



# Sanathana Sarathi



OCTOBER 2008



## Sahasra Poorna Chandra Darshana Santhi Mahotsava

Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba, the Divine incarnation of Kali Yuga, is entering the auspicious **83rd year of His Advent on 23rd November 2008**. This holy event is an occasion providing us a unique opportunity to observe and celebrate it in a grand and auspicious manner.

The sacred programme, which is being conducted mainly for the well-being of mankind and for world peace, will commence on the morning of **Saturday, 15th November 2008** and will culminate in **Poornahuti on Monday, 17th November 2008**. The programme will be conducted by hundreds of Vedic scholars arriving from various parts of India.

As a prelude, talks on the sacred scripture, **Srimad Bhagavata**, will commence on **10th November 2008** and will be conducted for a week.

The celebration of the **completion of 1,000 full moon days of Bhagavan** is a unique and auspicious event. All should avail of this rare opportunity to sanctify their lives by coming to Prasanthi Nilayam to have Darshan of our Beloved Bhagavan and receive His blessings.

*Devotees of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba*





# Sanathana Sarathi

Devoted to the Moral and Spiritual Uplift of Humanity through

SATHYA • DHARMA • SANTHI • PREMA • AHIMSA

Vol: 51 Issue No. 10 Date of Publication: 1st October

**OCTOBER 2008**

© Sri Sathya Sai  
Books and Publications Trust,  
Prasanthi Nilayam

Printed and Published by

**K.S. RAJAN**

on behalf of the owner,

Sri Sathya Sai

Books and Publications Trust,  
Prasanthi Nilayam 515 134,  
Anantapur District (A.P.),

Printed at M/s Rajhans Enterprises,

136, 4th Main Road, Industrial Town, Rajaji  
Nagar, Bangalore - 560 044, Karnataka.

Published at Prasanthi Nilayam 515 134.

E-mail: subscriptions@sssbt.org

editor@sssbt.org

For Audio Visual / Book Orders: orders@

sssbt.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

SSSIHMS, Whitefield,

Bangalore : 080 28411500

*Annual Subscription*

acceptable for 1, 2 or 3 years.

**English Inland:**

Rs 75/- (12 issues)

**Overseas:** Rs 600/-

or U.S. \$15 or U.K. £8 or €10 or

CAN \$15, AUS \$16

**Telugu Inland** Rs 60/- (12 issues)

**Overseas:** Rs 550/- or £7 or US \$14 or

€9, CAN \$14 or AUS \$15

**Note:** Please do not send currency notes

in postal covers. **For the Attention of**

**"Sanathana Sarathi" Subscribers.**

The month and year of expiry of your

subscription is indicated next to the

subscription number on the mailing

wrapper. Three asterisk marks (\*\*\*)

appearing after your subscription number

indicate that you should renew your

subscription immediately. Please quote

your present subscription number

while renewing the subscription. All

subscriptions and other correspondence

should be addressed to The Convener,

Sri Sathya Sai Books & Publications Trust,

Prasanthi Nilayam 515 134, Anantapur

district, Andhra Pradesh, India.

*Editor*

**G.L. ANAND**

Cover Page Photograph

Sri Sathya Sai International Centre for Sports

*"You should always love all.  
When you love everyone in  
this manner, all evil qualities like  
hatred, anger and greed will leave  
you. When you become free from  
these evil qualities, you will attain  
liberation easily."*



## CONTENTS

- **Onam Signifies Love and Sacrifice ..... 298**  
**Onam Message**
- **Grand Onam Celebrations ..... 304**  
**A Report**
- **Seeing Unity in Diversity is True**  
**Spirituality ..... 306**  
**Divine Discourse: 31st May 2008**
- **Celebrations at Prasanthi Nilayam ..... 314**  
**A Report**
- **News from Sai Centres ..... 319**
- **Charity is the Ornament of the Hand ..... 327**  
**Chinna Katha**



### *Forthcoming Festivals at Prasanthi Nilayam*



- 3rd – 9th Oct. .... Veda Purusha Saptaha Jnana Yajna**
- 8th November ..... Global Akhanda Bhajan**  
**(8th Nov. 6 p.m. to 9th Nov. 6 p.m.)**
- 19th November ..... Ladies Day**
- 22nd November ..... 27th Convocation of Sri Sathya Sai**  
**University**
- 23rd November ..... 83rd Birthday of**  
**Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba**



## ONAM SIGNIFIES LOVE AND SACRIFICE

*Bharat is the motherland of many noble souls who earned great name and fame in all the continents of the world. This is the land of valorous people who vanquished the foreign rulers in the battlefield and attained independence. This is the land which excelled in music, literature and other fine arts. Having been born in this great land of Bharat, oh boys and girls! It is your sacred duty to protect its rich cultural heritage.*

(Telugu Poem)

*Embodiments of Love!*

**B**HARAT IS NOT AN ORDINARY country. 'Bha-rat', what does it mean? 'Bha' stands for Bhagavan (God) and 'rat' means love. Hence, Bharat is the country which has love for God. Having been born and brought up in this sacred land of Bharat and having acquired great learning, the Bharatiyas have demonstrated the virtues of valour, courage and equanimity. But today, the same country Bharat is in the grip of so many difficulties. However, there is no need for us to be cowed down by difficulties.

### **Utilise your Education to Serve Society**

There have been great advancements in science but this has not helped man to realise God. You may study any number of sacred texts, acquire any amount of high education and perform any number of experiments, but all this is useless without acquiring self-confidence. Not only is it useless, but it is also a waste of time. This is not the path that leads to divinity. One can realise God only by controlling the senses and the mind and developing firm faith in God. In fact, you cannot achieve anything in life when you lack self-confidence. It is

self-confidence that leads you on the path of self-realisation. Therefore, students! First and foremost, develop self-confidence. You can accomplish everything when you have self-confidence. People talk very high of science,



***People of Kerala have firm faith that Emperor Bali visits them on the day of Onam. Emperor Bali promised that he would visit them every year on this day when they pray with pure and sacred heart. This is the significance of Onam celebrations. Till this day, the people of Kerala have been following this sacred tradition. Every year, they wait for this day with all enthusiasm and earnestness. If a king loves his subjects like Emperor Bali, the subjects will also love him. Yatha Raja Tatha Praja (as is the king, so are the subjects). Emperor Bali loved his subjects dearly and the subjects also loved and adored him.***





*It was the power of Savitri's chastity that brought her dead husband back to life. It is only women who are endowed with such great powers and not men. With their power, women can accomplish any great task, even like bringing a dead person back to life. Can you find such an example in any other country where a wife brought her dead husband back to life? It is possible only in the sacred land of Bharat. Bharat has given birth to many such women of chastity.*

---

---

but it leads only to delusion. It is concerned only with that which is transient, temporary and untrue. It does not give even a little knowledge of your true self; it is verily impossible to know your true self with the help of science. In their ignorance, people even today try to achieve this but it is impossible. Science can give to students only the knowledge of worldly and physical

subjects. It can help them to earn money but not virtues. What is the use of money? There are scientists who have earned crores of rupees. But, what is the use? *Money comes and goes, but morality comes and grows.* You can acquire morality by following the path of spirituality. There were many scientists who earned a great reputation but they had no control over themselves. Why should you acquire that knowledge which has an unhealthy impact on your brain? Acquire the knowledge which develops your intelligence, purifies your intellect and helps you to render service to society and the nation at large. You should make use of all your learning for the welfare of society. Then only can you develop morality and earn respect and reputation. Therefore, you should develop morality. Only then can you realise truth. You should always uphold truth. Sathya and Dharma are like the father and mother of the world. When Sathya and Dharma are together, they give birth to the daughter of peace.

From peace emerges love. When we have love, there would be no room for hatred, jealousy and anger. Even brothers and sisters hate each other today because of lack of love in them. Therefore, first of all, develop love. There is nothing that cannot be achieved with love. *Love is God, live in love.* Love, in fact, is our life. Even an



ant cannot exist without love. Ants move here and there and develop friendship with other ants. There is love between even insects. But man today has no trace of true love in him. His love is tainted by selfishness and is focused only on wealth and individuals. There is no point in developing this type of selfish love. First of all, you should develop love for society. Since you are a member of society, you should look after its welfare. There is no other way to accomplish the welfare of society.

### **Emperor Bali was the Epitome of Sacrifice**

Emperor Bali was a man of great sacrifice. He was known for his charity and generosity. He gave whatever anybody asked for. It was the great good fortune of the people of Kerala that they had an emperor like Bali as their ruler. Bali was accustomed to perform many acts of charity. Once he started performing a great Yajna. Many great scholars came to participate in it. When Vamana also came there, people were surprised to see him. They remarked, "This assembly is meant for scholars. What for has this small boy come here?" But the daughter of Emperor Bali felt a great attraction for him. "This boy looks very charming and handsome. I have developed great love for him. How nice would it be if he were my son!", she thought. Emperor Bali asked him, "Swami! What is the purpose of your coming here?" Vamana replied, "My dear! I do not want any money or food. If you give me three steps of land, it will be enough for me." Bali was surprised at his request. "Is that all you want? Even a dead body requires six feet of land. But you are asking for only three steps which is absolutely trivial. Ask for something more," said Bali. But Vamana said, "These three steps of land will suffice for me. If you give me this, I will

have everything." Bali promised him to give what he wanted. This has to be understood from the spiritual point of view; its worldly meaning has little significance. In one step, Vamana measured the entire earth and in the second, the entire sky. Then he asked Bali, "Where should I place my third step? If you show me the place, I will go back satisfied." Bali said, "What else can I offer, Swami, except my head?" Saying this Bali removed his crown and Vamana placed his foot on his head and sent him to the nether world. Emperor Bali always adhered to Dharma but he was full of ego which was crushed by Vamana by the symbolic act of sending him to the nether world. All his subjects were filled with sorrow. They said to Vamana, "Swami! We can never get an emperor like Bali." Then Vamana consoled them, saying, "Bali will come to meet you every year on this day." This is the day on which Onam is celebrated.

