lei-Ingkhol, Imphal and all the devotees who attended the function. Besides, blankets were distributed to the children of the orphanage.

Tamil Nadu: Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba in His infinite mercy alleviated the suffering of the people of Chennai due to acute water scarcity through Sri Sathya Sai Ganga Canal, bringing water from Krishna River in Andhra Pradesh to Poondi Reservoir in Chennai. As per



Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation, Tamil Nadu has started supply of drinking water to people residing in slums of Chennai through a water tanker specially procured by it for this purpose.

Bhagavan's directive to bring drinking water to the doors of economically weaker sections, a water tanker was sponsored by Sri Sathya Sai Organisation of Tamil Nadu to supply drinking water to city slums. This Sri Sathya Sai Drinking Water Tanker of 6,000 litre capacity was flagged off by the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Sri M. Karunanidhi, at the Secretariat of Chennai on 29th October 2007. The tanker is equipped with 17 taps and a platform each on both sides to enable people to draw water with ease.

God Gives you What you Ask for

A THIEF WENT TO A PLACE where a large number of people were attending Hari Katha (a devotional session devoted to the narration of the stories of God). He waited there for a



The thief asked the expounder of sacred texts, "Dear Sir! Where does Krishna live? I want to see him."

suitable time to commit theft when someone was completely absorbed in listening to the exposition of the stories by the preacher. Meanwhile, the preacher started describing in a very absorbing way the beauty of Lord Krishna, starting from the peacock feather which adorned His head to the anklets on His feet, giving a picturesque description of all the ornaments that adorned His body. The thief listened to all this with great interest and thought of getting hold of all these ornaments after knowing the whereabouts of Krishna. At the conclusion of the devotional session, everybody left that place. At that time, the thief quietly went near the speaker and asked him

innocently, "Dear sir, where does this Krishna live? I want to see him." The narrator was still in contemplation and had not fully regained the consciousness of his external surroundings. Hearing the question of the thief, he said, "Oh! Where does Krishna live? He lives in Brindavan." The thief asked again, "Sir, where is it situated?" "On the bank of Yamuna," saying this, the speaker slowly got up from his seat and walked away.

Having made firm determination to go to Brindavan, the thief reached there after asking the way from many people. There he saw a child going behind a herd of cows with a flute in his hand. He looked at him intently and recalled the description given by the expounder of the sacred texts. "Aha! The same peacock feather, the same anklets on the feet, the same garland around the neck! Oh, how beautifully are they



The thief stood transfixed by the enchanting look of Krishna who asked him what he wanted.

shining!” Thinking thus, he was captivated by these embellishments. Seeing the blue colour of his body wrapped in silk Dhoti, the thief became sure that he was indeed Krishna. In the meantime, this child came near the thief, stood before him and smiled. The thief stood transfixed by the enchanting look of this child and thought, “How plain his body would look without these ornaments!” The child lovingly asked the thief, “What do you want?” The thief told him why he had come there. Krishna took off all His ornaments on His own and put them before him. The thief did not know what to do. Shedding copious tears, he fell at the feet of the child. When he got up after some time, he found that the child was nowhere to be seen; neither were the cows. Only the ornaments were lying there.

Tying all the ornaments in a bundle, he searched for the child but did not find him anywhere. Not knowing what else to do, he returned to his village. He went to the preacher and said to him, “Sir, see these ornaments. Are all these Krishna’s ornaments? I went to Brindavan. There I saw a child embellished with ornaments as described by you. There were cows also with him. When he asked me what I wanted, I told him the purpose of going there. I do not know why I started shedding tears. I fell at the feet of this child and offered my salutations to him. When I got up, I found that he was nowhere to be seen. I searched for him for a long time, but could not find him



“Sir! I went to Brindavan where a child left his ornaments before me and disappeared. I have come here to tell you all this”, said the thief to the preacher who was dumbstruck to hear this.

anywhere. Sir, I want to return these ornaments to that child but I am not able to find him. I have come here to tell you all this.” The thief told this to the preacher with tears flowing down his cheeks. The preacher was dumbstruck to hear this. He opened the bundle and was stunned to see that all the ornaments were those of Krishna only. “Is it all true that you are telling? How fortunate you are! There are innumerable people who perform penance for a number of years but are not fortunate to have the vision of God. I do not know in what words should I praise you for having attained the grace of the Lord.” The preacher embraced the thief while shedding tears of joy.

