October 2021 SAMARPAN SAMADHI | DUSSERA | DIWALI www.spiritualindia.org अनन्यकोटि ब्रम्हांड नायक साई इस ब्रम्हांड की महासमाधी में लीन होते हुए भी सबके साथ हैं



## **EDITORIAL**



#### "OM SRI SAINATHAYA NAMAHA"

"Sada Nibhavrukshyasya Mulaadhivasat, Sudha Thravinam Thiktamatsya Priyamtham, Tharum Kalapadhikam Sadayantham, Namamishwaram Sadgurum Sainatham"



Wish you all a very Happy Vijaydashmi/Dussehra and Deepawali

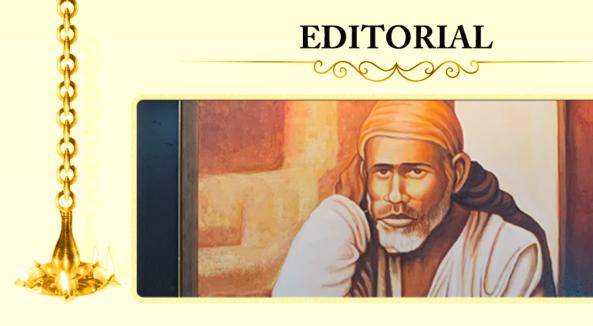
We 'Saibaba' devotees are lucky enough to get 'Sai' devotion towards Him; who created the spiritual and devotional stand in Shirdi that became a pilgrimage and spiritual Temple City of the World. Shirdi became popular with the touch of His feet when He was a Young Lad meditating under the Neem tree with His long hair not caring about heat, cold, rain, hunger, day or night. Millions of people have been getting Baba's blessings and experiences while He was in the Sakar (human) form and even after His Samadhi.

With the kind blessings and grace of *Baba*, we bring you this edition of Samarpan. This project can never be complete without all you Sai devotees throughout the world from different countries who take out time to share your personal experiences with our beloved God, Sai Baba.

We, Team Samarpan, with our heartfelt dedication towards Baba and inspired by His spiritual teachings, pray for the well being of all the readers and also for all the people globally, especially in these pandemic times.

This October 2021 edition, that is being released on the auspicious occasion of Vijaydashmi/Dussehra is very special to all of us. As you may already know that the festivals of Vijaydashmi/Dussehra as well as Deepawali are closely associated with Sai Baba. October is the month when Baba took his Samadhi.

On October 15th (Tuesday) 1918, Baba left his mortal coil and took Mahasamadhi at Buti Wada (now Samadhi Mandir) which was also the auspicious day of Vijaydashmi/ Dussehra. We devotees, all over the world are lucky enough to once again celebrate Vijaydashmi/ Dussehra festival as well as Baba's Samadhi Divas on 15th October 2021.





'Saibaba' is everywhere and with pure heart, we can feel Baba in all creatures, movable and immovable things. If we salute faithfully to Baba, He immediately gives solution to our wants/ problems. Though, physically we are not able to see or touch His feet, but He is always with us and speaks from His Samadhi at Shirdi and gives blessings to millions of people all over the world.

In 1918, Saibaba took his Mahasamadhi and we all the devotees round the globe are very blessed by Baba as we have seen 100th year or centenary celebration of Saibaba Mahasamadhi, taken place all over the world during October 2017 to October 2018. By the esteem grace of *Baba* we are blessed to be part of the 100th year of Baba's Punyatithi and I am extremely happy to inform all the devotees and readers of this Samarpan edition that on 9th February 2018 being a Thursday, with the blessings of Baba got a chance to perform my Bhavan song along with other Bhajan party members at premises of Saibaba Samadhi Mandir, Shirdi. That was one of the most memorable days of my life, I will remember and thank Baba throughout my life.

Last but not the least, I am very grateful to Baba and also to the members of Team Samarpan who have given me this opportunity to be part of Samarpan Editorial for October 2021, edition. I am indebted to Baba for getting me involved in His work through Samarpan. May Baba shower His blessings on everyone!

Once again, on behalf of Team Samarpan, I would like to thank all of you for your overwhelming response to sharing Sai pictures from your Home temples and your personal experiences for this edition of Samarpan.

Om Sai Ram!

Dr. M. Shyam Sunder

## **TEAM SAMARPAN**





## Under Baba's blessings and guidance,

Ravi Verma
Dr. Neeta Pradhan Das
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Neha Vashi
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## Sai Satcharitra Chapter - 42 **BABA'S PASSING AWAY**

Previous Indication - Averting the Death of Ramachandra Dada Patil and Tatya Kote Patil - Charity to Laxmibai Shinde and the Last Moment.

This chapter describes Baba's death.

#### Preliminary

The stories given in the previous chapter have shown that the light of the Guru's grace destroys the fear of our mundane existence, opens up the path of salvation and turns our misery into happiness. If we always remember the feet of our Sadguru, our troubles come to an end, death loses its sting and the misery of this mundane existence is obliterated. Therefore, those who care for their welfare should carefully listen to these stories of Sai Samartha, which will purify their minds.

In the beginning of the original Chapter 42, Hemadpant dwells on Dr.Pandit's worship and his marking Baba's forehead with a Tripundra (three horizontal lines). But as this has already been described in chapter 11, it has been omitted here.

#### Previous Indication

The readers have till now heard the stories of Baba's life. Let them now hear attentively about Baba's passing away. Baba developed a mild fever on the 28th of September, 1918. The fever lasted for about 3 days, but after the fever subsided, Baba did not eat at all and thereby progressively grew weaker.



On the 17th day, Tuesday, the 15th of October 1918, Baba left His mortal coil at about 2.30 p.m. (Vide Professor G.G. Narke's letter, dated 5th November 1918, to Dadasaheb Khaparde, which was published in the Sai Leela magazine). Two years before this, in 1916, Baba gave an indication of His Passing away, but nobody understood it then. It was as follows: On the day of Dasara, Baba went into a wild rage in the evening, when people were returning from the Seemollanghan (ceremony of crossing the border of the village). He took off His head-dress, kafni and langota, tore them up and threw them in the Dhuni before Him. Fed by this offering, the fire in the Dhuni began to burn brighter and Baba shone even brighter. He stood there stark naked and with His eyes burning red shouted, "You fellows now have a look and decide whether I am a Muslim or a Hindu." Everybody was trembling with fear and none dared to approach Baba. After some time, Bhagoji Shinde, the leper devotee, approached Him boldly and succeeded in tying a langota (waist-band) around His waist and said, "Baba, what is all this? Today is the Seemollanghan." Baba striking the ground with His satka said, "This is my Seemollanghan (crossing the border)." Baba's anger did not cool down until about 11.00 p.m. and people doubted whether the chavadi procession would ever take place that night. After an hour, Baba resumed His normal condition and dressing Himself as usual, attended the chavadi procession which was described previously. Through this incident, Baba gave a suggestion that Dasara was the proper time for Him to cross the border of life, but no one understood its meaning. Baba also gave another indication which was as follows:



#### Averting the Death of Ramachandra Dada and Tatya Patil

Sometime after this, Ramachandra Dada became seriously ill and suffered a lot. He tried all kinds of remedies, but was unable to find relief and was waiting for the last moment. One night, Baba suddenly appeared near his pillow; Dada held His Feet and said, "I have lost all hope of life, please tell me when I will die." The merciful Baba said, "Don't be anxious, your death-warrant has been withdrawn and you will soon recover. But I am afraid for Tatya Patil. He will pass away on Vijayadashami of Shaka 1840 (1918 A.D). Do not divulge this to anybody, for he will be terribly frightened." Ramachandra Dada recovered, but he felt anxious about Tatya's life, for he knew that Baba's word was unalterable and that Tatya would breathe his last within two years. He only shared this secret with Bala Shimpi (a tailor and a devotee of Baba). Only these two persons— Ramachandra Dada and Bala Shimpi— were anxious about Tatya's life.

Ramachandra Dada soon left his bed and was back on his feet. Time passed quickly; The month of Bhadrapad of Shaka 1840 (1918 A.D.) was ending and Ashwin was in sight. True to Baba's words, Tatya fell sick and was bed-ridden and could not come to receive Baba's darshan. Baba was also down with fever. Tatya had full faith in Baba and Baba in the Lord, who was His Protector. Tatya's illness went from bad to worse and he could not move at all, but he always remembered Baba. Baba's condition also began to grow equally bad. The day predicted—Vijayadashami— was impending and both Ramachandra Dada and Bala Shimpi were terribly frightened about Tatya. Their bodies trembled and perspired with fear. They thought that as predicted by Baba, Tatya's end was near. Vijayadashami dawned and Tatya's pulse began to slow and he was expected to pass away shortly. But a curious thing happened; Tatya remained, his death was averted and Baba passed away instead. It seemed as if there was an exchange; People said that Baba gave up His life for Tatya.



Why did He do so? Only Baba knows why, as His ways are inscrutable. It seems, however, that through this incident, Baba gave a hint of His passing away, substituting Tatya's name for His.

The next morning (16th of October) Baba appeared to Das Ganu in his dreams at Pandharpur and said to him, "The Masjid collapsed; All the oilmen and grocers of Shirdi teased me a lot, so I am leaving the place. I therefore came to inform you; please go there quickly and cover me with Bhakkal flowers." Das Ganu also found out about Baba's death from letters from Shirdi. So he came to Shirdi with his disciples and started singing bhajans and kirtans and sang the Lord's name, all through the day before Baba's samadhi. He weaved a beautiful garland of flowers studded with the Lord Hari's name, he placed it on Baba's samadhi(divine body) and gave a feast in Baba's name.

#### Charity to Laxmibai

Dasara or Vijayadashami is regarded by all Hindus as the most auspicious time and it is befitting that Baba should choose this time to "cross the border-line". He had been ailing a few days before this, but was always conscious internally. Just before the last moment, He sat up without anybody's aid and looked better. People thought that the danger had passed and that He was getting better. He knew that He was to pass away soon and therefore He wanted to give some money as charity to Laxmibai Shinde.

Laxmibai Shinde was a good and well-to-do woman. She worked in the Masjid day and night. Except Bhagat Mhalasapati, Tatya and Laxmibai, no one was allowed to step into the Masjid at night. Once, while Baba was sitting in the Masjid with Tatya in the evening, Laxmibai came and bowed to Baba.



The latter said to her, "Oh Laxmi, I am very hungry." Off she went, saying, "Baba, please wait a bit, I shall return immediately with bread." She returned with bread and placed the same before Baba. He took it and gave it to a dog. Laxmibai then asked, "What is this Baba? I ran in haste, prepared bread with my own hands for You and You threw it to a dog without eating a morsel of it? You troubled me unnecessarily." Baba replied, "Why do you grieve for nothing? The appearement of the dog's hunger is the same as Mine. The dog has got a soul and though creatures may be different, the hunger of every creature is the same. Be certain that he who feeds the hungry, really serves Me with food. Regard this as an axiomatic Truth." This was an ordinary incident, but Baba thereby propounded a great spiritual truth and showed its practical application in daily life, without hurting anybody's feelings. From this time onward, Laxmibai began to offer Him bread and milk daily, with love and devotion. Baba accepted it and ate it appreciatively. He took a part of this and sent the remainder with Laxmibai to Radha-Krishna-Mai, who always relished and ate Baba's remnant prasad. This story should not be considered a digression, for it shows how Sai Baba pervaded all creatures and transcended them. He is omnipresent, birth-less, deathless and immortal.

Baba remembered Laxmibai's service. How could He forget her? Just before leaving His body, He put His hand in His pocket and gave her 5 rupees and then 4 rupees, in all 9 rupees. This figure (9) is indicative of the nine types of devotion described in chapter 21. Laxmibai was a well-to-do woman and thus she did not really need any money. But Baba might have suggested to her and brought prominently to her notice, the nine characteristics of a good disciple, mentioned in the 6th verse of chapter ten, skandha eleven, of the Bhagwat; In this, first five and then four characteristics are mentioned. Baba followed the order, first paid 5 rupees and then 4 rupees; in all 9 rupees. Many times nine rupees had passed through Laxmibai's hand, but Baba's gift of Nine, she would always remember.



Careful and conscious till the end, Baba also took other precautions in His last moments. In order to not be embroiled or entangled in love and affection for His devotees, He ordered them to leave. Kakasaheb Dixit, Bapusaheb Booty and others were in the Masjid anxiously waiting upon Baba, but He asked them to go to the Wada and return after their meals. They could not leave Baba's presence, nor could they disobey Him. So with heavy hearts and heavy feet they went to the Wada. They knew that Baba's case was very serious and they could not help but think about Him. They sat for meals, but their minds were elsewhere- they were with Baba. Before they finished, news came to them of Baba's leaving the mortal coil. Leaving their dishes, they ran to the Masjid and found that Baba finally rested on Bayaji's lap. He had not fallen down on the ground, nor did He lie on His bed, but sitting quietly on His seat and doing charity with His own hands, threw off the mortal coil. Saints embody themselves and come into this world with a definite mission and after that is fulfilled, they pass away as quietly and easily as they came.

Bow to Shri Sai – Peace be to all

# Om Sai Ram















# Sai Satcharitra Chapter - 43 & 44 BABA'S PASSING AWAY (continued)

Preparation - Placing Baba in the Samadhi-Mandir - Breaking of the Brick 72 Hours' Samadhi - Jog's Sannyas - And Baba's Nectar-like Words

#### Preparation

It is a general practice amongst Hindus that when a man is about to die, specific religious scriptures are read out to him, so that his mind is withdrawn from worldly things and is fixed on God. Thus, his future progress is natural and easy. When the king Parikshiti was cursed by the son of a Brahmin Rishi and was about to die a week later, the great sage Shuka expounded to him the famous Bhagwat Puran. This practice is followed even now and the Gita, Bhagawat and other sacred books are read out to dying persons. Since Baba was an incarnation of God, He needed no such help. But just to set an example for His people, He followed this practice. When He knew that He was to pass away soon, He ordered a man, Mr.Vaze, to read the Ramavijaya to Him. Mr.Vaze read the book once that week; Then Baba asked him to read the same book again day and night and he finished the second reading in three days. Thus, eleven days passed. Then he again read it to Baba for three days and was exhausted. So Baba let him go and continued to meditate. He abided in His Self and was waiting for the last moment.