On this day, all the people of Kerala have a sacred bath. They prepare a number of delicacies. Their preparation of sweet pudding with bananas is very famous. They keep it in the altar, light the sacred lamp, offer worship and pray to God. People of Kerala have firm faith that Emperor Bali visits them on the day of Onam. Emperor Bali promised that he would visit them every year on this day when they pray with pure and sacred heart. This is the significance of Onam celebrations. Till this day, the people of Kerala have been following this sacred tradition. Every year, they wait for this day with all enthusiasm and earnestness. If a king loves his subjects like Emperor Bali, the subjects will also love him. *Yatha Raja Tatha Praja* (as is the king, so are the subjects). Emperor Bali loved his subjects dearly and the subjects also loved and adored him.





*You can acquire morality by following the path of spirituality. There were many scientists who earned a great reputation but they had no control over themselves. Why should you acquire that knowledge which has an unhealthy impact on your brain? Acquire the knowledge which develops your intelligence, purifies your intellect and helps you to render service to society and the nation at large. You should make use of all your learning for the welfare of society. Then only can you develop morality and earn respect and reputation.*

---

---

The festival of Onam demonstrates the intimate love between an emperor and his subjects. Bali was the true king in the real sense of the term. Bali stands for total sacrifice. *Na Karmana Na Prajaya Dhanena Thyagenaikē Amrutatthwamanasu* (immortality is not attained through action, progeny or wealth; it is attained only by sacrifice). Emperor Bali gave three steps of land to Vamana as per his promise. He

would never go back on his word, come what may. The three steps signify Bali's sacrifice at physical, mental and spiritual levels. Ultimately, he offered himself to God to fulfil his promise. Offering of head for the third step signifies total sacrifice. He attained highest purity when God put His foot on his head. That granted liberation to Bali. However, God sends Bali to meet his subjects every year without fail. His subjects have not forgotten him till this day.

### **Vamana Incarnated to Grant Liberation to Bali**

Kerala is the land of plenty and does not lack anything. There is no dearth of water or food grains in it. In fact, monsoon rains start from Kerala and reach other parts of India. Kerala is *Punya Bhumi*, *Dharma Bhumi*, *Thyaga Bhumi* (land of merit, righteousness and sacrifice). Other States have to learn from Kerala its sacred tradition of charity. Even today people of other States hold Kerala in high esteem. Worship to God has its origin in Kerala. It is the land famous for great scholars. That is why God chose this sacred land for His incarnation as Vamana. Wherefrom did Vamana come to Bali? He came from a place in Kerala where Viswamitra performed a Yajna during the incarnation of Lord Rama in Treta Yuga. Vamana was very short in stature having a height of only three feet. He asked for only three steps of land. Though he was short in stature, he measured earth and sky in two steps. God is *Anoraneeyan Mahato Maheeyan* (God is subtler than the subtlest and vaster than the vastest). With His Divine Will, big can become small and small can become big. All the scholars who



were present there were mesmerised by his great effulgence. Vamana cast his benevolent look on everyone which filled every heart with devotion for God. He placed his foot on the head of Emperor Bali to grant liberation to this noble king who upheld morality. Therefore, one should develop morality. Thousands of people had come to Bali to seek charity. But Bali asked first of all Vamana what he wanted and showered all his love and affection on him. Considering him as a small child, he lifted Vamana up in his arms with great affection. Ratnamala, the daughter of emperor Bali, was very happy seeing this.

Vamana was the incarnation of God who came there to grant liberation to Emperor Bali. There are many incarnations of God which start from Matsya, Kurma, Varaha (fish, tortoise, boar), etc. Vamana is the first human incarnation. When Vamana walked towards the altar of the Yajna, all the people feasted their eyes on his effulgent form. Everybody started looking at him intently. He had such divine effulgence. Vamana himself came to Bali and granted him liberation as Bali had earned great merit. There are very few people who can earn such great merit. Onam is the day on which Vamana granted this great boon of liberation to Bali. That is the reason why the people of Kerala celebrate it in such an exalted manner. They don't celebrate even their birthdays in such a grand manner. This is the day which develops the spirit of oneness among the people of Kerala and takes them closer to the goal of divinity.

It is the great good fortune of the people of Kerala that they have come here to celebrate Onam in the close proximity of Swami. Every time the people of Kerala come here, they invite Swami to come to Kerala. I always tell them, "I will come, I will come, I will come." I never say, I



***You may study any number of sacred texts, acquire any amount of high education and perform any number of experiments, but all this is useless without acquiring self-confidence. Not only is it useless, but it is also a waste of time. This is not the path that leads to divinity. One can realise God only by controlling the senses and the mind and developing firm faith in God. In fact, you cannot achieve anything in life when you lack self-confidence.***



will not come. Whosoever asks Me to come, I say, "I will come." Therefore, one day I will go to Kerala. I will make them realise the glory and grandeur of the land of Kerala. There are many great scholars in Kerala. Kerala earned a great name because God installed Himself there. It is the land sanctified by the advent of Vamana. It is a sacred and blessed land, and the heart of the people of Kerala is filled with deep devotion. There is no heart which does not vibrate with the divine name. All may not express it outwardly, but they do have devotion in their hearts. Others may call it a communist land. No, no. It is not communist, but 'come-you-next' (*loud applause*)! This has great inner significance. Many Bal Vikas children have come here. Their heart is filled with devotion and joy. They feel ecstatic when they have Swami's Darshan. They are full of love. Such sacred hearts will bloom with the grace of God.

**Bharat is the Birthplace of Women of Great Chastity**

These children are presenting a drama on Savitri today.



Who was Savitri? She was Satyavan's wife who earned the reputation as a woman of great courage and firm determination. She brought her dead husband back to life. She followed Yama (god of death) and did not leave him until he granted her wish. She told Yama that she did not want anything except the life of her husband. Ultimately, Yama had to yield to her request. It was the power of Savitri's chastity that brought her dead husband back to life. It is only women who are endowed with such great powers and not men. With their power, women can accomplish any great task, even like bringing a dead person back to life. Can you find such an example in any other country where a wife brought her dead husband back to life? It is possible only in the sacred land of Bharat. Bharat has given birth to many such women of chastity.

*This land of Bharat has given birth to many noble women like Savitri who brought her dead husband back to life; Chandramati who extinguished wild fire with the power of truth; Sita who proved her chastity by coming out of blazing fire unscathed and Damayanti who reduced an evil-minded hunter to ashes with the power of her chastity. This land of piety and nobility attained plenty and prosperity and became the teacher of all the nations of the world because of such women of chastity.* (Telugu Poem)

When Sita underwent fire ordeal, fire god himself manifested and affirmed that she was absolutely chaste. Bharat is the land where such sacred women are born. Even the people of other countries have extolled the greatness of Bharat in many ways. But when Bharatiyas go abroad, they do not proudly say

that they have come from Bharat. Instead of saying proudly that they are Bharatiyas, people today have developed narrow feelings. They say, "I am from Delhi, I am from Kolkata, I am from Bangalore, I am from Puttaparthi, Anantapur, etc." Where are all these places? They are in Bharat only. All these are the parts of Bharat. When you say you have come from Bharat, it includes all these parts. Therefore, wherever you go, you should proudly declare that you are Bharatiyas. It is a great blessing to be born as a Bharatiya. Such blessedness is not possible for others. But the people of Kerala can rightfully claim this blessedness. They are really fortunate. The sacredness that exists in Kerala should reach all villages and parts of India.

There is a great lesson to be learnt from the drama 'Savitri' which is going to be presented today. You very well know that the devotees of Kerala have presented excellent dramas during the last two days. Yesterday, they showed the coronation of Sita and Rama in a most majestic way. A day prior to that, the divine pranks of Krishna were portrayed most beautifully. Their dialogues, songs and acting were most wonderful and captivating. Their costumes were also very beautiful. The Women's Wing of Sathya Sai Organisation of Kerala has rendered great help in this. It is because of their support that these dramas appeared so natural and realistic. Whatever task the men or women of Kerala undertake, they perform it in a grand manner. I wish that the people of Kerala maintain such high standards in future also. I bless them all.

**– From Bhagavan's Onam Message in Sai Kulwant Hall, Prasanthi Nilayam on 12th September 2008.**



# GRAND ONAM CELEBRATIONS

**P**IETY, GAIETY AND GRANDEUR marked the Onam celebrations at Prasanthi Nilayam which were held on three days, from 10th to 12th September 2008. Prasanthi Nilayam bore a festive look with banners, buntings and various other Kerala-style decorations on this occasion. Sai Kulwant Hall, the venue of the celebrations, was specially decorated with flowers, festoons and various decorative designs made of tender coconut leaves. A large number of devotees came from all parts of Kerala to Prasanthi Nilayam to celebrate this sacred festival in the divine proximity of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. Bhagavan showered His love and benedictions on these devotees and graced by His Divine Presence the cultural and music programmes presented by them. He also blessed them with a nectarine Discourse on the day of Onam, i.e., 12th September 2008.

The celebrations commenced on an exhilarating note with the beautiful dance drama entitled "Dasavataram" (ten incarnations) presented on 10th September 2008 by the Bal Vikas children of Malappuram and Kozhikode districts of Kerala. The dance drama, which began at 4.55 p.m. with a welcome song, depicted the ten incarnations of God, namely, Matsya (fish), Kurma (tortoise), Varaha (boar), Narasimha (half man, half lion), Vamana (dwarf), Parasurama, Rama, Krishna, Buddha and Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. While the singers narrated the story of each incarnation, the Bal Vikas children enacted the scenes and performed the



*While the singers narrated the story of ten incarnations, the Bal Vikas children of Kerala performed beautiful dances and enacted the scenes in the dance drama "Dasavataram" presented on 10th September 2008 as part of Onam celebrations.*

dances to the tune of befitting music. The stage management was so efficient that scenes changed in quick succession and the story of ten incarnations was presented in less than one hour. Brilliant costumes, excellent make-up, thrilling dances and superb acting of the children made it an outstanding presentation. The programme came to a close with Arati to Bhagavan at 6.00 p.m. after a brief session of Bhajans.

