

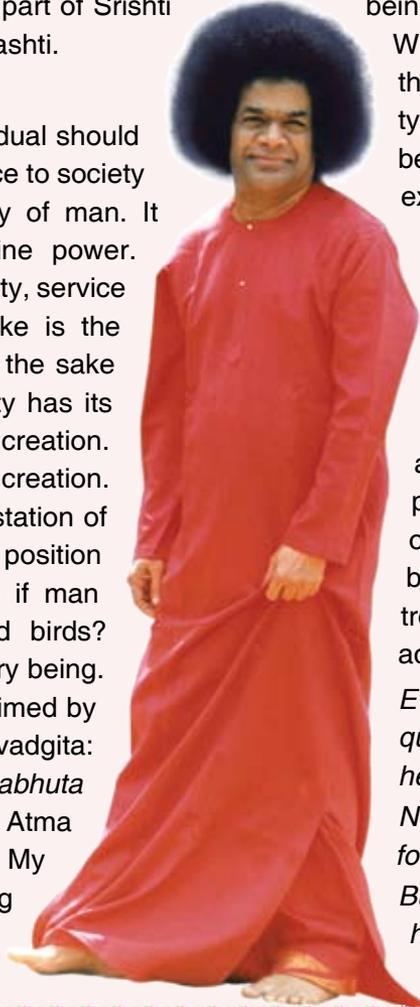
THE YOUTH SHOULD FOLLOW THE PATH OF SATHYA AND DHARMA

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)

THERE ARE FOUR ENTITIES: Vyashti, Samashti, Srishti and Parameshti (individual, society, creation and Creator). Srishti emerges from Parameshti. Samashti is a part of Srishti and Vyashti, a part of Samashti.

The Basis of Creation

Being its part, the individual should serve society. In fact, service to society is the most important duty of man. It can endow him with divine power. Service to society is, in reality, service to Divinity. For whose sake is the existence of man? It is for the sake of society. Similarly, society has its existence for the sake of creation. This is the basis of the entire creation. The creation is the manifestation of God. Man has a unique position in it. But what is the use if man behaves like animals and birds? Divinity is immanent in every being. The same truth was proclaimed by Lord Krishna in the Bhagavadgita: *Mamaivamsho Jivaloke Jivabhuta Sanathana* (the eternal Atma in all beings is a part of My Being). Since every being is a part of the Divine, all should be respected,



loved and adored. You should not hate anybody and should not create distance between one another. Just as all the parts of the body form one organism, similarly, all beings are like various limbs of God.

When there is injury in the leg, it is the eye that sheds tears. The same type of intimate relationship exists between God and all the beings as exists between different limbs of the body. You may ask why man faces troubles and difficulties when he enjoys intimate relationship with God. God is essentially the embodiment of immortality and bliss. He does not cause difficulties and problems for anyone. Some people think that God is the cause of their problems and difficulties, but this is a big mistake. All your troubles are the result of your own actions; they are not given by God.

Everyone has to face the consequences of his actions, whoever he may be.

No one can know what lies ahead for him in future.

But this much is sure that everybody has to reap the consequences of his actions. (Telugu Song)

Our joys and sorrows are the reflection of our own actions; they are not caused by others. To blame others for our sorrows is a big mistake. Everything in this world is reaction, reflection and resound. Every man is his own witness.

Acquire Education that Gives Knowledge of the Self

It is only the youth who are capable of protecting this world. It is the youth and youth alone who can set this world right. No nation can stand without youth. Sometimes, the elders underestimate the capabilities of the youth, thinking that they are inexperienced and young. But the youth are endowed with immense power. If they take a firm resolve, they are capable of achieving anything. If they realise their power, they can emancipate the nation. This does not need any education. What is education? Education means Vidya which connotes the knowledge of the Self. This is the foundation of all education. Today students are acquiring only bookish knowledge. Does a man become educated just by acquiring a college degree? Can a person who lacks wisdom and does not perform righteous actions be called educated? Education which does not confer wisdom is no education at all; it is only worldly and bookish knowledge. Modern youth are hankering after this type of education. They go to foreign countries like Germany, Japan and America to pursue this type of education. The education that is not there in Bharat is not available anywhere else (*loud applause*). *Yanna Bharate, Thanna Bharata* (what is not there in Bharat cannot be found anywhere else). Some people have a mistaken notion that those who are educated abroad are great. In fact, many of them come back after acquiring evil qualities, evil thoughts and evil habits.

In Bharat, the students acquire



*Enmity is a wicked quality.
Friendship is very important. You and I should become one. That is true Maitri (friendship). All should become united. If you really want to see God, first see Him in everyone.
The youth should greet and treat each other with love like brothers and sisters. But these days this type of relationship is not seen between people. They greet each other, saying "hello, hello", but their heart is hollow without any feelings.*



sacred education; it begins with the thoughts of God. Even an illiterate driver in Bharat salutes the steering wheel before starting the vehicle. Similarly, a musician offers salutations to the musical instrument before playing on it. In fact, all type of learning in Bharat begins with the name of God and prayer to Him and every activity is done as an offering to God without any artificiality and ostentation. People educated abroad come back with big degrees. What is that degree? It is only a piece of paper. They do not understand the essence of education. The students of Bharat have a pure and sacred heart. I feel blissful when I see Indian students. One can see the goodness of education reflected on their faces. The Bharatiyas are not inferior in any way; they are endowed with immense sacredness. Every individual in Bharat is imbued with divine feelings. Forgetting this type of sacred education, people these days are running after worldly and materialistic education. Today there is an influx

Sathya and Dharma. This is what we have to propagate. The Bharatiyas should consider adherence to truth as the greatest Dharma. Sathya and Dharma are most important in the life of man. The youth should strictly adhere to them. What is Sathya? It is the harmony of thought, word and deed. Where these three are in harmony, Sathya is present there. People speak something on the platform, they have something else in their mind, and their actions are entirely different from what they speak and think. This is the worst sin.

Service to Society is the Sign of Nobility

Embodiments of Love!

Your very form is love. It is love that protects the whole world. The five elements that constitute the universe are based on love. Only when love combines with the five elements does the universe come into existence. But love is not to be seen anywhere these days. Today there is lack of love even between mother and children. What happened to that love? We are bartering it for money. When money is lost, nothing is lost. Instead of putting our faith in money, we should have more faith in love and should develop love to love relationship with others. When you have this type of relationship based on love, love will develop more and more. Only then will we be able to love everybody.

We should not observe such differences as so and so is mine and so and so is someone else. We should develop the feeling that I belong to all and all belong to me. All are the children of the same mother. Being the children of the same mother, all should live like brothers and sisters. There may be some differences, but they are temporary. They will come and

go like passing clouds. The only thing that is permanent and eternal is love. There is nothing great in acquiring education and amassing wealth. There have been many millionaires in this world, but what have they taken with them at the time of leaving this world? The great world conqueror Alexander did not carry anything with him when he left the world.

Even King Harischandra, who strictly followed the path of truth, had to leave this world ultimately leaving behind his vast kingdom and riches. Emperor Nala, who reigned over a great empire, could not take with him anything when he passed away. Did King Mandhata, who adorned the Krita Yuga, carry any wealth with him when he left the earth? Is Lord Rama, who built the bridge across the ocean, present on the earth today?