Two or three days before his death, Baba had stopped His morning peregrinations and begging rounds, and remained in the Masjid. He was conscious till the end and was advising his devotees not to lose heart. He did not let anybody know the exact time of His departure.



Kakasaheb Dixit and Bapusaheb Booty had been dining daily with Him in the Masjid. That day (the 15th of October) after the arati, He asked them to go to their houses and have lunch. Yet, a few devotees(Laxmibai Shinde, Bhagoji Shinde, Bayaji, Laxman Bala Shimpi, Shama and Nanasaheb Nimonkar) did not leave. Shama was sitting on the steps; After giving 9 rupees to Laxmibai Shinde, Baba said that He did not feel well there (in the Masjid) and that He should be taken to Booty's stone Wada, where He would be alright. Saying these last words, He leaned on Bayaji's body and breathed His last. Bhagoji noticed that His breathing had stopped and he immediately told Nanasaheb Nimonkar, who was sitting on the steps below. Nanasaheb brought some water and poured it into Baba's mouth. It came out. Then he cried out loudly, "Oh Deva!" Baba appeared to open His eyes for a moment and say "Ah!" in a low tone. But it soon became evident that Baba had left His body for good.

#### Placing Baba in the Samadhi-Mandir

The news of Baba's passing away spread like wildfire in the village of Shirdi and men, women and children ran to the Masjid and began to mourn His loss in various ways. Some cried out loudly, some wallowed in the streets and some fell down senseless. Tears ran from their eyes and everyone was smitten with sorrow.

Then the question arose: How were they to dispose of Baba's body? Some Muslims said that the body should be interred in an open space with a tomb built over it. Even Khushalchand and Amir Shakkar shared this opinion. But Ramachandra Patil, the village officer, said to the villagers in a firm and determined voice, "Your thought is not acceptable to us; Baba's body should be placed in the Wada." Thus, people were divided in their opinion and discussion regarding this went on for about 36 hours.



On Wednesday morning, Baba appeared in Laxman Mama Joshi's dreams and drawing him by His hand said, "Get up soon; Bapusaheb thinks that I am dead and so he won't come; you do the worship and the morning arati." Laxman Mama was the village astrologer and was Shama's maternal uncle. He was an orthodox Brahmin and worshipped Baba first every morning and then worshipped all the other village deities. He had full faith in Baba; He came that morning with all the pooja materials and despite the protests of the moulvis(muslim priests), performed the Pooja and the arati with all due formalities, and then left. Then at noon, Bapusaheb Jog came with a few others and performed the noon-arati ceremony as usual.

Paying due respect to Baba's words, some villagers decided to place His body in the Wada and started digging the central portion there. On Tuesday evening, the Sub-Inspector came from Rahata, other people also turned up and they all agreed to the proposal. The next morning, Amirbhai came from Bombay and the Mamlatdar also arrived from Kopergaon. Yet, people still seemed divided in their opinion. Some still insisted on interring His body in the open field. The Mamlatdar therefore took a vote and found that the proposal to use the Wada secured double the number of votes of the other option. However, he wanted to refer the matter to the Collector and Kakasaheb Dixit got himself ready to go to Ahmednagar. In the meanwhile, through Baba's grace, there was a change in the opinion of the other people and everyone unanimously voted for the proposal to bury Baba in the Wada. On Wednesday evening, Baba's body was taken in procession and brought to the Wada and was interred there with due formalities in the central portion reserved for Murlidhar. In fact, Baba became Murlidhar and the Wada became a temple and holy shrine, where so many devotees go now to find rest and peace. All the obsequies were duly performed by Balasaheb Bhate and Upasani Maharaj, a great devotee of Baba.



#### The Breaking of the Brick

A few days before Baba's departure, there was an ominous sign foreboding the event. In the Masjid, there was an old brick on which Baba rested His hand. At night time, He leaned against it. Baba had used this brick for many years. One day when Baba was not in the Masjid, a boy who was sweeping the floor picked it up and accidentally broke it. When Baba came to know about this, He bemoaned its loss crying, "It is not the brick, but My fate that has been broken into pieces; It was My life-long companion; With it, I always meditated on the Self; it was as dear to Me as My life; it has left Me today." Some may raise a question, "Why should Baba express such sorrow for an inanimate brick?" To this, Hemadpant replies that saints incarnate in this world with the express mission of saving poor and helpless people; And when they embody themselves and interact with these people, they act like them. On the outside they laugh, play and cry like everyone else, but inwardly they are wide awake to their duties and mission.

#### 72 Hours' Samadhi

Thirty two years before this, in 1886 A.D., Baba made an attempt to cross the border line of life. On a full moon day, Baba suffered from a severe attack of asthma. To get rid of it, Baba decided to take His prana high up and go into samadhi. He said to Bhagat Mhalasapati, "Protect My body for three days. If I return, everything will be fine; if I do not, bury My body in that open land (pointing to it) and fix two flags there as a mark." Saying this, Baba fell down senseless at about 10 P.M. His breathing stopped and so did His pulse; It seemed as if His prana had left His body. All the villagers came there and wanted to hold an inquest and bury the body in the place pointed to by Baba. But Mhalasapati prevented this; With Baba's body on his lap, he sat there for three days, guarding it.



After three days passed, Baba showed signs of life at about 3 A.M. He began breathing again and His abdomen began to move. His eyes opened and stretching His limbs, Baba returned to life again.

From this and other accounts, let the readers consider whether Sai Baba was the three and a half cubits' body that He occupied or the Self inside it. The body, composed of the five elements is perishable and transient, but the Self within isn'tit is the Absolute Reality which is immortal and non-transient. The pure Consciousness of Being or Brahma, the Ruler and Controller of the senses and mind is Sai. This pervades all things in the universe and there is no space without it. To fulfill His mission, He assumed the body and after it was fulfilled, He threw away the body (the finite existence) and resumed His infinite existence. Sai always lives, as do the previous Incarnations of God. His passing away is only an outward aspect, but in reality He pervades all animate and inanimate things and is their Inner Controller and Ruler. This can be and is even now experienced by many who surrender themselves completely to Him and worship Him with wholehearted devotion.

Though it is not possible for us to see Baba's form now, if we go to Shirdi we shall find His beautiful life-like portrait adorning the Samadhi Mandir. This was painted by Shamrao Jaykar, a famous artist and well-known devotee of Baba. To an imaginative and devout viewer, this portrait can even today provide the satisfaction of receiving Baba's darshana. Though Baba has no physical body now, He lives everywhere and will affect the welfare of His devotees. Saints like Baba never die; although they look like men, they are in fact God.



#### Bapusaheb Jog's Sannyas

Hemadpant closes this chapter with the account of Jog's sannyas(renunciation of worldly life). Sakharam Hari, alias Bapusaheb Jog, was an uncle of the famous Varkari Vishnubuva Jog of Poona. After his retirement from Government Service (He was a Supervisor in the P.W. Department) in 1909, he came and lived in Shirdi with his wife. He had no children. Both husband and wife loved Baba and spent all their time worshipping and serving Baba. After Megha's death, Bapusaheb performed the daily arati ceremony in the Masjid and Chavadi till Baba's maha-samadhi. He was also entrusted with the work of reading and explaining the Inaneshwari and Ekanathi Bhagawat to the audience in Sathe's Wada. After serving for many years, Jog asked Baba, "I have served you for so long, yet my mind is not calm and composed. How is it that my contact with a Saint has not improved me? When will You bless me?" Hearing Jog's prayer, Baba replied, "In due course, your bad actions (and their fruit or result) will be destroyed, your merits and demerits will be reduced to ashes and I shall consider you blessed. Then you will renounce all attachments and conquer lust and palate. And thereby getting rid of all impediments, you will serve God wholeheartedly and resort to the begging bowl (accept sannyas)." After some time, Baba's words came true; His wife passed away and as he had no other attachments, he became free and accepted sannyas before his death, and realized the goal of his life.



#### Baba's Nectar-like Words

The kind and merciful Sai Baba said the following sweet words many a times: "He who loves Me dearly, always sees Me. The whole world is desolate to him without Me; he tells no stories but Mine. He continuously meditates upon Me and always chants My name. I feel indebted to him who surrenders himself completely to Me and always remembers Me. I shall repay his debt by giving him salvation (self-realization). I am dependent on him who thinks and hungers after Me and who does not eat anything without first offering it to Me. He who thus comes to Me, becomes one with Me, just as a river merges with the sea. So abandon pride and egoism and surrender yourself to Me, Who is seated in your heart."

#### Who is this ME?

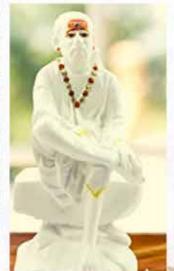
Sai Baba explained who this 'Me' is, on several occasions. He said, "You need not go anywhere in search of Me. Barring your name and form, there exists in you, as well as in all beings, a sense of Being or Consciousness of Existence. That is 'Me'. Knowing this, you see Me inside yourself, as well as in all beings. If you practice this, you will realize all-pervasiveness and thus attain oneness with Me."

Hemadpant therefore, bows before the readers and requests humbly and lovingly that they should love and respect all Gods, saints and people. As Baba often said, "He who carps and cavils at others, pierces Me in the heart and injures Me. But he who suffers and endures, pleases Me the most." Baba thus pervades all beings and creatures and besets them on all sides. He likes nothing better than love for all beings. Such nectar and pure ambrosia always flowed from Baba's lips. Hemadpant therefore concludes that those who lovingly sing of Baba's fame and those who hear the same with devotion, both become one with Sai.

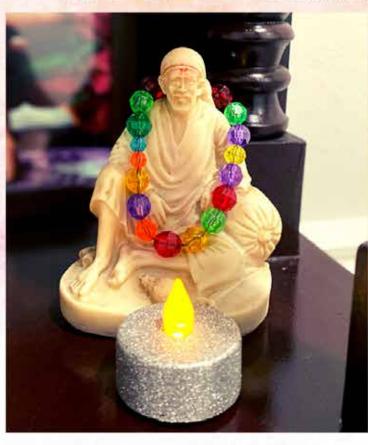
Bow to Shri Sai - Peace be to all

















# OM SAI RAM

# साई भजन

by Satvinder Chadha

साई साई सार हैं जीवन आधार हैं जप ले बंदे साई नाम बन जाएंगे बिगड़े काम साई साई सार हैं जीवन आधार हैं

पानी से दीपक जलाए शिरडी को रोशन किया मन में बसा ले साई नाम जीवन तेरा रोशन होगा साई साई सार हैं जीवन आधार हैं

जीवन का हर मोड आसान जपले बस तू साई राम हर संकट को हर लेता हैं हमारी परीक्षा वो देता हैं साई साई सार हैं, जीवन आधार हैं

क्षद्धा और सबुरी का जिसने भी मान रखा उसपर साई ने अपना विशेष ही ध्यान रखा साई साई सार हैं जीवन आधार हैं जप ले बंदे साई नाम बन जाएंगे बिगड़े काम



My first US trip by Vidhya

#### Om Sai Ram!

I am pleased to share my experience with all of you. Though, it is old, it was truly a magical experience for me.

It was 2006 when I first travelled to the US. Travelling to the US for work has always been my dream and I was all excited. I had a connecting flight in Atlanta and my destination was Dallas, TX. My flight was delayed and landed in Atlanta 4 hours late.

I was not sure at that point how it works. If my connecting flight gets canceled, should I pay for it? I did not have more than USD 100 in cash and I didn't know if my card would work there (please remember, it was my very first abroad trip, so I had no clue). Those days, international calling was not easy. My phone did not have that feature. So I didn't know whom to call to ask or where to go. I went to the counter to check about my connecting flight and they said it already left and they will put me onto a different flight which was around 10.45 in the night which meant I would land in Dallas around midnight or later.

I got scared as to how I will go from there to the hotel. If I don't check in at the hotel, will they cancel my booking. So basically I was panicking for every small thing and I started crying. Then I prayed to Baba to help me. My only prayer was that somehow, He should help me to land in Dallas safely and go to the hotel and make them understand that my flight was canceled and even if I don't travel again to the US, I will be fine but please get me through this trip.

That is when the Miracle happened. There was one family who looked like Indians waiting for the flight, so I decided to talk to them and ask for guidance.



When I spoke to them, I found that they are from Pakistan but they were going to NY from there.

But they said, their Aunt will reach out as she is travelling to Dallas - "Don't worry, we will ask her to help you!" Their Aunt came after 15 mins. This family introduced me to her and she said, she is travelling to Dallas and she will be happy to help. Somehow I got my seat switched next to her. I told her the background and she smiled and said, "Don't worry beta, you can come home with me and I will ask my son to drop you in the morning at the hotel and he can talk to them". She must be 60-65+ years old. She even gave me some food that they had packed for the flight.

Then we started talking about how long she was in the US and what her son does, etc., She told me that originally she was from India and she had moved to Pakistan once she got married. She lost her husband when they moved to the US and she raised her son alone in a whole different country.

Then she said, her relatives are still in India in Ahmed Nagar near Shirdi where she was born and brought up. Hearing this, I was in tears and I told her that I prayed to Sai to help me somehow and He sent you. Then she started saying, her parents and grandparents have met our Sai. She was raised in Ahmed Nagar where all they can hear is His praise and how people are devoted to Sai and she used to visit Dwarakamai almost every week. I got goosebumps and was crying throughout. I felt like it was my Sai who travelled with me to help me reach my destination all along. Even after so many years, I remember each and every conversation I had with her and what happened that day.

Baba will go to any extent to save His children. All you need is to have Belief and Faith in him completely.

Om Sai Ram



# When I got pulled in for Baba's Palki procession! by Purnima Dheeraj Guliani

Jai Sai Ram!

Baba is very kind and loving to all His devotees and to share an experience of Baba with Sai devotees is nothing less than a blessing in itself, because when you are sharing your experiences, you feel that Blessing, that Moment of Magic all over again and in the bargain, you also end up inspiring the readers to look out and remember their own Experiences and Blessings.

Before the advent of CORONA pandemic, when life was the Old Normal, me and my husband used to frequently visit a temple of Baba in Gurgaon, India where they have Palki procession on every Thursday. It is very similar to what is done in Shirdi and trust me, being a part of that ceremony in itself is a blessing.

