

THE GLORY OF SHIRDI SAI

Seventh Year of Publication

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Srikrishna Janamashtami Special

WITH SAI KRUPA

“SAIDARBAR” STEPS IN TO ELEVENTH YEAR

&

“THE GLORY OF SHIRDI SAI” ENTERS THE SEVENTH YEAR

GURUR-BRAHMA, GURUR-VISHNUH; GURU-DEVO MAHESWARAHA;

GURUR-SAKSHATH PARAM BRAHMA; THASMAI SREE GURAVE NAMAHA:

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KRISHNA JANAMASHTAMI

Janma literally means 'birth' and ashtami means the 'eighth day'. The eighth day of the dark fortnight in the month of Bhadrapad is celebrated as Krishna Janmashtami. It commemorates the birth of Krishna, born to annihilate Kansa, the evil king of Mathura. According to the Puranas, Kansa was an evil king of Mathura who had overthrown his father and imprisoned him. His atrocities drove the gods to Vishnu who promised to take his eighth incarnation in the human world. He was then born as Krishna in the 28th year of the Dwapara Yuga. Vishnu took his eighth incarnation of Krishna to kill the evil king Kansa. As per the legend related to Krishna's birth, Kansa had a cousin called Devaki, whom he loved dearly. In due course, Kansa arranged a suitable match for her and married her with great pomp and show. However, an oracle foretold Kansa that Devaki's eighth child would be responsible for his death. Enraged, Kansa was about to slice off her head when her husband Vasudeva intervened.

He begged Kansa not to kill Devaki and in return promised to give him all their children at birth. Kansa agreed, but imprisoned the couple to ensure this. In time, he killed six of their children by throwing them against a stone slab outside the prison. The seventh child however was transferred to the womb of Rohini; another of Vasudeva's wives, and Kansa believed that Devaki had suffered a miscarriage. When she was pregnant with the eighth child, Kansa increased security at the prison and ordered the guards to bring the newborn to him the moment he was born.

At midnight on the eighth day in the month of Shravana, on a dark, rainy and windy night, just before the child was born, the guards all fell into a deep slumber and the locks on the prison door opened. Devaki and Vasudeva too were freed of their binds and Krishna was born. A voice from the heavens instructed Vasudeva to carry Krishna across the Yamuna River to a village called Gokul. There, he should go to the home of his sister Yashoda and her husband Nanda and replace Krishna with their newborn daughter. Vasudeva put his son in a basket and went quickly towards the Yamuna. When he reached the shores, he found the water level rising. He put the basket on his head and began towards the Yamuna. The water level rose but every time it touched the baby's toes, it receded. Suddenly, a cobra sprang out of the water. Vasudeva froze but the snake stopped to spread its hood over the basket. It was Sesha Naga protecting Krishna from the rain. Vasudeva realized his son was no ordinary baby. He hurried to Gokul, exchanged the children and returned to the prison.

As soon as he entered, the locks shut and the guards awoke. Hearing the baby cry, they informed Kansa who rushed to the prison. He was about to smash the little girl against the stone slab, when she slipped out of his hands. As she rose towards the sky, she warned him that the one responsible for his death was safe.

When Krishna grew up, he killed his evil uncle and restored the throne to his grandfather. The image of Krishna is ceremonially bathed in a mixture of curds, milk, honey, dry fruit and basil or tulasi leaves. This mixture is then distributed as prasada to all devotees. The idol is dressed in new clothes and offered food, sweets, fruit and clarified butter. Priests chant mantras from religious scriptures. The temple too reverberates with devotional songs in praise of the god.

Interesting games commemorate this event. One of the most popular is the breaking of the dahi handi or 'pot of curd'. A terracotta pot containing milk, butter and curd is hung high up across a street. Groups of men form a pyramid to try and break this pot. The group that succeeds is named the winner, and the community treats its leader with respect. This game is believed to have been especially dear to Krishna and his friends.

1. FROM THE SATSANGHS OF SAIBANISA JI

FOUNDATION STONES FOR THE SPIRITUAL LIFE

130. To protect the banks of a fully filled tank, you have to release the excess water for cultivation of paddy fields etc., in a similar way, surplus money should be utilized for charities.

131. Keeping all the mighty forces with you and not protecting the weak, keeping the excess money with you and not helping the poor are one and the same.

132. The way the water gets accumulated in a coconut, the money accumulates in life. If you do not drink the coconut water, it will evaporate in the coconut itself. In the same way, if you are not utilizing the money what you have earned, it is lost.