On the afternoon of 11th September 2008, the Bal Vikas children of Ernakulam and the students of Sri Sathya Sai Vidya Vihar, Alwaye performed a dance drama entitled, "Rama – the Embodiment of Love", depicting various episodes from the Ramayana beginning with a scene portraying the deep bond of love between Rama and His brothers and culminating in the coronation of Rama on His return to Ayodhya after 14 years of exile in the forest. Embellished with brilliant dances of children, it was one





*A scene from the dance drama "Rama – the Embodiment of Love" presented by the Bal Vikas children of Kerala in Sai Kulwant Hall on 11th September 2008.*

of the most outstanding performances from all points of view – be it direction, acting, music, costumes or dances. At the conclusion of this dance drama, Bhagavan showered His blessings on the children, posed for group photos with them, distributed clothes to them and interacted with them.

12th September was the Thiruvonam day. Sai Kulwant Hall was befittingly bedecked for this auspicious occasion with festoons made of Kuruthola (tender coconut leaves). The dais was aesthetically decorated with fresh flowers. A traditional Pookkalam (floral design) was arranged in front of the dais along with other auspicious offerings like flowers and fruits. Ornamental umbrellas (Muthukkuda) adorned the periphery of the hall.

Bhagavan was received with Poornakumbham when He came to Sai Kulwant Hall at 9.35 a.m. in a colourful procession consisting of children's band, Veda chanting group and Thalapoli (lighted lamps). As Bhagavan made entry into the hall, auspicious notes of Nadaswaram and Panchavadyam filled the ambience. After granting Darshan to one and all, Bhagavan came to the

dais and inaugurated the function by lighting the sacred lamp at 9.50 a.m. Panchavadyam and Nadaswaram display for a short time gave way to Thayambaka – initially in a low tempo music progressively increasing to a thunderous climax!

A bouquet of devotional songs was the next offering to Bhagavan on this auspicious day. The singers of the session were Sri Kavalam Sreekumar, Sri Pranavam Sankaran Namboodiri and Sri Yogesh Sharma. After invoking Ganesh and Guru with Vandana Slokas (invocatory verses), the artistes commenced the music programme with a Malayalam composition expressing devotees' love and longing for Bhagavan. Compositions of Thyagaraja, Purandaradasa and Mira followed. The programme concluded with a traditional hymn – "Narayanam Bhaje Narayanam" – to which all devotees joined in chorus. After this, Arati was offered to Bhagavan. The morning programme concluded at 10.55 a.m. with a couple of soul-stirring devotional songs by the university students.

In the afternoon, Bhagavan arrived in Sai Kulwant Hall as the class on collective chanting of Rudram was in progress. The first item of the programme was a brief speech by Master Abith, a student of Sri Sathya Sai Vidyapeeth, Srisailam. He recounted an experience how chanting of Sai Gayatri saved one of his teachers as he fell into a well during a Seva activity. He concluded by expressing his love and gratitude to Bhagavan on behalf of all students and staff of Sri Sathya Sai Vidyapeeth and all Sai devotees of Kerala.

After this, Bhagavan graciously delivered His Onam Discourse. Commencing with an

*continued on page 313 ...*



## SEEING UNITY IN DIVERSITY IS TRUE SPIRITUALITY

*All names and forms are the manifestations of the Supreme Being who is the embodiment of peace and auspiciousness. He is Existence, Knowledge, Bliss Absolute and non-dual. He is Sathyam, Sivam, Sundaram (Truth, Goodness, Beauty).*

(Sanskrit Verse)

*Embodiments of Divine Atma!*

**P**EOPLE TODAY ACQUIRE MANY types of education in this world but they lack the knowledge of humanness. They see diversity in unity but cannot see unity in diversity. Embodiments of love! It is very easy to see diversity in unity; anyone can do that. But it requires a lot effort to recognise unity underlying the entire diversity that exists in this world.

**Recognise the Divine Principle Present in All**

Man today should try to acquire the knowledge of the Atmic principle that is uniformly present in all. One who knows the principle of the Atma knows everything. Consider all human beings in this world as one and recognise the oneness of the entire mankind.

*Religions are many but goal is one.*

*Clothes are many but yarn is one.*

*Jewels are many but gold is one.*

*Cows are many but milk is one.*

There is unity in the entire creation of God but man causes many divisions in it. Unity of the entire mankind is the need of the hour. When you develop unity, there will be purity in your heart. Where there is purity, there is divinity.

Unity, purity, divinity are closely interlinked and interdependent. But man today is drifting away from unity. I have been telling, "Religions are many, but goal is one." So many people have gathered in this hall. Though they took different routes to come here, the destination for all of them was the same. In the same



***Believe it or not, in the next 25 to 30 years, the entire human race will become one. People of all religions like Hindu, Muslim, Christian, etc., will be united. There will be complete unity in the world. It is from Bharat that the spirit of devotion for God will spread to all other parts of the world.***

***Treasure this truth in your heart.***

***People consider culture as a way of life. No, no, it is not so. Unity of all is culture; purity is culture. You will realise divinity when you burn all your impurities. When you develop love, all your evil qualities like hatred, etc., will wither away.***





*People keep on repeating, "I want peace, I want peace." Can anybody get peace by this type of constant repetition? No, not at all. You can have peace only when you develop love. Peace is not a commodity that you can buy in the market. It comes from the heart which is filled with love. Where does love come from? Love comes from righteousness and righteousness comes from truth. Hence, truth is the source of righteousness; righteousness is the source of love and love is the source of peace.*

---

---

way, all have to reach one God. Divinity is immanent in every human being. Human life is not possible without divinity. *Daivam Manusha Rupena* (God is in the form of a human being). Who is a human being? Without understanding the meaning of this term, people consider someone as a human being who is endowed with human form, with hands, feet, ears, eyes, etc., like a human being. But it is not so. In fact, man is not

different from God. He is not a separate entity. One who realises his oneness with God is a true human being. There may be differences in physical forms of human beings, but the same divine principle is present in all. However, some people cause differences between man and man by various ways. This is the cause of all types of conflicts, sorrows and miseries in the world today. When man understands the truth that the same divine principle is present in all, there will be no room for differences and troubles. Therefore, we should always focus on the divinity of man. All our difficulties arise when we multiply our differences, forgetting our divinity. Therefore, we should firmly install the divine principle in our heart which is the same in everyone.

### **You can Accomplish Everything by Chanting the Divine Name**

I told you a few days ago, how Hanuman crossed the ocean and reached Lanka by the power of the divine name of Rama.

Before this, all the Vanaras gathered on the seashore were asked the question, "Who can cross the ocean in one leap?" Some of them said they could cover a distance of 40 Yojanas (leagues); others said they could go up to a distance of 50 or 60 Yojanas. But when the same question was put to Hanuman, he said,

"By the grace of Rama, I can cover any distance." While others



had a limited understanding of Rama's divinity, Hanuman alone had the total perception of the reality. It is not the spiritual practices like Japa, Tapa, Yoga and Yajna that give us the direct perception of God. Many people have been undertaking these practices. But, what have they experienced and achieved? These are merely physical and external practices. It is the name of God that is most important. When you know this truth, you will know everything. That is why I keep on telling you from time to time "*Hari Bhajan Bina Sukha Santhi Nahin ...*" (There can be no happiness and peace without chanting the name of God). You can accomplish everything by chanting the name of God alone. Hanuman crossed the vast ocean by constantly chanting the name of Rama. But other Vanaras misunderstood this truth.

At the time of the construction of the bridge over the ocean also, Hanuman told the Vanaras to write 'Ra' on one stone and 'ma' on the other and throw them in the ocean. Then the stones would join together to form the bridge. Rama, Lakshmana and Vanaras crossed the ocean and reached Lanka by walking on this bridge constructed on the principle of unity of the divine name of Rama. We should treasure this truth in our heart. Instead of observing differences on the basis of names like Ramanna, Lakshmana, Bhimanna, etc., we should recognise the Atmic principle in them and consider all as the embodiments of divinity. Spiritual practices like Japa, Dhyana, Yajna, Yoga have little significance if divine name is absent in your heart. You have a name which has been given to you by your parents after your birth; you were not born with this name. What you are born with is the principle of Rama. That is the Atma. Call it Atma, call it Omkara, call it Rama, all refer to the same divine principle.

Even if you come across your enemy, offer your salutations to him. Your salutations do not go to your enemy, they reach God. When you greet him lovingly saying "hello", he will also give up hatred and become friendly with you. But people today out of their ego identify themselves with their name and form. They consider themselves as Ramaiah, Krishnaiah, etc., instead of saying *Aham Brahmasmi* (I am Brahman). This is the root cause of all our differences. The name that is universally present in all is the name of Rama. When you offer your salutations to others while contemplating on Rama, your salutations will reach Rama. Therefore, do all actions to please God. All our daily chores like cooking, eating, etc., are suffused with the principle of Rama. People undertake worldly, external and physical practices because they do not understand this subtle truth.

### **Ego and Attachment are the Cause of Man's Bondage**

All the developments in science are only at worldly and physical level. Scientists have developed aeroplanes which can fly at a high speed and cover hundreds of miles in a minute. But they expose man to all sorts of dangers. All the worldly things are bound to perish one day or the other. A potter makes many pots. But if they slip from our hand, they break into pieces.

There is no greatness in all that we do for our individual benefit; whatever we do should be beneficial to society and community. Our welfare lies in the welfare of society. But today nobody thinks about society. Wherever we see, we find selfishness and self-interest rampant everywhere! That is why there are so many conflicts and differences in the world. There are



many divisions even in one family. Due to the increase in the differences of people, unity has been shattered. Therefore, we should develop unity. You and your neighbour are one. There is difference only in your names but divinity immanent in both of you is the same. There is no mistake in calling people by different names when the divine principle of unity is firmly embedded in your heart. Perform your Grihasta Dharma (duty as a householder). This is your worldly duty. But you must recognise your Daiva Dharma (duty as a divine being) which is universal. That is why I address you as 'Divyatma Swarupulara' (Embodiments of Divine Atma). When somebody wants to say what he is saying is absolutely true, he would use the term 'Atma Sakshi' meaning Atma is his witness. Therefore, we should conduct ourselves recognising the principle of Atma.

