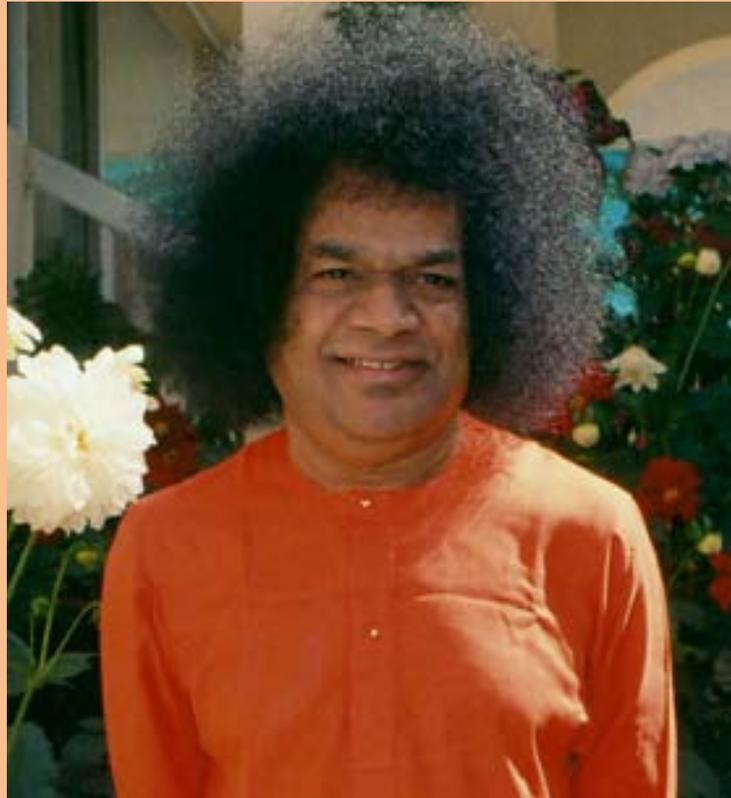


GLORY OF THE ONE WITHOUT A SECOND

By Dr. Shripad Zarapkar



The Mother Earth has witnessed the glory of several greatest personalities such as Kings, Emperors, Political Leaders, Warriors, Saints, Sages, Spiritual Gurus, Maha Yogis, Religious Founders, Highly Erudite Scholars and Interpreters of Scriptures, Philanthropists, Actors, Artists, Sculptors, Doctors, Surgeons, Billionaires and Trillionaires, Economists, Industrialists, Scientists, Social Reformers, Educationists, Critics and many others. But a human being, the Mother Earth was blessed with on 23 November 1926 in the form of a child, **Sathyanarayan Raju**, born in a very ordinary family at Puttaparthi, Anantpur District, Andhra Pradesh, was unparalleled, incomparable, incredible, inexplicable, incomprehensible one who was mystical and mysterious - and surely who will remain to be same for aeons to come. He was endowed with unimaginable supernatural powers since his birth beyond the range of the five fundamental elements (Earth, Water, Fire, Air and Space); let alone the ambit of physical sciences.

Sathyanarayan Raju remained in ordinary worldly covers till the age of 14 (i.e.1940), when he realised the futility of worldly education and so left His school without even completing secondary education. He presented Himself to the world as a Friend, Philosopher, Guide and Saviour to all the people irrespective of caste, creed and country. When confronted by the people about His real identity, He declared and cited examples of His previous life as Shirdi Sai Baba and continued His mission of upliftment of mankind ever since. People called Him as **Sathya Sai Baba** and found in Him in His various roles such as Spiritual Master, Social Reformer, Transformer and Saviour of mankind. His philosophy was accepted, worshipped and practiced by people in different walks of life such as Scientists, Spiritual Seekers, Doctors, Engineers, Professionals, Administrators, Educationists, Businessmen, Political Leaders, and Journalists and so on.