Once my elder sister was visiting us from out of town and the three of us (Me, my sister and my husband) reached the temple well in time to be part of the ceremony on a Thursday evening. To maintain the decorum of Palki, only a blessed few, who are members of the Temple Committee, are included in carrying out the procession. The officiating members carry the Palki surrounded by Bhajan, Musical instruments being played. The devotees can standby and pray and enjoy the aura and get soaked in the divine powers of Baba during the whole ceremony from outside the rope that is carried by the guards to avoid confusion and wrong entry. A little walk with the Palki from Baba's temple to Chavadi is carried out, followed by Pooja in the Chavadi and then back.



Not sure about you but I am mentally enjoying the Palki procession in my mind, right now!

On that Thursday, we were just standing and looking at Baba's Palki and praying and I had tears of devotion flowing from my eyes and prayers were going on.....when suddenly, I felt that a lady pulled me in from under the rope and I was allowed to see Baba so much close and I was blessed to become part of Baba's Palki Procession from so close, that too, without any special position in the Temple Committee or any approach for the same. It felt like that my Bhakti was accepted. My sister, who was also equally soaked in emotions was also pulled in after a short while. My husband, who is also a staunch devotee of Baba, just stood there, feeling blessed and happy for both of us, as both, me and my sister were indeed going through some issues and that inclusion felt like Baba's direct Ashirwad to us.

After the Palki, we tried to look for that Lady (who we got to know is the Committee Head of the Temple), so we could convey our gratitude and we did get to meet her eventually. She said, we never allow people to cross that rope and come in usually but it felt like "Baba told me to get you both in the procession, so I did", so please "Don't thank me, but thank Baba instead!"

Thank you, Team Samarpan for asking for an experience and helping me Live that beautiful Miracle and that Blessing of Baba all over again! Sometimes, all we need is a little remembrance to get more close, more connected and more devoted to your Guru, your Teacher, your God, who for me is my *SAI BABA!* 

Jai Sai Ram!



# Baba gave peace to my doubting mind

by Ravi Chaturvedi

I am a very simple and humble Sai devotee immersed in Sai 24 × 7. Some years ago, Bhagwan Sai gave me this fine opportunity to be in his company all the time. I feel so blessed.

During 2011, I went to Bangalore and stayed with my sister's family. We all used to watch in the evening Ramanand Sagar's "Sai Baba". We were all so inspired by it and never used to miss even one episode. At dinner table every night we used to discuss that day's episode.

By the grace of Bhagwan Sai we all visited Shirdi and stayed there for four days during the same trip. Before that I want to inform all that I was a devotee of Mata Vaishno Devi and had visited Her holy shrine 12 times.

During my Shirdi trip, even though I was fully immersed in Sai Bhakti my consciousness was pricking me for switching my devotion from Mata Rani to Sai ...Internally, I was questioning myself - Am I a politician? Switching my alliances in devotion, is this correct?

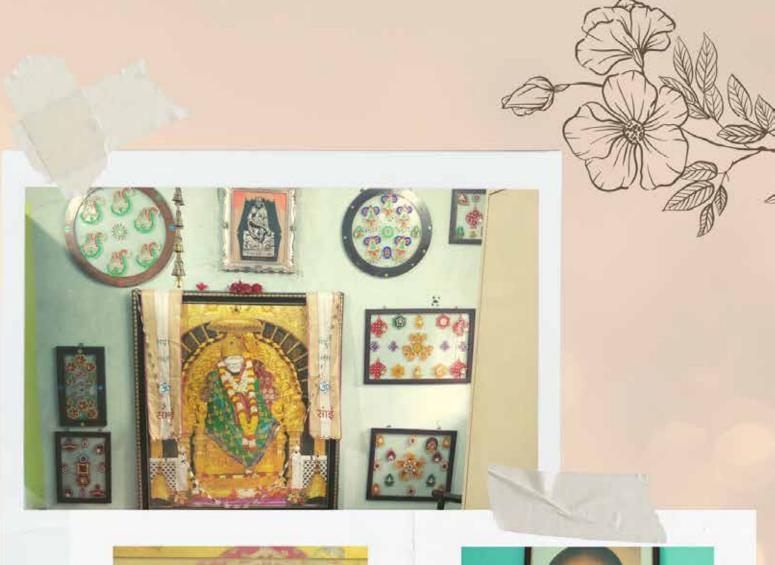
On the final day, before leaving Shirdi, I went to Dwarkamai and prayed to Baba. It's my habit to buy a locket and hang around my neck for happiness and protection, whichever holy place I visit. So, I went to a shop and searched and selected a beautiful locket, on which, one side there was a picture of Sai and on the other side it was picture of Maa Sherawali. Maybe with this little Leela, Bhagwan Sai indicated to me that, Baba and Mata Rani are one and the same.



When I asked for the price, the shopkeeper examined the locket and after couple of inquiries from staff, he said to me.. "Sir you pay whatever you want. I don't know how this locket is here. I have no knowledge about it."

Isn't this amazing. This indeed further clarified my doubts. My Faith and Belief in Baba became much stronger since this great Sai miracle in my life.

Om Sai Ram







Om Sai Ram



### My Experience with our Beloved Sai Baba by Radhika Ramnath

#### Om Sairam

I would like to thank the whole team of Sai Samarpan, who gave me this opportunity to share our Saibaba's experience in my life. Feeling really blessed to share this article with this team.

Right from my childhood, I have had a strong attachment, faith and belief towards our Saibaba. I have experienced a lot of miracles in my life. Each and every day I chant Baba's name. Blessings of Baba strengthen me and my mind. I have undergone lots of hurdles in my life. With the grace of Baba's blessings, I have crossed many hard-core situations and it empowers me to face any kind of hard situation in life. Life is not always smooth; we have to face lot of challenges and consequences as well.

This particular incident happened few days back. I was feeling low and fed up with some personal problem, all of a sudden I heard some voice inside me that gave me lot of confidence and support to handle the situation. That voice gave me positive vibrations inside me and kept me alive and happy and also helped me to stand up in any kind of hard situation. The positive words and encouragement has taken me to another world to live in.

I strongly believe it is Baba, who spoke these words and I can hear the same voice whenever I am feeling down. That voice is really powerful and positive and it doesn't allow me to stay alone. I heard these words "I am there for you, you hold My hands tightly, things will be fine soon". After hearing that voice, I felt some positive vibration inside me and felt blessed too.



Daily before I go to bed and after I wake up, first word I say is "Om Sairam". Feeling really blessed and I have no words to express my happiness and gratitude. I only need Baba's blessings and grace to lead my life. That is more than enough for me. Till my last breath I will chant Baba's name and recite his stories and Leelas. May Baba's blessings shower on one and all.

Stay safe and stay blessed.

Om Sai Sri Sai Jai Jai Sai Sri Sai.



### My Shirdi visit prayer by Ashima Jhamb

I am a staunch Sai devotee and have always felt Baba's presence in my life. Since I got the mail to share Baba's experience of life, from that very day, so many times I thought of writing about the blessings of Baba but I don't know, I have been unable to write because of my silly excuses. Finally today, I have decided and prayed to Baba that He must fulfil my wish also.

My husband got his Kidney Transplant done in the year 2015. With Baba's blessings, everything went so smoothly and I truly believe that Baba was the Surgeon Himself and He was the one operating my husband. 2014 and 2015 were very tough years for me but with the blessings of Baba everything went off smoothly. In the year 2016 my husband was diagnosed with chronic liver problem. On the day of my Marriage Anniversary in 2016 some tests were going on and I was very upset and tensed. Sitting in the Hospital, I was complaining to Baba "Why me again?" I was totally shattered that day and I complained/prayed to Baba "is it possible that some time I could be in Shirdi on the day of my Anniversary." As time passed, I forgot about my complaint/prayer.

In 2018, on the day of my Anniversary I was in Shirdi with my friends but not with husband. Then I remembered "maine to sirf apne liye hi bola tha" (I had prayed only for myself not for us together). During that visit, I prayed to Baba for my husband's quick recovery and with Baba's grace, now my husband is also recovering from that problem.

I always believe that whatever happens with me it's only because of Baba. Love you Baba



# Baba cured my Wife

by Thippeswamy V

I am really blessed by Lord Sai Baba. Recently, I have been appointed as a Special Officer in Nrupathunga University, Bangalore. In my life so far, I have experienced many miracles of Baba.

I would like to share the one about my wife, when she was suffering from A Plastic Anemia disease.. Her Hemoglobin was 4% and Platelets were 2000 to 3000. She was admitted to CMC Hospital at Vellore. We were in Vellore for treatment for more than 7 months. Daily I was reading Sai Satcharitra with a hope and prayer that my wife will get well by the grace of Lord Sai Baba. Really Baba is great.

Ultimately my wife got well and we came back to Bangalore. Even now, we visit Shirdi very often.

One more important thing is, really Baba blessed me to correct many spelling and grammar mistakes in Sai Satcharitra - Kannada version. Now, the corrected book is reprinted and available for devotees of Lord Sai Baba.

OM SAI RAM



## When Baba called me to Shirdi by Dinesh Patel

Dear Sai Devotees,

I always like reading experiences of other Sai devotees. There are so many Saints, all around the world and many people experience their presence when their hearts are open but I am sure, very few have experiences that we have of our Sai's presence.

I live in UK, but my mother lives in Gujarat and I go and visit her as often as I can. Way back in 1995, while I was staying with my mother in her village, I decided to visit some of my friends and we went to Madhavpur to a retreat farm for meditation and relaxation. On my way back we were travelling by train to Nayad. I was sitting opposite a friend I met at the retreat and we were happily talking about our spiritual experiences. Then all of a sudden, towards the end of our conversation, he asked me to see a Swami Ji in Patlad who was a Sai follower before my return to UK.

As soon as I reached home, I told my mother about this and discussed with her, if I should go or not, to see this Swami Ji? My mother encouraged me to go and see him.

When I met this Swami Ji, I had a spiritual experience there and then and I knew this man was not an ordinary person. In a very simple old house he had photos of Sai all over. He made me feel welcome and asked a little about me and inquired about my return date to UK. I told him, it was in 3 days time and I have a confirmed return ticket.



He asked me to cancel my booking and go to Shirdi. I asked him - "why go to Shirdi when I do not even believe in Sai?". He said - "I cannot force you but you will miss a spiritual connection with a great saint, if you don't go!".

Something about that Swami ji radiated Truth and Peace about him. I said ok, if I can cancel my booking and rebook I will go to Shirdi. I also said because I come from UK, I am not sure how to go to Shirdi on my own. He said - "Do not worry about that go and cancel your booking first". I phoned my friend in Mumbai to go to Air India office and personally cancel and rebook my ticket. Around 2 hours later I phoned my friend and he said your rebooking is done and there was no charge. I knew this was a good sign:)

I was quite surprised what was happening and told Swami ji that now I feel comfortable to go to Shirdi. He gave me address of a young man who lived in Khambat-Cambay who would come with me.I thanked Swami ji and went to see the young man on my way home. I think that day was Thursday and I was supposed to go to Shirdi on Saturday. When I met the young man he said he knows Swami ji and would love to come with me but his boss had gone for a business meeting and will not be back until Monday. I felt disappointed but said fine I will go on my own.

On Saturday, I decided to go by Train on my own. Just before I was about to go the young man turned up and said his boss came back on Friday night as his meeting was canceled. I suppose Baba was testing me. We went to Shirdi and on the first day I was asked to sit in Dwarkamai for 12 hours reading "Sai Satcharitra". It was not easy for a NRI like me to sit for 12 hours but with Baba's grace it happened. It felt like during deep meditation, I indeed had a conversation with Baba (I saw Him and fell at His feet) and I got up in the morning with the sound of the temple bells ringing. I did have a wonderful spiritual experience and Baba has been guiding me ever since.



Another wonderful spiritual experience worth mentioning happened in UK. There was Baba's movie - a story about Shirdi Sai Baba in Leicester, UK in 2001. We live about an hour drive from Leicester. When we reached the cinema, we were told it was not at that cinema but another one with same name in the main town of Leicester. I and my wife went to the other cinema but were already half hour late. We could not find parking. At one time we thought of going back as we would have missed the beginning of the film. Then I thought while we are here we might as well have darshan of Baba.

I asked Baba to find me a parking and within minutes we found it. We bought our tickets and sat in the cinema. We were surprised the film had not started and even more surprised that there was nobody else in the cinema besides us. We did not know what was happening. Just then the manager came in and inquired if we had come to see Baba's movie. We said said "yes". We were surprised when he said - "Fine I will start the film just for you". Baba gave us a personal viewing for just 2 of us.

What a Darshan gift from Baba.

# **Om Sai Ram**





Shraddha & Saburi



#### Baba is listening to all our Heartfelt Prayers by Shobha Rao

Sai Baba, You are my inspiration. I always connect with You, I speak to You and I always get a reply from Baba.

I would like to share a story about my experience with Sai Baba. Due to Baba's blessings, after 2 years of my marriage, I conceived. I was very anxious and always used to be scared, thinking about baby's health and well being. While remembering Baba and praying, I asked in my heart, "Why cannot Baba come and clear my fear?". I always used to pray that Baba should come on His own and give me comfort and blessing for this child.

When I was 8 months pregnant, while I was remembering Baba, I noticed from the window that a Van playing Baba's songs, decorated with Baba's pictures and accompanied by Baba's followers from Shirdi were moving on the road, like a small procession.

Surprisingly enough, just when I opened the door to take the blessings of Baba, the same time they were already standing at our doorstep. I just opened the door and before I could ask any questions or say something - the priest leading the procession said: "Don't worry about the baby, it is healthy and you will be blessed with a boy child very soon". They gave us Prasad, flowers, etc., blessed us and left. My family and me were so happy with their words and I was blessed with a healthy boy baby at the due time.

I truly believe that where there is Bhakti and Belief in Sai, He will always will be there for you.



#### Baba's Miracle

by Krishna Kumar

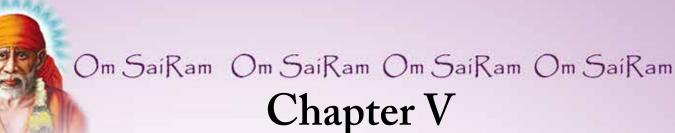
Om Sai Ram,

Baba came into my life in early nineties when I was posted in London. Baba strangely inspired his ardent devotees, Mr. Minoo Wadia and Mr.P.S.Nagpal, to recommend my deployment in Indian High Commission. I remained there only for a few months before I got promoted. But the holy company of these Sai devotees changed my life entirely. Gradually, Sai Baba became an integral part of my life. Since then, I have experienced Baba's blessings on numerous occasions. In the recent past, whenever I found myself in a fix, I would call for His help and before I opened my eyes to meet Baba's kind gaze, the miracle would have taken place.