Unity of the world today has been destroyed due to the abnormal increase in the differences of people. Therefore, we should not observe differences on the basis of names and forms. We should develop faith in the Atmic principle. Atma is only one. It is indivisible and cannot be broken into pieces. Only the body dies, but the Atma lives forever. It is said that every human being undergoes the cycle of birth and death. But it is only the human body that takes birth, grows and dies; not the Atma. Therefore, know the oneness of the Atmic principle. Let people say anything, you should recognise that your Atma is your witness. Do not give up this divine principle under any circumstances. Whatever you do, do it for the sake of Atma. Whatever delicious items of food you eat, consider them as an offering to God. Whatever you do in life, do it with the feeling of offering it to God. *Sarva Karma Bhagavad Pretyartham* (do all actions to please God). When you have such sacred feelings, then you can attain liberation easily.



***All of you should imbibe the spirit of unity. Whomsoever you come across, say, "He is my brother, she is my sister." In this way, consider all as your brothers and sisters and conduct yourself with unity. All are the children of God. Therefore, if at any time feelings of hatred develop between you and others, remind yourself that you are not separate from them. Consider that all are one, attain unity and experience its bliss. Seeing unity in diversity is divinity and true spirituality.***



One can attain Moksha (liberation) only when one gives up Moha (worldly attachment). The feeling of 'I' is the cause of ego and that of 'mine' is the basis of attachment. Ego and attachment are the cause of your bondage. Therefore, first and foremost you should try to get rid of ego and attachment. As much as you reduce these two, that much closer you will go to liberation. *Less luggage more comfort makes travel a pleasure.* Man should reduce the burden of his desires. But man, on the other hand, keeps on adding to the burden of desires as he grows. As his desires increase, humanness in man decreases and he loses the awareness of his divinity. Therefore, we should develop divinity in us. Everything else is bound to perish one day or the other. Howsoever safe and secure we may keep our possessions, ultimately we have to lose them. We may deposit all our money in a big bank, put it under lock and key and arrange proper security for it. In spite of all that, we are bound to lose it some time or the other. We should not have temptation





for things which are perishable. What remains with us forever at all places is the principle of the Atma.

### **Develop the Spirit of Unity**

Though thousands of years have passed since Rama incarnated as the son of Dasaratha, all the people from a child to an old man even today chant His name. People say, 'Rama, Rama' when they encounter any difficulty. This sacred name is whispered into the ears of a dying man. It is the name of Rama that you should love and nothing else. As He attracted everyone, He was given the name 'Rama'. You may chant any name of God, but you should have firm faith that the Atma within you is the divine principle. Then you will not have any difficulties. We accumulate so much money. But for whom? Can we carry even a naya paisa with us when we depart from this world? No, no. We leave even our body here. The mind may waver and the intellect may be clouded but the Atma remains as the eternal witness. That is the principle of Rama. The name Rama does not denote any particular form. It denotes the divine principle. Therefore, always chant the divine name, be it Rama, Krishna or any other name. Siva means auspiciousness. It is only the name of God which imparts auspiciousness to us. We may say Srinivasa, Venkatesa, Rama, etc. All these denote the same divine principle. Install this divine



*Whatever you do, do it for the sake of Atma. Whatever delicious items of food you eat, consider them as an offering to God. Whatever you do in life, do it with the feeling of offering it to God. Sarva Karma Bhagavad Pretyartham (do all actions to please God). When you have such sacred feelings, then you can attain liberation easily. One can attain Moksha (liberation) only when one gives up Moha (worldly attachment).*

principle in your heart. People chant 'Ram, Ram, Ram' and perform Japa. When the Japa comes to an end, Rama is also forgotten. But we should never forget Rama. Whatever work we may be doing, we should constantly chant the divine name. In Kali Yuga, Namasmara is prescribed as the means to attain liberation. Realising this truth, Guru Nanak started the practice of community singing. All should come together and sing Bhajans. The mind of some may go to other directions. But at least a few of them may focus it on God's name. Therefore, when you do Bhajans in a group, the prayers of at least one



or two may reach God which will benefit all. Do we eat all the fruits that ripen on a tree? No. We eat only a few and distribute the rest to others. We prepare Payasam (sweet pudding) in our house. All the family members partake of it; one who prepares it does not consume the whole lot.

When Dasaratha performed Putrakameshti Yajna (sacrifice for the birth of a son), an effulgent being emerged from the Yajna fire and gave him a vessel of Payasam for distributing it to his three wives, Kausalya, Sumitra, Kaikeyi. (Here Swami narrated the story of the birth of Rama, Lakshmana, Bharata and Satrugna and revealed the mystery why Lakshmana always followed Rama and Satrugna followed Bharata).

There was such a strong bond of love between Rama and Lakshmana as well as between Bharata and Satrugna that they never left the company of each other. See, how much power this unity holds! Union is strength. When you don't talk to each other and develop enmity, you achieve nothing. Even if some feelings of enmity arise in you, you should try to adjust with each other. Devotees should conduct themselves gracefully with proper understanding and adjustment. Even if someone criticises the deity you worship, do not react to this criticism. Rather, you should think that it is your deity only who has assumed the form of the critic. Praise and censure make no difference to God. You should always love all. When you love everyone in this manner, all evil qualities like hatred, anger and greed will leave you. When you become free from these evil qualities, you will attain liberation easily. You claim that you are a devotee, but what is the use when you have hatred, anger, jealousy, hypocrisy, malice, etc., in you? These evil qualities



***We should not observe differences on the basis of names and forms. We should develop faith in the Atmic principle. Atma is only one. It is indivisible and cannot be broken into pieces. Only the body dies, but the Atma lives forever. It is said that every human being undergoes the cycle of birth and death. But it is only the human body that takes birth, grows and dies; not the Atma. Therefore, know the oneness of the Atmic principle. Let people say anything, you should recognise that your Atma is your witness. Do not give up this divine principle under any circumstances.***



will ruin your life. Talk smilingly to others and develop the spirit of unity. So many people have come here. All of them have participated in Bhajans. But, how many have true devotion in their heart? Even if there are ten people with true devotion, it is enough. All of you should imbibe the spirit of unity. Whomsoever you come across, say, "He is my brother, she is my sister." In this way, consider all as your brothers and sisters and conduct yourself with unity. All are the children of God. Therefore, if at any time feelings of hatred develop between you and others, remind yourself that you are not separate from them. Consider that all are one, attain unity and experience its bliss. Seeing unity in diversity is divinity and true spirituality. Study of scriptures, performing rituals, doing worship, etc., do not signify true spirituality. Recognising the unity of the Atmic principle is true spirituality. When you realise this unity, you will earn divine grace. You are always chanting, 'Sai Ram', 'Sai Ram', 'Sai Ram', but this alone will



not develop devotion in you. You should imbibe the spirit of unity and chant the divine name to develop true devotion. If you have even a trace of true devotion in you, you should do good to others and live in harmony with them. Do not hate anyone. Love all. If you have love and faith, you will develop non-violence. Then only can you experience bliss.

### **Unity of Human Race is Imminent**

What is the real purpose of telling you to develop truth, righteousness, peace and love? Righteousness emerges from truth. *Sathyannasti Paro Dharma* (There is no Dharma greater than adherence to truth). Without truth, there can be no righteousness. Similarly, love cannot exist without righteousness. If you have love, you will not hate or disrespect anybody. Sathya, Dharma, Santhi, Prema are the primary human qualities. Anger, jealousy, malice, hypocrisy, lust, hatred, greed are not human qualities. If you have love and peace, all other virtues will develop in you automatically.

People keep on repeating, "I want peace, I want peace." Can anybody get peace by this type of constant repetition? No, not at all. You can have peace only when you develop love. Peace is not a commodity that you can buy in the market. It comes from the heart which is filled with love. Where does love come from? Love comes from righteousness and righteousness comes from truth. Hence, truth is the source of righteousness; righteousness is the source of love and love is the source of peace. Where there are both peace and love, non-violence comes there on its own. Therefore, truth, righteousness, peace, love and non-violence are the qualities of a true human being. Consider them as your Pancha Pranas (five life-breaths). Man has today forgotten these five life-breaths of human qualities. Instead

he is harbouring evil qualities like lust, anger, etc., considering them as his life-breaths. That is why man today is enmeshed in so many difficulties. When you develop human qualities, you will surely attain peace. Therefore, man should preserve his innate human qualities like his five life-breaths. He should keep away from evil qualities like lust, anger, etc.

Believe it or not, in the next 25 to 30 years, the entire human race will become one. People of all religions like Hindu, Muslim, Christian, etc., will be united. There will be complete unity in the world. It is from Bharat that the spirit of devotion for God will spread to all other parts of the world. Treasure this truth in your heart. People consider culture as a way of life. No, no, it is not so. Unity of all is culture; purity is culture. You will realise divinity when you burn all your impurities. When you develop love, all your evil qualities like hatred, etc., will wither away.

People develop hatred and jealousy against those who excel them, saying, "How much money he has accumulated! What a high position he has attained!" They hate those who achieve victory over them. This is not good. If someone has achieved victory over you, you should consider that it is your own incapability which is the cause of your defeat. You should expand your love and broaden your heart; then you will also achieve victory. Victory and defeat depend on the feelings of your heart. It is with reference to this that the Vedas declare, *Manah Eva Manushyanam Karanam Bandhamokshayo* (mind is the cause of bondage and liberation of man). Our mind is the root cause of our feelings of love or hatred. Whatever work we do, we should do with the spirit of unity. Perform all your actions to please God. This will surely lead to universal good. After Bhajan, we all chant,

*Samasta Lokah Sukhino*



*Bhavantu* (May all the people of all the worlds be happy!) What is the great achievement if you alone are happy? All should be happy. Your happiness lies in the happiness of all; your well-being lies in the well-being of all. You cannot be happy when others are not happy. Therefore, you should pray for the welfare of all, including small creatures and insects. This is the real meaning of unity. Only the heart that desires the well-being of all is dear to God.