(Telugu Poem)

You may earn any amount of money, but as long as you are alive you should give joy to others by undertaking acts of charity. Those who have money should look after the poor and sick people. Utilise all your earnings in a proper manner. Consider social service as service to yourself. Those who undertake social service are noble people. On the contrary, those who do not take to the path of service are wicked. When somebody salutes you, you also salute him. Do not consider that since somebody is your enemy you should not salute him. All are friends. Do not bear hatred or enmity towards anyone. Enmity is a wicked quality. Friendship is very important. You and I should become one. That is true Maitri (friendship). All should become united. If you really want to see God, first see Him in everyone. The youth should greet and treat each other with love like brothers and sisters. But these days this type of relationship is not

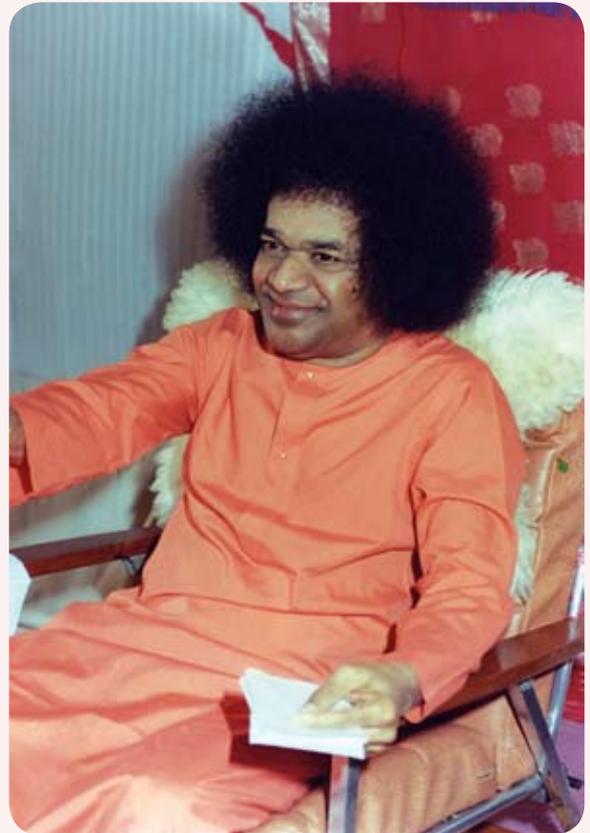


seen between people. They greet each other, saying “hello, hello”, but their heart is hollow without any feelings. Love everybody and develop faith in God. One without Viswasa (faith) is actually without Swasa (breath). Faith

and self-sacrifice as roof. Only then can you have self-realisation in life. If you want to have self-satisfaction, you should first have self-confidence. Without self-satisfaction, there can be no happiness in life. How can one who



The very foundation of Bharat is based on Sathya and Dharma. This is what we have to propagate. The Bharatiyas should consider adherence to truth as the greatest Dharma. Sathya and Dharma are most important in the life of man. The youth should strictly adhere to them. What is Sathya? It is the harmony of thought, word and deed. Where these three are in harmony, Sathya is present there. People speak something on the platform, they have something else in their mind, and their actions are entirely different from what they speak and think. This is the worst sin.



in God is our life-breath. If you want to develop faith in God, develop love. If you do not have love, you cannot be called a human being.

Humanness Blossoms in a Pure Heart

Embodiments of Love!

Develop love. When we come into this world, it is only love that comes with us. From love comes truth. When love and truth come together, humanness finds its sustenance. The mansion of human life can be built with self-confidence as the foundation, self-satisfaction as pillars

does not have confidence in himself have confidence in others? People doubt anything and everything. Doubt endangers life. A person with doubts will not achieve anything in life. He will not have faith even in his wife and children. Therefore, first and foremost develop faith. We think we are great and highly educated. But what is the use of this education? Even animals like goat and monkeys can learn many things. A monkey can be trained to ride a bicycle. Man is much superior to animals. His conduct should be



such that manifests his superiority. It is said, *Jantunam Nara Janma Durlabham* (out of all living beings, human birth is the rarest). Man should therefore not behave like birds, animals and insects. People distribute sweets when they beget children. What is so great about it? Even a pig can give birth to ten offspring. Give up all wicked qualities and lead an ideal and blissful life. Only then will humanness find fulfilment.

Embodiments of Love!

Face all difficulties with forbearance. Accept all trials and tribulations with love. Accept both pleasure and pain with love. Fill your heart with love and not with the poison of evil qualities. Even poison becomes Prasadam (sacred food) if it is offered to God. When Mira was given a cup of milk mixed with poison, she offered it to Krishna. Krishna accepted the poison and gave her the milk as Prasadam.

(Bhagavan sang the Bhajan, “*Prema Mudita Manase Kaho Rama, Rama, Ram ...*” and continued His Discourse.) Rama, Rama, Rama, in fact, connotes Prema, Prema, Prema. Rama and Prema are one and the same. People adore many deities like Rama,

Krishna, Sai, but the divine principle in all of them is the same. Atma has neither a form nor a name. Atma is also referred to as Brahma. *Brahma Sathyam Jagan-mithya* (Brahman alone is real, the world is unreal). God has no attributes. He does not punish or harm anybody. He is present in your heart in the form of pure and unsullied love. Develop love more and more. That will protect you always. There is no other greater protection than this. There is no weapon more powerful than love. Everything is love. The very word love is suffused with sweetness. Treat each other with love, converse with each other with love, lead a life full of love and enjoy bliss.

(Bhagavan referred to the drama “Ekalavya” which was to be enacted that evening and called upon the youth to follow the path of truth, obey the command of their preceptors and adhere always to righteousness like Ekalavya. With this advice to the youth, Bhagavan concluded His Discourse.)

– **From Bhagavan’s Divine Discourse in Sai Ramesh Krishan Hall, Brindavan (Whitefield), Bangalore on 27th May 2006 on the occasion of the youth camp organised**

Ati Rudra Maha Yajna

will be performed for the peace and prosperity of humanity in

Sai Kulwant Hall

in the divine presence of

Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba

for twelve days from

9th to 20th August 2006

*All are cordially
invited to
participate and
seek the
blessings of
Bhagavan*



HAPPINESS IS HOLINESS

LORD KRISHNA MADE THIS DIVINE declaration: *Mamaivamsho Jivaloke Jivabhuta Sanathana* (the eternal Atma in all beings is a part of My Being). Hence, do not feel that you are different from God. God resides in you. In fact, you are God.

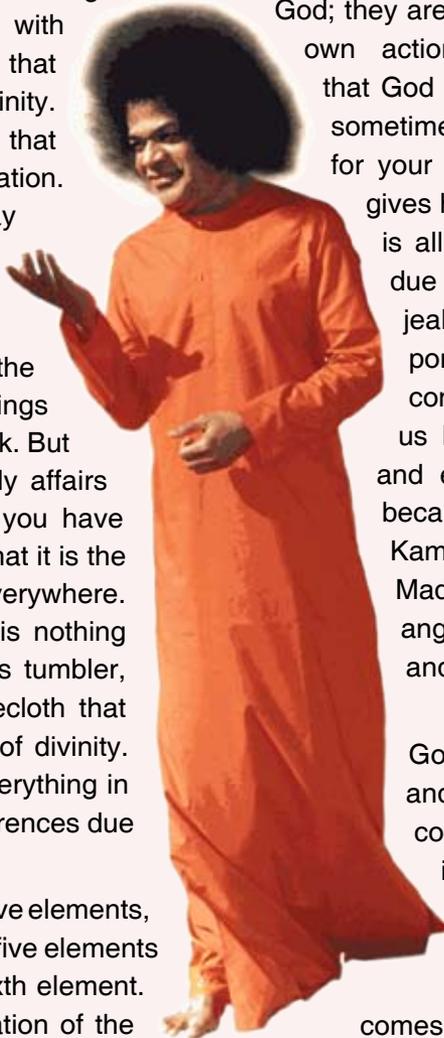
Nothing is Permanent in this World

You think, you are a human being because you are endowed with human body, but the Atma that indwells all manifests your divinity. There are thousands of bulbs that have been put up for decoration. Their colour and wattage may differ, but the electric current in all of them is one and the same. Like the current that makes all the bulbs shine, the Atma present in all human beings makes them see, hear and work. But today man is caught in worldly affairs and is ignoring spirituality. If you have spiritual vision, you will know that it is the same God who is present everywhere. Everything from earth to sky is nothing but God. Even this flower, this tumbler, this microphone and the tablecloth that you see here are all aspects of divinity. Divinity pervades each and everything in this universe. But you see differences due to your faulty vision.