Once during my appointment in Yemen, a close friend of mine from Nepal was deputed as Chief Security Officer. Unfortunately, he was kidnapped and brutally beaten up by his rivals, who threw him down the highway thinking he was dead. They also drove away his newly bought Land Cruiser. My friend survived the ordeal, but he was very saddened by the loss of the Land Cruiser.

I tried to console him by giving him a photo card of "Sai Baba" and prayed to Baba to heal his wounds and make early recovery of his loss. When he came to the door to bid us good bye, to our astonishment, someone from the local police was already waiting there to hand over his Land Cruiser to him. Is this not a Miracle?

Once we surrender to Baba and allow Him to enter our life following His precepts of Shraddha and Saboori, His Raham Nazar (merciful look) will always protect us.



Sai Satcharitra

Baba's Return with Chand Patil's Marriage - party - Welcomed and Addressed as "Sai" - Contact with Other Saints - His Dress and Daily Routine - The Story of the Padukas - Wrestling Bout with Mohdin and Change in Life - Turning Water into Oil - The Pseudo - Guru Javhar Ali.

#### Return with Chand Patil's Marriage - Party

As hinted in the last Chapter, I shall now describe first how Sai Baba returned to Shirdi after His disappearance.

There lived in the Aurangabad District (Nizam State), in a village called Dhoop, a well-to-do Mahomedan gentleman by name Chand Patil. While he was making a trip to Aurangabad, he lost his mare. For two long months, he made a diligent search but could get no trace of the lost mare. After being disappointed, he returned from Aurangabad with the saddle on his back. After travelling four Koss and a half, he came, on the way, to a mango tree under the foot of which sat a RAT-NA (queer fellow). He had a cap on His head, wore Kafni (long robe) and had a "Satka" (short stick) under His armpit and He was preparing to smoke a Chilim (pipe). On seeing Chand Patil pass by the way, He called out to him and asked him to have a smoke and to rest a little.

The Fakir asked him about the saddle. Chand Patil replied that it was of his mare, which was lost. The queer fellow or Fakir asked him to make a search in the Nala close by. . He went and the wonder of wonders! He found out the mare. . He thought that this Fakir was not an ordinary

man, but an Avalia (a great saint). He returned to the Fakir with the mare. The Chilim was ready for being smoked, but two things wanting; (1) fire to light the

pipe, and (2) water to wet the chhapi (piece of cloth through which smoke is drawn up). The Fakir took His prong and thrust it forcibly into the ground and out came a live burning coal, which He put on the pipe. Then He dashed the Satka on the ground, from whence water began to ooze. The chhapi was wetted with that water, was then wrung out and wrapped round the pipe. Thus everything being complete, the Fakir smoked the Chilim and then gave it also to Chand Patil. On seeing all this, Chand Patil was wonderstruck. He requested the Fakir to come to his home and accept his hospitality. Next day He went to the Patil's house and stayed there for some time. The Patil was a village - officer of Dhoop. His wife's brother's son was to be married and the bride was from Shirdi. So Patil made preparations to start for Shirdi for the marriage. The Fakir also accompanied the marriage-party. The marriage went off without any hitch, the party returned to Dhoop, except the Fakir alone stayed in Shirdi, and remained there forever.

#### How the Fakir Got the Name Sai

When the marriage - party came to Shirdi, it alighted at the foot of a Banyan tree in Bhagat Mhalsapati's field near Khandoba's temple. The carts were loosened in the open courtyard of Khandoba's temple., and the members of the party descended one by one, and the Fakir also

also got down. Bhagat Mhalsapati saw the young Fakir getting down and accosted Him "YA SAI" (Welcome Sai). Others also addressed Him as Sai and thenceforth he became known as Sai Baba.

#### **Contact with Other Saints**

Sai Baba began to stay in a deserted Masjid. One Saint named Devidas was living in Shirdi many years before Baba came there. Baba liked his company. He stayed with him in the Maruti temple, in the Chavadi, and some time lived alone. Then came another Saint by name Jankidas. Baba spent most of His time in talking with him, or Jankidas went to Baba's residence. So also one Vaishya householder Saint, from Puntambe by name Gangagir always frequented Shirdi. When he first saw Sai Baba, carrying pitchers of water in both hands, for watering the garden, he was amazed and said openly, "Blessed is Shirdi, that it got this precious Jewel. This man is carrying water today; but He is not an ordinary fellow. As this land (Shirdi) was lucky and meritorious, it secured this Jewel." So also one famous Saint by name Anandnath of Yewala Math, a disciple of Akkalkot Maharaj came to Shirdi with some Shirdi people. When he saw Sai Baba, he said openly, "This is a precious Diamond in reality. Though he looks like an ordinary man, he is not a 'gar' (ordinary stone) but a Diamond. You will realize this in the near future." Saying this he returned to Yewala. This was said while Sai Baba was a youngster.

#### Baba's Dress and Daily Routine

In his young days, Sai Baba grew hair on His head; never had His head shaved. He dressed like an athlete. When He went to Rahata (3 miles

from Shirdi), He brought with Him small plants of Merry Gold, Jai and Jui, and after cleaning, he planted and watered them. A devotee by name Vaman Tatya supplied Him daily with two earthen pitchers. With these Baba Himself used to water the plants.

He drew water from the well and carried the pitchers on His shoulders. In the evening the pitchers were kept at the foot of the Neem tree. As soon as they were placed

there, they were broken, as they were made of raw earth and not baked. Next day, Tatya supplied two fresh pitchers. This course went on for 3 years; and with Sai Baba's toil and labour, there grew a flower garden. On this site, at present, stands the big mansion - Samadhi Mandir of Baba, which is now frequented and used by so many devotees.

#### The Story of Padukas (foot-prints) under the Neem Tree

A devotee of Akkalkot Maharaj by name Bhai Krishnaji Alibagkar worshipped the photo of Akkalkot Maharaj. He once thought of going to Akkalkot (Sholapur District), taking the darshana of the Padukas (footprints) of the Maharaj and offering his sincere worship there; but before he could go there, he got a vision in his dream. Akkalkot Maharaj appeared in the vision and said to him - "Now Shirdi is my resting place, go there and offer your Worship." So Bhai changed his plan and came to Shirdi, worshipped Baba, stayed there for six months and was happy. As a reminiscence of this vision etc., he prepared the Padukas and installed them on an auspicious day of Shravan, Shaka 1834 (1912 A.D.) under the Neem tree with due ceremonies and formalities, conducted by Dada Kelkar and Upasani. One Dixit Brahmin was appointed for worship, and the management was entrusted to devotee Sagun.

#### Complete Version of this Story

Mr. B.V. Deo, Retired Mamalatdar of Thana, and a great devotee of Sai Baba, made enquired about this matter with Sagun Meru Naik and Govind Kamlakar Dixit and has published a full

Om SaiRam Om SaiRam Om SaiRam Om SaiRam version of the Padukas in Sai Leela Vol. 11, No. 1, page 25. It runs as follows:

In 1834 Shaka (1912 A.D.) one Doctor Ramarao Kothare of Bombay came to Shirdi for Baba's darshana. His compounder; and his friend, Bhai Krishnaji Alibagkar, accompanied him. The compounder and Bhai became intimate with Sagun Meru Naik and G.K. Dixit. While discussing things, these persons thought that there must be some memorial of the fact of Sai Baba's first coming to Shirdi and sitting under the holy Neem tree. They thought of installing Baba's Padukas there and were going to make them of some rough stones. Then Bhai's friend, the compounder, suggested that if this matter be made known to his master, Dr. Ramarao Kothare, who would prepare nice Padukas for this purpose. All liked the proposal and Dr. Kothare was informed of it. He came to Shirdi and drew a plan of the Padukas. He went to Upasani Maharaj in Khandoba's temple, and showed him his plan. The latter made many improvements, drew lotuses, flowers, conch, disc, man etc., and suggested that the following SHLOKA (verse) regarding Neem tree's great ness and Baba's Yogi powers be inscribed. The verse was as follows:

"Sada Nimbarvrikshasya mooladhiwasat, Sudhasravinam tiktamapi-apriyam tam, Tarum Kalpavrikshadhikam sadhayantam Namameeshwaram Sadgurum Sai Natham"

> Upasani's suggestions were accepted and carried out. The Padukas were made in Bombay and sent to Shirdi with the compounder. Baba said that they should be installed on the Pournima (15th) of Shravan.

On that day at 11 a.m., G.K. Dixit brought them on his head from Khandoba's temple to the Dwarkamai (Masjid) in procession. Baba touched the Padukas, saying that

these are the feet of the Lord and asked the people to instal them, under foot of the Neem tree.

A day before, one Parsi devotee of Bombay named Pastha Shet sent Rs.25/- by money order. Baba gave this sum for the installation of the Padhukas. The total expense of installation came up to Rs.100/- out of which Rs.75/- were collected by subscriptions. For the first 5 years, G.K. Dixit worshipped the Padukas daily and then Laxman Kacheshwar Jakhadi did this. In the first five years, Dr. Kothare sent Rs. 2 per month for lighting and he also sent the railing round the Padukas. The expense of bringing the railing from the station to Shirdi (Rs. 7-8-0) (presently Rs.7.50p) and roofing was paid by Sagun Meru Naik. Now, Jakhadi (Nana Pujari) does the worship and Sagun Meru Naik offers the naivaidya and lights the evening lamps.

Bhai Krishnaji was orginally a devotee of Akkalkot Maharaj. He had come to Shirdi at the installation of the Padukas, in Shaka 1834 on his way to Akkalkot. He wanted to go to Akkalkot after taking the darshana of Baba. He asked Baba's permission for this. Baba said - "Oh, what is there in Akkalkot? Why do you go there? The incumbent Maharaj of that place is here, Myself." Hearing this Bhai did not go to Akkalkot. He came to Shirdi off and on, after the installation of the Padukas.

> Mr. B.V. Deo concluded that Hemadpant did not know these details. Had be known them, he would not have failed to depict them in his Sat-charita.

#### Wresting Bout with Mohdin Tamboli and Change in Life

To return to other stories of Baba. There was a wrestler in Shirdi, by name Mohdin Tamboli. Baba and he did not agree on some items, and both had a fight. In this Baba was defeated. Thenceforth, Baba changed His dress and mode of living. He donned Kafni, wore a Langot (waist band) and covered His head with a piece of cloth. He took a piece of sackcloth for His seat, sackcloth for His bed and was content with wearing torn and worn out rags. He always said "Poverty is better than Kingship, far better than Lordship. The Lord is always brother (befriender) of the poor." Gangagir was also very fond of wrestling. While he was once wrestling, a similar feeling of dispassion came over him, and at the proper time he heard the voice of an adept, saying that he should wear out his body, playing with God. So he too gave up Samsara and turned towards God-realization. He established a math on the banks of the river near Puntambe, and lived there with disciples.

Sai Baba did not mix and speak with the people. He only gave answers when he was questioned. By day he always sat under the Neem tree, sometimes under the shade of a branch of a Babul tree near the stream at the outskirts of the village. In the afternoon, He used to walk at random and go at times to Nimgaon. There He frequented the house of Balasaheb Dengale. Baba loved Mr. Balasaheb. His younger brother, named Nanasaheb, had no son, though he married a second wife.

Balasaheb sent Nanasaheb for taking darshana of Sai Baba, and after some time with His grace, Nanasaheb got a son. From that time onwards, people began to come in numbers to see Sai Baba, and His fame began to spread and reached Ahmednagar; from thence Nanasaheb

Chandorkar and Keshav Chidamber, and many others began to come to Shirdi. Baba was surrounded by His devotees during day; and slept at night in an old and

dilapidated Masjid. Baba's paraphernalia at this time consisted of a Chilim, tobacco, a "Tumrel" (tin pot), long flowing Kafni, a piece of cloth round His head, and a Satka (short stick), which He always kept with Him. The piece of white cloth on the head was twisted like matted hair, and flowed down from the left ear on the back. This was not washed for weeks. He wore no shoes, no sandals. A piece of sack-cloth was His seat for most of the day. He wore a coupin (waist-cloth-band) and for warding off cold he always sat in front of a Dhuni (sacred fire) facing south with His left hand resting on the wooden railing. In that Dhuni, He offered as oblation; egoism, desires and all thoughts and always uttered Allah Malik (God is the sole owner). The Masjid in which He sat was only of two room dimensions, where all devotees came and saw Him. After 1912 A.D., there was a change. The old Masjid was repaired and a pavement was constructed. Before Baba came to live in this Masjid, He lived for a long time in a place Takia, where with GHUNGUR (small bells) on His legs, Baba danced beautifully sang with tender love.

#### Turning Water into Oil

Sai Baba was very fond of lights. He used to borrow oil from shopkeepers, and keep lamps burning the whole night in the Masjid and

temple. This went on for some time. The Banias, who supplied oil gratis, once met together and decided not to give Him oil. When, as usual, Baba went to ask for oil, they all gave Him a distinct No. Unperturbed, Baba returned to the Masjid and kept the dry wicks in the

lamps. The banias were watching Him with curiosity. Baba took the Tumrel (tin pot) which contained very little (a few drops) of oil, put water into it and drank

it and forced it to fall in the container. After consecrating the tinpot in this way, He again took water in the tin-pot and filled all the lamps with it and lighted them. To the surprise and dismay of the watching Banias, the lamps began to burn and kept burning the whole night. The Banias repented and apologized. Baba forgave them and asked them to be more truthful in future.