133. You should not be lazy in earning money. Once you have earned the money, you should not be a spendthrift in spending. You should maintain a balance between earning and spending.

134. You have to save the money to such extent which will be useful to your wife and children for meeting the minimum needs.

135. The rivers will not drink its own water; the trees will not eat its own fruits. In the similar way, a noble person will not spend all the money he earned for himself; he will definitely spend towards charities.

136. The rich person is not recognized by his bank balance. He will be recognized only by the way he spends the money for GOOD or BAD.

137. The person who earns money by way of hard work is the best. The person who survives with his parental money is better. The person who lives on others money is the worst.

138. You should be careful with a person who steals your money in the small amounts daily without your knowledge than a person who steals the money at a time.

139. The money you spent for self, your family member's survival and charities is only your money. The rest what you got is not yours. You are like a custodian for it which is in no way useful to you.

To be continued.....

2. SAI'S NEWS FROM THE TIME MACHINE:

August 1918: BABA offered Hemadri Pant a glass of buttermilk and said, "Drink it all, you won't get such opportunity again.

August 1929: Composer of "SAGUNOPASANA" Arati Book, Shri K.A.Bhishma passed away at Mohra in Nagpur District.

August 1982: Swami SaiSharananandaji (WamanRao Patel) passed away at Ahmedabad (Aged 93 years).

August 1984: Administration of SHIRDI SAMSTHAN handed over to the Board of Trustees by the court and Executive officer appointed for day to day administration.

3. QUINTESSENCE OF SRI SAIBABA'S PHILOSOPHY:

(By Late Sri Bharam UmamaheswaraRao)

"Shashi": shashi_31@yahoo.com

34. Self Knowledge can overcome Karma

The Law of Karma means the Law of Causation, of the inevitable is called Karma. Thus Law of Karma means the Law of Causation of the inevitable cause and consequence and of deed and destiny.

Baba says: Whatever action you perform, be it good or bad, whether knowingly or unknowingly, you will one day have to face up to the fruit which comes thereof. Every child arrives into the world bearing burden of unrequited consequence accumulated in previous lives. It is born in this world in order to experience the beneficence and malignant consequences that are the products of its own acts in past lives. Bad actions may not yield bad fruit but be sure to experience it sooner or later.

Karma is really the creator of man, and the Law of Karma, far from being an odious, oriental absurdity advocating fatalism and giving legitimacy to submission, indolence, in fact underlines the importance of personal responsibility and asserts that nobody can get anything unless he earns it. If a fragment of God's grace is secured, a great deal can be accomplished. But without Divine grace, nothing can be achieved. However, human effort is essential.

To be continued...

4. IN THE DAYS OF SHRI SHIRDI SAIBABA

Baba Cured the Mad daughter-in-law of Shri Hari Bhau Karnik

The Daughter –in-law of Shri Haribhau Karnik became mad at her residence in Andheri (Bombay). After receiving this information in the morning, he started in the train at 11 A.M. The train reached Palghar railway station; he saw a Fakir wearing a Kafni was sitting behind him. He told Karnik the Lord Parameshwar has created all the varieties of trees for their utilisation by the humanity as well as by others. But they do not know the significance of their utilisation. I knew them pretty well. Then pointing out to a particular tree, He said that if the leaves of this tree are grinded and the substance given to a Madman, he will be alright. Karnik was in deep thinking for more than three hours and that he came in his senses only after he reached Bandra. Then he saw the Fakir. But the Fakir was not there in his seat. He has gone to his daughter-in-law's house. He has given the substance of the leaves of the tree as told by the Fakir for three days. She became alright. Again she became mad for two years. Then the same leaves were given and she became alright forever. Is it not due to Baba's Grace?

Baba cured the Headache of Shri Raghuvir Bhaskar Purandare

Shri Raghuvir Bhaskar Purandare has built a house as per Baba's orders at Bandra (Bombay). He then suffered severely from headache that he was not in a position to bear it. Hence, he wrote a letter to Baba that instead of giving such pains, it is better to please finish his chapter once for all- and handover the letter to Dr. Pillai who was going to Shirdi, with a request to give it to Baba. Baba then gave Udi and small packet of snuff like substance with instructions to Purandare to take it through his nose. Purandare did like that and the headache abated with no trace of it.