All that I have said today is the profound truth. This is the essence of devotion. What does devotion mean? It is not a big ocean. It is an ocean of bliss. That is what is described as *Nityanandam, Parama Sukhadam, Kevalam Jnanamurtim, Dwandwateetam, Gagana*

*... continued from page 305*

introductory verse on the glory of Bharat, Bhagavan observed that today's education was promoting a mad race for money. One had to cultivate spiritual outlook and self-confidence to realise the true meaning and purpose of life, Bhagavan added. Bhagavan exhorted the devotees to imbibe the virtue of sacrifice as exemplified by Emperor Bali. (Full text of Bhagavan's Discourse has been given elsewhere in this issue).

The next item of the programme was a dance drama entitled "Savitri – the Embodiment of Shakti", by the Bal Vikas children of Alappuzha district of Kerala. The drama depicted how Savitri brought back to life her dead husband by the power of her penance, chastity and courage. The drama which began at 5.30 p.m. came to a close at 6.00 p.m. Powerful dialogues, excellent background music, thrilling dances of the children, brilliant costumes and superb lyrical quality of the songs kept the audience spellbound for

*Sadrisham, Tattwamasyadi Lakshyam, Ekam, Nityam, Vimalam, Achalam, Sarvadhee Sakshibhutam, Bhavateetam, Trigunarahitam* (God is the embodiment of eternal 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, beyond all mental conditions and the three attributes of Sattwa, Rajas and Tamas). We should attain this eternal bliss.

– **From Bhagavan's Divine Discourse in Sai Ramesh Krishan Hall, Brindavan, Whitefield (Bangalore) on 31st May 2008.**



*Bal Vikas children of Kerala presented the dance drama "Savitri – the Embodiment of Shakti" in Sai Kulwant Hall on the afternoon of 12th September 2008.*

half an hour. The befitting conclusion was a beautiful and vibrant dance, depicting Durga, Lakshmi and Saraswati. Bhagavan blessed all participants and gifted clothes to them as a token of His grace. The programme concluded at 6.15 p.m. with Arati to Bhagavan after a brief session of Bhajans led by the university students. This marked the happy conclusion of Onam celebrations at Prasanthi Nilayam.

# CELEBRATIONS AT PRASANTHI NILAYAM

## Tamil Nadu Youth Camp

**M**ORE THAN 3,700 YOUTH, BOTH boys and girls, participated in the youth camp organised by Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation of Tamil Nadu at Prasanthi Nilayam from 25th to 27th August 2008. The youth experienced the bliss of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba's Darshan in Sai Kulwant Hall, took part in Seva activities and presented music and cultural programmes during the course of the camp.

On 25th August 2008, these youth made an excellent presentation of vocal devotional music in Sai Kulwant Hall in the Divine Presence of Bhagavan. Beginning their programme at 5.15 p.m. after the Divine Darshan of Bhagavan, the singers, both boys and girls, filled the entire milieu with devotional fervour with a variety of group songs dedicated to Rama, Krishna, Siva, Narayana and Sai. All the songs were marked by tenderness of devotional feelings and exquisite quality of music. This was followed by Bhajans led by the university students. Meanwhile, Prasadam blessed by Bhagavan was distributed to one and all. The programme came to a close with Arati to Bhagavan at 6.05 p.m.

On the afternoon of 26th August, 2008, Sai Youth of Tamil Nadu presented a drama "Sri Sathya Sai Kavacham" which depicted how Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba was protecting mankind from the evil forces of hatred, jealousy, violence, lust and greed to usher in the golden age of love, peace, righteousness, truth and goodness on earth.



*Sai Youth of Tamil Nadu presented a drama "Sri Sathya Sai Kavacham" in Sai Kulwant Hall on 26th August 2008 which beautifully highlighted the teachings of Bhagavan.*

The drama began at 5.25 p.m. after the Divine Darshan of Bhagavan in Sai Kulwant Hall. Through the simple story of a Sai Youth who withstood all temptations in the face of several difficulties, the drama demonstrated how the ideals and teachings of Bhagavan were transforming the youth and inspiring them to serve their fellow beings especially in villages and city slums. The storyline was carried forward by a dialogue between Sage Narada, representing the forces of truth, righteousness, peace and goodness and Kali, representing the Kali Yuga forces of evil, turmoil, immorality, violence and dishonesty. The climax of the drama was the victory of Narada and defeat of Kali when all attempts of Kali failed to lure the main character represented by a Sai Youth because he had put the noble teachings of Bhagavan into practice in his life. Defeat of Kali was the mark of the dawn of golden age on earth, powerful beams of which were spreading in



the world from Prasanthi Nilayam, the abode of supreme peace. Powerful dialogues, simple story, excellent props, good choreography and superb direction made the drama an outstanding presentation. At the conclusion of the drama, Bhagavan blessed the youth, posed for group photos with them and distributed clothes to them with His Divine Hands. He also materialised a gold chain for the youth who enacted the role of Narada. After a brief session of Bhajans, the programme came to a close with Arati to Bhagavan at 6.50 p.m.

### **Ganesh Chaturthi Function**

On the holy day of Ganesh Chaturthi, 3rd September 2008, worship of the Ganesh idols began on the premises of Sri Sathya Sai schools, colleges, hospitals and all other

Ashram departments at Prasanthi Nilayam by the students and staff of respective institutions. The worship continued on 4th September 2008 both in the morning and evening with great devotion and piety and also on the morning of 5th September 2008.

On the afternoon of 5th September 2008, these consecrated idols were brought to Sai Kulwant Hall by the groups of students and staff on charmingly decorated vehicles for Bhagavan's blessings before they were taken out of the hall for immersion. Bhagavan came to Sai Kulwant Hall at 4.00 p.m. in a grand procession led by Panchavadyam, Nadaswaram and Veda chanting groups of students. This procession also included two groups of Primary School students, one wearing



*It was a feast for the eyes to see the grand spectacle of Ganesh idols on attractively designed vehicles which were lined up in Sai Kulwant Hall for Bhagavan's blessings before the immersion of the idols on 5th September 2008.*

masks of Ganesh and the other in ochre dress led by a student carrying Poornakumbham. As all the idols were neatly lined up along the Darshan route of Bhagavan in Sai Kulwant Hall, Bhagavan saw all of them and blessed the students and staff who brought them to the hall. It was a feast for the eyes to see decorated idols on beautiful vehicles of various shapes and designs.

As Bhagavan occupied His seat on the dais, a group of students performed a beautiful dance with a song invoking the blessings of Lord Ganesh. After this, all the groups of students and staff who brought the Ganesh idols to the hall performed circumambulation of the Bhajan Hall, singing Bhajans, chanting Vedic hymns and offering obeisance to Bhagavan. Then began the grand pageant of Ganesh idols. The Bhajan singing and Veda chanting groups brought the idols in front of the dais one by one, received Bhagavan's blessings and took them out for immersion. Festive mood, devotional fervour, colour and grandeur marked this grand spectacle of Ganesh idols of charming designs. Erudite commentary interspersed with Stotra chanting by the students added profundity to the proceedings. Bhajans started after all the idols were taken out. This grand and colourful function came to a close with Arati to Bhagavan at 5.30 p.m.

### **Pilgrimage of Kadapa District Devotees**

More than 2,000 devotees came to Prasanthi Nilayam from the Kadapa district of Andhra Pradesh on a pilgrimage from 4th to 6th September 2008. On 4th September 2008, they organised a grand palanquin procession which went round the streets of Puttaparthi, spreading sacred vibrations through Bhajan singing. On the concluding day of their pilgrimage, i.e., 6th September 2008, the students of Sri Sathya Sai Vidya Sadan, Kadapa enacted a dance

drama in Sai Kulwant Hall which regaled the devotees with Kirtans (devotional songs) of Annamayya, a renowned saint poet of India. Prior to staging this drama, one of the organisers of this pilgrimage expressed deep gratitude to Bhagavan for the opportunity to hold this function in His Divine Presence. At the conclusion of his brief speech, Bhagavan blessed him and materialised a gold chain for him.

Thereafter, Sri Anil Kumar, a faculty member of Sri Sathya Sai University, addressed the devotees and narrated many incidents from the childhood days of Bhagavan when Bhagavan studied in a school at Kamalapuram and attended a scouts camp at Pushpagiri, both of which fall in Kadapa district. After this, Bhagavan blessed the distribution of sewing machines and wet grinders to selected needy persons of this district. As Sri Anil Kumar announced the names of the beneficiaries, they came one by one, offered their salutations to Bhagavan and received the items gifted to them to enable them to earn their livelihood.

The dance drama that followed this distribution immersed one and all in devotional fervour when the students performed exhilarating dances while playback singers



*Devotees of Kadapa district of Andhra Pradesh came to Prasanthi Nilayam on pilgrimage and presented beautiful devotional songs of saint poet Annamayya through a dance drama on 6th September 2008.*

rendered Annamayya's famous devotional songs set to thrilling music. The drama that started at 5.55 p.m. came to a close at 6.15 p.m. Bhagavan sat through the entire presentation, blessed the children at the conclusion of the drama, posed for group photos with them and distributed clothes to them. After a brief session of devotional songs by these devotees, both ladies and gents, the programme came to a close with Arati to Bhagavan at 6.40 p.m.

### **Collective Chanting of Rudram**

Collective chanting of Rudram was started at Prasanthi Nilayam on the afternoon of 9th September 2008 in the Divine Presence of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. This chanting with the objective of peace and welfare of the world commenced at 5.20 p.m. in Sai Kulwant Hall when four senior members of Veda chanting group of Prasanthi Nilayam chanted a part of Rudram with meticulous rhythm, intonation and pronunciation, and the entire assembly of students, staff and devotees in the hall repeated the Mantras after them in chorus. The practice of chanting has been continuing daily in Sai Kulwant Hall since then and devotees, particularly the students, are being encouraged to learn the entire

Rudram by heart. The chanting and practice sessions which begin at 4.00 p.m. everyday in Sai Kulwant Hall are invariably graced by Bhagavan by His Divine Presence.