#### The Pseudo-Guru Javhar Ali

Five years after the wrestling bout mentioned above, one Fakir from Ahmednager by name Javhar Ali came to Rahata with his disciples and stayed in Bakhal (spacious room) near Virabhadra temple. The Fakir was learned, could repeat the whole Koran and had a sweet tongue. Many religious and devout people of the village came to him and began to respect him. With the help of the people, he started to build an Idgah (a wall before which Mahomedans pray on Idgah day), near the Virabhadra temple. There was some quarrel about this affair, on account of which, Javhar Ali had to leave Rahata. Then he came to Shirdi and lived in the Masjid with Baba. People were captured by his sweet talk, and he began to call Baba his disciple. Baba did not object and consented to be his Chela. Then both Guru and Chela decided to return to Rahata and live there. The Guru (Teacher) never knew his

disciple's worth, but the disciple knew the defects of the Guru, still he never disrespected him, observing carefully his duties. He even served the Master in various ways. They used to come to Shirdi off and on, but their main stay was in Rahata. The loving devotees

of Baba in Shirdi did not like,

that Baba should stay away from them in Rahata. So they went in a deputation to bring Baba back to Shirdi. When they met Baba near the Idgah and told the purpose for

for which they came, Baba said to them that the Fakir was an ill-tempered fellow, he would not leave him and that they should better return to Shirdi without him, before the Fakir returned. While they were thus talking, the Fakir turned up and was very angry with them for trying to take away his disciple. There was some discussion and altercation and it was finally decided that both the Guru and Chela should return to Shirdi. And so they returned and lived in Shirdi. But after a few days the Guru was tested by Devidas and he was found wanting. Twelve years before Baba arrived in Shirdi with the marriage-party, this Devidas aged about 10 or 11 came to Shirdi and lived in the Maruti temple. Devidas had fine features and brilliant eyes, and he was dispassion incarnate and a Jnani. Many persons, namely Tatya Kote, Kashinath and others regarded, him as their Guru. They brought Javhar Ali in his presence, and in the discussion that followed; Javhar was worsted and fled from Shirdi. He went and stayed in Bijapur and returned after many years to Shirdi, and prostrated himself before Sai Baba. The delusion that he was Guru and Sai Baba his Chela was cleared away, and as he repented, Sai Baba treated him with respect. In this case Sai Baba showed by actual conduct how one should get rid of egoism and do the duties of a disciple to attain the highest end, viz., self-realization. This story is told here according to the version given by Mhalsapati (a great devotee of Baba).

> In the next Chapter will be described Rama-Navami Festival, the Masjid, its former condition and later improvement etc.

> > Bow to Shri Sai - Peace be to all





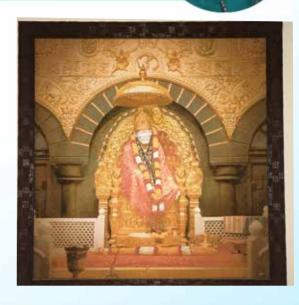
# साँई : जीवन रक्षक !

- डॉ. अजीत पाठक

दीपावली का दिन था , साँई धूनी रहे थे ताप। भक्त थे साथ में , जिन्हें बाबा का पुण्य प्रताप ॥ धूनी थी प्रज्ज्वलित ,विशाल और प्रचंड । बाबा थे ध्यान मग्न , सम्पूर्ण और अखंड ॥ बाबा के सानिध्य का ,माधव पी रहे थे प्याला। अचानक ही बाबा ने , हाथ धूनी में डाला ॥ देख कर साँई को , माधव ने किया संताप। अरे ये क्या बाबा ! क्या कर रहे हैं आप ॥ बोले बाबा न हो परेशान !सब ठीक हो जाना है। जब भक्त हो संकट में , मुझे ही तो बचाना है।। कुछ दूर पर लुहारन , भट्टी रही थी धोंक। हालात उसके देखकर ,अचानक गया मैं चोंक़ ॥ पति ने पुकारा , ज़ोर से भागी वो आनन फ़ानन । शिशु गिरा आग में ,न सम्भाल सकी आभागन ॥ भट्टी में हाथ डाल , शिशु को बचाया है। हाथ जला मेरा , पर शिशु ने प्राण पाया है।। साँई को देखो ! कितना हर भक्त है प्यारा । कहीं भी हों भक्त, हर संकट से उन्हें उबारा ॥









# Baba reminded me to apply Udi

By Anonymous

Om Sai Ram

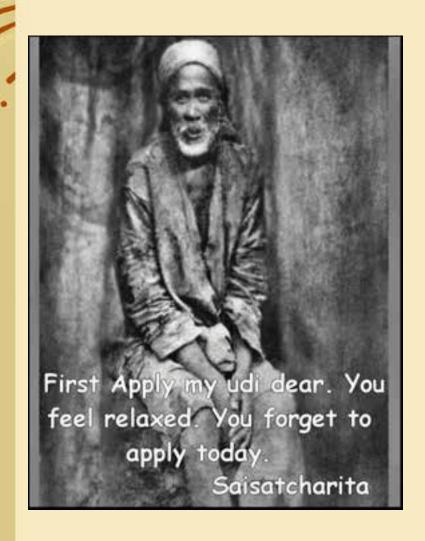
May Baba bless you all!

I want to share my recent experience. Some days ago, I felt a pimple kind of thing in my breast; but that was not a pimple as such, it was a little tumor kind of thing and I had developed some swelling around that area. I was worried and I prayed to Baba and applied some antiseptic cream first but it did not work.

Then I started applying Udi on it. After 2 days it was reduced. I used to apply Udi after morning puja and once before going to bed. One night, I was tired so I went to sleep early and forgot to apply Udi. In the middle of the night I woke up and just when I opened my Instagram account on my phone, the first picture that I saw was of Sai Baba on my page that quoted "First apply my Udi dear. You feel relaxed. You forgot to apply today" (sharing the picture too here) Suddenly I realized that this message is for me. Then, I went to my Puja Sthaan and applied Udi.

I am blessed to have Baba in my life. He is taking care of me like my mother and doctor. My tumor kind of swelling is completely cured now with Baba's grace and blessings.

Thank you Sai Baba...



# Baba is always blessing Us

By Shrusti Bhaisare

| Om Sai Ram |

Whenever I need Guidance, Help, Whenever I am in Danger, Whenever I am Furious, Whenever I am Sad, Whenever I am Happy, Whenever I am Afraid.....everytime, I feel that Baba is with me.

I bow my head to Sai Baba

Though I have experienced Baba's presence in my life every day, I would like to share my two memorable experiences here.

My devotion to Baba, started around 20 years ago. There were lots of crisis when we shifted our house to Nagpur. During that time, my dad started drinking all of a sudden, there was no limit to his drinking. He used to drink day and night, and there used to be regular fights between my parents. Our studies were also affected. We were financially very weak.

There was a Sai Mandir, near my home, and just to find peace, I started going there. I used to sit in front of Baba's idol in the temple and just when I closed my eyes, I felt that Baba was blessing me. From that

> day till now, whenever I need guidance, I close my eyes, and feel Baba's hand on my head.

> > Every Thursday I used to fast and go for the evening Aarti in Sai Baba temple. I have visited Shirdi number of times and every time I got His blessings, the

the situations turned, my dad gradually became normal, we moved to a new place, and then everything changed for better. Shifting to a new place was not easy. We

needed money, a good architect to build home, but everything fell in place, without any hurdles. And today is the day, by Baba's blessings, we are happy.

#### Whenever I am happy I say, Om Sai Ram Whenever I am sad, I say, Om Sai Ram

Sai Baba is there His presence, is always with me I bow my Head to Baba, and thank him for countless miracles





# Baba protected me in a fatal accident

### By Siddhanthi

I still cannot explain the Love and Protection that Baba has graced on me and my family!

Just before the advent of COVID pandemic, I was driving and since it was a long journey I dozed off behind the wheel all of a sudden. I could feel the car hit a signpost and bumped, within minutes it was in the air about 15 feet.... I knew its going to be a big accident. Immediately, the first thing that I cried out was "Amma" and "Sai Natha", while the car hit ground and somersaulted 5 rounds before it finally stopped.

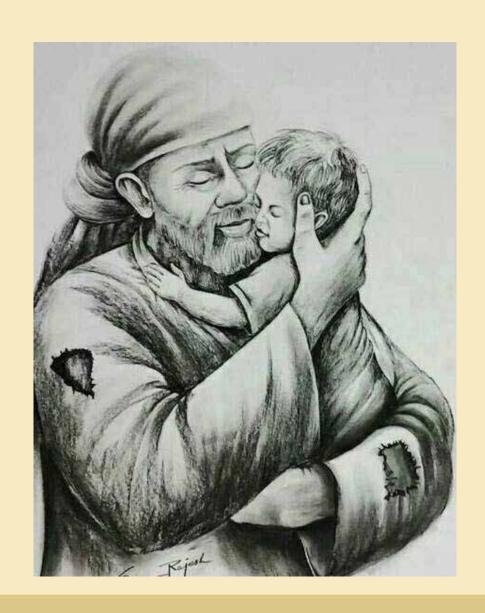
Now the miracle is - as soon as the car stopped, I came out of car and stood and started walking to keep myself out of shock. Within minutes, people from nearby shops rushed to help and moved me to hospital and in 3 hours all tests were done.

I had no scratches, no broken bones. They just gave me some medicines and I was back home the next morning and life moved on as usual. The accident left me mentally scared and fearful for few weeks. My car was damaged beyond repair and by the site of the car anyone could easily say, that survival of any rider is impossible.

It is all because of Sai Baba's grace and may be my habit of praying him early morning after getting out of bed - just saying "Sai Baba Please Protect Me" - those pleads by me were heard by Baba and He indeed protected me. The entire incident gives me goose bumps even today.

I would say, Sainath Maharaj will always keep His devotees safe - just have Shraddha and Saburi.

Om Sai Ram







By Lata Ramakrishnan

Since last few years, there have been so many things going on in my life at one stretch. My job wasn't going good and my health constantly gave me problems. Being tormented by multiple troubles, I had in between opted to give an exam. Many times I wondered why I opted for that amidst so much trouble. When I couldn't manage the regular routine activities why did I have to choose to do this?

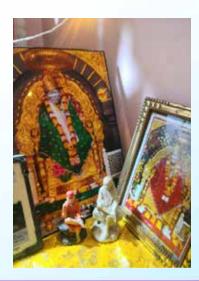
But there was no looking back. I had prayed to Baba to help me give the exam and clear it in one attempt.

Even the day before the exam, I had no hopes of clearing it and often doubted myself. But there was some invisible force telling me that Baba is with me and will help me clear the exam.

I did follow that cue and it worked for me. With Baba's grace and blessings I cleared the exam in first attempt and with a decent ranking.

Thank you Baba. I am now hoping to get His Darshan in Shirdi soon.











#### By Gnaneshwari

I have been devoted to Baba since I was 6 years old. I feel that I have Sai Baba's blessings with me. I have had many experiences with Baba in my life so far. With Baba's advice in my professional life, I completed my MBA in HR. In my personal life, Baba blessed me with a baby Boy in 2010. I can always feel Sri Sai Baba's presence with us at all times.

I have observed that whenever, I am sad, that day, Sai Baba will come to my dreams 100%. He has been there for me as my parents. He has given me all that I have ever needed.

I just want to share one wonderful experience. One day I was very sad and depressed. I told my Aunt that, Sai Baba has given me His blessings, but still ... Why my problems are still there? Why Baba is not showing me the correct path? For how many years I need to suffer with the same problems?

That very night, Baba came to my dream. He gave me one book "Sai Satcharitra" and told me to read this 29 times.. I even asked Baba, if I need to read 29 days or 29 parayanas. Baba clarified...I

> need to read 29 parayanas (weeks). I did that with full devotion. Since then, many positive changes have happened in my life.

> Thank you Saibaba 📤 I can't imagine my life without you. Without Sai Baba I can't be alive.





# My promotion exam

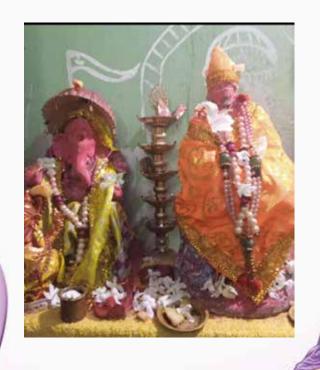
#### By Suchitra G

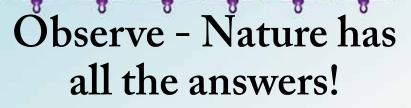
It was my mother who first told me about Shirdi Baba and gave me a magazine with Baba's picture. The connect that I have build with Baba over the years, in my heart I feel that I can speak to Baba and get my guidance from Him, whenever I am filled with sorrow.

The year 2021 is never something I would like to revisit any time.

My mind seems to be forever in turmoil. Amidst this came my Promotion Examination. Promotion meant a lot to me in many ways and the marks scored were the prime criterion. With all the issues burning within, I prayed to Baba constantly to see me through this examination. When the result was announced though I did not get the marks what I expected, but Baba fetched me a fair score.

Hope Baba shall sees me through this promotion. Thank you Baba for always being there for me.





By Successstories blog

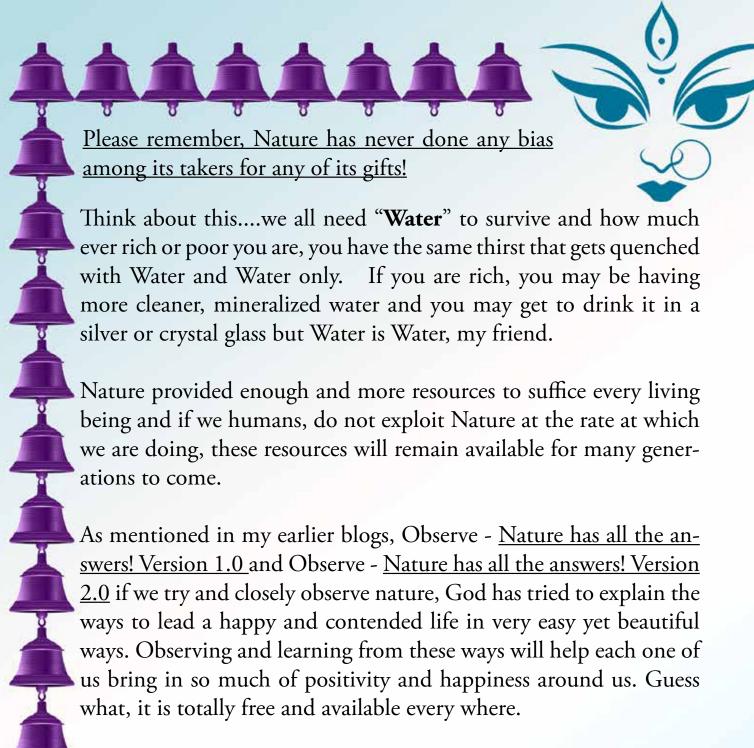


#### What time than this is better to observe and admire the nuances of Nature?

When the entire mankind is stuck within the confines of their homes, almost globally struggling to fight against a nasty virus, the Nature is at its perfect best, isn't it?