Change is the nature of the five elements, and not of God. There are only five elements in this universe; there is no sixth element. Our human form is a combination of the

five elements and is sustained by them. Man has relationship with the five elements so long as the body lasts. Once the body perishes, he has nothing to do with even one of them. These elements are present in man in the form of his senses of sound, sight, touch, taste and smell. Our senses are responsible for good and bad, merit and sin. Good and bad are not given by God; they are the consequences of man's own actions. Sometimes you think that God has given you suffering and sometimes you feel God is responsible for your happiness, but God neither gives happiness nor suffering. This is all man's illusion. Man suffers due to his own evil qualities like jealousy, hatred, anger and pomposity. Where does anger come from? It comes from within us because of our wrong food and evil thoughts. Desire arises because of your covetous nature. Kama, Krodha, Lobha, Moha, Mada and Matsarya (desire, anger, greed, attachment, pride and jealousy) all arise from us.

You think God has a form. But God is formless. God is positive and man is negative. Negative comes and goes, but positive is permanent. Repose your faith in the positive and not in the negative. Everything in this world comes and goes like passing



clouds. A boy gets married to a girl. But before marriage, where was the boy and where was the girl? Their relationship developed only after marriage. But even that is not permanent. There is nothing in human life that is permanent. Everything is temporary; it comes and goes. If man wants to become eternal, he has to develop Atma Viswasa (faith in the Self). You may come and go, but I am with you forever. Divinity is changeless. Instead of aspiring for the changeless, man is running after all that is fleeting and temporary. All that we desire in this world is subject to change. Bodies are subject to change. You may see a body today and may not see it tomorrow. There is nothing in this world that is permanent. There is only one entity that is permanent about whom it is said, *Sarvatah Panipadam Tat Sarvathokshi Siromukham, Sarvatah Sruthimalloke Sarvamavruthya Tishthati* (with hands, feet, eyes, head, mouth and ears pervading everything, He permeates the entire universe). There is only One that is present always, but during our short life-span we develop many illusions.

Pray to God Desirelessly

We celebrate New Year and feel very happy. In fact it is not new; it is just a change of time. Today is the beginning of Chaitra (a month in Indian calendar). Next month is Vaishakha. In this way, many Chaitras and Vaishakhas have come and gone, but nothing is permanent. Why should we bother about all that is impermanent and passing? A fruit is at first unripe and after some time it becomes fully ripe and ultimately it decays. Similarly, human body is subject to change; it has childhood, youth, old age and ultimately death. So, there is nothing in this world that is permanent. Whatever you see in this

world is just temporary and passing. There is only one thing that is permanent and you have to pray for that. But whom are you praying for? You are praying for yourself, not for God. In fact, you are praying to yourself because God is in you. Because of your identification with the body, you think you are a devotee and God is separate from you. There is no difference between the devotee and God. Whatever you see, it is God; wherever you go, God is there; whatever you do, it is for God. God is present even in a particle of dust. When the wind blows, the dust goes up. When there is no wind, the dust comes down. In the same way, when man has desires, he is engulfed in delusion. When he is without desires, his delusion is also subdued. Sometimes, man is peaceful and at another time he is agitated. These states of man are the result of his food, his habits and worldly relationships; they are not caused by God. God has nothing to do with that. God is eternally present and the five elements are also present forever. Even after man dies, the five elements continue to have their existence. The consciousness present in all the five elements in man is responsible for all his body functions.

When a man is newly married, he loves his wife very much. His love is so intense in the beginning that if she is about to put her foot on a thorn, he pulls her away with great concern, saying, "There is a thorn, there is a thorn." After some time, when the same situation arises, he merely cautions her, "Be careful, there is a thorn." When more time has elapsed, he will resort to scolding, "Don't you have eyes? Can't you see the thorn?" The love that is there in the beginning gives way to anger with the passage of time. Worldly love is subject to change. Even the love between husband and wife and mother and



all functions of the intellect, beyond all mental conditions and the three attributes of Sattwa, Rajas and Tamas.) Man should develop the divine quality of love and not the worldly relationships.

Suppose a person has delicious dishes and fruits before him which he loves to eat, he will get happiness when he consumes them. If at that very moment he gets the sad news of the tragic death of his son in an accident in the bazaar, he will run to see his son and throw away all the dishes, because his love for his son is more than his love for food. When the food is before him, he thinks that his entire happiness lies in consuming it. Where has the love for food gone now? In a similar way, man develops love for many things in this world. In fact, there is nothing in this world which you should desire for. Desires are the cause of all the suffering of man. *Less luggage more comfort.* When there is luggage, you cannot escape from trouble. Here luggage refers to worldly relationships and desires. Only when you get rid of worldly bondage can you be happy. There is nothing in this world that you should desire for. If any worldly desire crops up in your mind, give it up at once. Giving up of desires is true renunciation. *Less luggage more comfort makes travel a pleasure.* You can have real happiness only when you reduce your luggage. There are so many millionaires in this world. But, are they able to live forever? They come and go like passing clouds. You find clouds only in the sky. Without sky, there can be no clouds. So long as you have body consciousness, you will have the clouds of desires.

Everybody has to Leave the World Empty-handed

Embodiments of Love!

You should have body consciousness only to discharge your duties.

You have to do your duty. Duty is God. You should not develop undue worldly relations. But, you are developing more and more desires and more and more greed. You have to reduce the luggage of your desires. You may accumulate any amount of luggage, but it is not going to be permanent. Alexander, the great emperor, conquered different parts of the world and came to India with a desire to conquer this country. On his return journey, he suffered a grave illness. Sensing that his end had approached, he called all his ministers and generals and told them that he was not going to live any more. He instructed them to take his body to his country after his death. He further told them to expose his hands out of the bier with his palms upwards and carry the funeral procession in all the streets of the city. This was to tell the people of the world that in spite of his great conquests in the world and a great name and fame, Alexander left the world empty-handed. This is true of all of us. Whatever we may accumulate, we have to go empty-handed only. In the ultimate analysis, all the worldly possessions are useless. Then why should we worry about all that is useless? Do your duty making best use of the present; do not unnecessarily worry about what is to come in future.

Many things happen in this world; God is the witness of all that happens. God is always blissful; He has no suffering, no difficulty, no worry. God is not the cause of the difficulties and sufferings of anybody. He has no desires. You may think that God has desires, but in reality He has none. He is Gunateeta (beyond attributes), Trigunarahita (bereft of the three qualities of Sattwa, Rajas and Tamas). You become the victim of delusion as you are bound by these three qualities. If someone dies, people lament over his death for a few days and then they



You are running after all that is false and ephemeral and giving up all that is true and eternal. In Kali Age, everything is becoming business. Wherever people go, whatever they do, they do it with a business motive. Even trivial matters have become business activity. How long can you do this business? It is all useless. Man should learn to give; he should not try to grab all that comes his way. Body is given to man to do good to others. *Paropakara Punyaya, Papaya Parapeedanam* (one attains merit by serving others and commits sin by hurting them). Do not always accept the service of others; rather, try to serve others to the extent possible. When you serve others, think that you are serving God. Do all actions to please God. All your actions will become meaningful only when you do them with the motive of pleasing God. Never do anything with a selfish motive. Today you are here. Tomorrow you may be somewhere else. Nothing is permanent. Only love is permanent in this world. Fill your life with love. You can love others only when you have love within you. Your innate love is your divinity. If you have love in your heart, nobody will hate you. Others will hate you only when you have selfish desires. Never hate anybody, never feel jealous of anybody and never get angry with anyone.

Embodiments of Love!

You have come all the way from distant places because of your love for Swami. Preserve this love forever and live in the presence of God. Never forget this love which is in you, with you, below you, above you, around you. Do not think that God is separate from you. He is the witness of everything. People go to temples with trays full of flowers and fruits.

Is it possible to limit the One to a temple who pervades the entire cosmos? How can one offer food to the One who has the entire cosmos in His belly? How can one give a bath to the One who is present in all rivers?

