



SAMARPAN

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JANUARY 2016



Editorial By: Shruti Gopal



I pray that as you unfold this issue of Samarpan, it brings you the same joy and ecstasy that is felt when we stand in front of Sai Baba in the Samadhi Mandir of Shirdi. Although I was not fortunate enough to visit Shirdi recently, I feel blessed that I was given the opportunity to write this Editorial and I ask Sai Baba for guidance as I write.

Let us start the New Year by following Sai Baba's teachings. Unlike most New Year resolutions that are easy to make, but so hard to sustain, following Baba's teachings is much simpler as Baba does not ask us to follow any difficult sadhanas. He simply wants us to fill our minds with thoughts of God and engage in good actions.

As we go about our daily activities this year, let us dedicate our actions to Sai Baba, because then our thoughts will be focused on His form, allowing our actions to be guided by Him. When we get more in tune with Sai Baba, He can ensure that we make the right decisions and do good actions.

It has been my personal experience that my dinner tasted better when I offered the act of cooking it to God. My exam grades were higher when I offered the exam to God. I never lost my way when I offered the journey to God. The act of doing things solely to please God gives us an inner motivation to do the task well as we are doing it for Him.

The act of offering our actions and their results to Baba will gradually steer us towards complete surrender to Him, or Samarpan.

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In this way, we will be unaffected by the results. If the result is not what we want, we will not feel so disappointed, and if the result is what we want, then we will not feel so elated by it. In fact when we offer the action to God and do it with the intention to please Him, we get a strong sense of satisfaction from within, irrespective of the result we get.

Let us offer our actions to Baba just as we offer rose buds at His feet. Let us pray that we stay in tune with Him so that we do not swerve an inch from the path that He wants us to follow. With this thought in mind, I hope you enjoy the articles in this issue. On behalf of the Samarpan team, I thank all the contributors and readers. May Sai Baba bless us all.





Divine Experience in Shirdi

By: Purnima Dhingra

This magazine connects all like-minded Sai Bhaktas and I feel that only a Sai Bhakta can understand and appreciate the expression of true feelings and experiences with Sai. My husband and I are Sai devotees and we try and visit Shirdi at least twice a year. We visited Shirdi over the weekend of the 19th and 20th December 2015 and the experiences we got were so divine that I could not stop myself from sharing these with other Sai devotees.

We reached Shirdi around 4.30 pm and then after freshening up, we went to the temple at around 5 pm. We stood in the line for darshan for almost 3 hours and when we reached the main Samadhi temple, Baba blessed us with His darshan. Without any effort, we were in the middle line, which goes to the centre of the temple, while the other two lines are taken out of the temple from the two side doors. Both my husband and I wanted to be in that middle line, but everyone who has visited Shirdi would know that this is not easy with the large crowds and the guards herding you. When we reached the front, I experienced such a divine feeling that I can't express it in words. Though it may not sound true, but the guard did not rush us out and he even protected my head when I got up after giving my salutations to Sai with tears in my eyes and love in my heart. My husband just waited beside me for his turn and he also was given the same treatment by the guard while he hushed out the other crowd. When we were in the middle hall, a lady guard told us to sit in the corner and take good darshan of Baba. No one told us to move and we stayed in front of Baba for almost 5-10 minutes before we moved out. It was already 8 pm by the time we came out.

Most of you would know about the Prasadhalaya and the Langar that goes on just a little walk away from the Mandir. We got to know about this only on our last visit but could not go there last time owing to time issues. This time, we were both keen to go there. We had checked with our hotel manager that the Langar is on till 9 pm, so we were not sure whether we would make it in time hence we rushed. When we reached the Prasadhalaya, we could not find the counter for collecting the coupon, so we started enquiring. I asked a man holding a coupon whether he could direct me to the counter. You will not believe this man's reply! He asked us how many people we were and when we said, we were two, he said, "Please join us, I have extra coupons with me" Would you not call this a miracle, a Leela of our Divine Sai? He refused to accept any payment so we let him get the food and decided to donate outside later on. We have often eaten in five star hotels, but I can still feel the taste and the love of that Langar.





