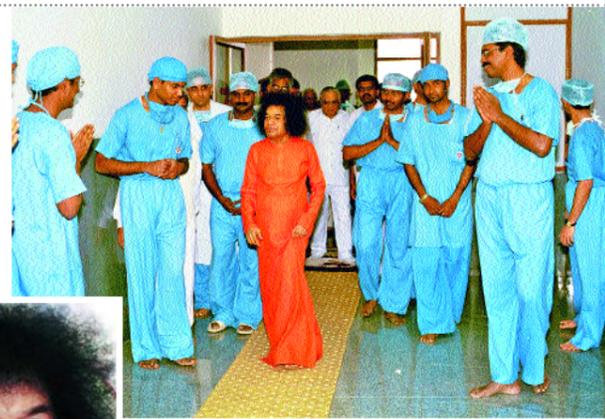


Worry is a misuse of imagination
— Dan Zadra

DISCUSS
THE SPEAKING TREE
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 22, 2015



SRI SATHYA SAI

The Legend Of Pure Love

In an age where individuals are over-powered by their self-indulgent materialistic desires, consumed by their need to satisfy their cravings, there came the One who filled their vacant existence with pure Love and slowly transformed them. Sri Sathya Sai says, "There is only one religion, the religion of Love; there is only one language, the language of the Heart; there is only one caste, the caste of Humanity; there is only one God and He is Omnipresent."

Sri Sathya Sai has been called a guru, a humanitarian, a social reformer, and even an avatar. But for millions of His followers, He is simply Baba, Sai Ma or Swami — a beloved father, mother, guide and dearest friend.

In the Kali Yuga, by merely chanting the name of the Lord (Naamasmaran), the Supreme Goal is realised. "Do Naamasmaran wherever and whenever you can, you need no materials and no special time and place." — Sri Sathya Sai.

Millions from all over the world, belonging to different faiths — Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Jews, Buddhists — joyously come together and sing His Glory. Why did they throng to see Him? Why did they yearn for a glimpse of His unmistakable halo of hair and bright orange robe?

Sri Sathya Sai remains a blazing beacon with a unique mission, which is purification of the mind and transformation of the heart. He laid the greatest emphasis on the fundamental oneness of all religions and the common essence underlying them all — Love, which transcends barriers of caste, creed and nationality.

Baba emphatically expounded, "There is only one religion, the religion of Love; there is only one language, the language of the Heart; there is only one caste, the caste of Humanity; there is only one God and He is Omnipresent."

Sri Sathya Sai was named Sathya Narayana Raju when he was born on November 23, 1926 in a nondescript village called Puttaparthi in Andhra Pradesh. Even as a child, He exhibited extraordinary spiritual powers. The other children called Him *Brahmajñani* (Knower of Brahman). Young Sathya taught *bhajans* to a small group of children. Together, they walked through the village, singing these bhajans and enacting dramas aimed at exposing social hypocrisy and vices, thereby awakening and reforming adults and even teachers.

At the tender age of 14, young Sathya publicly declared His mission. In 1947, He wrote a letter to his brother: "I have a task — to foster all mankind and ensure for all of them lives full of bliss (Ananda)." For 70 years, Baba worked indefatigably, moving among the masses, speaking to them, counselling them, guiding them, uplifting them and directing them along the path of *Sathya, Dharma, Shanti, Prema* and *Ahimsa*.

Swami demystified the Vedas, Shastras, Upanishads and other ancient spiritual texts by explaining them in simple language, and illustrating them with simple parables and light humour. He thus brought into the homes of ordinary people, deep, never-seen, never-heard, never-experienced before insights from our rich scriptures. His teachings have been assimilated into 15 volumes of 'Vahinis': *Upanishad Vahini, Geetha Vahini, Bhagavatha Vahini* among others.

Swami gave discourses on a wide range of spiritual topics. He awakened people from their

slumber of ignorance, making them realise their true nature — the imperishable, divine self manifesting as the embodiment of *Sath-Chith-Ananda* or Existence-Awareness-Bliss. This knowledge inspired millions of aspirants to turn Godward and lead purposeful lives. The vast storehouse of wisdom that He imparted has been compiled into a series of 42 books entitled *Sri Sathya Sai Speaks*.

When asked about the simplest way for spiritual progress, Baba explained, "In the earlier yugas, the methods prescribed for realising the Divine were more difficult, like *Dhyana* and *Yajna*. However, in the Kali Yuga, by merely chanting the name of the Lord (Naamasmaran), the Supreme Goal is realised. Do Naamasmaran

wherever and whenever you can, you need no materials and no special time and place." Swami promoted *sankirtana*, bhajan singing, for the welfare of humanity. He taught how the sacred vibrations and divine energies released during bhajans cleanse and purify the environment and the participants.