Healthy air, pleasant weather, flowers blossoming, rivers cleaner, wildlife enjoying their freedom while we, human beings remain locked down!

> We are not even sure if this deadly virus is indeed created by Nature ( I strongly think otherwise) or is it another manmade disaster that has resulted in loss of numerous lives and has impacted global economy so hard.

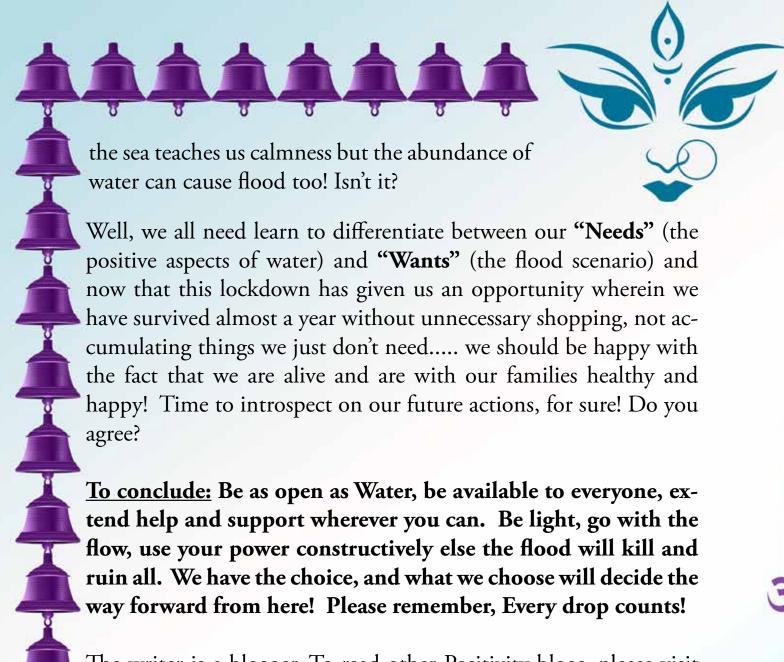


Is there a lesson, we can learn from this humble "Glass of Water"?

The water tastes the same, irrespective of the glass you drink it in,

in, my friend. What will you do with a silver or crystal glass, if there will be no water to quench your thirst?

If you observe the qualities of Water, it teaches us to move on with its flow; the rivers teach us to make way;



The writer is a blogger. To read other Positivity blogs, please visit https://wordpress.com/view/successstories.news.blog









Om Sai Ram

# जामनेर का चमत्कार: ऊदी की महिमा

1111/3

नाना साहिब की पुत्री थी और भक्त साई की मैंना ताई घर में बालक का इन्तिज़ार था शुभ घड़ी प्रसव-काल की आई

हालत अति गम्भीर थी उसकी और कष्ट प्रसव का भारी नाना ने याद किया साँई को स्वस्थ शीघ्र हो जाए मैनाताई हमारी

रामगीर बुवा को बुलाया साँई ने अपने पास मुझे तुम्हारी मदद चाहिए एक काम है बहुत ही ख़ास

शिर्डी से जब लौटोगे तुम मेरा एक काम कर जाना उधी और ये आरती देना इसकी राह जो रहे हैं नाना

बात सुनी रामगीर ने बाबा की और मन ही मन वो सकुचाया दो रुपए ही पास हैं मेरे साँई! पूरा होगा ना ये किराया

जलगाँव से ३० मील है जामनेर हे साँई राम कैसे प्रभु पूरा करूँ मैं मुझे सौंपा है जो काम

हो जाएगी व्यवस्था तुम्हारी चिंता की कोई बात नहीं चाँदोरकर परिवार व्यथित है आज ऊदी से बड़ी सौगात नहीं साँई-वचनों पर विश्वास लिए रेलगाड़ी से चले बापू रामगीर मध्य रात्रि जलगाँव को पहुँचे पूरे चिंतामग्न और गम्भीर

इतने में एक ताँगा आया शानदार था - सजा सजाया पोशाकों से सजा धजा था यो ताँगेवाला फिर चिल्लाया

शिर्डी से आने वाले क्या बापू गीर बुवा आए हैं हमें नाना साहिब ने भेजा है उनको लेने ही आए हैं

ताँगा तेजी से भाग रहा था निशब्द था बापू गीर जादू सा सब हो रहा वो विस्मित और गम्भीर

मार्ग में ताँगा रोका चालक ने चलो ! घोड़ों को पानी पिलाएँ नाना साहिब ने भेजा है नाश्ता बापू आप भी अब कुछ खाएँ

सूर्योदय हुआ सुनहरी जामनेर फिर आया लघु शंका महसूस हुई बापु ने ताँगा रुकवाया

लौटकर आया रामगीर जो समझ में उसको कुछ ना आया आस पास ना कोई मिला ताँगेवाला , ना ताँगा पाया - डॉ. अजीत पाठक

रामगीर ने पूछा लोगों से रहते कहाँ हैं नाना बोले, बेटी उनकी बहुत बीमार है, हुआ न अब तक आना

कैसे जाऊँ, कहाँ में जाऊँ मन में बापू गीर के डर डरते डरते पहुँच गए वो नाना साहिब के घर

सौंपी ऊदी फिर नाना को साँई का जान प्रसाद बोले बाबा ने भेजा है शुभ अपना आशीर्वाद

ऊदी के पान और आरती गान ने अपना असर दिखलाया प्रसव हुआ फिर आसानी से पूरा चाँदोरकर परिवार हर्षाया

बापू गीर ने माँगी आज्ञा नाना अब मैं वापस जाऊँ ताँगा भेजा , सहकार दिया शुक्रिया कैसे मैं जताऊँ

हतप्रभ और विस्मित हुए नाना मैंने नहीं ताँगा भिजवाया मुझको ना था ज्ञात आपका आना ये सब तो है साँई की माया

आवाज़ पहुँचती साँई तक है जब जब भी कोई भक्त पुकारे सदा कृपा तुम अपनी रखना चरण पड़ें हम साँई तुम्हारे

# "Samaparan/Saranagati" By Sanjay Jaiswal, Kansas, USA

#### II Om Shri Guru Sainath Namaha II II Om Shi Guru Ramanaya Namaha II II Om Shri Guru Neem Karoli Baba Namaha II

I consider myself fortunate to be born in India - the land of Saints; from outside our country may look very much ruffled but it is divine from the core. Every inch of land enclosed between Himalaya and Indian Ocean is sacred and sublime and where so many Saints and Sages have appeared and guided the mankind.

Most of us turn towards Saints when we are in distress and they help us out of compassion. I myself am not an exception to that. They help us on material levels but our true gratitude towards them would be if we could imbibe their teachings in our daily practice.

In the last 20 years, I have felt the grace of Saints in my life. I got the chance to visit Sai Baba temple in Shirdi without any plan, in fact I did not know much about Baba at that time, and it was the first temple of Baba I had ever visited. In the same way, I could visit the Samadhis of Bhagwan Ramana Maharshi in Tiruvannamalai and Neem Karoli Baba in Vrindavan, though I did not hear about Them from anyone directly

> In Sai Satcharita, chapter 39, Baba have explained glory of the Sadguru based on the Bhagawad-Gita IV-34, in which the Lord of the universe had said:

'Tadviddhi Pranipatena Pariprashnena Sevaya Upadekshyanti Te Jnanam Jnaninastattwadarshinah'

I have learnt from my experience that we can grow on the spiritual path only if we leave everything on Guru or God and inculcate the thought of accepting everything with an open heart.

I could write pages on the grace of Baba in my life; His help in difficult situations, many a times is difficult to comprehend.

But there are some situations when we feel that we are not getting the help as per our need. I remember, one time I was desperate for a job as I was not comfortable with the job I had and I prayed all the time to Baba. However, I was rejected at the last moment on the medical grounds. But my faith in Baba remained just like ever; though I kept on asking Baba for a long time, "If that job was not for me then why did you take me on that path".

If I look back now, I indeed feel that I am in much better position in comparison to the job, I was desperate for at that time. Quite possible that I had to experience that odd condition because of my past karma or Prarabdha (destiny). Nevertheless, I am grateful to Baba who has inspired me to think like this.

The teachings of Baba are so profound but our mind doubts them all the time so what is the way? I pray to Baba to show me the path of Samaparan or Saranagati as that is the easiest way to progress on the spiritual path. Without His help, I will not be able to even remember Him. In Gita, Lord Krishna had

mentioned, "I am seated in everyone's heart, and from Me come remembrance, knowledge and

**forgetfulness."** We need to pray to Sadguru to take us away from Avidya and give us the strength to surrender ourselves in their Lotus Feet.

Jai Sainath!!





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# Baba Saved my Doctorate Certificate

1.11.1

By Dr. Vasanthi Jeyakumar

Dear Sai Devotees,

I would like to share one Baba's miracle with you that I experienced.

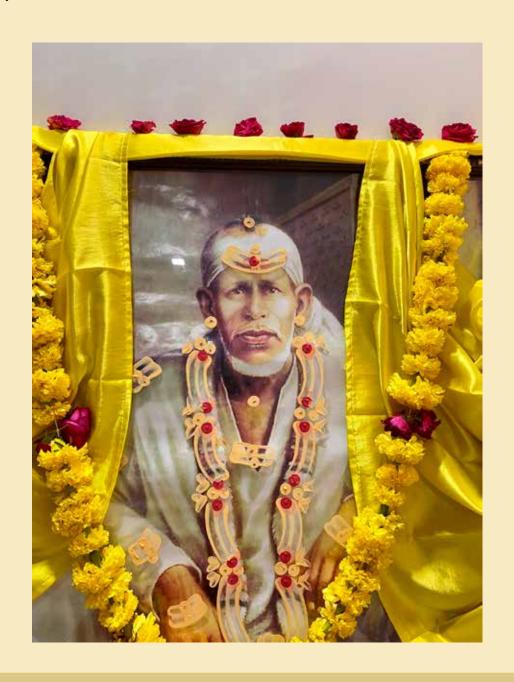
Though, I have done M.Com., MBA., M.Phil., Ph.d and got two gold medals. I worked as a Professor in MBA department for 12 yrs. After my marriage, I did not do any job as I shifted from Chennai to Mumbai and soon was blessed with a baby girl.

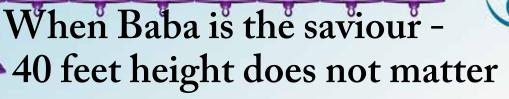
I had kept my Doctorate Ph.d certificate in my mother's place (Chennai). When my parents shifted from their rented house to their own house, they shifted all the stuff themselves and I was in Mumbai. Suddenly, I remembered my certificate and immediately called my father and asked him to keep my certificate safely. After a short while, I was shocked to get a call from my mother, who informed me that they couldn't find the certificate. I was shouting and panicking but to no avail. My mother pacified me saying that she will again go to the old house and look for the certificate there.

I started praying to Baba to help me find my certificate. The next day was a Thursday, so I started my nine week fasting and the next Thursday, received a call from my brother that they found my certificate in an old basket in our old house. I have no idea how it was there, though I had kept it safely in the cupboard.

My heart knows that it is only my Baba who saved my certificate.

My faith on Baba never fails.





By Dr. Vasanthi Jeyakumar

One day we went to the hospital, to get a vaccine for my daughter. Her doctor, Dr. Rohit Agarwal (Pediatrician) was explaining something and I said - "Baba will take care, no worries doctor".

Hearing this, Dr. Rohit inquired about our faith in Baba and soon after, he shared this wonderful experience that I am taking the liberty to share with all of you Sai devotees. Thinking about it I am still stunned and have no words.

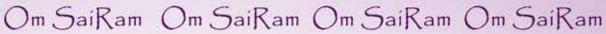
One day, Dr. Rohit's family and his friend's family went to Shirdi (1984, June) in a car. After Darshan, while they were returning suddenly their car fell down 40 feet height. This incident happened near Nasik. Dr. Rohit's wife, Mrs. Rita was about 6-7 weeks pregnant at that time. Though difficult to believe but by Baba's grace nothing happened and all of them were saved. From that 40 feet height everyone climbed up by holding rocks and each other's support.

While they were all waiting for some ride, one luxury bus stopped with no other passengers. They asked the Driver for help to drop them on the way to the nearest Taxi stand, but that driver offered to ride them all back to Mumbai. They were all so happy because they

> were welcomed with canned water and so much comforts and facilities in that luxury bus.

Isn't it a miracle that Baba not only saved them from the fall but also brought them back home safe in a luxury bus with all comforts provided. Baba is great!





### Baba's Prasadam

By Beesetti Ganeswara Rao

Jai Sairam!

My wife and me went to my daughter's house in Hyderabad, owing to an important work and stayed there for few months. Both my daughter & son-in-law are Shri Sai Baba devotees. During our stay in Hyderabad, we used to visit the nearby Sai Baba Temple every Thursday noon to get Sai Baba's darshan and also to receive Anna Prasadam (Prasad).

On one Thursday morning at around 11am, my wife asked me to get ready to go to Baba's temple for Darshan and Anna Prasadam, but being a little cranky that day, I told my wife, that "if we go now, we can have only meals, but, instead, if we can go to the temple in the evening, we can participate in the Pallaki Seva too".

Though my wife was little upset, she agreed. She was eagerly waiting for the evening to go to the temple. Finally we both went to temple for Pallaki Seva and participated. Pallaki started and went through various streets. After some time, as per my request, I got the opportunity to hold the Pallaki for sometime. After sometime, all devotees returned to mandir and Pallaki was kept back in its place.

Then few devotees started distributing Prasadam to other devotees. My wife received Prasadam and all the other devotees too. One devotee got his pet dog and he received Prasadam along with his pet too. But I did not receive Prasadam though, I was standing in front of them.



It was an eye-opening experience which made me realize that whatever we are getting via meals on every Thursday is not just food but Prasadam. After entering into the temple, I received Prasadam which means it was a lesson for me by Sri Sai Nath, to make me understand that meals is not just meals but Prasadam.