When they started serving food, they first served Halwa and the person who was serving was putting one spoonful in each plate. As soon as he put a spoonful in my husband's plate, my husband said, "Thank you". Guess what? Then the man put another spoonful in his plate. This brought an extra smile on our faces. It felt as if Baba was doing these Leelas throughout. We ate to our hearts' content.

Being a weekend, there was a big crowd for the Kakad Aarti in the morning. So we got in the line by 2 am and we waited for our turn. We both wished to sit in the hall for the entire Aarti and our wish was granted. I got the last seat in the first hall and my husband was sitting right in front in the second hall. We had decided that instead of taking a Chadar for Baba in the temple, we will buy a shawl and give it to a needy person outside the temple. After the Aarti, we came out, got the Halwa prasad yet again, even though we were standing in the Udi line. As they started distributing Halwa prasad first, we had to stand in the line again to take Udi. That one morsel of Halwa prasad from Baba's temple at 6 am was so sumptuous, that only a Sai Bhakta can imagine.

We got special treatment in the Dwarkamai also. Panditji gave us flowers, peda prasad and also a coconut, which only a lucky few get. I don't know what it was, but the treatment that we got this time, without any VIP pass, was something which we have never got before. Help was always at hand, we got noticed by people and guards and were helped by one and all in making this trip divine. When we were looking for a needy person who may benefit from the shawl, we noticed an old man walking with a stick. My husband opened the shawl and placed it on his shoulders, as he would have done on Baba. When the old man looked back and smiled, it felt that Baba was smiling at us. He gave us immense blessings.

While coming back on the flight, we were overwhelmed by the kindness shown by Baba during this Shirdi visit. We just wanted to talk about the experiences over and over again. Though we are back, our heart is still in Shirdi praying for Baba's blessings. We love Sai Baba and He is our Mother and Guide in this life and beyond.

An Experience





By: Lorraine Ryan

"My daughter, husband and my two gorgeous grandchildren, Dylan 3 1/2 years young and Clara 6 months young, came to Sydney from London for the Xmas holidays,

for six weeks. They returned to London yesterday, 9/1/2016. I am grateful for their presence but do miss them already.

My days were in total bliss every time I was with my family, especially the grandchildren, Dylan calls me Oma (which means grandmother in Dutch). To EVERY DARN AILMENT AND ILLNESS that I am going through at this time and I can assure you readers, they are aplenty, but when I was with the children, the pain and aches were never given a second thought. I used to intone Opa (Baba) silently to help me to look after the children. He quietly obliged. Please remember, my family are not Baba devotees and Baba is never mentioned at all. But this is my journey.

Age with illness does not help either, as you are restricted to most things. My joy was being with the children and on every occasion that I was needed to help in my own slow way, I served my daughter by giving her a hand when needed. They were living in the City looking across Sydney Harbour and the view was so very special, especially on the 31st December, when the bridge was alight and one could see the spectacular fireworks from this vantage point and breathe a sigh at the beauty of our Harbour. I live in the country and would travel for two hours on a train to get to them, they would pick me up at the station. Due to their busy schedule in Sydney, I was quite happy to commute. Dylan and I shared many hours of laughter together, he touched my heart (I have not seen my family for a year now, not being able to travel due to my illness, so this is our time spent together), so many times he would give me a hug and say "I love you Oma" without ever being

prompted to say so. To me this was Baba again working to help me enjoy the moments with my precious family. Clara the baby, who I had just met, never stopped smiling and was always so content just being cuddled by me. They are both such a delight. A few days prior to their departure, I spent with them, staying overnight, giving their parents a break by watching the children at night while the parents went to dinner. After the parents left, I said to Baba "Opa, please help me with the children, I am unable to walk fast if the baby needs to be picked up from her bed and please help me with toddler Dylan, afterall You are their Opa and we all need your help". Clara went off to sleep fitfully and did not get up until her mother arrived to feed breastfeed her. Dylan was meant to be asleep by 7.30 pm but he wanted me to tell him stories, then to take off his bandage (he had a pretend wound), then to sing him a song.