After some days he wrote a letter to Baba to inform him when he should perform Grahapraveshm in the new house. Baba replied that "You may perform Gruhapravesham in the house on Thursday and I too will come along with you". Accordingly on Thursday he proceeded to the new house with Baba's photo in his hand. On the way, he met Baba in Datta Mandir and He also accompanied him to the new house till Purandare kept Baba's photo in the new house and then disappeared. This shows that Baba is ever ready to fulfil the desire of His devotees.

5. DEVOTEES EXPERIENCES:

"Eden Cove" edencove@hotmail.com

Dear Sai Bhaktas

Om Sai Shri Sai Jai Jai Sai

My pranaams to you all. I have gone thru' the site and full of bliss, tears roll down my cheeks. I have been to Shirdi in the year 1975 and may be in the Lendi Baugh, I am Indira Bhagwatee Mulliah, from Mauritius and I came across Him in Person in the year 1975 and it's only when He disappeared that I could recognize Him.... It was for a short moment when He told me that He lost a daughter same as me in the Ganges and when I enquired about her name. He told me her

name was Mehmooda. Actually Mehmooda means Love. Instantly I got a fatherly love for him and as soon as I was thinking of giving him a few paise, he instantly replied that I do not take money from anybody and that I cure millions of people every day.

That time also, I could not grasp who He was.... and then He told me to bend down and he started blowing mantras in Urdu, Hindi and broken English over my head. He was just dressed as Shirdi Baba in white and his head was tied up with a white material.

I then forced Him, of course not knowing who He was to take a coca cola drink with me, but He refused ... and then I dragged him by his hand to take one with me , Finally, he took the bottle, and while I was talking to others nearby, He vanished.... I'm dead sure, it was Shirdi Baba, for when I came back to my country , I read a book "The incredible Sai Baba" by Arthur Osborne and its written on the 1st page that He Greets His Devotees As A Long Lost Child. OH My God, I wish I could renew this extraordinary Experience...But people say that it happens only once in a life time only.

It all happened in Andheri, Mumbai, when Sri Sathya Sai Baba was coming for the Inauguration of the Shanmukhananda Hall. While we were all waiting for Baba to come to the dias, this incident happened. Ever since, I have kept Him with me in my pure little heart. He only purified my heart and hence stays there.

That was only part of an experience with Shirdi Baba.

Yours in His Service.

Indira Mulliah

6. SAI WITH CHILDREN:

Smt. Madhu Gopal Ravada, Saidarbar, Hyderabad.

Hello Children! I am Madhu aunty. Do you know Baba use to play with children and used to tell stories to them? I felt children visiting Saidarbar should be entertained with good stories. Now I want to tell the stories what heard in my child hood.

THE MOUSE WHICH TURNED INTO A LION

In a dense forest lived a great sage named Bhrigu Rishi. He lived a secluded life in a small shelter where he spent his days in prayer. A small mouse also lived near the shelter and over the years became a very pious and an ardent disciple of the sage. Whenever Bhrigu sat deep in meditation or sang hymns in praise of God, the mouse would also sit near him and meditate. His only problem was that being a mouse, he was always in fear of his life from cats, dogs and vultures and this fear was biggest obstacle.

Bhrigu Rishi had been observing the mouse over the years and knew about his fear. Having pity on him, he decided to end this problem, once for all, by transforming the mouse into a lion. He could then move boldly and meditate with peace.

The sage was a hermit with extraordinary powers, acquired over the years through his prayers and meditation. He could achieve or be blessed with whatever he desired by praying to God.

He started his meditation and when he reached the level of supernatural he prayed, "Oh God! The mouse is one of your ardent devotees, but his prayers are disturbed because he lives in fear all the time. I pray that you change him into a lion so that he can overcome this fear".

The almighty granted him this wish and the mouse became a lion. The surprising result of this was that his outlook was also transformed to the attributes of the jungle king. He would roam over the forest freely and all the other animals would bow and greet him fearfully. He has hailed as their leader.

Only the sage knows of his original state of mouse and this reality made him treat him still like a mouse. This was resented by the 'mouse turned lion' because it would affect his dignity. Once the other animals know of it they would then ridicule and disrespect him. He decided to kill the sage, his benefactor, so that the secret was not revealed to others. After being mentally prepared to do the killing, he rushed off to the hermitage. Bhrigu Rishi had extraordinary powers and the moment he saw the lion rushing at him, he read his mind. This ungratefulness made him very angry and he transfixed lion with his stare.