Swami's extraordinary vision and mission of free Educare, Medicare and Sociocare took firm roots. He revitalised and moulded the education system towards a value-based model where students received not just bookish knowledge but rather a holistic spiritual learning and an inculcation of human values. The Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning has four degree college campuses in Prasanthi Nilayam, Brin-

davan, Anantapur, and Mud-nahalalli. There are over 100 Sri Sathya Sai schools in India and abroad. Sri Sathya Sai Vidya Vahini is a one-of-its-kind nationwide initiative to provide inspiring multimedia Educare to rural and semi-urban schools. Under Swami's guidance, ethics and morality assumed as much importance as academics.

Sri Sathya Sai's exceptional Medicare facilities and services have received immense recognition from the government and international organisations. The state-of-art Sri Sathya Sai Super-speciality hospitals in Prasanthi Nilayam, Bangalore and Rajkot conduct the most complex surgeries absolutely free of cost. Mobile Medical Vans reach the remotest parts of the county, providing free Medicare to the poorest of the poor right at their doorsteps. Baba's guidelines to His Medicare team were clear: "Look upon patients as your own kith and kin, and attend to them with loving care. The aim is to heal patients in body, mind and spirit, not merely to cure disease." Swami's socio-care initiatives remain unmatched.

The Sri Sathya Sai Drinking Water Projects are truly historical. Swami provided safe drinking water to millions of people in Anantapur,

east and west Godavari, Medak, Mehboobnagar and Chennai. Sri Sathya Sai encapsulated the teachings of the ancient scriptures into two timeless *Mahavakyas*: "Love All, Serve All" and "Help Ever, Hurt Never." These two statements were His clarion call, which inspired millions of volunteers to join the Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations worldwide. Even today, His silent Messengers of Love selflessly undertake massive community service projects, village empowerment initiatives and disaster management programmes.

Sri Sathya Sai worked ceaselessly for the spiritual blossoming of humankind. He led by example, emphatically stating, "My life is my message!" He walked down the glorious path of Selfless Service and millions followed Him. When He felt His devotees were ready, He changed His Message to: "Your life is My message!" Inspired by His words, His devotees renewed their pledge to fulfil His Divine Mission of pure love and oneness. Sri Sathya Sai ushered in a new age — a spiritual awakening of individuals living in harmony with the five Divine Principles of Truth, Right Conduct, Peace, Love and Non-violence. His Legacy lives on!

Books on Sri Sathya Sai are available on e-commerce sites like Amazon. For more information, please refer to www.srisathyasai.org.in and www.dharmakshetra.org.in

SRI SATHYA SAI'S 3-FOLD MISSION CONTINUES WITH FERVOUR & DEVOTION

HELP EVER, HURT NEVER

LOVE

ALL
SERVE ALL

MEDICARE
LOVE THAT HEALS

Mobile Medicare Vans reach remote villages and have treated over 33 lakh patients from 2007-2015. Today, 50 vans are deployed.

Over 1.52 lakh pilgrims treated at Simhashta Kumbh Mela 2015.

1,300 cataract surgeries this year at Sri Sathya Sai Hospital, Mumbai.

Over 500 patients treated daily at static centres.

SOCIOCARE
LOVE THAT TRANSFORMS

Safe drinking water, toilets and sanitation, rainwater harvesting, vocational training, solar power, Bal Vikas classes, Mother and Child Care in 118 adopted villages.

Holistic healing at Sri Sathya Sai Wellness Centre, Mumbai.

Veda Chanting, Bhajans, Nagar Sankirtans, Study Circles, food distribution.

EDUCARE
LOVE THAT INSPIRES

99 Sri Sathya Schools across India. Many schools powered by engaging multimedia educare.

1,140 Bal Vikas teachers impart valued-based educare to 22,485 children from ages 6-18 years.

Knowledge of modern agricultural techniques and cultivation of medicinal herbs imparted to rural youth.

Youth Awareness Programme in Mumbai colleges.

SRI SATHYA SAI SEVA ORGANISATION, MAHARASHTRA & GOA
Dharmakshetra, Mahakali Caves Road, Andheri (E), Mumbai 93 Ph: +91 22 2837 7999

ZEN COLLECTION

Stop Lecturing

Jim, a Shogun master, was a well-known Sanskrit scholar of the Tokugawa era. When he was young, he used to deliver lectures to his brother students. His mother heard about this and wrote him a letter: "Son, I do not think you became a devotee of the Buddha because you desired to turn into a walking dictionary for others. There is no end to information and commentary, glory and honour. I wish you would stop this lecture business. Shut yourself up in a little temple in a remote part of the mountain. Devote your time to meditation and in this way, attain true realisation."

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Shivoham Shivoham

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Whoever writes - Shivoham Shivoham is for those who have had enough of the spiritual buffet, but are still hungry. It is for those who want to get back on the path in a sincere but simplified way. For any seeker who feels he is lost in the maze of spiritual overload, this book is a road-map to get back home.

It is a practical guide helping a seeker move FROM DENSE BODY TO TRANSPARENT BEING.

So be warned, this is not a book for the casual reader or the spiritual window-shopper. Each chapter is a serious, in depth exploration of who am I? what am I? what is the outline of my beingness? what is this manifested world? from the so-called birth till the so-called death, what is all this happening?