(Telugu Poem)

Worry is a Mentally Created Fear

People offer food to God and afterwards consume it themselves! God does not want anything. God has no desires at all. Sometimes, God may act in a way which makes you think that He has desires. But God has no desires at all. He has no bondage either. Whatever He does is for your sake. Whatever He says, does and thinks is for your sake. Pray for the welfare of all. *Loka Samasta Sukhino Bhavantu* (May all the people of the world be happy!). Do not wish any harm even to your enemy. *Love Ever, Hurt Never*. Do not do anything that is contradictory to the principle of love. *Love is God. Live is Love*. Consider love as God. Salute whomever you come across, even if he be your enemy. Love even your enemy. Whomsoever you salute, it will reach God, for God is in all. With these sacred feelings, do not have hatred towards anyone.

All that has to happen will happen. Do not worry about it. Past is past, forget the past. Future is uncertain, do not brood over it. Present is important, live in the present and be happy. Do not worry about past and future. Where is the past? Many people have passed away. Has any of them come back? None. Similarly, we do not know anything about future. Why should we worry about it? You should try to seek happiness in the present. When you have such an attitude, you will never worry about anything in life. What is the shape of worry? It is a mentally created fear. We should never worry.



Wear a proper dress.

Eat properly and moderately.

Go to school and study diligently.

Earn a good name. (Telugu Poem)

Develop good health, cultivate good habits, have good conduct and earn a good name. If you have all these, you will not need anything else in life. Do not run after medicines and doctors for your small problems. If a medicine cures one disease, it will create another. Many doctors have made the medical profession also a business. What are you going to achieve if you lead a life full of worries? Nothing at all! Some doctors may exaggerate even your minor ailments as cancer and ulcer. In such cases, even if you do not have such a disease, worry caused to you by the imaginary disease may lead to it. The more you worry about it, the more would be your suffering. Therefore, do not worry about your small physical problems. If you lead a life of moderation and maintain a healthy lifestyle, you don't need to be at the mercy of doctors.

Embodiments of Love!

Stop the habit of worrying. Even an intelligent student will not be able to write his examination well, if he becomes nervous in the examination hall due to his doubts, though he may know the answers to the questions. Doubts are the cause of your worry. You have to face all difficulties because of your habit of worrying. You should work hard without worrying for anything. When you lead such a straightforward life, you will not have to run after anybody and beg favours from others. Experience the bliss that is within your heart without making a show of it to others. Have belief in that which ought to be believed. Have love for that which ought to be loved. You have to love only one thing and that is God. Once you have love for God, you will have everything in life. On

the one side is the world and on the other, God. You cannot have both simultaneously. It is like riding on two horses which is sure to prove dangerous. Focus your mind only on God and have total faith in Him. *Ekam Sath Viprah Bahudha Vadanti* (truth is one, but the wise refer to it by various names). You should always think of God, both in pleasure and pain. If you aspire to have happiness and bliss, you should desire only for God. Do not worry too much about your difficulties. If you have love for God, all your difficulties will vanish in a trice. All difficulties are temporary like passing clouds. Swami loves His students very much. Once it so happened that a student was trying to tie buntings on a door while standing on an iron stool. As he saw Me coming, he felt nervous and fell from the stool. Both the stool and the boy fell on Me and My hip bone was fractured. Doctors advised rest for three to six months. But I told them that I did not need rest even for three minutes. What is this body for? It is for helping others. The body needs balance. There would be difficulty in walking when the balance is lost. But I do not care even for balance. It is temporary and will become all right on its own. I am able to walk with the support of boys. We should not worry about small problems. Do your duty. Then everything will become all right. Develop love.

Embodiments of Love!

Do not forget the principle of love. Love God. It is nothing great if you help someone who has helped you. Greatness lies in helping those who have done harm to you.

(Bhagavan concluded His Discourse with the Bhajan, "*Prema Mudita Manase Kaho ...*")

– From Bhagavan's Tamil New Year and Vishu Discourse in Sai Sruthi, Kodaikanal on 14th April 2006.





SHOWERS OF DIVI

BHAGAVAN WAS ACCORDED A rousing and warm welcome on His return to Prasanthi Nilayam on 8th June 2006 from Brindavan (Whitefield) where He sojourned for nearly one and a half months after His arrival there from Kodaikanal on 23rd April 2006.

Earlier, Bhagavan went to Kodaikanal from Prasanthi Nilayam on the morning of 9th April 2006. Prasanthi Nilayam bore a festive look with banners, welcome arches and Rangoli on the roads on the day of Bhagavan's arrival. As Bhagavan's car entered the Gopuram Gate of Sai Kulwant Hall,

WARM WELCOME TO BHAGAVAN ON RETURN TO PRASANTHI NILAYAM

the students offered traditional welcome to Him with Poornakumbham amidst chanting of Vedic hymns. While a group of students sang a beautiful welcome song on public address system, Bhagavan was led to Sai Kulwant Hall

in a grand procession comprising Veda chanting, Bhajan singing

and Bhangra dancing groups of students. A huge gathering of devotees, students and Ashram staff present in the Hall offered reverential salutations to Him. After showering the bliss of His Divine Darshan on the gathering, Bhagavan left for His abode after receiving Arati in the Hall.





NE BENEDICTIONS

In a scintillating function held in Sai Kulwant Hall, the Revered Chancellor of Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning, Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba felicitated four senior faculty members of the Institute for their exceptional devotion, dedication and meritorious service to the Institute. They were: Prof. U.S. Rao, Prof. V.E. Ramamoorthy, Prof. M. Nanjundaiah and Prof. Vishwanath Pandit. Sai Kulwant Hall on this occasion was beautifully decorated with colourful bunting, flowers and festoons.

FELICITATION OF SENIOR FACULTY MEMBERS OF THE INSTITUTE

Bhagavan came to the Hall at 7.55 a.m. amidst recitation of sacred Vedic hymns and auspicious notes of Nadaswaram rendered by the Institute students. After the arrival of Bhagavan on the dais, all the four fortunate faculty members were invited to sit on the dais along with their spouses and were welcomed with garlands. In his speech on this occasion, the Vice Chancellor of the Institute, Sri Anil Vinayak Gokak, offered them a hearty welcome and congratulated them for having been chosen by the Revered



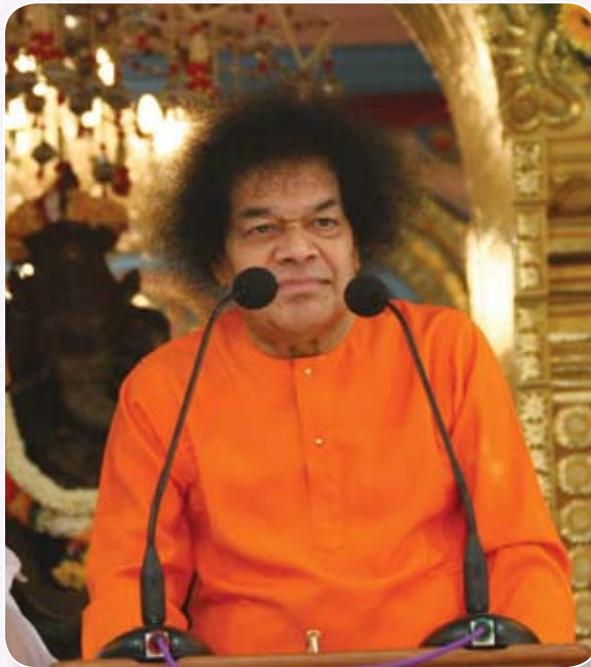
Chancellor of the Institute, Bhagavan Baba, to receive His rare grace for their long, meritorious and excellent service to the Institute. Sri Gokak then introduced them formally and praised them for their professional competence and academic excellence and for transforming the lives of the students of the Institute by inspiring them to imbibe the teachings of Bhagavan in their lives. Soon after this, Institute orchestra rendered joyous tunes to enhance the happiness of the occasion. This was followed by group devotional songs by the students of the Institute. The eagerly awaited moment arrived when Bhagavan honoured the four faculty members with a shawl each and showered His blessings on them and their spouses amidst a thunderous applause of the huge gathering in the Hall. He also gave them various gifts including a gold bracelet with His Divine Hands.