The Vedas are divided into three parts – Karma Kanda (ritualistic portion), Upasana Kanda (worship portion) and Jnana Kanda (knowledge portion). Rudram forms the Karma Kanda part of Krishna Yajur Veda and its chanting is prescribed for the performance of Homa or Yajna. 121 priests chanted Rudram 11 times daily for 11 days when Ati Rudra Maha Yajna was performed from 9th to 20th August 2006 at Prasanthi Nilayam and later from 20th to 30th January 2007 in Chennai. But Rudram is not limited to chanting during the performance of Yajna only. It is equally popular as Upasana (worship) and Jnana (knowledge). Its chanting is very efficacious for personal as well as environmental purification. As the sacred texts declare, its chanting is one of the most potent means for the expiation of all sins. Moreover, its Mantras give the knowledge of the omnipotent, omniscient and omnipresent Rudra which takes the practitioner to the path of liberation. Collective chanting of Rudram is therefore considered a highly beneficial practice for the greatest good of all.



*Collective chanting of Rudram being practised by the students and devotees in Sai Kulwant Hall.*



## Youth Camp of Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand

Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation of Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand organised a youth camp at Prasanthi Nilayam from 15th to 19th September 2008 in which more than 1,000 youth, both boys and girls, of these two States took part. The youth undertook various service activities, attended talks by eminent speakers and experienced the bliss of Bhagavan's Darshan in Sai Kulwant Hall. On the afternoon of 18th September 2008, a group of these youth presented a dance drama "Sri Sathya Sai Avatar Rahasya", depicting the main events of the life of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba and the various humanitarian and spiritual tasks undertaken by Him to serve, unite and elevate mankind. The story of the Advent of this Avatar of infinite glory was traced through the penance of Rishi Bharadwaj who was granted the boon by Lord Siva and Parvati that they would incarnate in Kali Yuga in the three forms of Shirdi Sai, Sathya Sai and Prema Sai to establish righteousness on firm footing and usher in a era of love and peace in the world. The drama that started at 4.45 p.m. came to a close at 5.15 p.m. Bhagavan sat through the



*Sai Youth of Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand presented a dance drama in Sai Kulwant Hall on 18th September 2008, portraying the events of the Advent of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba and depicting His humanitarian tasks.*

entire presentation, blessed the youth at the conclusion of the drama and posed for group photos with them. He also materialised a gold chain each for the youth who enacted the roles of Sage Bharadwaj and Parvati. After this, there was a brief session of Bhajans which were also led by the youth of Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. Prasadam blessed by Bhagavan was then distributed to the entire assembly of devotees in Sai Kulwant Hall. The programme came to a close with Arati to Bhagavan at 5.40 p.m.

*Two fundamental messages ringing through Indian culture down the centuries are: 'revere the mother as God; revere the father as God'. These are sacred commands. When the parents are bypassed and hurt by disobedience, I am sure, God will also be bypassed and disobeyed. When your son treats you as non-existent, how can he claim to revere Me? That claim is patently false.*

*— Baba*

# NEWS FROM SAI CENTRES

## DENMARK

**A** PUBLIC MEETING WAS conducted at the Danish Unitarian Church in Copenhagen on 5th April 2008. The venue was adorned with beautiful flowers, Bhagavan's inspiring quotations and a well-decorated altar. Danish devotional musicians played melodious Bhajans throughout the programme. A bookstore displaying books, music CDs/DVDs and brochures on Bhagavan's teachings was set up. Sri Stig Meincke, National Chairman of Sri Sathya Sai Organisation, commenced the programme with an introduction about Bhagavan and Sri Sathya Sai Organisation. Following the introduction, the film 'His Work' was shown. Then the first guest speaker, Dr. Peter Pruzan, Professor Emeritus, Department of Management, Copenhagen Business School and Professor at Sri Sathya Sai University spoke about his journey to Bhagavan, Bhagavan's teachings and Bhagavan's love in transforming Sri Sathya Sai University

students. The next speaker was Björn Ribers who spoke on the influence of Bhagavan in his personal life and education.

The Annual National Sadhana Camp was held in Denmark from 18th to 20th April 2008. About 45 people attended the camp. The theme of the Sadhana Camp was inner spiritual transformation. The participants shared their experiences and discussed how the teachings of Bhagavan helped in their transformation. There was a workshop on Swami's life. In addition, there were workshops on music, Bhajan sessions in Danish language and group discussions on self-enquiry and self-awareness.

## GERMANY

The first medical conference of Sri Sathya Sai Organisation of Germany was held at Hannover Medical School on 25th April 2008. The objective of the conference was to make the general public and health professionals aware of the significance of Sathya Sai Human



*In the Annual National Sadhana Camp of Denmark held from 18th to 20th April 2008, the participants shared their experiences and discussed how the teachings of Bhagavan helped them in their transformation.*



*The first medical conference of Sri Sathya Sai Organisation of Germany was held at Hannover Medical School on 25th April 2008, in which about 150 participants from Germany, Austria and U.K. took part.*

Values in the field of medicine and give an overview of the humanitarian healthcare projects undertaken by Bhagavan all over the world. About 150 participants consisting of medical professionals from Germany, Austria, U.K., and members of the German Sri Sathya Sai Organisation attended the conference. Three keynote speakers illustrated the guiding principles of Sathya Sai Ideal Healthcare with personal experiences in their own medical practice.

The first keynote speaker Dr. Venkatraman Sadanand, a renowned paediatric neurosurgeon from Canada and a member of the International Medical Committee of Sri Sathya Sai Organisation, presented the philosophy and core elements of Sri Sathya Sai Ideal Healthcare system. He shared his personal experiences and gave specific examples from Bhagavan's teachings on how to practise human values – truth, righteousness, peace, love and non-violence in the field of healthcare. The next speaker, Dr. Joseph Phaneuf, a dermatologist from U.S.A. and Vice Chairman of the U.S.A. medical committee of Sri Sathya Sai Organisation, presented the Ashland Free Medical Clinic in California as an example of providing free healthcare with love and compassion. He also shared his valuable experiences of practising the human values. Dr. Surendra Upadhyay, a consultant ophthalmologist from United Kingdom and a member of the International Medical Committee of Sri Sathya Sai Organisation, spoke on many of his experiences with the international medical camps in Russia and Africa. The conference concluded with a question and answer session. At the end of the conference, the Dean of the Medical School in Hannover praised the humanitarian mega projects of Bhagavan and

hoped that more healthcare workers would learn from Bhagavan's love, which is the basis for the success of these major projects.

### U. S. A.

A dental camp was organised at Eugene, Oregon by Sri Sathya Sai Organisation of America (Region 6) in partnership with a local dental clinic on 2nd May 2008. The camp served 73 children and adults. Many saw a dentist for the first time. Following the X-ray



*Sri Sathya Sai Organisation of America (Region 6) organised a dental camp at Eugene, Oregon on 2nd May 2008 which provided dental services to 73 children and adults.*

and initial screening, four dentists treated patients. Treatment included teeth cleaning, tooth extractions and cavity fillings. Patients were then escorted from the treatment room to receive dental kits and oral care education from Sai volunteers with a nursing background. The children were offered free balloons. The smiles on the children's faces with their balloons brought pure joy and happiness to all! Refreshments were also provided to all patients. There was a true spirit of loving kindness and compassion among the volunteers. Sai's presence was seen in the eyes of patients who expressed deep gratitude for receiving dental treatment. Many of them came with immense pain and left with great relief.

On 11th May 2008, Sri Sathya Sai Baba Centres of



Fremont, Peninsula, Sacramento, San Jose, and Walnut Creek in California joined together to celebrate Easwaramma Day at Sri Sathya Sai Baba Centre of Sacramento. About 250 adults and 75 Bal Vikas children from these Sai Centres presented a united offering to the Universal Mother. Peninsula and Fremont Centre members travelled in a bus, honouring Mother Earth by conserving resources and enjoying a wonderful experience of Satsang during their journey. The Bal Vikas children from the participating centres offered thought-provoking plays and skits, reflecting the theme of the programme, "Universal Mother", at the Lotus Feet of Bhagavan. Sri Sathya Sai Baba Centre of Walnut Creek performed a welcoming dance drama. The children presented two skits on the benefits of following the five human values and on waste recycling to reduce the burden on Mother Earth. The day's programme ended with Bhajans followed by Arati and distribution of Prasadam. All the devotees experienced the presence and abundant love of Mother Sai.

#### SULTANATE OF OMAN

Easwaramma Day was celebrated in Oman on 9th May 2008 with a bouquet of programmes



*Easwaramma Day was celebrated at Sri Krishna Temple Hall, Muscat on 9th May 2008. The programmes conducted on this occasion included a cultural programme by 265 Bal Vikas children of the Sultanate of Oman.*

held at Sri Krishna Temple Hall, Muscat. About 700 people attended the programme. The inaugural address was given by the National Chairman of Sri Sathya Sai Organisation. A group of 265 Bal Vikas children from the Sultanate of Oman presented this cultural programme. A skit entitled "Power of Women" depicted the sacrifice made by a mother for her son during war times. Another skit, "Shakti Ek Roop Anek" paid tributes to Yashoda, Rani Lakshmi Bai, Florence Nightingale and Mother Easwaramma by means of a dance ballet. Lives of five noble women were portrayed to convey Bhagavan's teachings on Duty, Devotion, Discipline, Discrimination and Determination. The concluding piece was a dance, highlighting the noble values of womanhood.

#### TANZANIA

Easwaramma Day was celebrated in Dar es Salaam on 6th May 2008. About 100 persons attended the event. It was a joyous occasion



*Bal Vikas children of Tanzania presented a delectable cultural programme comprising skits, poems, speeches and dances on the occasion of Easwaramma Day, celebrated in Dar es Salaam on 6th May 2008.*

filled with reverence for mothers. Thirty-six children worked together to present the programme on Bhagavan's teachings on the sanctity of motherhood. The programme began with Veda chanting followed by a speech on the

significance of mothers. Children performed three short skits: “Matru Devo Bhava” – a play about how Ganesh became the lord of the Ganas by showing respect to his mother; “Mother is God” – a play about a young boy who followed Bhagavan’s teaching to be respectful to all mothers; and “A Good Act Never Goes in Vain” – a play that portrayed how a young boy saved an old woman’s life, thereby restoring her love and faith in Jesus. A student recited a touching poem titled, “My Mother.” A devotional dance based on a Sarva Dharma (all-faiths) Bhajan was performed. Children in costumes delivered talks on the lives of the sacred women of lore and history, including Radha, Florence Nightingale, Mother Teresa and Easwaramma. It was a memorable day for everyone and all felt blessed by Bhagavan’s motherly love.