### I felt Baba's presence. By Rajalakshmi Boggavarapu

Om Sai Ram,

When I was working in Chennai, I was staying in a working women's hostel. Mentally, I was always worshipping Baba and had kept His photo in my room. As a routine, I used to spend more time in praying Baba on Thursdays.

On one Thursday, after doing my puja I left for office, I was walking towards the bus stop. There's a double road which needed to be crossed to get to the bus stop. In between there is a very thin divider (maximum half feet width and one feet height), wherein people stand and cross the other way road. It is a very risky halt.

As usual, I crossed the first road and stood on the divider, but there were heavy vehicles moving at high speed and I was unable to cross the other road. For almost 10 minutes, I just stood there. I got tensed when more and more vehicles were moving on both sides of the road. I was feeling terrible standing in between on that thin divider, scared that anytime a vehicle would smash me on either side. I was just moving and bending to avoid getting dragged by any vehicle.

I just closed my eyes, thinking that today I will not make it through and started silently praying to Baba in my mind to help me. I cannot explain in words, the miracle that happened, just after.

There was a man dressed like a Sanyasi came and stood next to me on the divider. He held my hand and just dragged me from the divider and he waved his hand at the coming vehicles to slow down. He made me cross the road with least effort and I was looking in shock.

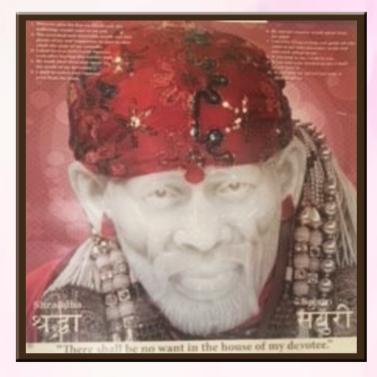
When I realized I am alive, I just turned my head to thank the man who saved me. And to my surprise, there was no one around me. I ran and checked another half a kilometre to check if that person has left me. But the roads and place was so empty. I felt Baba's presence there and thanked my Sai Baba from the bottom of my heart.

Thank you Baba for saving your child and keep blessing us always.

Jai Sri Sai Ram



## Holding Sai Satcharitra is like hugging Baba By Gajra Bhatnagar



I truly believe that Baba always comes to the rescue his devotees.

I got Covid in April 2021 and my condition was not so good. On the 5th day of my Covid infection, I woke up at mid night and was unable to breathe. I was in home quarantine and thus, was unable to think what should be done.

While I was searching for my mobile (under my pillow), I found "Sai Satcharitra", as daily I read one Chapter and being quarantined in my room, I was reading on bed only. I just hugged it and started chanting Om Sai Ram and my breathing gradually became normal after sometime. Since that experience I am in the habit of holding "Sai Satcharitra" like I am hugging Baba and I sleep so peacefully.

I know He is there to watch over me. I am lucky to have Sai Baba in my life as my friend.

Om Sai Ram

### My experiences with Sai Baba By Anshul

Since my childhood, I have been visiting Shirdi every year. My entire family is an ardent devotee of Baba. Baba has always been a friend to me. I can share and discuss my problems with Him without any fear. My faith in Baba is cemented from my childhood days not because of my family teachings but due to the miracles that I have experienced myself.

Let me share one such miracle with all Baba devotees. We all are going through the Covid pandemic currently.

In April 2021, my mother tested positive for Covid and her condition was severe. Moreover, hospital beds were not available, we were struggling for everything starting from ambulance to hospital to medicines, etc. In the midst of all this, I started praying

to Baba and soon a miracle happened. With the help of a friend's reference, we managed to get an ambulance to take her to the hospital, where bed with oxygen was available.

For sometime, her condition deteriorated. Then, my father placed a photo of Sai Baba in front of my Mother's bed in the Hospital and also gave her some Udi to apply daily on forehead. It was a very difficult phase for us and her condition not stabilizing.

One of my aunt in her dream saw Baba holding her hand walking in forest saying "Let's bring back Anjana (my mother's name)". From then onwards my mother's condition started improving and in few

days she got discharged from the hospital. This is all because of Baba's blessings and miracle that my mother was saved.



Please keep your Faith in Baba and pray to Him with a pure heart.

Om Sai Ram

# Sai My Guardian Angel By Jayalakshmi Krishnamurthi

Om Sai!

Saibaba had been in my life, right from my childhood as an invisible divine force which I realized very late. I remember listening to, rather hearing, Sai bhajans from a house behind mine, every Thursday without fail, when I was studying in the sixth standard. Though I didn't pay much attention to it, I picked up the bhajans and started humming them. Years rolled by. I grew up, completed my post-graduation in English, got married and gave birth to a lovely daughter. I served in many schools as an English teacher, a profession I love the most even after retirement.

Life threw challenges, gave me happy as well as sad moments both professionally and personally. I took everything in my stride, but I did not have the habit of praying for myself or my benefits. Duty was religion for me all along just as it was for my father. But God's justice was always there, though not immediately. There was always some help reaching out to me at difficult times.

I resigned from my job and started taking tuition classes along with two of my friends to teach English, Mathematics and Science. We hired a flat in my neighborhood. My friends started the tuition classes with a small puja. We taught students of various classes for the academic year. As we got teaching assignments at schools, we had to stop tuition classes. When it was time to wind up, my friends packed all their belongings and left. When I went to check before handing over the keys to the owner of the flat, I found a very small paduka of Saibaba among the flowers used for puja by my friends. It was rare in the sense that it was made of copper-like metal, with Saibaba's image vertically placed behind the paduka with a shivling and nag in the front. I could not take my eyes off it. So, I brought it home. I informed my friends and asked them to collect it

I placed it in my puja shelf. I was thrilled to realize that Sai had come to me on His own. I started worshipping Sai daily.

from me. But they asked me to keep it permanently with me.



### Sai My Guardian Angel By Jayalakshmi Krishnamurthi

I joined a school for a post-retirement assignment. When I went to the Principal's room for meeting him, I saw the photo of Sai, taken when He was in Shirdi, there. I was thrilled to receive His blessings in the new school. I wished I too had a copy of it. To my pleasant surprise, I r eceived a copy of the same photo from a friend, within a month's time.

Once I was travelling with my daughter, a medical student then (I think it was 2005), from Goa to Gujarat in a bus; the train services had been suspended due to floods, water logging on the railway tracks and landslides in the Konkan part of the railway route. The bus driver managed to reach Mumbai in the morning, after charging us heavily. We had earlier informed our friends in Mumbai so that they could pick us up from the bus and take us to their house in Mumbai. We got down and waited on the pavement, near a shop. Due to floods, the roads were inundated and there was heavy traffic jam everywhere. Luckily, the place we took shelter in was safe. It was a scary sight. Buses were floating in the rainwater and people were walking back home. Some of the good Samaritans came to me and asked me to go home as it was not safe to be there, but where to go? Our friends could not reach us. We sat there the entire day waiting for them. There was no mobile network either; so we could not contact them over the mobile.

Fortunately, the shopkeeper was very helpful. He stood there the whole day and got us some food. It was evening and I did not know what to do. I was running out of cash too. There was no mobile service. All ATMs were closed. It was not safe to stay in a hotel either. An unknown person came to me and asked me to get into the auto rickshaw he had, so that he could put me in a hotel room. I sensed his intention and told him coolly that my people were reaching shortly. He had to

leave the place. The shopkeeper was watching all this.



### Sai My Guardian Angel By Jayalakshmi Krishnamurthi



I saw the picture of Saibaba on a wall nearby and started praying to Him fervently. After a while, the shop owner spoke to me and got us accommodation in a Gurdwara which was across the road. There was a Saibaba temple too at the entrance. I prayed and thanked Sai for His great help. Good things started happening in succession.

We both (my daughter and I) and a lady who was stranded like us, were welcomed warmly. After a much -needed bath, we had the tasty dinner provided by them with a lot of love. We retired to bed. I kept praying to Saibaba all the while.

After an hour or so, the lady's husband reached there as his mobile was alive and he could contact her. He helped me to contact my husband who was in Gujarat, obviously in great tension as well as my friends in Mumbai. My friends reached immediately and picked us up. We left after thanking our saviours profusely. After two days, we went back home at last.

One has to experience to realize what my daughter and I had gone through. Sai is always there with His disciples. This has been proved in my case too. What an unforgettable experience!

It opened my eyes to Sai's closeness throughout my life. I started becoming a staunch follower of Sai since then. Now Sai has become a part of my life. The day starts and ends with His name.

Om Sai!





### Baba solved our problem

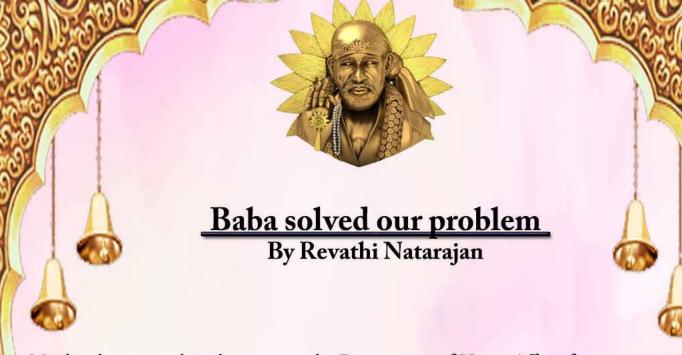
By Revathi Natarajan



Thanks to Sai Baba and Samarpan Team for giving me this great opportunity to relate my experiences. I have experienced many miracles of our Sai Baba since my childhood. Hope I can relate all my experiences to Samarpan in every edition regularly. I shall relate the recent miracle which is very astonishing.

My Daughter had completed her studies - MBBS and was married recently. After her marriage she stayed with us for a year since she had to complete her Internship at St. Martha's Hospital. Since her husband was in Australia - she left for Australia during March 2021 to stay with him. She was guarantined at Perth for 14 days and then had to travel to Brisbane. She had gone on a Visiting Visa for 6 months and we believed that the Visa could be extended for another 6 months by which she could also get a spouse visa. Her Visa expiry date was September 12, 2021 – her Birthday too is on the same date. Hence to extend her visa she and her husband had checked the details of the documents to be submitted. While they were going through the Visa process – they noticed that there were two conditions that didn't permit them to extend the Visa. It said that the Traveler had to return to their place of origin and then again apply for another Visa. This seemed hectic as she had to travel to India, apply for a visa, wait for the visa, travel back to Australia, again quarantine in Australia, and then reach her husband. It would take another year for all this to happen. During this transit she wouldn't be able to study further too.

Both my daughter and her husband were feeling very shocked at this sudden turn. I became anxious about this situation, and I held my Sai Baba's feet and cried desperately. For nearly a week I was uncontrollable – but my inner conscience was saying that why fear when our Sai Baba is there for us.



My daughter was advised to request the Department of Home Affairs for an extension. She did as per advice and surprise of surprises - on this Thursday - there came a reply from the Department of Home Affairs that she has been granted Extension and a new Visa. This is truly unbelievable and this MIRACLE was only possible with the help of our Sai Baba. I didn't want my daughter to be disappointed on her Birthday. This is truly a Gift from my Sai Baba to his grand daughter. I regard Sai Baba as my very own Father and my two daughters call Sai Baba as Sai Nana.

For my entire family,

#### THE WHOLE WORLD IS SAIBABA AND HIS UDI IS OUR MEDICINE! THANKS A MILLION SAI BABA!



### What Doctors could not do, my Sai did.

Dr.B.M.Prasad

I am a retired Doctor and used to work as Chief Medical Officer at Coal India Hospital till 2017. My home town is in Ranchi, Jharkhand. I have had numerous experiences of Sai Baba's blessings in my life so far -my daughter's marriage, admission of my son in M.B.B.S in a Government Medical College, RIIMS, Ranchi and many more.

I am sharing one experience here. In 2013, I became sick, my Haemoglobin level came very low around 4% and I was diagnosed as a patient of Blood Cancer. I went to Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai for my treatment, with lot of Blood transfusion and extensive tests, I was prescribed medicines and I started improving. I came back to my place where I was doing my job, but off and on I had to go to hospitals for Blood transfusion as my Haemoglobin levels used to come down.In 2014, I became serious again as I developed Fungal Pneumonia, a very serious condition, however after long stay in the hospital I recovered and came back home. But I was on medicines and not well. Yet again in the year 2016, I became very serious and had to rush to TMH, Mumbai where lot of Blood transfusion was done and different tests, Chemotherapy and other treatments were done but nothing was working and my condition was deteriorating. Finally one day Doctors said that nothing can be

done now, we have done our best, leave all to God and go back home. Being a Doctor myself, I realized the fact and became hopeless. May be something else was planned for me. I along with my wife went to Shirdi, had darshan of Sai Baba, attended Baba's Aarti and I prayed to Sai Baba to cure me fully.

Today on 11th September 2021, I am perfectly fine, leading a normal life, my

> Blood count has also improved and I am in a very good condition. This is all due to the blessings of my Sai Baba. Baba has saved me, taken me literally out from the mouth of death.



## What Doctors could not do, my Sai did. Dr.B.M.Prasad

While I was admitted at TMH, Mumbai, my son was alone in the house with his uncle preparing for his entrance examination. Can you imagine the mental condition of a 17 years old child whose father is having Cancer and fighting between life and death? In that condition also, with grace and blessings of our great Sai Baba, my son succeeded in his entrance examination of NEET M.B.B.S and got admission in a good Government college, RIIMS, Ranchi.

This is all due to the blessings of Baba. I bow my head on the holy feet of Baba.

**OM SAIRAM** 







# Baba listened to my prayers By Kakarla Paparao

Om Sairam

Dear Sai devotees,

I am from Andhra Pradesh and work in the State Government organization on contract basis. I am very happy to share my experiences with all of you.

It was 26th July 2016, around 8.00 pm when I was returning home from work - would have been around 5 km away from my house, my neighbour called me and said that "your mother suddenly fell down and her head is injured. Blood has been coming out continuously." I rushed home and saw that her condition was very serious.