I looked at the time and it was 9.30. I then said to Opa "Please Baba it is way past his bedtime he needs to get to sleep". With all the singing and story telling my throat was raw and sore, my back stiff and what a mess the body was, but I kept on keeping on. Then Baba guided me to put Udi on Dylan. I carry Udi everywhere with me. I did so, within 5 seconds, Dylan was asleep. I then sat by the window till 12 midnight with Opa, watching the beautiful Harbour ahead with the ferries and boats chugging along. It was blissful and so worth it, Opa and Oma now doing their thing. Yes, Baba and I are like an old couple, still are.

Opa is indeed looking after Oma, I seem to be fearless, sometimes lifeless with tiredness, but He keeps me going. After returning to my home from minding the children, had to have two MRI's. I was shocked when I got into the Scan room, as I had to lay on a table and was informed by the radiographer that the procedure would take over an hour to complete. The radiologist was Fijian Indian, very efficient but lack of concern or care for the patient, she did not even help me up on the high bed, which is difficult to manoeuvre with a plate in ones hip, but Baba helped me get up. She then placed a very heavy (like armour) shield on my hip and chest, earphones, tied my feet together as one had to stay stiff and not move even the toes and the noise throughout was LOUD. After half an hour my hip and groin hurt so much but there was nothing I could do about it, the loud continuous noise from the machine was jarring my ears and a headache was ahead. Just be patient Baba kept guiding me to do so. But staying in that position for a bit over an hour, with a heavyweight on you, the loud constant noise, does take its toll. After it was over I caught a bus to Macarthur Plaza as I had to get some candles for Baba. I felt weak, tired and woozy. On entering the candle shop an old man with dirty shorts and t-shirts, pushing an empty trolley, stopped at my side, looked at me and said - "are you alright lady, you don't look well, why don't you ask someone to help you to sit in a chair". I realized immediately that this was Baba, the resemblance was uncanny, I had requested Baba to show me that He was with me after I left the hospital as I was feeling rather unwell, and He obliged. I felt afresh after this. Baba got me home safely on the bus too, as the bus was empty and the bus driver even lowered the platform so I could get on easily. Baba also knew that I was very sad the family were returning to London, this morning He kindly filled my heart with joy by allowing Lisa to put so many pictures of us on FB. Ever grateful to my Shirds".





Belief - Chanting – Miracle

S Vishnu Vardhan

I find immense pleasure in sharing my experience, which I had encountered from my personal life. Hope this experience will be the one among many published in the magazine that drags all Sai devotee's at one place.

I am Vardhan and I am a follower of Sai Baba. I reside in Sriharikota. Frequently I use to chant in the name "SaiRam" "Sai Raksha" "om namah shivaya" "om namo narayanaya". Last November I encountered an experience whilst on my way returning home from Chennai. You all know that floods created havoc in Chennai in November. I went to Chennai on November 24th to attend an interview for a job. All the way I prayed to Sai, in my heart that the journey should be a peaceful one. The Interview was scheduled for 25th morning. As I am new to the city I planned to be there one day before and booked the accommodation. There was no rain for the whole day. I finished my interview successfully. I thanked Sai Baba and proceeded further. I was late to catch the train due to some formalities that had to be finished before joining the job. Things started to change at that very moment. It was past 5pm when I stepped out of the campus to catch the bus to Chennai Central railway station. It started raining, clouds appeared much darker. I started chanting "Sai Raksha" in my heart. As I was already late I envisaged that I would miss the train. The rain stopped suddenly and clouds covered the entire city and after travelling for two and a half hours, I finally reached the station. As feared I missed the train and searched the board for the next train. Since I was in hurry I could not read the board well and thought that I missed the last train for the day. So I planned to board another train and travel up to 'Gummidipondi' station and from there to travel by road to 'Sullurupeta' station. As I was thinking my plan, I came across the announcement saying the train was about to leave to 'Gummidipondi' in one minute. So I boarded the train. I started enquiring with co-passengers as to what time it would take to reach 'Gummidipondi'. The actual problem is that, the last bus to 'srihatikota' departs at 11 pm from 'sullurupeta'.

Missing that last bus means one has to try his luck searching for transport to travel 18 kilometers in order to reach home. This thought of missing the last bus started entering my thoughts. Surprisingly one of my co-passenger asked me why I took this train as the last train to 'sullurupeta' departs at 8.30 pm from Chennai railway station. I felt a bit relieved and considered myself still to be in my comfort zone.