First to speak among the recipients of this rare honour was Prof. U.S. Rao, Dean, School of Business Management, Accounting and Finance and Principal, Prasanthi Nilayam Campus of the Institute. Prof. Rao expressed his deep gratitude to Bhagavan for this great reward and all that He had done for him and his family. Praising the students for their deep devotion for Bhagavan,

the learned speaker said that Bhagavan had infused in them high ideals, good character and sacred values. The next speaker was Prof. V.E. Ramamoorthy, Professor in the School of Business Management, Accounting and Finance of the Institute. Recalling the year 1993 as the memorable year in his life when he came to Bhagavan, Prof. Ramamoorthy stated that the time spent by him in the Institute in the Divine proximity of Bhagavan was the golden period of his life. Bhagavan had filled his life

with love, peace and bliss, he added. In conclusion, he advised the students to put into practice the invaluable teachings of Bhagavan in their life. The third speaker, Prof. M. Nanjundaiah, Controller of Examinations of the Institute, remarked that Bhagavan had lovingly guided him in his work like a doting mother and had taken care of him and his family in every way. He added that he had experienced Bhagavan's presence every minute of his

life. The fourth speaker, Prof. Vishwanath Pandit, Professor and Head of the Department of Economics of the Institute expressed deep gratitude to Bhagavan for giving him an opportunity to serve in this unique Institute and keeping him close to His Lotus Feet. He added



Bhagavan showered His benedictions on the teachers and students at the conclusion of the felicitation function.



that he expected nothing more than this in life. Addition of this great honour, he remarked, was an act of infinite grace of Bhagavan.

After the speeches of these four stalwarts of the Institute, Dr. Deepak Anand, a faculty member of the School of Business Management, Accounting and Finance of the Institute paid glowing tributes to these luminaries who had set an example not only as ideal teachers but also as men of exceptional human qualities. Speaking about Prof. U.S. Rao, Dr. Anand said that he is not only a teacher par excellence with unmatched professional competence but is also an embodiment of humility. Dr. Anand admired Prof. V.E. Ramamoorthy as a rare genius who combines in him the professional ability in the areas of corporate and international finance with calm surrender to Bhagavan, and added that his example is worthy of emulation by one and all. Describing Prof. M. Nanjundaiah as a living legend, Dr. Anand observed that Prof. Nanjundaiah has adhered to Sai ideals for the last 40 years and has led an exemplary life in close proximity with Bhagavan while holding responsible positions in the Institute with aplomb. Dr. Anand concluded his speech with his feelings of admiration for Prof. Vishwanath Pandit who was his research guide. Professor Pandit, he said, is one of the topmost economists of the country who has dedicated his life to Bhagavan and who is a living example of simple living and high thinking.

In the end, Bhagavan showered His benedictions on the students and teachers in the following words:

Embodiments of Love! The senior professors have been teaching the students with great diligence and love. The students

have therefore made great progress. The students should have good conduct; they should cultivate good qualities and earn a good name. This is what I expect from them. On being questioned by his father, young Prahlada replied:

Father! The teachers have taught me many things, I have understood the four objectives of life – Dharma (righteousness), Artha (wealth), Kama (desire) and Moksha (liberation). I have studied many things; in fact, I have understood the very essence of education. (Telugu Poem)

Education without love is of little worth. It is not possible to build a mansion without a strong foundation. It is the spiritual education which ensures a strong foundation for the mansion of life. At the same time, one should also acquire secular education which is required to eke out a livelihood in this world. One cannot live in society without acquiring secular education. One should therefore acquire the knowledge of various branches and fields of secular education also.

Students! You may acquire any type of education, but development of character is most important. *The end of education is character.* Bearing this truth always in your mind, acquire education to any extent. First of all, be ideal yourself. Only then can you set an ideal to others. You will have the right to teach and correct others only after correcting yourself. Cherish the noble teachings imparted to you by your professors, put them into practice and find fulfilment in life.

This grand function came to a close at 9.40 a.m. with singing of National Anthem by all.



SRI SATHYA SAI DEENAJANODDHARANA PATHAKAM

A FUNCTION TO CELEBRATE THE foundation day of Sri Sathya Sai Deenajanodhdharana Pathakam was held on 20th June 2006 in Sai Kulwant Hall, showcasing the enormous progress made by the children under the guidance of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba during the last four years. It showed that the children were not only well clad, well fed and well looked after, they had also made appreciable progress in the fields of education, culture and spirituality.

The programme started on the afternoon of 20th June 2006 with chanting of Vedic hymns by a group of these children after the arrival of Bhagavan in Sai Kulwant Hall. Thereafter, a 10th class student Suresh made a very impressive speech in English expressing gratitude to Bhagavan for the all-round development of the children and for giving

them a new life. The confidence with which he spoke conveyed that destitute children could



The cultural programme presented by the children of Sri Sathya Sai Deenajanodhdharana Pathakam showcased the eternal values of the culture of Bharat.



Bhagavan showering His blessings on the children after the conclusion of the cultural programme presented by them as part of the foundation day celebrations of this unique institution.

be groomed to become well-educated citizens if they were provided the right environment for their growth. After this speech, the children presented an excellent cultural programme on the teachings of Bhagavan and the cultural and spiritual heritage of Bharat. The delivery of the dialogues, the acting of the children, the rendering of songs and dances left no doubt in the minds of the viewers that these children were in no way behind the children of any prestigious educational institution. At the end of the programme, Bhagavan blessed the children and posed for group photos with them. This very enjoyable and impressive programme came to a close at 4.50 p.m. with Arati to Bhagavan.

NEWS FROM SAI CENTRES

INDONESIA

On 27th May 2006, a 6.3-magnitude earthquake shook the area around Indonesia's ancient royal city of Yogyakarta on the island of Java. The earthquake destroyed 40,000 houses, left 60,000 people homeless and about 6,000 people were killed. The tectonic quake was centred in the Indian Ocean about 38 km to the south of Yogyakarta at a depth of



Relief supplies being sent to the earthquake victims of Yogyakarta by Sri Sathya Sai Organisation of Indonesia.

33 km under the ocean. The members of Sri Sathya Sai Organisation of Indonesia sprang into action to provide immediate relief to the earthquake victims. 22 Sai volunteers formed four teams and reached Yogyakarta the next day along with the much needed medicines.

On 28th May, medicines were distributed to two hospitals, namely, Dr. Sarjito hospital in Yogyakarta and Cakra Husada hospital in Klaten. Food and other items were distributed in nearby Klaten and Bantul areas. On 29th May, a stationary medical team provided medical service in the most

stricken area of Bantul while a mobile medical team provided door-to-door medical aid. In Yogyakarta, a mobile food distribution team gave out ready-to-eat food. Meanwhile, one truck from Bali and two trucks from Jakarta with food and clothing reached the relief camps. 12 boxes of medicines, 40 plastic tents, 500 blankets, 360 sarongs, 240 pieces of clothing, 140 shirts, 15 packs of soap, 1,500 mosquito repellents, 40 boxes of instant noodles, 20 boxes of biscuits, 12 kerosene pressured lanterns, 10 boxes of baby's food and 300 towels came from Surabaya and were immediately despatched to the disaster areas.

On 30th May, ten youths from Bali coordinated the work of a food distribution and medical camp in Imogiri. A separate Sai



Sai devotees of Indonesia set up public kitchens to serve ready-to-eat food to the earthquake victims.

team from Semarang started a public kitchen in Klaten and Prambanan. On 31st May and 1st June, more relief items arrived from Sai Centre in Jakarta



and a public kitchen in Klaten was started. Totally, 5,660 kg of rice, 212 boxes of milk, 565 blankets, 47 boxes of toothpaste, 14 boxes of toothbrushes, 95 boxes of drinking water, 320 boxes of instant noodles, 13 boxes of baby food, 908 sarongs, 427 mats, 5000 pieces of clothing were distributed in Yogyakarta. At the end of the day, the strength of the Sai volunteers increased to 42. The Sai Study Group of Medan, Indonesia also joined in the relief work and helped the victims.

The relief aid by the selfless Sai volunteers is continuing in the month of June. True to the words “Love All, Serve All” of our Beloved Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba, the members of Sri Sathya Sai Organisation of Indonesia have risen to the occasion and performed a loving selfless service to the earthquake victims.