As the lion stood trembling before the sage, he got reverted back to his original physical state of a mouse. If the 'mouse turned lion' had not forgotten his earlier days and thought ill of his benefactor, he would not have been reverted back to mouse again.

Lesson: "Never be ungrateful to your benefactor. A person, who becomes rich or powerful and forgets his earlier periods of misery, is destined to stumble in life, again and again.

Bye children meet you in the next issue

NEWS FROM SAIDARBAR – HYDERABAD

From Sai satcharita chapter 43 & 44

On Wednesday evening (16-10-1918) Baba's body was taken in procession and brought to the Wada and was interred there with due formalities in the garbha, i.e., the central portion reserved for Murlidhar (Srikrishna). In fact Baba became the Murlidhar (Srikrishna) and the Wada became a temple and a holy shrine, where so many devotees went and are going now to find rest and peace.

Sai as Sri krishna Enjoy Audio in TELUGU language

<http://saidarbar.org/7c.html>

<http://saibanisa.blogspot.com/2008/08/discourses-in-telugu.html>

Nine discourses of Saibanisa in TELUGU language in the INTERNET

Sairam

With the divine blessings of SAI, Saidarbar, Hyderabad has uploaded the following nine discourses of Saibanisa (in TELUGU language) in the INTERNET,

1. Ramayanamlo Sainadhudu, 2. Bhagavathamlo Sainadhudu
3. Siva swarupamulo Sainathudu, 4. Gruhastuluaku Sri Sai salahalu
5. Janma Janmalala Lo Sai, 6. Sri Sai tatvamu
7. Nigoodardhalu, 8 Sri Sai Sandesalu, 9. Kalalo Sainadhudu.

We request you to download above Discourses, from

<http://saidarbar.org/7c.html>

<http://saibanisa.blogspot.com/2008/08/discourses-in-telugu.html>

Listen to them with your family members and receive the Blessings of SAI MAATA.

After Downloading the above Discourses please give a feed back on

saibanisa@gmail.com

www.saidarbar.org

SAIDARBAR -TV CHANNEL-INTERNET WORLD TV

On completion of one decade of Saidarbar movement, Sai darbar channel in Internet World Television is in operation from 12-02-2009.

For watching TV, click on the link: <http://saibanisa.blogspot.com>

FOR STARTING A SAIDARBAR CHAPTER OUT SIDE INDIA:

Please contact: saidarbar@gmail.com

7. SPIRITUAL GEMS FROM SAI SATCHARITRA

swamy@saimail.com

Sat, 2 May 2009 18:59:36 +0530

Shri Sai Satcharitra

Chapter XXXIII

Scorpion Sting and Plague Cases Cured - Jamner Miracle - Narayanarao's Sickness - Balabuva sutar - Appasaheb Kulkarni - Haribhau Karnik.

In the last Chapter we described the greatness of the Guru; now in this we will describe the greatness of Udi.

Greatness of Udi

Appasaheb Kulkarni

In 1917 the chance of one Appasaheb Kulkarni came. He was transferred to Thana and began to worship Baba's picture presented to him by Balasaheb Bhate. In real earnest he did the worship. He offered flowers, sandal-paste, and naivedya daily to Baba in the picture and longed intently to see Him. In this connection it may be remarked that seeing Baba's picture earnestly is equivalent to seeing Him in person. The following story illustrates this statement.

Balabuva Sutar

A Saint of Bombay named Balabuva Sutar, who on account of his piety, devotion and bhajan, was called "Modern Tukaram", came to Shirdi for the first time in 1917. When he bowed before Baba, the latter said "I know this man since four years". Balabuva wondered and thought how that could be, as that was his first trip to Shirdi. But thinking about it seriously he recollected that he had prostrated himself four years ago before Baba's portrait at Bombay and was convinced about the significance of Baba's words. He said to himself, "How omniscient and all-pervading are the Saints and how kind are they to their Bhaktas! I merely bowed to His photo, this fact was noticed by Baba and in due time He made me realize that seeing His photo is equivalent to seeing Him in person!"

Sai Ram. Not only seeing and bowing to a photo, but remembering and uttering the name establishes a connection between us and the Saint / God. Though we may forget it at the conscious level, our subconscious stores everything and is open to Saints like Sai. Thus past, present and future are like the pages of an open book to Sai. Sai Ram.