I started calculating the time it would take to reach 'sullurupeta'. All the answers I got myself proved negative and pushed me to the narrow space of winning the situation. At 9.15 pm, I reached 'Gummidipondi' and started waiting for the last train as informed by my co-passenger. At 9.45 pm, I boarded the train and continued my journey. As it takes one hour and twenty minutes to reach 'sullurupeta', I started praying and chanted "Sai Ram – Sai Raksha" in my heart and I wished that at any cost I should not miss the last bus. Normally, the bus leaves before the scheduled time as most times it seems hard to find a passenger at that time as I have missed that last bus a couple of times before. Totaling all my experiences I traced out that my chance of catching the bus is an odd one. The only option I have to rely upon is what people say as "Luck" – but I figure it out to be the "Sai Krupa". I started speaking to Baba in my heart saying him that with "your krupa only it is possible" for me to catch the bus. I could not turn my face from the dial of my watch as it showed 11 pm. Soon it went past 11 and finally the train arrived to the station at 11.05 pm. I was shocked to see the bus honking and ready to depart. I got down the train and ran with all my energy carrying shocking expressions. As soon as I boarded the bus, the bus driver slowly turned his face to me, smiled gently and spoke the following lines to me.

"We usually don't wait till this time, it's already past 11pm. But this day I thought to wait for people like you. You are feeling thirsty, drink some water and relax." I felt as if Baba was speaking to me. My eyes filled with tears and I couldn't turn my head away from watching his face. I drank few gulps from my water bottle and relaxed for one minute. In seconds, three more passengers got into the bus. Bus driver asked me "shall we move?" still in a surprise state, I gently nodded my head giving him a positive sigh to start. I closed my eyes and started saying to Baba "thank you Baba. This is purely your magic. I promise that I remember this whole incident or experience for the rest of my life. Jai Sai Ram - Sai raksha". After 25 minutes I knocked on my home door, my mother opened the door and said that she had prayed to "Hanuman" to bring me safely home. I refreshed quickly as I was hungry and my mom started serving food. I told her to go to bed that I will clean all the stuff. As she was going to bed, she told me that to take the Prasad of Baba as it was a "guru poornima" day. I took it in the name of "jai Sri Sai Ram".

Dear readers, this was an amazing experience I encountered in my life. Only thing I can say is to believe in the name of Baba or any other god whom you trust. After all, it is Baba who takes all the forms – purely my opinion. Believe in your heart that Baba is always with you in the toughest times, chant His name in your heart and see the Miracles that happen.





As I read somewhere in one of the spiritual magazines, that the only way to cross all the hurdles in this Kaliyuga is to take the name of God and chant with full belief. Living in this technological era with science is surely essential but one should not ignore the spiritual path which ultimately leads the soul to liberate.





Sai Baba showed me the right path

By: Lavanya

I got acquainted with Sai Baba through one of my relatives, when I was in class 5. At that time, I was not a staunch devotee of Sai Baba, but I used to worship Him. This experience with Him goes back to the time when I was sitting for an exam.

In the exam, I had taken the answers' paper with me in my instrument box. The girl sitting in front of me, who also had the answers' paper with her, was caught by the teacher. As she was scolded and expelled, I got terrified and escaped to the washroom. At that time, I prayed to Sai Baba to help me to get out of the situation. I said to Him, "Please help me Baba. If you will save me today, I promise to never cheat again in life." I can't believe that when I returned to the class, the teacher had checked everyone's boxes, except mine. I was saved!

Now I am in the second year of engineering and from that day onward, I have never cheated again. My Sai Baba is always there for me to show me the right path.





Baba's Blessings

By: Kirthiga

I love Sai Baba very much. He has helped me a lot in all difficult situations. I would like to share one experience of Baba's blessing on me. My parents were seeking for me a suitable alliance for past one year. Lots of matrimonial references came from other places; however my parents wished that I should marry someone from our native place only. Finally after much search my father found a suitable match and luckily we came to know the boy was also settled in our native place.