– Sri Sathya Sai World Foundation

## BHARAT

**Andhra Pradesh:** Kurnool district gave on 17th August 2008 blankets to 18 people, one wet grinder to a poor person for earning his livelihood, Amruta Kalasams (monthly food provisions) to 21 poor families and kit bags to 135 Primary School students in Bapuji Nagar Colony near Nandyal town. The district opened a new Bhajan Mandali in Vadlaramapuram village and a tailoring training centre at Kurnool town on 17th August 2008.

East Godavari district conducted a mega medical camp in Maredumilli village, wherein 744 patients coming from 24 tribal villages situated in hilly and thick forest areas were examined. It carried out different medical tests on 350 patients, ultra sound scanning for 15 patients, X-ray for 14 people, cataract operations for eight patients

besides giving spectacles to 25 eye patients. Five patients were transported to Rajahmundry where costly surgeries were carried out free. After their discharge from the hospital, the patients were brought back to their villages. The district distributed 12 types of vegetable seeds to every household in the tribal villages situated near Kotrawada and Kuduru on 17th April 2008.

West Godavari district distributed Amruta Kalasams to 127 selected poor families in five Girijan villages. The district selected 11 poor eye patients and arranged cataract operations for them in a nursing home at Tanuku town.

Vizianagaram district dug a well in Seethayyapeta village to provide drinking water to villagers. It conducted a free medical camp in a remote village Ravulapalli on 20th July 2008 and treated 375 patients. It gives every month Amruta Kalasams (food provisions sufficient for a month) to 67 selected poor families.

Krishna district came to the rescue of 70 fire victim families in Arthamur village by providing them with food grains and clothes on 10th July 2008. The district gives every month Amruta Kalasams to 30 selected poor families.

Khammam district undertook renovation of one elementary school in N.S.P. Colony at Khammam town and constructed toilets in it. The district gave Amruta Kalasams to 23 selected poor families in July 2008.

West Godavari district gave barber kits to six people in that profession at Bhimavaram town on 2nd July 2008. It arranged cataract operations for 16 needy patients selected from the nearby villages of Tanuku town, gave Amruta Kalasams to 150 poor families selected from different parts of the district and started eight new Bhajan



Mandalis in the nearby villages of Eluru town.

Srikakulam district gave Amruta Kalasams to 121 poor families in the district. It conducts daily Narayana Seva for 43 needy persons.

Mahboobnagar district constructed a water tank in Rangapalli village and started a permanent drinking water distribution centre at the bus stand of Kollapur town. It adopted five orphans in Achampet village and gave Amruta Kalasams to 100 families selected from the nearby villages of Mahboobnagar and Jadcherla towns. It gave training in tailoring and embroidery to 25 women at Wanaparthu town and training in car driving to 20 persons at Nagarkurnool town. It organised cataract operations for 12 people at Mahboobnagar, gave hearing aids to 10 patients and organised a blood donation camp wherein 34 persons donated blood.

**Haryana and Chandigarh:** Sai Youth of Haryana and Chandigarh undertook tree plantation in Chandigarh, Panchkula, Ambala, Kurukshetra, Yamunanagar and Faridabad (villages – Satpura and Mohabatabad) wherein 673 plants have been planted. A follow-up team has been given responsibility of their proper upkeep and watering, etc.

In Gurgaon district, articles of daily need were distributed to 70 children living in Jhuggies (huts) in Oakwood area where regular Bhajans and Bal Vikas classes are conducted. Bhajans were held on this occasion and students of the slum area presented a colourful dance programme.

A State-level short-term Summer Course on Indian Culture and Spirituality was held at Panchkula from 31st May to 5th June 2008 wherein eminent speakers gave talks on a number of



*Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation of Haryana and Chandigarh conducted a short-term Summer Course on Indian Culture and Spirituality at Panchkula from 31st May to 5th June 2008, in which 524 students, 30 teachers and 150 observers took part.*

important topics: “God is the only Creator”, “Uniqueness of Indian Culture”, “Man is the Maker of his Destiny”, “Power of Prayer”, “Aim and Purpose of Life”, “End of Education is Character”, “Importance of Discipline”, “Time Management”, “What to Do and What not to Do”, “Unity of Faiths”, “Gita in Daily Life”, etc. 524 students, 30 teachers and 150 observers participated in the course. Delegates along with their group coordinators and observers represented various districts of the State. Veda recitation, Suprabhatam, Pranayama and Yoga were part of the daily schedule during the early morning sessions on all the days and were conducted by the youth.

The State faculty conducted a Veda recitation and Bhajan training camp at Faridabad on 13th June 2008, in which 95 devotees and 15 Bal Vikas children of slum areas participated.

**Jammu and Kashmir:** Common masses, especially poor people had to undergo acute suffering due to the recent turmoil in Jammu, which lasted for 63 days. There were complete and continuous Bandhs, bringing life to a standstill. Imposition of curfew from time to time added to the misery of poor people.

Sri Sathya Sai Seva  
Organisation of Jammu and

Kashmir came forward to help poor people, especially those who had nothing to eat. 151 poor families were identified in and around Jammu and were given food provisions to meet their immediate needs. Besides, readymade food packets were distributed to poor and needy people in different villages of Jammu Province, especially in border areas where people could not come out of their houses. This was organised through different Samithis of the Sai Organisation.

Nagar Sankirtan was taken out on every Sunday by Marh Samithi for restoration of peace and tranquillity. Daily Bhajan for one hour was held by the Sai Samithis of Gandhinagar, Nanak Nagar and Talab Tillo for peace and communal brotherhood. Akhanda Bhajan for eight hours was performed by the Sai Organisation from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on 23rd August 2008 for amicable solution, peace, tranquillity and communal harmony so that bloodshed which had been on streets could be stopped. People of all castes and religions took part in this Akhanda Bhajan by way of praying for peace.

**Karnataka:** “Prema Jyothi” and “Journey with Sai” photo exhibition set up at Palace Ground, Bangalore was inaugurated by Union Minister of State for Surface Transport, Sri K.H. Muniyappa on 12th September 2008. It was kept open for public up to 21st September 2008 daily from 10.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m. on all the 10 days. Besides a large number of people, a host of dignitaries including Sri B.S. Yeddyurappa, Chief Minister of Karnataka, Sri Dharam Singh, former Chief Minister of Karnataka, Sri Sachin Tendulkar, famous cricketer, Sri Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri, Education Minister of Karnataka, several other ministers and M.L.A.s visited the exhibition.

The first part of the exhibition entitled “Prema Jyothi” presented a glimpse of the



*Besides over 32,000 people from all walks of life, many dignitaries visited “Prema Jyothi” and “Journey with Sai” exhibition set up at Palace Ground, Bangalore from 12th to 21st September 2008. The picture shows the Chief Minister of Karnataka, Sri B.S. Yeddyurappa going round the exhibition.*

massive work done by Bhagavan for the welfare of the masses through His humanitarian projects like hospitals, educational institutions



*After seeing the exhibition with great interest, famous cricketer Sachin Tendulkar subscribed for “Sanathana Sarathi” at the “Sanathana Sarathi” stall where all its editions in 25 Indian and overseas languages were displayed.*

and water supply schemes. The second part "Journey with Sai" depicted the history of the spiritual magazine "Sanathana Sarathi" started by Bhagavan 50 years ago and its growth into a world-class magazine which is being published every month in 25 Indian and foreign languages. It also showed the tours undertaken by Bhagavan since 1940 to various places to educate and uplift mankind.

More than 32,000 people from all walks of life, e.g., doctors, engineers, judges, advocates and government officials visited the exhibition. Over 12,000 students from 90 institutions also visited the exhibition. Free food was offered to all visitors between 12 noon to 2.30 p.m. on all 10 days. There was a wide coverage of the exhibition in all the leading newspapers. Five TV channels broadcast details about the exhibition. FM 93.5 radio channel broadcast live from the venue of the exhibition.

Sale of Sai literature, sets of Radio Sai and subscription to "Sanathana Sarathi" were organised, and the response was very encouraging.

**Kerala:** Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation of Kerala has started a weekly programme for one hour in Malayalam on Radio Sai. Onam day witnessed the inauguration of this programme and this will be broadcast between 7.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. on every Friday.

To strengthen the Seva activities, two zonal level camps were organised for office bearers alone. For five districts, the camp was organised at Srisailam School Campus on 9th and 10th August 2008. Office bearers from nine districts had their meeting at Sri Sathya Sai Vidya Vihar Campus on 16th and 17th August 2008. More than 500 office bearers participated.

As part of spreading Bhagavan's message among students,

every year Sai Organisation conducts essay competitions for plus two and college students. This year, it was conducted on 3rd August all over Kerala and more than 7,000 students participated. The topic was "Help Ever, Hurt Never". Bhagavan graciously blessed the gold medals on 15th September 2008 at Prasanthi Nilayam.

With Bhagavan's grace, Sai Organisation has taken up the follow-up programme of post-operative care of patients who are operated either at Puttaparthi or Whitefield. An orientation camp for doctors, paramedical staff, Seva Dal incharges and representatives of Sai Neethi was held on 9th September 2008 at Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Medical Sciences, Prasanthigram. 58 members participated. Director of the hospital and other faculty members spoke and gave necessary guidelines.

**Rajasthan:** A water purification plant was installed in village Kaliyabheda by Bhilwara Samithi on 20th January 2008. This plant will cater to the needs of 800 village people who have been prone to fluoride generated diseases due to lack of fluoride-free drinking water.

A cattle care camp was conducted by Udaipur Samithi on 4th May 2008 in village Nayakhere wherein medical veterinary treatment was given to 200 cattle.

An 83-hour Akhanda Bhajan was conducted from 27th August to 30th August 2008 at Kushalgarh town by Sai devotees of six Samithis as part of spiritual awakening in tribal villages in Banswara district of Rajasthan. Bhajan Yatra with a well-decorated Sathya Sai Chariot followed by groups of tribal village men and women went round the town.

Senior devotees visited four





schools to promote spiritual awakening among teachers and students through Bhajans and lectures. Four villages were also visited for spiritual awakening of tribal people through Bhajans.