I prayed "Sadguru Saibaba - please save my mother" and called a friend who drives an Auto. He came within 5 minutes. Both of us went with my mother to a nearby clinic in my village. The RMP doctor said that her head was injured seriously and suggested that we take her to the city hospital. By the time we reached the city, it was 9.00 pm. We visited 3 hospitals and found that the doctors were not there. Remaining hospitals were also closed as the time was over. Blood was coming out continuously and our clothes were completely soaked in blood. My mother was unconscious.

I was afraid that my mother will die. I kept chanting "Om Sairam" to save my mother. Then an unknown person came and said that there was a small clinic which was located at town end. We went there and the doctor was about to close the shutter. We requested him and he agreed to see her.





# Baba listened to my prayers By Kakarla Paparao





While entering into clinic, there I saw a photo of "Saibaba who is sitting on the rock and blessing". My eyes were filled with tears and I felt a little relaxed.

The doctor treated my mother and gave some injections. After half an hour, my mother woke up and spoke to me. The blood flow had also stopped. The doctor told us to be careful for next 2 days and if any vomiting occurs, then, we should go to the hospital immediately, other than that no problem. By now, it was 11.30 pm. I thanked the doctor and we returned to my home and my mother recovered within few days without any problem. For the next 2 years there was no problem with my mother's health and on 5th June 2018, my mother passed away peacefully and now resides in the holy feet of Saibaba.





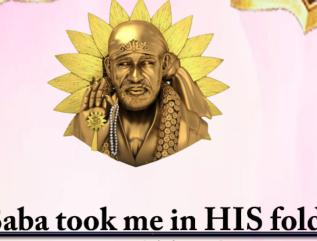




Om Sai Ram







# Baba took me in HIS fold By Farah Tweedie

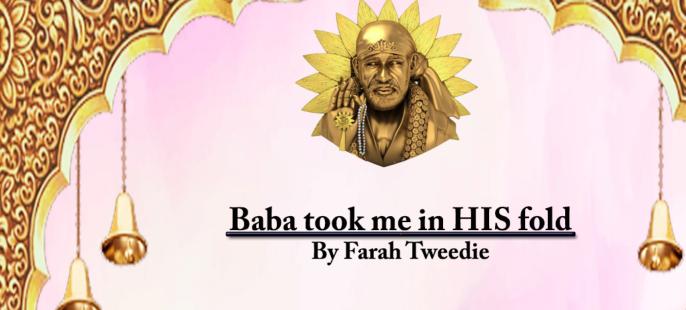
I have been very fortunate and blessed to have a lot of Sai Baba experiences.

I am a Muslim by birth. After I did my college, I started facing some personal crises with my family as I did not want to marry a Muslim boy. However I was married off and within a few months, I was sent back to my family as we had adjustment crises.

At the same time my relatives were not letting me stay in peace in my father's house. I had a baby boy and was also divorced. At such a juncture I met a devotee of Sai Baba. She told me about Him. However, I did not bother much. Life moved a bit more. Each time she met me, she would ask me to consider Sai and I would just ignore it all. Gradually I started thinking of Baba and one night I dreamt about Him....

I was in a very big Temple and a huge statue of Him was there. Also he was giving me 3 boons - He blessed me with a husband, gave a baby child to me in my arms and a sword in my hands. He smiled lovingly at me. He never spoke a word and His feet never touched the ground.

I got up and it felt so real that the feeling did not leave me for years to come. I told the lady about the dream and she said that by the description of the temple, it seems I saw Shirdi Temple. It was impossible. Because I had never seen that temple before or any of Sai temple anywhere. I did not believe in that dream at least at that time and life again moved on.



Somehow, I started gradually developing faith in Him though I did not know much about Him. It was as though He was pulling me to Him. May be my other faith prevented me from accepting Him. Yet the pull was very great. And I wanted to visit His temple in our city. So I prayed to Him in my mind. I said "I want to come and visit You Sai, but I am afraid to come alone". So after a few days, an acquaintance of mine suggested that she wanted to visit the Sai temple and we clubbed. She was not a Sai bhakt yet, but was just keen to go.

So we planned and met at a common place. However, we did not realize that on that particular day, there was a strike of public transport and autos were not plying from certain places. When we reached the designated area we realized that we were stranded. Now I was terribly upset. Because for me it wasn't easy to come out from home. I had so many preying eyes and questions to answer at home. I was horribly upset and almost ready to cry. I didn't want to go back home without going to the Sai temple. So I prayed to Sai to show me the way because I was not going to go back home without visiting Him. Just then an auto came and told us to hop in. He said he was taking the same road to the temple and he would take us without charge. We both were shocked and happy. We reached, did our darshan and felt so pleased.

The moment I entered, I started crying when I saw Baba. I just cried nonstop for an hour. I was so overwhelmed with mixed emotions. After more than an hour, we came out of the temple, only to realize that there were no public transport to take us back. It was evening time, the distance from home was long. And I had to be back home before dark. We were just standing, and I prayed to Sai to take me back home with safety. Just then the same auto driver came to us, said he was going back, and he will take us. With such miraculous moments and odd feelings, we hopped in and came back safely to a place from where we got autos to our respective homes. The auto driver did not charge us a penny for taking us to the temple and then dropping us back to the auto stand later.



### Baba took me in HIS fold By Farah Tweedie

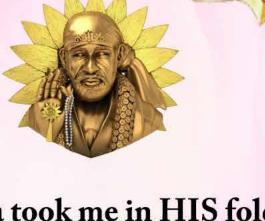


The next odd incident happened after which my faith in Him became stronger and stronger. My situation had become very bad at home. By now, my parents knew about my interest in Sai and the temple visits. I was being punished a lot. So I would just sit and cry and kept taking Baba's name day and night.

Since a few days I had been pestering Sai to come and visit me in person. I wanted to feed Him food with my hands. It was the peak of summers. I generally never got up early morning to come out for morning walks. However, that day I got up early and was sitting outside at 7 am just thinking of Sai. Just then an old woman came to our gate, looked me in the eye and asked for food - saying that she was very hungry. I instantly got up and made chapatis and gave her food to eat. She sat there and ate outside the gate and I watched her from inside the gate. After she ate, she blessed me, looked me in the eye and went away.

There were no beggars in our areas. So it was just impossible for her to be a beggar.

Suddenly, I realized that I had not given her water to drink and it was very hot at 8 am. I ran after her, looked around, went around half the block, asked a few neighbours, but no one had seen her come or go. I then understood that it was none other than Sai. I started crying that He came and went thirsty without water. For the next 2 days I was very upset that Baba had not had water from my hands. I begged Him to come back. 2-3 days later, same time, the same woman was standing at the gate asking for water. I asked if she wanted to eat something, she refused, only asking for water. I was elated and overwhelmed with emotions.



# Baba took me in HIS fold By Farah Tweedie

It's been 25 years since. But that was the beginning of my faith in Baba. The dream I saw, and didn't believe in, came true a few years later. Since then I have married which was impossible. My son was taken away from me. My parents didn't want me to marry again or have children. However, with His blessing, I got a beautiful, intelligent, talented daughter. She is 12 yrs now. Over the years, each time I put my faith in Him, my problems gets cleared.

I have been on a high spiritual journey. And I had promised Him that one day, I will tell people about my journey with Him, so here I am.

Blessings & Love to all. May Sai Kirpa be with you all.





### Sai the Eternal spirit

By Anonymous

Life is like the ocean - watching the magnificent waves roll in from the shore is one thing, but stepping into the ocean is totally different. To pass various stages of human life, one should have embodied balance of surrender, strength and equanimity to cross the ocean of life. In kaliyuga, blind faith in Sai ensures smooth transition. As a child, I was introvert and cautious and was averse of risk taking. Sai as spirit prepared & trained me for future challenges and timely family support was provided to me in the form of parents, siblings, wife and daughters.



As my parents were followers of Shirdi Sai Baba, I blindly followed them. Strong spiritual foundation was laid during my childhood. My childhood was bogged by health issues. Sai ensured that I had right health inputs in the form of homeopathy to keep my education going.

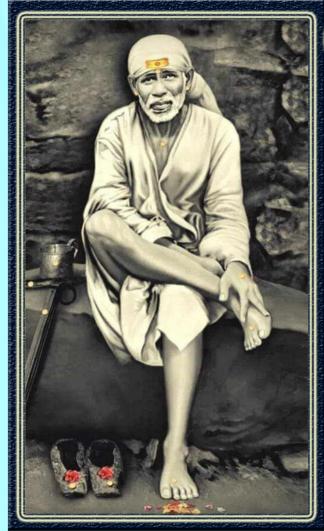
> To tackle my wavering nature, Sai ensured that I read Sai Satcharitra, Bhagavad-Gita and visited temples regularly. Over a period of time, whenever a problem arose, I started putting my problems in Baba's court - as advised by my father.

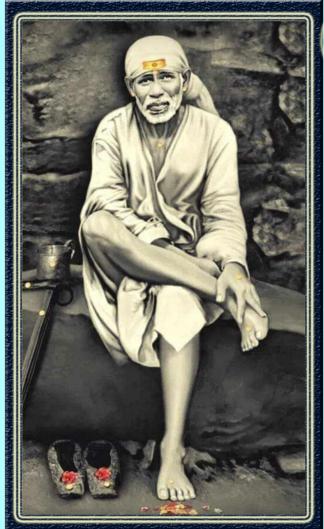
### Sai the Eternal spirit

By Anonymous

After my graduation, I wanted to do a job and settle but my father insisted that I should do my Post Graduation. I told my father that I don't have competency to do the same and was not capable of handling stress. He simply told me to do my duty and leave everything to Sai. I got PG seat and completed in first division. My parents were my pillar of strength along with the immense moral support provided by my sister and brother.

After joining my first job as Sales Officer Trainee at NFCL, I had to face lot of





uncertainties and challenges owing to market conditions, product shortage, etc. and took time to adjust. Baba was always by my side and guided me to manage everything. After a year, I took up a technical job at Nasik. Though I was supposed to be posted at Jagaldalpur but Baba listened to my prayers and blessed me with the posting at Nasik as per my family's desires.

> During the period of my service at Nasik. Sai trained me for future challenges and ensured that I watched "Acharya Chanakya" serial and study in detail about his life and Niti Shastra's.

The mental preparation & spiritual strength ensured that I could take care of my family health issues (including my mother, father, grand parents and even my wife) and my other responsibilities (selecting suitable alliances for my brother and sister).

### Sai the Eternal spirit

By Anonymous

During the entire period my wife and my daughters supported and assisted me in my endeavor to accomplish all these responsibilities. Though my father underwent three neuro-surgeries during the period of 1998-2001, but with Baba's grace lived a good life till 2014, which was nothing less than a miracle. My father met with a road accident in July 2014 and then left us soon after.

I am myself astonished with the way Sai has helped and guided me to fulfill all my responsibilities with lightning speed at the time of crisis.

The eternal spirit of Sai is currently guiding me to take adequate steps for treatment of my mothers & wife's health. Baba has very kindly blessed admission in best educational institutes for both my daughters.

Thank you Baba.

Sai is eternal Brahman who as a torch bearer has always guided me and has ensured that I tide over crisis after crisis and is always motivating me to give my best for future

battles.









Om Sai Ram



### Picture Summaries





Dear Sir,

Our great grandfather was a disciple of Shri Saibaba (Shri. Balasaheb Mirikar-Adhyay 22) and then my father Shri Vasant Mirikar was the first Executive Officer of Shri Saibaba Sansthan Shirdi from 1967 to 1978.

We spent our childhood in Shirdi having the opportunity of Abhishek many times, attending Aarti and the functions at Guru Purnima, Ramnavami and Deepavali. As suggested find attached the photographs of Baba and our Pooja Ghar.

Ag.Anirudha Mirikar Chief Manager, Sampada Trust, Ahmednagar (MS)India







Sir,

I am forwarding a Photo of Sai Baba from my Puja Room. I bought a Calendar several years back which has been framed. I started my journey with Sai Baba in the year 1979 as a young School Girl. My first visit to Shirdi was in the year 1983. I made it a point to visit every year and I have been doing so since then. There was a break in 2020 because of Covid Restrictions. Hope by this year end I will be able to make it. There are numerous miracles of Baba, that has taken place in my life. I think of His Highness, I surrender my heart and soul and He helps me to sail through safely.

Om Sai Ram!

Regards

Dr. Janakeesubramanian



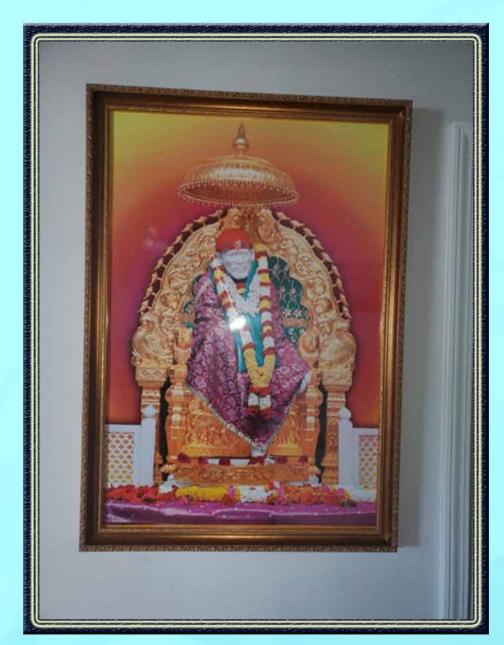
### Picture Summaries

Hello,

I wanted to share Baba's pictures that I worship, with all of you. I kiss the golden picture everyday in my hallway. The picture was a gift from my wedding 11 years ago. My father gave it to me for a new life.

Secondly a black and white picture was founded by me in 2008. I do not remember from where I bought it. It was the year I was broken and depressed. I found Baba who fixed me and my life. Took me in his arms and helped me recover my internal injuries.

Heartfelt Regards, Dipti





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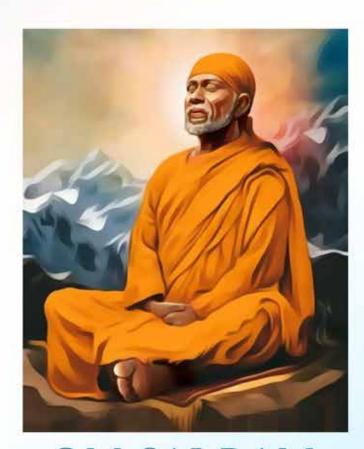
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#### Miracles:

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OM SAI RAM Shraddha | Saburi