At the time of His birth, Puttaparthi was a very small village devoid of any conveniences. It was far away from towns and was fraught with all inadequacies, deficiencies causing great hardships to the locals. For instance, it had no school for young children to learn, no water facilities for the inhabitants to drink, no hospitals for the patients to get medical treatment and so on. Unbearable to see the pathetic condition of the sufferers, Easwamma, the mother of Sri Sathya Sai, expressed her wish to Him that He should start a Primary School, a Well and a small Hospital for the benefit of local inhabitants. During the subsequent years Sri Sathya Sai over fulfilled His mother's desires and Puttaparthi was blessed with Schools, Colleges, University, Indoor and Outdoor Sports Stadiums, Planetarium, Museums Permanent Water Supply Projects, and a number of General, Mobile and Super Speciality Hospitals, Spiritual Complex and an Airport, Railway station, making Puttaparthi an International Spiritual Centre carving a significant mark on the map of the World. Sri Sathya Sai's benedictory field did not restrict to His birth place alone but in due course it expanded to other areas in India and abroad.

Sri Sathya Sai left the school and surrendered the coils with His family and declared that the entire world was His family. His leaving the home and breaking the family ties was not aimed to do penance for seeking God or for Self-realisation as was the case for several seekers in the history who later became Enlightened or Siddhas or Spiritual Masters. He was born all this. He could not bear the suffering of mankind in terms of non-fulfillment of material necessities, spiritual ignorance resulting into lack of awareness about the purpose of life and the methodology to lead a happy, joyful, peaceful, and blissful life.

Is it not a miracle that a young boy of 14 realises the futility of the prevailing system of education and decides to dedicate His entire life for reformation, reconstruction and transformation of human character by providing true education which would unfold the latent human values? Is it not a miracle that He devoted His entire life to render selfless service to the people of the world for raising their standards of life in addition to standard of living?

Sri Sathya Sai introduced the Integral System of Education integrating Head (Thought), Heart (Word), and Hands (Deeds) right from the Kindergarten level to the Post Graduate / PhD levels. He transmitted pure and selfless love to each and everyone who needed it. This unlimited love to humanity was exhibited as Seva (Service) in Educare, Healthcare, Sociocare, Agricare and Rural Development.

To emancipate the mankind from suffering and bondage, He created an infrastructure for human development on four pillars;

1. **Chamatkar:** Ordinarily Chamatkar is considered as a miracle for which there is no scientific explanation. That is because; science is limited to matter and energy. Beyond the realm of science, there is Consciousness and Supreme Love (also called Divinity) which cannot be codified in laws. Sri Sathya Sai's creations were manifestations of that Consciousness and Supreme Love to plant faith in Divinity in the mind of the beneficiary.
2. **Sanskars:** Sanskars are human values (Virtues) intended to transform, transmute, reconstruct and reform the mankind. Chamatkar leads to Sanskar.
3. **Paropkar:** Paropkar means obliging and helping others in distress. Sanskar makes the person humble servant of the society.
4. **Sakshatkar:** The expansion of Love through Paropkar makes a person aware of the Cosmic Love exhibited in himself and in everyone around. This is Sakshatkar or Realisation of Self as Universal Identity.

Sri Sathya Sai's philosophy is the most practical one which does not require rigorous rituals, intellectual inferences, physical fits and logical laws. It is simply:

1. Be Good, See Good, Do Good;
2. Daiva Preeti (Love for God),
Paap Bhati (Fear of Sin)
Sangh Neeti (Morality of the Community);
3. Help Ever, Hurt Never;
4. Love All, Serve All.

All these are synonymous. They lead to Chamatkar, Sanskar, Paropkar and Sakshatkar respectively, which ultimately grant Happiness, Joy, Peace and Bliss respectively.

OUR GREATEST HOMAGE TO SRI SATHYA SAI IS TO SPEND EVERY MOMENT IN PRACTISING THESE PRECEPTS WITH HEAD, HEART AND HANDS.

II SAMASTA LOKAH SUKHINO BHAVANTU II