**Tamil Nadu:** Chennai Metro North district has adopted four villages, namely, Errukkuvai, Errukkuvai Kandigai, Manali and Serpedu under Sri Sathya Sai Village Integrated Programme. These four villages comprising a population of 1,000 with 300 families have



*Chennai Metro North district organised the sale of quality seeds of paddy to farmers of four adopted villages on 12th and 13th August 2008.*

about 500 acres of dry and wet land with meagre output. To provide quality seeds to the farmers of these villages, a Government Agriculture Extension Centre exclusively for these adopted villages was opened for distribution of certified seeds of paddy on government subsidy. After Bhajan and Arati to Bhagavan, short duration varieties like ADT 39 and ADT 43, and long

duration varieties like White Improved Ponni were sold to these farmers which can give 30% more yield. Since the transportation of the seeds to the respective fields was not available for farmers, a tractor was exclusively arranged by the Sai Youth for transporting the seeds from Government Agriculture Extension Centre to the farms of the villagers. Around 30 farmers of adopted villages were supplied 1.5 metric tonnes of certified seeds of ADT 39, ADT 43 and White Improved Ponni with government subsidy for 2 days, i.e., 12th and 13th August 2008. All the beneficiaries were literally in tears for the immense love showered on them by Bhagavan.

Sri Sathya Sai Seva Samithi, Parvathi Nagar, Kancheepuram district celebrated its 12th anniversary on 22nd August 2008. As part of the celebrations, the members of the Samithi organised community service in their selected SSSVIP villages. In Serappancherry village, a borewell was dug to provide potable drinking water to the villagers. As per the request and wishes of the Irular community living in the village, a temple for Muttu Mariamman was constructed and inaugurated on the same day. Vastradanam (offering of clothes) was provided to 18 Irular families followed by Narayana Seva for 100 persons. At Sai Irular Kudiyiruppu (habitat), 36 water filters were provided to as many families. At Bhavishya Deepam, a home for mentally challenged children, a water purifier system was erected to provide potable drinking water to the children and the inmates.

The Godward process called 'self-sacrifice' is, in its inmost essence, love. For, God is love and love alone can lead to Him. So, the most godly act is the act of love and the most godless act is the act of non-love or hate.

— Baba

## Charity is the Ornament of the Hand

**J** HERE LIVED AN OLD LADY IN Paris. Though she was not very rich, she used to buy blankets with whatever money she had, go in the streets at night and cover with blankets the people sleeping there with their bodies huddled with

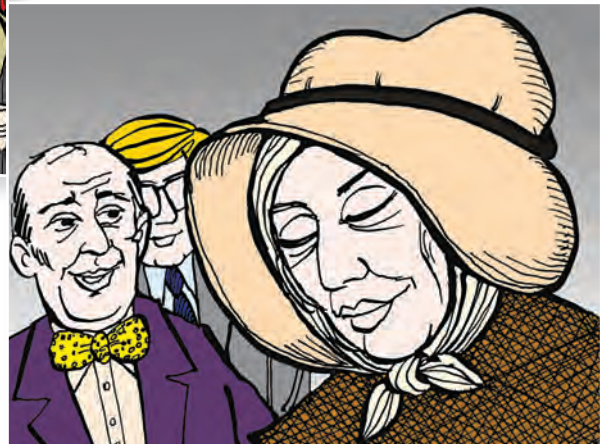


*The old lady went silently in the streets of Paris and covered with blankets the people sleeping there in cold weather without the knowledge of anybody.*

cold. Even when she did not have enough money, she continued this act of service. Her charity continued day by day without any break with the grace of God. Her spirit of sacrifice also grew more and more. Whenever it was possible for her, she would take a bundle of blankets in a vehicle and cover with blankets all those who were sleeping in the streets in cold weather. In this manner, she continued to do this service without anyone coming to know of it. However, after some time, the people of the locality came to know of her spirit of sacrifice

and charity. She always used to walk with her head bent down. Some people were puzzled why she always walked in this manner.

One day, some people asked her, “Oh grandmother! Aren’t you doing a very good service with a great spirit of sacrifice? Then, why are you so modest and meek? Why can’t you walk with your head raised high?” Then, the old lady replied, “Oh dear ones! I feel ashamed to keep my head high because God gives me with thousands of hands but I am giving with only one hand. Is it not a matter of shame for me?”



*“God gives me with thousands of hands but I am giving with only one hand”, said the old lady when some people asked her why she always walked with her head bent down.*

One should perform charity, but this should be done without anybody’s knowledge. It is said that your left hand should not know what you are giving with your right hand. Money has its worth if you give it in charity.

## Janani 2009 Diary & Calendars 2009

(This supercedes overseas rates given in Sanathana Sarathi Sep. 2008 and earlier)

**Janani 2009 Diary – specifications** - 14.7x20.6 cms – 410 pages Matt laminated with gold foiling, hard bound, shrink wrapped. Date pages in 2 colours in natural shade maplitho with Bhagavan's sayings, 24 multi colour pictures (12 beautiful pictures of Bhagavan and 12 collages of different festivals and functions held in Prasanthi Nilayam). Due to revision in **overseas postal rates** and reduction in maximum weight per packet from 5 kgs to 2 kgs for book post w.e.f. 01.09.2008, we are compelled to change Airmail rates for diaries and calendars as per details below (The rates include cost of diary / calendar, packing and registered airmail postage): In case you want to order for any quantity other than what is given below please contact us for exact amount to be paid

**All those who had already ordered for diaries and / or calendars for overseas destinations and have not paid as per chart given below are requested to send additional amount to meet the shortfall or contact us for further details by post or email to [orders@sssbt.org](mailto:orders@sssbt.org).**

**Diaries to single address = Overseas AIRMAIL**

Diary quantity	REGISTERED AIRMAIL	POSTAL ZONES – all amounts in Rupees				
		Asia Africa MiddleEast	Australia	Europe	South America	North America
1	Book Post	515	515	515	515	515
2	Book Post	870	870	870	870	870
3	Book Post	1230	1230	1230	1230	1230
4	PARCEL	1235	1415	1490	1750	1640
5	PARCEL	1420	1640	1715	2025	1915
6	PARCEL	1650	1930	2005	2390	2280
7	PARCEL	1835	2155	2230	2665	2555
8	PARCEL	2020	2380	2455	2940	2830
16	PARCEL	3720	4460	4535	5495	5385
25	PARCEL	5550	6710	6785	8270	8160
32	PARCEL	6965	8445	8520	10405	10295

### Calendars 2009 to single address – Overseas AIRMAIL

**Specifications :** Bhagavan's multi coloured photos and sayings with holidays, wire-o-wire binding for all types except book type wall calendars which are centre pinned. Wall calendars in foreign art paper, table top calendars in foreign art board.

Calendar Description : W1,W2,W3 - Wall Calendars T1,T2 -Table Top; BT -Book Type; Sh - number of sheets

Cal Code	7850	7851	7852	7853	7854	7855	w1 w2 w3	T1 T2
Size in inches	11x17	9zx19	11x22	6.75x8	5.75x8.25			
Calendar Description :	Cost of 5 units					Set	Cost of 5 each	
	W1 Sh 4	W2 Sh 3	W3 BT Sh 7	T1	T2	1 each of all five	w1 w2 w3	T1 T2
Cost + postage Rupees	465	405	780	615	690	623	1395	1135
Cost + postage USD	11.60	10.10	19.50	15.38	17.30	15.60	34.90	28.40
Cost + postage STG	5.80	5.10	9.80	7.70	8.60	7.80	17.40	14.20
Cost + postage EURO	7.30	6.30	12.20	9.60	10.80	9.70	21.80	17.70

**Higher quantities of calendars can be sent by air parcel for overseas. Pl. contact us with the quantity required for details of exact amount to be paid.**

**Diary 2009 Payment details for single destination within India – Minimum order 5 units**

Number of diaries >>>	Additional units							
	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4
Total includes cost, pkg. & postage Rupees	545	645	745	845	140	240	345	445

### Calendar 2009 for single destinations within India

Calendar Code	7850	7851	7852	7853	7854	7855	w1 w2 w3	T1 T2
Size in inches	11x17	9zx19	11x22	6.75x8	5.75x8.25			
Calendar Description :	Cost of 5 units					Set	Cost of 5 each	
	W1 Sh 4	W2 Sh 3	W3 BT Sh 7	T1	T2	1 each of all 5	w1 w2 w3	T1 T2
Cost + postage Rs	145	135	255	175	200	185	450	340

**Payments can be sent in favour of Sri Sathya Sai Books and Publications Trust by personal cheques / bank drafts with the complete postal address.**

REGD. WITH REGISTRAR OF NEWSPAPERS R.NO.10774/58  
REGD.NO.Tech/HDP/M-E-2006-2008 (Inland) REGD.NO.Tech/HDP/M-E(F)-2006-2008 (Overseas)  
Licence number – Tech/HDP/RNP01/06-08. Licenced to post without prepayment.

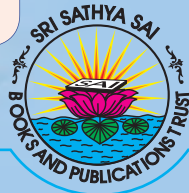


### *Strive for Inner Purity*

The Lord does not demand external grandeur; He examines whether internal purity exists. A life lived badly is like a body without life. The body is called 'Deha' in Sanskrit, 'that which has to be consigned to flames'. A body which is identified with a person who does not strive for inner purity lives only for that consummation – it justifies that appellation; it serves no other purpose and it cannot win the grace of the Lord.

*– Baba*

Annual Subscription English (Inland) Rs 75  
(12 issues). Overseas Rs 600 or US \$15 or  
UK £8 or €10, CAN \$15, AUS \$16  
Acceptable for 1, 2 or 3 years.



Printed and Published by K.S. RAJAN on behalf of the owner Sri Sathya Sai Books and Publications Trust, Prasanthi Nilayam 515 134, Anantapur District (A.P.) and printed at M/s Rajhans Enterprises, 136, 4th Main Road, Industrial Town, Rajaji Nagar, Bangalore - 560 044, Karnataka and published at Prasanthi Nilayam 515 134.

Editor: G.L. ANAND