CANADA

Sathya Sai devotees in Toronto conducted 4th Annual Walk for Values on 28th May 2006, in which over 3,000 participants walked the 4



Participants in the Canada Walk for Values.

km route. They carried banners, proclaiming Sathya Sai Human Values. At the formal proceedings of the Provincial Parliament, the

event was praised by one of its members, Sri Balkissoon. Good wishes and appreciation were also conveyed by the Premiere of the Province of Ontario. Edmonton conducted its 4th Annual Walk for Values on 27th May 2006 which was inaugurated by Mayor Stephen Mandel. About 200 participants walked the 4.5 km long route. The event was covered by local media. Similar walks were held in Kingston with 66 participants and the national capital Ottawa with 43 participants.

JAPAN

A public meeting was held in Tokyo in the La Bell Aurum Hall on 12th March 2006. About 400 people including five national assembly members attended the meeting. The meeting began with lighting a lamp and then a welcome address by the Ambassador of India to Japan. This was followed by Veda chanting by Japanese members of the Sathya Sai Organisation of Japan. The movie “His Work” was then screened. There were seven speakers. The first speaker was Smt. Setsuko Shibata, representative of Choosei School. She recalled her experiences of Divinity with Swami. The second speaker, Sri Ryuko Hira, Director of Japanese Institute of Sathya Sai Education, spoke of the divine inspiration and similarities between Bhagavan Baba and Buddha. The third speaker was Sri Genzo Makino, Deputy Chairman of Sathya Sai Organisation, Japan who presented messages from Swami. There was a brief interlude with Japanese Bhajans. The next two speakers were Sri Tomohisa Aota, the national youth coordinator who spoke on Swami’s expectations of youth, and a stimulating speech by Sri Anantha Prakash, a former student of Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning on “What I learned from Sri Sathya Sai Baba.” This was followed by

a speech by Sri Sanzo Hosaka, Member of House of Councilors, who spoke of Bhagavan's tireless work of selfless service. The meeting concluded with speech on Sathya Sai Educare by Masahiro Fukai, Member of the Municipal



An exhibition was set up on the teachings and message of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba at the site of the public meeting held in Tokyo on 12th March 2006.

Council. There was also an exhibition on 'His Teachings' and 'His Manifestations.' Overall, the meeting was very well received by the audience and some were even moved to tears by the descriptions of Sai activities.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Three separate medical and veterinary camps were held in three cities: the first was in Kozarac on 18th February 2006 where over 200 patients were seen and 451 boxes of free medicines were distributed. The second was in Modrički Lug on 18th March 2006 in which 97 patients were seen, and the third medical camp was held in Bosanski Samac on 16th April 2006 in which 271 patients were seen. Screening, treatment and preventive healthcare were provided by specialists in internal medicine, psychiatry, neurology, gynaecology, ophthalmology, paediatrics, dentistry and physical therapy at these camps.

In addition, 466 school stationery packages, 38 lunch bags, washing detergent boxes, 18 boxes of clothes and shoes and food for 10 families were distributed in Kozarac. In Modrički Lug the medical camp was complemented by service where 70 packages of school stationery, 19 boxes of washing powder and 3 boxes of clothes were distributed to the needy.

The camp in Kozarac was attended by the President of Assembly of Municipality of Prijedor. In Bosanski Samac, the local newspaper and television interviewed the organisers of the camp. The villagers were very happy not only for the free medical care but also appreciated the warmth and compassion shown to them and wanted more such camps in the future.

RUSSIA AND HUNGARY

The European Sathya Sai Educare Institute (ESSEI) has been training Sathya Sai Education teachers in European countries for the last 13 years. In Russia alone, about 600 Sai devotees have been trained till date. From



The Annual Conference of Sri Sathya Sai Organisation of European countries was held at St. Petersburg, Russia on 5th-8th May 2006.

5th-8th May 2006, the annual conference of Sri Sathya Sai Organisation, Zone 8 was held in St. Petersburg. Preceding the event,

about 300 Russian teachers were trained by the ESSEI from 29th April – 4th May 2006. Of these, about 200 are able to train others and are set to conduct seminars in all eight regions of Russia. They use a training textbook and instructor’s manual published by the ESSEI on Bhagavan Baba’s teachings and human values translated into Russian. All participants receive certificates of graduation from the Director of the ESSE Institute, Dr. Thorbjorn Meyer, and the Central Coordinator for the Russian speaking countries, Sri Valery Olegovich Voschinin. The



A seminar on educare being conducted by the European Sathya Sai Educare Institute in Budapest, Hungary.

ESSEI also conducted a seminar in Budapest, Hungary from 26th-28th May 2006. This was an introductory seminar attended by 185 Hungarians interested in Sri Sathya Sai Baba’s Education in Human Values. Such seminars will continue in February and April 2007.

VENEZUELA AND PANAMA

In Caracas, Venezuela, an ophthalmologic medical camp was held on 21st May 2006 in which nineteen senior citizens had cataract surgery, and ocular lens implants were inserted. The operations were carried out in a private eye hospital which had cooperated with the Sathya Sai Organisation previously.

Sai doctors did all the operations, while devotees served delicious vegetarian meals to the patients and drove them to their homes. Many families were moved to tears because of the loving treatment they received completely free of charge. In Panama, the President and Vice President of the country have noticed the cataract operations done by the Sathya Sai Organisation. Together with the Minister of Public Health, they have offered the Sathya Sai Organisation space in the Santo Tomas hospital in Panama City to set up a Sathya Sai Eye Clinic for cataract operations. At present, many patients are sent to Cuba for surgery since the number of patients exceeds the current capacity to handle these cases. The Minister of Public Health offered to sign a long-term contract with the Sathya Sai Organisation to provide ophthalmologic services.

SWITZERLAND

About 150 people attended Easwaramma Day celebrations in Geneva on 6th May 2006. Sixteen children planned and executed a stellar programme consisting of a Dandia Raas dance, a drama on Sarva Dharma, a Qawali, and concluded it by Om Tat Sat prayer and Arati. During stage transitions, the children organised a quiz for the audience on Life and Mission of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba and distributed prizes. The organisational skills and public speaking experience from the celebrations were invaluable to the children.

SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO

A grand Sai retreat of the former Yugoslavian countries was held from 28th April – 1st May 2006 in spa Vrujci, Serbia and Montenegro. About 200 Sai devotees attended the retreat. The opening talk was given by Alida Parkes, central coordinator of



Sai devotees participating in the spiritual retreat organised by the Sathya Sai Organisation of Serbia and Montenegro from 28th April to 1st May 2006.

the Sathya Sai Organisation of Regions 61 and 62, Zone 6. She spoke of the importance of the Sathya Sai Organisation and how it was a vehicle for spiritual growth. The remainder of the retreat was filled with activities based on Swami's teachings including skits, Bhajans and inspiring brief talks. The participants felt the presence, warmth and grace of Swami.

U. S. A.

A free medical camp for sheltered women was conducted on 8th April 2006 at Fort Wayne, a charming town located in the State of Indiana. During the camp, physicians saw 33 female patients for preventive healthcare and health education. Health education was provided on individual basis. This made the advice valuable as it addressed individual concerns. Health education was regarding hepatitis, AIDS, diabetes, breast cancer, osteoporosis, menopause, nutrition, smoking and alcohol. Screening was provided for asthma, dental health, osteoporosis, hypertension, mental health and vision. A total of 31 abnormalities were identified during the screening and these

patients were appropriately referred for follow up. The camp was much appreciated by the Health Commissioner who expressed a desire to visit India to see Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba.

– Prasanthi Council

B H A R A T

Andhra Pradesh: A summer retreat for 54 Deenajanoddharana Pathakam (project for destitute children) children from six districts of Andhra Pradesh, viz., Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam, West Godavari, Khammam, Mahboobnagar and Medak was organised at Visakhapatnam from 8th May to 22nd May 2006. On arriving at Visakhapatnam, the children were lodged in comfortable rooms in Sri Sathya Sai Vidya Vihar. Commencing the day's schedule at 6.00 a.m. with Omkaram,



Sri Sathya Sai Deenajanoddharana Pathakam children of Andhra Pradesh performing Nagar Sankirtan in a village where they learnt the value of selfless service.

