

such vast numbers; each one was eager to approach Me and do obeisance to Me. Yet, they served remarkably well. They had scant knowledge of Indian ceremonials regarding reception and welcome; but they attended to every detail with remarkable anticipation. You in Mumbai have heard Me often and you are aware of the rules of discipline I like to be observed. But, I found Africans were much better. However far I moved among the huge gatherings, people never ventured to rise and fall at My Feet; they did not as much as lean forward to touch them, unless I indicated that they could. They paid homage in their hearts only.

The nations of the West are yearning now for the opportunity to listen to the Message from Me and learn the lesson of Love, for they have lost the secret of peace within. Everyone from the Ministers, the Commander-in-chief and the Mayor to the ordinary peasant and labourer declared that they had never experienced such Ananda before as the visit gave them. The Mayor of Kampala said when I was leaving, "We cannot give you a send-off, for you are always welcome."

Dharmakshetra, Mumbai, 14-7-1968



On return from East Africa back to Mumbai a public reception was held which was presided over by Late Dr. K. M. Munshi, founder of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan - in July 1968

By not getting excited over the angry words of a critic,
one becomes superior to the critic.

Blessings For Aksa Village

on 28th January, 1986, Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba visited a remote village caned Aksa in Malad West, Mumbai. On the way, at Goregaon, a few hundred devotees had assembled waiting for His Darshan. Swami got down and went to the waiting devotees and Blessed a little girl. The devotees were overjoyed. The caravan proceeded but it stopped again thrice. The reception at the junction of Charkop and Marve Road was extra ordinary. The industrial workers from the factory of Joy Ice Cream and near by industries had thronged here with lots of flowers. Another reception was awaiting Bhagawan at residential quarters of INS Hamla, by Navy Personnel and their families.



Blessing the residents of Aksa and nearby villages

At last He reached Aksa Village. A great and grand reception was accorded. He was taken in procession from village to the stage, with the band playing devotional tunes, and devotees witnessing Bhagawan responding to the tune. Bhagawan blessed Adivasi Mahilas with saris, the aged with spectacles, and distributed uniforms to the school children.

The villagers had decorated their houses with rangolis and festoons. Bhagawan poured His Divine Love into their hearts and inaugurated extension of the Sri Sai Vidhya Mandir school. Bhagawan Blessed them with Divine Discourse and exalted them with "Mukhme Ram Aur Hatme Kam" (Head In Forest And Hands In Society). The bond of Bhaktas and Bhagawan grew stronger and stronger.

True renunciation consists in treating happiness and sorrow alike.