God gives you what you ask for if you pray to Him with pure heart, firm faith and patience.

HRIDAYAVASI DIARY 2008

Devotees are hereby informed that diaries are exhausted. Hence, we cannot entertain any further orders.

– Convener



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April 2006)

Dramas

Bhakta Prahalada, Brindavan Students, SSSU, 14 Jan '07
Sri Krishna Rayabaram, Prasanthi Nilayam Students, SSSU, 15 Jan. '07
My Parents, My Treasure, Chinese New Year, 24 Feb. '07
Jagruthi, AP Deenajanoddharna Pathakam, 3 March '07 Rs 35
Ekoham Bahusyam, Bihar & Jharkhand, 4 March '07 Morn.
Mana Darpan, Bihar & Jharkhand, 4 March '07 Even.
Pancha Maha Yajnas, Tamilnadu, 14 March '07
Sathyameva Jayate, Kerala, 15 March '07
Amma, Medak District, Andhra Pradesh, 11 July '07
Master the Mind be a Master Mind, Maharashtra, 25 July '07 Morn.
Sai Jhulelal, Maharashtra & Goa Bal Vikas, 25 July '07 Even.
Sai Arpanam, Himachal Pradesh Sai Youth, 5 Aug. '07
Krishna Kripa, Kerala, 25 Aug. '07
Prema Bata, Nalgonda, 4 Sept. '07
Archana, Nellore 7 Sept. '07
Mahasu Ki Mahima, Uttar Pradesh & Uttarakhand, 9 Sept. '07
Neti Yashoda - Karnam Subamma, Mahaboobnagar, 23 Sept. '07
Shradhavan Labhate Gyanam, Sai Youth of Gujarat, 2 Oct. '07
Secret of Happiness & Gotipua Dance, Orissa devotees, 5 Nov. '07
The Divine Commandment, Mumbai Bal Vikas, 7 July '06 Morn.
The Ten Commandments, Maharashtra & Goa Bal Vikas,
7 July '06 Even.
Abhinayanjali, Prasanthi Nilayam Students, 10 July '06
Be A Star in God's Heaven, Indonesia, 12 July '06
The Power of One, Canada, 13 July '06

Deenajanodddharan Foundation Day, *Deenajanodddharana Students*,
20 July '06

Awakening The Inner Light, *Japan*, 20 July '06
Bhakti and Vibhakti, *Kerala*, 3 Sep. '06
Matrudevo Bhava Pitrudeva Bhava, *Kerala*, 4 Sep. '06
Sai Tips to Fly High, *Kerala*, 5 Sep. '06
Ananya Bhakti of Saku Bai, *Kerala*, 5 Sep. '06
Love in Action is Seva & Divyananda, *Gujarat* 22 Oct. '06
Life is a Pilgrimage, Experience It, *Rishikesh Students*, 11 Dec. '06
Dikir Barat, *Malaysia*, 20 Dec. '06
Annamacharya, *Brindavan Students*
Sai Bhagavatham, *Primary School Students*
God the only Friend, *Maharashtra & Goa Bal Vikas*
Krishna-Uddhava, *Maharashtra & Goa Bal Vikas*
Swaarajya, *Prasanthi Nilayam Students, SSSU*
Surdas, *Brindavan Students, SSSU*
Sai Prema Dhaara, *Primary School Students*
Prem Ki Jyothi, *Prasanthi Nilayam Students, SSSU*
Bhaktha Jayadeva, *Brindavan Students, SSSU*
The Supreme Verdict, *Maharashtra & Goa Bal Vikas*
Garib-un-Nawaz, *Maharashtra & Goa Bal Vikas*
From Independence to Swaarajya,

Prasanthi Nilayam Students, SSSU

God's Address, *Maharashtra & Goa Bal Vikas*
Sant Namdev, *Maharashtra & Goa Bal Vikas*
Chal Re Man Apne Dhaam, *Prasanthi Nilayam Students, SSSU*
Tera Tujko Arpan, *Prasanthi Nilayam Students, SSSU*
Vande Mataram, *Maharashtra & Goa Bal Vikas*
Saa Vidya Yaa Vimukthaye, *Prasanthi Nilayam Students, SSSU*