My parents were very happy seeing his profile and other details. Our horoscopes also matched. My father then spoke with his parents to fix the marriage date etc. and other wedding formalities. During the month in which my marriage was fixed, it was raining very heavily throughout. This resulted in a flood like situation and we were all much concerned as to how we will conduct marriage function and wedding ceremonies. We were afraid that the function would get spoilt. Due to Sai Baba's blessing all went well. On the day of my marriage there was no rain at all and my marriage function was celebrated without any obstacles or weather disturbances. All this happened due to divine grace of Baba. With his blessing I have got a good partner and good family. Now I am very happy that my parents are nearby too. Jai Sai Nath. Thank You Baba for all your blessings and showering your grace on me always.





Surrender to the Guru – The Stairway to Salvation

By: Rajiv Kaicker

There is a complete identity between the Guru and truth. There is no truth apart from the Guru. With complete faith, devotion and surrender to the Guru, our journey to seek the truth and self-realisation becomes easy. It is said that the divine Guru, by the application of the collyrium of knowledge, opens our eyes removes the veil of ignorance.

In India, in particular, the Guru has almost become the accepted axiom of spiritual progress, and as such, the relationship he bears to those whom he guides is unique. The quest for liberation is impossible to accomplish till the Guru's grace paves the way for the mortals to follow. Of course, this grace is not denied if our quest is sincere.

The beautiful bond which is established between the Guru and his devotees is the harbinger of Supreme Bliss since it fosters a direct union with God. A firm and unfaltering faith in the Guru, according to Sai Baba, is the highest Sadhana. Sadguru Sainath believed that each individual soul is eternally and essentially perfect and all bondage is super-imposed. His way, therefore, was of trust in the compassionate Guru whose silent shower of spiritual grace would remove the dark veils of ignorance to usher genuine seekers into the realms of spiritual awareness. Once this vista is thrown open to man, he witnesses a supreme harmony that reveals to him everything in its right perspective; the dimension of Divinity permeating everything is revealed to him.

While the disciple dedicates his body, heart and soul to the Guru, the latter's grace is just as spontaneous. The Guru takes up the entire being of the disciple to prepare him in the way he thinks best for a life of contentment and perfection. Baba himself once exemplified this idea by comparing the disciple to a lump of plastic clay from which the master potter fashions fascinating pieces of pottery. In Chapter 2 of Sai Satcharitra, Hemadpant was contemplating on the necessity of a Guru. Sai Baba answered by saying that the way to reach our destination is extremely tough, full of obstacles and pitfalls. However, by taking a guide with us, there are no difficulties and the journey is smooth.

According to Sadguru Sai, one has to make the Guru the sole object of one's thoughts and aims to attain the supreme goal of life, "Trust in the Guru fully -- Guru is verily God" -- was, therefore, Baba's paramount teaching to transforming us into true seekers of truth and wisdom.





Baba described how he once roamed about in a forest seeking for truth with three young men. They discussed amongst themselves the right way of reaching their goal. But Baba was content even at that stage to feel that surrender of the body and soul to the Guru was the best way. He meditated on nothing but the Guru, and had no goal or objects other than the Guru! Wonderful indeed the way of his Guru! Sai wanted nothing but the Guru and He wanted nothing but this intense love from the former.

There was a living tender beauty in Baba's personality which made all those who met him feel the urge to surrender to Him. Sai Baba was in the deepest sense of the phrase a Guru incarnate. He naturally attracted people, and they were willing and anxious to surrender to Him. "Why should anyone fear, when I am near", He said, "Cast all your burdens on me and I will bear them". According to Him, not by running away from life and its problems, but by facing them with courage and fortitude does man reach the true understanding of his Creator?

Just as we can light more than thousand candles from a single lamp, so too only the one who earned wisdom viz., the Guru can enlighten others to remove their ignorance. Lamps are many but light is one which shines as wisdom in a million hearts, the Universal Luminosity, which is God. Sai Baba, whom thousands of devotees worship, is our Sadguru - the manifested Divine who in his infinite compassion assumed a human form to enlighten us all.





Sai Baba showed me that He is the Doer

By: Shruti Gopal

When we make a cup of tea for a guest, it is easy to think that we have prepared it ourselves and that we are the doer. But looking more closely, we see that so many hands have been involved in the process of making that cup of tea. The tea leaves have to be handpicked from plants in India or China, the milk has to be drawn from the cows, sugar has to be processed and so on. Is it not amazing how God has brought together the work of so many in to making that cup of the tea at that time? God is the doer as without Him, nothing would happen. Baba taught me this at a time when I was looking for a job.