Bow to Shri Sai - Peace be to all
S.V.Swamy

8. ARTICLES FROM SAI DEVOTEES

"Sankaraiah Dubagunta" sainama@yahoo.com

Sri Sai Satyavrata Pooja

Baba declared "I do not need any paraphernalia of worship either eight fold or sixteen fold. I rest there where there is full devotion." At the same time He does good to his friend's i.e. who surrendered themselves to him and who remember him with unchanging faith.

It was in the year 1909 one Bhimaji patil of Poona district (India) suffered from acute tuberculosis. Man looks to god after his efforts to find solutions to the problems fail to produce good results. So also our Bhimaji. He consulted Nanasaheb Chandrorkar who advised him to resort to Baba's feet. He left for Shirdi. On seeing him Baba pointed out that the distance was due to the previous evil karma and he did not leave Baba. Baba was moved and assured his suffering would come to an end.

Doctor's Doctor Sainath gave treatment through the dreams. In the first dream Bhimaji was punished by the school teacher for not reciting poetry lesson. In the second dream someone caused him & intense pain and torture by rolling stone up and down over his chest. With the pain he suffered in the above two dreams, Sai's treatment was over and he went home. As a memory of this happy event Sri Bhimaji started Sri Sai Satya vrata pooja instead of Satya Narayana vrata pooja in his house.

Shri Syama Rao jayakar who was taken to Shirdi by M.V.Pradhan for painting life like picture in oil painting was the painter of famous "Dwarakamai" photo. He narrates that one day one Mr.Varde sought Baba's permission for performing "Satyanarayana" vrata. He brought a small plantain plants and set them on both sides of Baba, to make a pandal and tried to use Baba himself for the God Lakshmi Narayana or Satyanarayana. Though Baba refused, He was ultimately persuaded to accept. Thus Baba himself played the role of Satyanarayana.

Now let us try to analyze and understand what lessons Sai taught us through Bhimaji Patil. One suffers according to one's previous evil karma. But a divine Sainath could save one from the effect of evil karma by making one to suffer as Bhimaji had undergone through dreams. One should be grateful to the lord for interfering and relieving us from evil effects. By playing the role of "Satyanarayana" Sai confirmed He is divine and no difference between him and lord Narayana.

OM SAI SRI SAI JAYA JAYA SAI
D.Sankaraiah

9. LETTERS FROM SAI DEVOTEES

vyas_renish@yahoo.com

Thu, Jul 23, 2009 at 8:07 AM

SaiRam,

You are really doing a very good job. Keep it up and receive the Blessings of Baba.

Thanks

Jai sainath

t_rammohan2002@yahoo.co.in

Sat, Aug 1, 2009 at 4:30 PM

Sairam

Thank u for sending the E-magazine.

RammohanRao

10. SAI'S BOOK WORLD:

Sai Baba - His Divine Glimpses

V. B. Kher

Sterling Publishers Pvt. Ltd

A-59, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase 2,

New Delhi 110020

Tel: 011 26387070 / 26386165

Email

info@sterlingpublishers.com

Shri Sai Baba

V. B. Kher Sterling Publishers Pvt. Ltd

A-59, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase 2,

New Delhi 110020

Tel: 011 26387070 / 26386165

Email: info@sterlingpublishers.com

Sai Baba of Shirdi - A Unique Saint

M. V. Kamath & V. B. Kher

Jaico Publishing House, 121 Mahatma Gandhi Road, Mumbai- 400 023

Sai Sneh Vikas Mehta, Siddharth Publications, 10 DSIDC Scheme-II

Okhla Industrial Area Phase -II

New Delhi - 110 020

Ph: 011-26838658

11. EDITORIAL

Things impressed me from this magazine:

To protect the banks of a fully filled tank, you have to release the excess water for cultivation of paddy fields etc., in a similar way, surplus money should be utilized for charities.

If a fragment of God's grace is secured, a great deal can be accomplished. But without Divine grace, nothing can be achieved. However, human effort is essential.

Sai devotees may write about their Sai activities in their place, essays, articles and poetry on Sai to "The Glory of Shirdi Sai" they may be address their contributions to E-mail id: saidarbar@gmail.com

We shall put in our best efforts to include them in the Glory of Shirdi Sai- the Bi-weekly E - Magazine. Unless the author of the articles instructs, not to publish his/her E-mail id, we will publish them as a matter of routine practice.

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Submitted by

SAI SEVAK SRINIVASA RAO KASTURI.

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