Festivals & Functions

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Guru Purnima 2007, (2 CDs) 29 July '07 Rs 100
Music Programme, *Sai devotees of North Central, U.S.A, 1 Aug. '07*
Independence Day 2007, 15 Aug. '07
82nd Birthday Celebrations, Music Concert by
Pankaj Udhas, 20 Nov. '07 (2 Discs) Rs. 100

Ladies Day 2007, 19 Nov. '07
XXVI Convocation, *SSSU, 22 Nov. '06*
82nd Birthday Celebrations, 23 Nov. '06
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SRI SATHYA SAI UNIVERSITY

(Established u/s 3 of the UGC Act, 1956, Accredited by NAAC at A++ level)

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Ph: +91 8555 287239 Fax: 286919; Website: www.sssu.edu.in E-mail: registrar@sssu.edu.in

Admission Notice

Admission for the Academic Year commencing from June 2008
will be made for the following Courses:

Prasanthi Nilayam Campus (for Men): B.A., B.Sc.(Hons) in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biosciences, Economics (leading to PG Courses in the respective subjects); M.B.A., M.B.A.(Finance), M.Tech.(Computer Science), and M.Tech.(Applied Optics).

Brindavan Campus (for Men): B.Sc.(Hons) in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biosciences (leading to PG Courses in the respective subjects) and B.Com.(Hons).

Anantapur Campus (for Women): B.A., B.Com.(Hons), B.Sc.(Home Science), B.Sc.(Hons) in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biosciences; B.Ed., M.A.(English), M.A.(Telugu), M.Sc.(Home Science) with specialisation in (a) Food Science & Nutrition and (b) Food Technology.

Eligibility for Admission:

Undergraduate Courses: 10+2 pattern of study/Intermediate. Minimum marks required in the X Std. examination is 60% in aggregate and 55% in General English. Candidates should have taken their final year +2 / Intermediate qualifying examination before the date of Admission Test.

Postgraduate Courses: 10+2+3 pattern of study. A First class (minimum of 60% marks in aggregate in all the three years of study) in respective degrees with 50% in General English and in case of M.Sc.(Home Science) – B.Sc.(Biosciences) and B.Sc.(MPC) candidates are also eligible to apply.

M.B.A./M.B.A.(Finance) and B.Ed.: 10+2+3 pattern of study. A First class (minimum of 60% marks in all examinations of the course) in any first degree or Postgraduate degree with 50% marks in General English in the first basic degree. Candidates of Technical Courses like B.E., B.Tech., B.Pharma., B.Sc.(Agri). etc. are exempted from the minimum requirement of 50% marks in General English.

M.Tech.(Computer Science): A First class (60% and above) both in the first degree and M.Sc.(Mathematics)/M.Sc.(Physics)/M.Sc.(Computer Science)/M.C.A./B.E.(Computer Science)/B.Tech.(Computer Science) levels of examination with Computer Science background, and the candidates should have formally undergone the following courses: Artificial Intelligence, Computer Networks, Computer Organisation & Architecture and Database Systems.

M.Tech.(Applied Optics): A First class (60% and above) both in the first degree and M.Sc.(Physics)/B.E./B.Tech. levels of examination with a background in Optics and Electromagnetic Theory.

Note: Eligible candidates will be short-listed by the University based on the marks of qualifying examinations. Only such candidates will be called for Admission Test.

In the case of candidates who have not received the marks statements of the final year of the first degree examination, their marks in the previous years/semesters should not be less than 60% in aggregate and 50% in General English. They should have taken their final year/semester qualifying examination before the date of the admission test.

Admissions are made as per the guidelines issued by the Govt. of India and UGC with regard to Reservation of seats. Candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes / Scheduled Tribes are entitled to a relaxation of 5% marks.