Suprabhatam and Nagar Sankirtan, they were provided learning opportunities in hobbies like music and drawing and games like throwball, kho-kho, ring tennis and volleyball. Senior Bal Vikas Gurus conducted Bal Vikas classes daily. Besides, they were shown devotional movies and activities of Prasanthi Nilayam on LCD Projector, and many cultural items were



Sri Sathya Sai Deenajanoddharana Pathakam children engaged in self-study during the summer retreat organised by Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation of Andhra Pradesh at Visakhapatnam.

arranged for their entertainment and learning. They were taken to various places of tourist interest like Kailasgiri, Vuda Park, R.K. Beach and Simhachalam. They were also engaged in service activities undertaken by the Sai Organisation in various villages to make them realise the value of selfless service. At the conclusion of the summer retreat, each child was given many gift items.

Prakasam district distributed footwear to 70 needy persons and carried out Narayana Seva for 200 people at Kandukur town on 23rd April 2006. The district also distributed footwear to 72 poor students at Addanki town. It started a water distribution centre and carried out Narayana Seva for 108 persons at Markapur town. This district contributed subscriptions to Sanathana Sarathi magazine for 24 government libraries in the district for one year.

Visakhapatnam district helped fire victims in Gollalapalem village by arranging lunch for all affected people and gave 10 kg rice to each of the 43 families and distributed blankets to 12 old people. This

district carried out sanitation work, distributed drinking water to thousands of pilgrims, maintained a footwear keeping centre and helped smooth distribution of Prasadam at famous Simhachalam pilgrim centre on 30th April 2006.

Saroornagar Samithi of Hyderabad district conducted a meeting in connection with Easwaramma Day celebrations on 6th May 2006 to enlighten the public on the necessary care for pregnant women, in which 90 pregnant women took part. They were examined by expert doctors and were provided with necessary vitamins and protein food. Cultural programmes by Bal Vikas children were also arranged on this occasion.

Nizamabad district arranged summer water distribution centres at Nizamabad, Kama Reddy, Bodhan and Mortad towns, and adopted three old poor couples to provide necessary food provisions. It carried out free marriages of 48 couples including three Muslim couples at Nizamabad on 14th May 2006 in a very grand way. The couples were given gold Mangal Sutas, two pairs of clothes, kitchenware, a suitcase, bedsheets, mats, etc. Sumptuous lunch for 600 people was arranged on this occasion.

Ranga Reddy district gave school uniforms to 29 girls and 31 boys after conducting free tutorial classes for selected students from slum areas near Alwal on 21st May 2006. The district also distributed 1,000 notebooks and 20 slates.

Vizianagaram district got 190 cataract patients examined in Saluru village and took up the follow-up work, arranged parents meeting in connection with Bal Vikas year activities in Baba Metta village on



2nd May 2006. This district built Sri Sathya Sai Bus Shelter at Kottam road junction which was inaugurated on 10th May 2006.

Assam, Manipur and N.E. States: The newly-constructed and spacious Sri Sathya Sai Sadhana Nilayam, Guwahati was the venue of two-day State Conference of Sri Sathya Sai Organisation – Assam, Manipur and N.E. States on the 30th April and 1st May 2006. 164 representatives from Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Nagaland besides the host State of Assam deliberated on the future 5-year action plan and programmes of the Organisation. The State President presided over the Conference attended by all the main functionaries and asked the State Coordinators and District Presidents to outline their plans for achieving the objectives of the Sai Mission. For the first time, the meet was practically thrown open to all serious devotees in order to achieve wider participation. A number of past students of Bhagavan's educational institutions from North-eastern States and a few presently studying at Prasanthi Nilayam and Brindavan Campuses were introduced to the gathering. A few of them shared their intimate experiences with Bhagavan to the great delight of the devotees. An inspiring aura of optimism hung in the air as speaker after speaker enthusiastically expressed his resolution to move forward on his/her chosen path. The two-day meet finalised the action plan and concluded with the State President calling upon the Sai devotees to improve the quality of life of the common people.

To create greater awareness of the Divine Mission of Bhagavan, a big Sadhana Camp attended by the local people besides the Sai devotees was held on 22nd April 2006 at Guwahati under the aegis of Sri Sathya Sai Samithi of Guwahati. This marked the beginning

of the first step of the 5-year action plan of the Organisation. Various facets of Bhagavan's Divine Mission were discussed, and it was stressed that more and more people should be involved in Sai activities, specially from rural areas. Besides other speakers, some former students of Bhagavan's institutions also addressed the gathering. The Sadhana Camp came to a close with a brief talk on Bhagavan's Mission specially for students by the State President and offering Arati to Bhagavan by a Primary School student of Bhagavan's Institute.

Gujarat: A Disaster Management Training Camp was organised at Baroda for 2 days on 8th and 9th April 2006 in which 100 youth were provided training. Necessary disaster management equipment kits have been distributed at zonal level for quick action in case of any disaster.

A State-level Seva Sadhana workshop was conducted on 14th and 15th April 2006 at Navsari, in which approximately 1,500 devotees took part. The subjects of the workshop included blood donation, Bhajans, study circle, Veda chanting, Sri Sathya Sai



Organisers and participants at the venue of the mass marriages organised by the Sai Organisation of Gujarat.

Avatar Darshan, Sathya Sai parenting, etc.

A programme of mass marriages of 41 couples (35 Hindu and 6 Muslims) was organised at Dhamdhuma (an interior village) by the Sai Organisation of Gujarat. The marriage ceremony was conducted as per the Hindu and Muslim traditions and rituals. All the 41 newly married couples were provided gifts of utensils, clothes, ornaments and other necessary household items. The function received wide media coverage.

Haryana and Chandigarh: To spread the message of Bhagavan on Unity, Purity and Divinity, workshops based on World Conference held at Prasanthi Nilayam in November 2005, were held in all districts of State at various places wherein 1,210 active workers participated and benefited.

Multifaceted medical camps were held in the various districts of the State. In Chandigarh, 1,020 patients, in Karnal 250 patients, in Hissar 250 patients and in Panchkula 100 patients were examined. Free medicines were provided to all the 1620 patients.

The State conducted two veterinary camps in Hissar district in which 12 doctors provided free tests with free medicines for 466 animals.

Cleanliness drive was undertaken in the State at various places in which hospitals, homes, temples and Gurdwaras were visited; their premises and public toilets were cleaned.

Karnataka: Indiranagar (Bangalore) Samithi of Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation of Karnataka organised an excellent programme at Brindavan on 31st May 2006. The programme commenced with Bhajans led by the ladies and gents devotees of this Samithi after the arrival of Bhagavan in Sai Ramesh Krishan

Hall at 7.35 a.m. This was followed by Veda chanting by the devotees of this Sai Samithi. Thereafter, Sri S.N.S. Murthy, Convener of the Samithi expressed gratitude to Bhagavan for His permission to organise this function in His Divine Presence and prayed to Him to unveil the portrait of Mother Easwamma to mark the declaration of the first floor of Sai Darshan (headquarters of the Samithi) as Easwamma Hall where this portrait was proposed to be installed. Bhagavan graciously unveiled the portrait placed on the dais amidst beautiful floral and other decorations. Simultaneously, the ladies Bhajan singers of Sai Darshan sang a beautiful Bhajan, “*Amba Vandanam Easwamma Vandanam*” in praise of the Divine Mother. The morning programme came to a close with Arati to Bhagavan at 8.20 a.m. Prasadam was distributed to the entire gathering in the end.