During this time of job hunting, I had applied for some jobs and got interviews, but I had not been successful so far. I had received positive feedback from the companies, but something or the other happened due to which I never got selected. I was disheartened, but I continued to pray to Sai Baba and started reading Sai Satcharita. Then one night I had an amazing dream. In this dream, I saw Sai Baba walking on the road in a long white robe. Feeling delighted on seeing Him, I ran up to Him and started following Him. He sat down with me on the side of the road and gave me something to eat. The food looked like a lovely dessert. It was in big pieces and so He told me that I should break it into smaller pieces and eat it. I was overjoyed with this. He said to me, "Something exciting is coming your way". When I asked Him when it would happen, He replied to me saying, "From now on". I woke up feeling exhilarated that I had seen Sai Baba in my dream. I knew that the dream meant that something was about to happen. It was shortly after this, about a week later, that I received a job interview for an application that I had previously made. I got this job! More correctly, He gave me this job. Though that job was of short duration, it was truly Baba's blessing that I got it.

For me, this was a confirmation that God is the doer and I am just an instrument. It is God who gave me the job with His grace. I was only responsible for my efforts. Sai Baba says, "Believe fully, that Guru is the sole Actor or Doer". It is up to us to please God by doing our efforts and once He is pleased, He only grants us with what we want or need.





Living Legend My Guru Sainath

By: Yogesh Prabhu

Baba always said, wherever you are I always follow you; It's really true because I have experienced Baba's presence whenever I need him. One of my recent experiences is as follows. One day in between the months of Oct to Nov last year, my daughter had a severe cough which lasted for almost 3 weeks. We tried all medicines but there was no improvement. I was praying to Baba every night before going to bed but still there was no improvement. One Saturday night around 12.30am suddenly my daughter started coughing continuously. We really got deeply concerned seeing her in this condition. Somehow all of a sudden I remembered Baba's Viboothi, which I mixed in the water and gave to my daughter to drink. In an hour she was fine and slept nicely and next day she felt much better than before.

"Shraddha and Saburi" are the most important virtues in life which make us stronger than before to face any problem. I never felt that Baba was not with me, as He always blesses whoever believes in Him. We have to be patient and wait for the right time to get all we desire in life. I pray to Baba to bless us all and in turn we all promise Him to be His true devotees. "Sarve Jana Sukhino Bhavantu"





My God is my best friend

By: Ram Annamalai

My devotion to Sai Baba started in the year 1998 and I consider myself lucky in having come to Sai Baba in the most difficult of circumstances!

I was a resident of Perth from 1994-98, and in 1997 I was dealt with the biggest blow of my life through the death of my father, whose funeral I had to miss because of my visa situation in Australia (at that time). It was with a heavy heart, feeling pain for my mother and also partly feeling guilty for not attending my dad's funeral that I decided to leave Australia in 1998, after losing interest in almost everything in life.

Returning back to India in 1998 I had gone into a self-made prison of being in non-stop pain, was in a state of total disillusionment and absolutely hated myself without knowing what to do. I had NO job, love, food and sleep but cried every day and night. Few weeks from that point I had completely lost my ability to sleep mostly because of feeling low and angry at myself. I was going to a doctor every week and was taking medicines to sleep and to bring my BP down vis-à-vis losing my temper. I had no help, felt like I was going to die and believed death was imminent.

Tortured poor soul I was back then and knew nothing of my Guru Sai Baba! My friend's dad one day said, out of the blue that, I should visit a Sai Baba temple which was close to my house in Chennai and professed my life would change for the better. I took his word for it! The Shenoy Nagar Sai Baba temple in Chennai was built at a time when I was born and not once had I visited the temple in 25 years, even though I had gone past the temple a thousand times.

Once inside the temple I could see who Shirdi Sai Baba was, in his own abode for the very first time. I couldn't see any other person in the temple except the priest. I liked the quietness and solitude of the temple unlike the hustle and bustle we see at other temples. A few minutes later there was a sense of profound peace in me and a sense of good ambience. It was the opposite of what I had expected.