Admission to all the above courses will be on the basis of Admission Test and Interview which will be held in May 2008, at **Prasanthi Nilayam, Andhra Pradesh.**

Application form along with Information Handbook will be available from **1st December 2007 to 28th February 2008.**

Interested candidates may apply to the **Registrar, Sri Sathya Sai University, Vidyagiri, Prasanthi Nilayam - 515 134, Anantapur Dist., A.P.** along with I.P.O. or Bank Draft for Rs.70/- for Undergraduate Courses and Rs.100/- for Postgraduate Courses/M.B.A./M.B.A.(Finance)/M.Tech.(Computer Science)/M.Tech.(Applied Optics)/B.Ed. Courses. The Bank draft should be drawn in favour of **Sri Sathya Sai University**, payable at **Prasanthi Nilayam/Puttaparthi**. Since the application forms are different for each programme, candidates must indicate in the requisition letter the details of course/subject of study for which they seek admission. Also, **the name, postal address, phone number, and Email ID** of the candidate should be mentioned clearly in the requisition letter.

Alternatively, candidates may visit the website www.sssu.edu.in for downloading the application form and Information Handbook and fulfil the necessary requirements.

Registrar



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Vidyagiri, Prasanthi Nilayam-515 134, Anantapur Dist., Andhra Pradesh, India

Ph: +91 8555 287239 Fax: 286919; Website: www.sssu.edu.in E-mail: registrar@sssu.edu.in

Admission Notice

Admission for the Academic Year commencing from June 2008
will be made for the following Courses:

Sathya Sai Mirpuri College of Music

Sri Sathya Sai University offers the following courses under the auspices of the Sathya Sai Mirpuri College of Music (for boys) in Prasanthi Nilayam. The admissions will be made for the Academic Year commencing from June 2008.

FULL-TIME COURSES

1) FOUNDATION COURSE - Duration: 2 years: (Carnatic, Hindustani) Vocal, Veena, Mridangam, Sitar, and Tabla.

ELIGIBILITY: Candidates should have passed 7th Standard of study, and be 13 to 20 years of age.

2) DIPLOMA COURSE - Duration: 3 years: (Carnatic, Hindustani) Vocal, Veena, Mridangam, Sitar, and Tabla.

ELIGIBILITY: Candidates should have passed 10th Standard of study and also a Course in Music equivalent to the Foundation Course from any recognised College/Institution, and be 16 to 23 years of age.

Application forms will be available from **1st December 2007 to 28th February 2008**.

Admission to the above Courses will be on the basis of Admission Test and Interview which will be held in May 2008, at Prasanthi Nilayam, Andhra Pradesh.

Interested candidates may apply to the Registrar, Sri Sathya Sai University, Prasanthi Nilayam - 515 134, Anantapur Dist., A.P. along with Indian Postal Order or Bank Draft for **Rs.50/-** drawn in favour of **Sri Sathya Sai University**, payable at **Prasanthi Nilayam / Puttaparthi**. The **name, postal address, phone number and Email ID of the candidate** should clearly be mentioned in the requisition letter.

Alternatively, candidates may visit the website www.sssu.edu.in for downloading the application form and Information Handbook and fulfil the necessary requirements.

Registrar

FESTIVALS / EVENTS IN THE YEAR 2008

11th Jan.	.. Annual Sports and Cultural Meet of Sri Sathya Sai University	24th Aug.	.. Sri Krishna Janmashtami
15th Jan.	.. Makara Sankranti	3rd Sept.	.. Ganesh Chaturthi
6th Mar.	.. Sivarathri	12th Sept.	.. Onam
7th Apr.	.. Ugadi	9th Oct.	.. Vijaya Dasami
13th Apr.	.. Tamil New Year Day	28th Oct.	.. Deepavali
14th Apr.	.. Sri Rama Navami	8th Nov. (6 p.m.) -	Global Akhanda
14th Apr.	.. Vishu	9th Nov. (6 p.m.)	Bhajan
6th May	.. Easwaramma Day	19th Nov.	.. Ladies Day
19th May	.. Buddha Purnima	22nd Nov.	.. 27th Convocation of Sri Sathya Sai University
13th July	.. Ashadi Ekadasi	23rd Nov.	.. Bhagavan's 83rd Birthday
18th July	.. Guru Purnima	25th Dec.	.. Christmas

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Look Within

We shall be judged not by the creed we profess or the label we wear or the slogans we shout, but by the work, the industry, the sacrifice, the honesty and purity of our character. Realise the heaven within you and all at once all the desires are fulfilled, all the misery and suffering is put to an end. Feel yourself above the body and its environment, above the mind and its motives, above the thoughts of success and fear. The great cause of suffering in the world is that people do not look within. They rely on outside forces.

– *Baba*

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