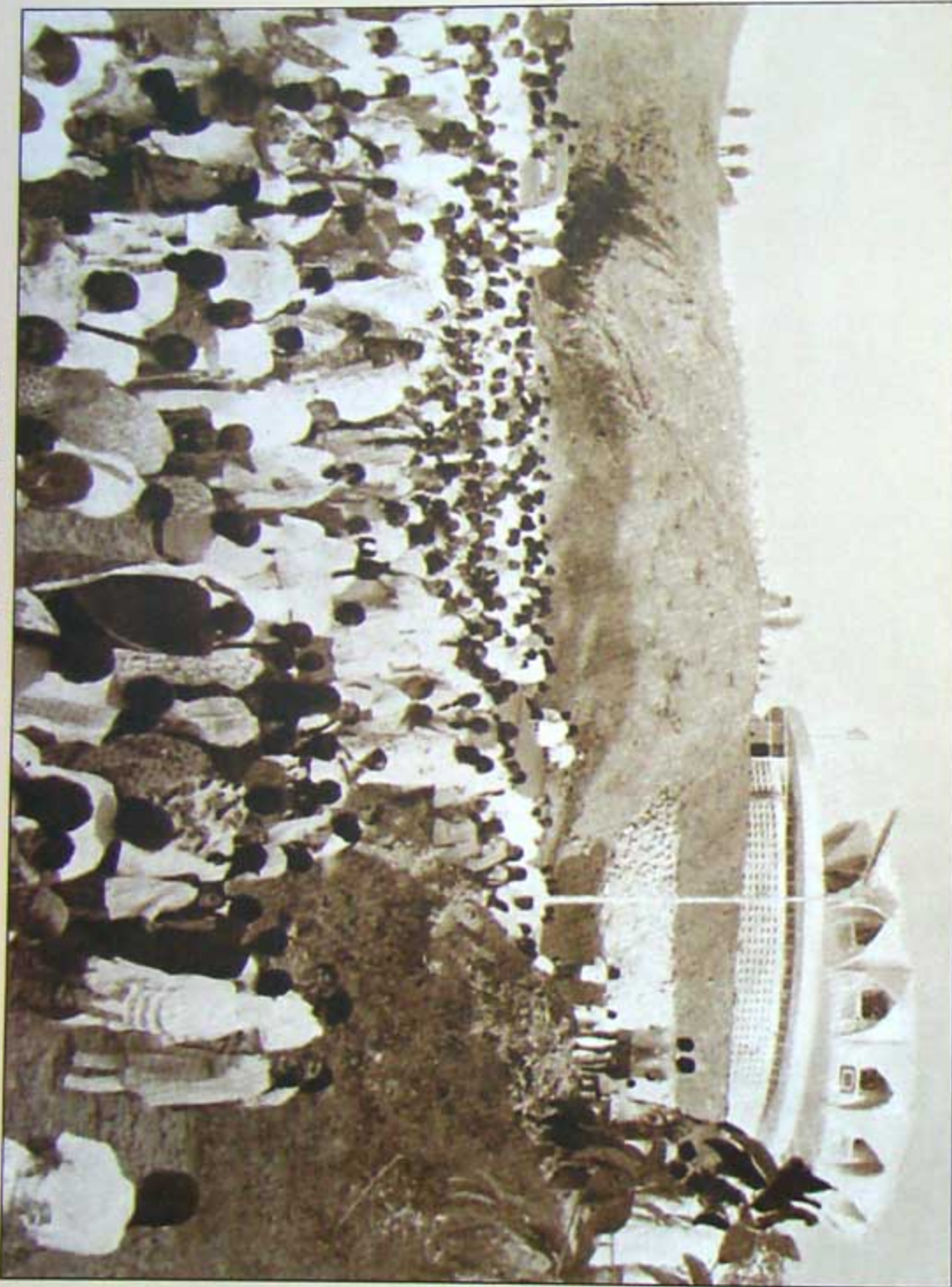


A historic photograph, reminiscent of the sermon on the mount, Swami addressed a huge gathering of devotees. In the background is Sathyadeep 1969.



The basic teachings of Indian sages about spiritual value have been neglected so disastrously that selfish greed and cruel competition have robbed all happiness and peace from the heart of this land. Life has been rendered artificial and anemic, riddled with anxiety and fear. At this juncture, you in Mumbai have built in your city this Dharmakshetra (the abode of righteousness)! In this age of atom bombs, you have erected an altar for Atmic bliss! This is indeed a sign of your faith and devotion, faith in the ideals of this land and devotion to the highest traditions nourished by the sages.



With the Late Dr. V. P. Cheria (former Governor of Maharashtra) at a public meeting in Sion, Mumbai, 1967

The year also witnessed the formation of Sri Sathya Sai Seva Dal. Dr. K.M. Mistry, now a Trustee of the Sri Sathya Sai Trust (Maharashtra), became the Convener of the Seva Dal of Mumbai Samithi. In the same year, a Charitable Trust was formed and Sri Indulal Shah became a Trustee; the Chairmanship of Mumbai Samithi was passed on to Sri Pinge. Much later, on 12 May 1975, Swami inaugurated the Sarva Dharma Stupa, a symbol of Unity of Faiths. Since then, the Sarva Dharma Stupa has become an integral part of Sathya Deep ambience.

Inauguration of Dharmakshetra on 12 May 1968 also coincided with the First World Conference of Sri Sathya Sai Organisations. Late Sri Morarji Desai,

Contemplating on God with all your heart, chanting His name
and surrendering to Him, redeem your lives.