The priest realized I was a troubled soul and performed a Pooja. He pointed to Baba's portrait in the Moolasthanam and said that I should have a word with Him and that He would help me. The words of the priest were simple as they didn't have an ounce of aggrandizement and I liked what was said to me. Slowly I concluded that neither belief nor faith was being pushed onto me and it was for me to decide who Sai Baba was. I felt that my belief in Baba dawned for the first time.





A few weeks later a meditation course was conducted in the Sai Baba temple premises by a famous master, Dr Kumar Babu, who later became my doctor and my teacher. Dr Kumar Babu is a leading scientist, meditation master and a behavioural therapist but most importantly a devotee of Sai Baba. The 5 weekend meditation course led me into becoming a student of the same meditation school which went on for a further 2 years. In the 2 years Baba not only helped me find peace, but also helped me drop my anger and subdue my hatred.

Baba also educated me through renowned people on how I should conduct my life. Here, I feel Baba helped me hit the jackpot, a miracle so good that it was all in one and one in all.

My life was NOT greatly changed but I found myself wanting to live life. I had an average job but it was nothing compared to what I had in Perth. I kept applying for jobs without any luck. Suddenly I got a letter from a prospective employer asking me to attend an interview in Mumbai with return flights paid for by the company. I got to Mumbai in comfort but failed the interview. Feeling dejected, I had revealed my intentions of returning back to Chennai in a couple of days to my friend, with whom I stayed in Mumbai. My friend suggested we go on a trip to Shirdi en route to Triambakeshwar and return to Mumbai the day prior to my return to Chennai. Thus, Sai Baba pulled me to Mumbai and to Shirdi (my first visit), like a stroke of a great genius!

Following this experience was the marriage to my wife, who is a loving, caring woman and a doctor by profession, in 1999. Baba was making all the right decisions for me and bringing forth family and friends who made my life better. It seemed things were happening without my control but for a very good reason. Between the years 1999 and 2012 I've had success in all walks of life, having lived and worked in 5 countries with my wife and children. During the days of success, deep down in my heart I could see myself silently screaming that I shall never ever return to Australia again.

Imagine the year to be 2013 (nearly 15 years since my Perth exit), when my wife lands a very good job in Australia. My wife puts across the employment proposal to me. Should I say yes or no? Yes of course! Here we are back in Australia. Baba, it seems, will NOT forget the trials and tribulations of his children and will always remember to appease them in a way they cannot fathom.

Am I happy for my wife and children and am I able to forgive myself? Yes! Am I successful on my return to Australia, and is my professional survival easy? No!





The battle goes on and on, pleasure and pain seems fleeting. I realize that the only thing that remains true is my relationship with Sai Baba and my love for Baba is getting stronger every day. My Lord desires that I should carry a begging bowl from time to time. There is no end to one's humility and there is always room for more strength. That's His style of approach! Our relationship will endure the test of time and that's how my God operates! I love you Sai Baba, my father, mother, teacher, GOD and my best friend!





Articles Are Invited

Please send your articles by 1st March, 2016 for publication in April-2016 edition of Samarpan E-magazine.

Please send your articles in word document only.

Please do *not* send your article as pdf document.

Please follow below guidelines for submitting your articles for next edition of SAMARPAN.

1. इस वेबसाइट को प्रयोग में लाएँ, हिन्दी में लिखने के लिए.
<http://www.quillpad.in/index.html>
Use above website to write in Hindi.
2. Please give a suitable title and write your name or the name of the author (if you are not the author).
3. Please keep your articles in the range of 150 to 1500 words. Please provide enough details in your article about your experience.
4. Please do not type sentences all in capital (upper case).
5. Please do not use short forms (SMS style of writing)
 - Write "you" and not "u"
 - Write "because" and not "becoz"
 - Write "and" and not "n"
 - Please use full stop "." and not "..."
6. Please write complete sentences in your article.
7. Please keep in mind following while writing "Sai Baba" in your article.
 - ✓ Sai Baba
 - ✓ Saibaba
 - ✓ Sai-Baba
 - sai baba
 - SAIBABA
 - SAI BABA
8. Please do spell-check before you submit the article and correct all spelling mistakes.





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