Bal Vikas children of Indiranagar Sai Samithi presented a drama portraying the



Bal Vikas children of Indiranagar Sai Samithi presented a drama on the women characters of the Ramayana on 31st May 2006.

women characters of the Ramayana in the evening in Sai Krishan Kalyana Mandapam. The drama began after the arrival of Bhagavan

in Kalyana Mandapam at 4.40 p.m. Starting with the episode of Manthara poisoning the ears of Kaikeyi to prevent Rama's coronation as heir to the kingdom of Ayodhya, the drama ended with the episode of Rama's return to Ayodhya from exile and His coronation as the king of Ayodhya. The women characters portrayed through various episodes enacted by the children included Manthara, Kaikeyi, Sita, Sumitra, Kausalya, Urmila, Sabari, Tara and Mandodari. The drama concluded at 5.50 p.m. with Arati and distribution of Prasadam.

A three-day exhibition intended to convey Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba's message of Educare was held in Sai Krishan Kalyana Mandapam between Wednesday, the 24th and Friday, the 26th of May at Brindavan. The exhibition attracted considerable attention from a large number of visitors. Bhagavan graced the occasion by His visit to the exhibition on the morning of 24th May to signify the inauguration of the event. He went round the exhibition and evinced keen interest in the posters and exhibits displayed. The exhibition contained a display of around 80 computer-generated posters and other exhibits to underline the message of Educare. The Kalyana Mandapam was tastefully decorated in anticipation of Bhagavan's visit.

Kerala: As in the previous years, the Organisation arranged summer camps for selected Bal Vikas children. These were activity-based three-day camps arranged in all the 14 districts of Kerala. The total number of children who participated in these camps was 1,028.

Another important activity was "Mahila Sangamams" which were conducted in all the districts of the State on 23rd April 2006. 1,964 ladies participated in this

full-day programme.

Technology groups have been organised in almost all the districts of the State. They are concentrating on agricultural sector, health education and rain water harvesting. Provision for pure drinking water is another aspect of the work.

Sai parental sessions and teachers training camps are arranged regularly. In one district alone, the educational institutions covered under Sri Sathya Sai Educare programme is 60. A group of teachers is now working on details of integrated teaching and teaching techniques.

Rajasthan: Sri Sathya Sai Seva Samithi, Kota has adopted village Kolipura inhabited by 45 very poor Bhil (a forest tribe) families. These families are being provided with complete food provisions along with clothes, shoes, dresses and books for school-going children. Four hand pumps have been repaired. Their huts have been provided with covering sheets to protect them from rain and heat. There are plans to connect this village with Kota by a 40-km-long road. Arrangements are also being made to provide electrical connections and to improve their means of livelihood.

Festival of Joy was organised in Sanjharia, a village 30 km from Jaipur. In this village, Sai Horizon Public School having 550 students is taken care of by the devotees of Sri Sathya Sai Seva Samithi, Jaipur. Regular spiritual education is imparted in this school. 40 children of this school had attended the Festival of Joy held at Prasanthi Nilayam in October 2005. Inspired by this programme, a 4-hour-long programme of Veda recitation, Bhajans, songs, cultural programmes and speeches was organised. 101 children presented the programme. 300 students, 200 parents, village people and prominent





Disaster management training being provided to the youth for conducting rescue and relief operations during disasters and natural calamities.

guests attended.

Tamil Nadu: Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation, Tamil Nadu has made considerable progress in the area of Disaster Management Training. To put it briefly:

- ❖ All the 24 districts have been covered.
- ❖ Basic equipment has been provided to 15 districts.
- ❖ In all, 770 volunteers have been imparted training.
- ❖ The district teams of Virudhunagar, Tanjore, Salem and Erode are fully operational.
- ❖ This training came in handy during tsunami operations and the teams did a marvellous job.
- ❖ Emphasis is on innovative ideas of rescue, using locally available

materials.

- ❖ In Tirunelveli district, four of our trained youth acted promptly in the middle of the night and put out a fire, thereby saving 200 families and earned the appreciation of the village leaders.

Taking this programme further on to the youth in colleges as Disaster Awareness, a new dimension has been added to it. So far, 665 college students have been imparted training. Separate training sessions were held for girls students by ladies trainers. The level of self-confidence in the youth has considerably increased.

Through this programme, the Organisation is able to reach out to more and more young people of all regions and religions and with Bhagavan's grace, it can bring in tremendous transformation in them.

NOTICE

The donors are requested to mention their name and complete address while sending donation cheques/drafts to enable us to accept the same. These details can be furnished in the covering letter or on the reverse of the cheque/draft. In the absence of the name and complete address of the donor, we will not be able to accept the donation.

We also cannot accept donations from unregistered organisations.

Secretary
Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust

What is the Greatest Dharma?

KASI IS A SACRED CENTRE OF pilgrimage. Lakhs of devotees visit this holy place of Lord Siva with great faith and devotion. It is their belief that by their pilgrimage to Kasi, they will earn the merit to reach Kailas and attain freedom from the cycle of birth and death. Once on a Sivarathri day, seeing the multitudes going for the Darshan of Lord Visweswara at Kasi, Parvati asked Siva, "Lord, do all those who visit Kasi earn the merit of coming to Kailas? Will all these people come to Kailas?" Lord Siva replied, "It is not possible for all the pilgrims of Kasi to come to Kailas. I will show you here and now what type of people from amongst them can come to Kailas. Just see."

Siva and Parvati assumed the forms of an old couple, Parvati as an old woman of eighty years and Siva as an old man of ninety. Both of them came to the main entrance of the temple of Lord Visweswara. Parvati sat there keeping her husband's head in her lap. She begged all the devotees who were entering the temple, "Oh devotees, will anyone of you be kind enough to pour some Ganga water in my husband's mouth to quench his thirst? He is in such a dire state that he may die any moment. I cannot leave him alone and go to fetch water. Kindly help me."

After taking bath in the Ganga, the devotees in their wet clothes were

carrying Ganga water in small vessels into the temple. On hearing the old woman's lament, some of them remarked, "Oh, what a nuisance! We have come for the Darshan of Lord Visweswara, but this Daridra Devata (goddess of poverty) is coming in our way." "Wait, we will have Lord Visweswara's Darshan first and then



None of the devotees paid heed to the entreaties of the old woman for help.

we will pour water into your husband's mouth", some went away saying this. In this manner, none paid any attention to her request.

As there was a big crowd of people near the main entrance of the temple, a thief came there with the intention of picking the pockets of people and snatching the necklaces of women from their necks. On hearing the old woman's lament, he asked her, "Mother, who you are? What makes you come here?" The old woman replied, "We came here to have the Darshan of





“This act of pouring water into this old man’s mouth is the only good deed I can claim to have performed”, admitted the thief.

Lord Visweswara. But my husband has fainted due to intense thirst. I am begging everyone to pour some water into his mouth. But nobody has shown any compassion towards us.”

As the thief was ready to pour water from the dried bottle gourd he was carrying, the woman said, “Son, wait a bit. My husband may die any moment. Kindly speak about any meritorious deed that you have performed before pouring water into his mouth. This is my desire.” Then she cautioned him that he should not speak untruth. The thief did not know what to do. But he spoke thus, “Mother, I am a thief by profession and have committed only sinful deeds

so far. I have not done a single good deed. This act of pouring water into this old man’s mouth is the only good deed I can claim to have performed.” With these words, he poured water into the mouth of the old man.

That very moment, Lord Siva and Parvati appeared before him in their real form and said to him, “Son, human life is meant for the service of others, not for leading a life of selfishness. Though you have done many sinful deeds in the past, today you have done a noble act of service with the feeling of serving others. You have spoken the truth. From now onwards lead a sacred life. There is no greater Dharma than adherence to truth, and no worship greater than serving others.” Blessing him thus, they disappeared.



“There is no greater Dharma than adherence to truth, and no worship greater than serving others”, said Lord Siva and Parvati.

The harder the circumstances, the more trying the environment, the stronger are the men who come out of those circumstances. So, welcome all these outside troubles and anxieties.

– Baba

One Divine Family

The realisation that the whole of mankind is one divine family is the means to understand the basis of society. It is because society is a manifestation of the divine purpose that individuals are enjoined to realise the Divine through living in society and not by getting away from it. The link between social life and spiritual life is not a casual connection. Social life is the very basis of spiritual life. Between the cosmos and man, there is a divine link.

— Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba