



SAMARPAN

July, 2016





Editorial

Ashok Jain

Sai Ram everyone. Hope you all are doing fine with everything in your lives. We received very few articles this time from you all. My initial thought was to skip this edition; however some inspiration from somewhere and by pulling over of strings by Baba, finally decided to go ahead with this edition.

When we are young, we know few things about the world around us. We also become aware of the things which we do not know or possibly do not have answers. As we learn more about life, we also realize that we also do not know many more things about life. Thus while we continue to learn, we also realise that there are much more things which are out of our grasp and reach.

There is a saying that we can learn from everyone and everything in this world. However, most of the times we are closed entities; while we search everywhere; we miss the answers which abound very close to us.

Life never ceases to amaze us and if we stay open and interested like a child, we would have immense learnings from almost everything in this life.

Hope you enjoy reading this edition. We always appreciate your emails and feel free to send your feedbacks to us and your experiences. It is always humbling for us to work with this magazine and reading your experiences is spiritually uplifting and rejuvenating.

Om Sai Ram.

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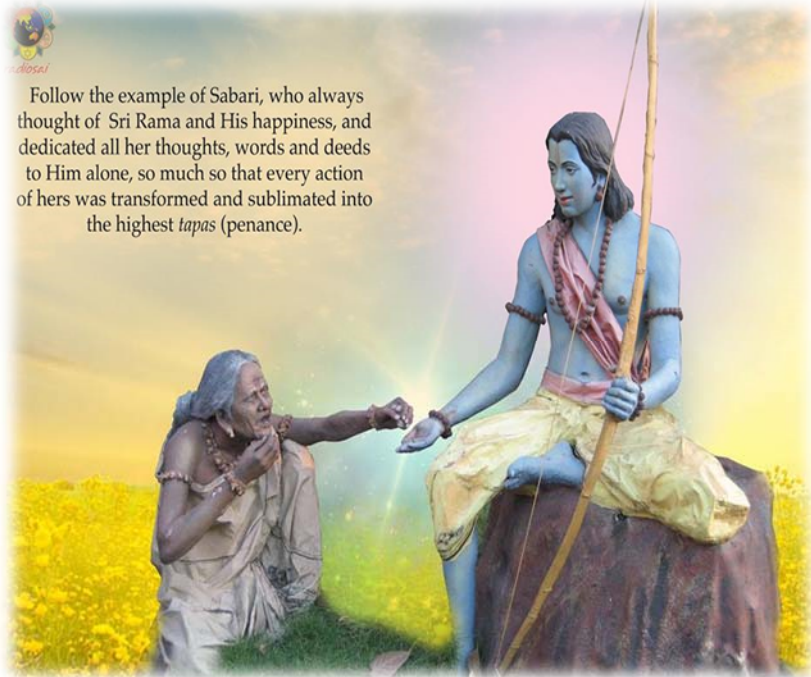
Write to us : mag@spiritualindia.org



Dimitri's tryst with Bhagwan Sri Sathya Sai Baba

Source: internet

It was in 1978 that a gentleman of Greek origin, Dimitri, came to know of a supposed living God - Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. Dimitri had shifted to the city of Denver, Colorado in the United States of America when he felt an urge to make a trip to India to visit this 'God-Man'. Thus, in 1980, he travelled halfway across the globe to Puttaparthi. Being informed that 'Swami' was at His Bangalore ashram in Whitefield, he added another leg to the journey, travelling by road to India's Garden City. Everyone who has come to Baba has had a wonderful story. You have yours and I have mine. Dimitri was about to get his.



Follow the example of Sabari, who always thought of Sri Rama and His happiness, and dedicated all her thoughts, words and deeds to Him alone, so much so that every action of hers was transformed and sublimated into the highest *tapas* (penance).

It was love at first sight for Dimitri as he experienced unexplained gratitude, joy and emotion when he first saw Sai Baba. He wept with

joy and felt a peace in his heart. That was followed by a strong resolve - he wanted to serve Swami in some way or the other. This maddeningly compulsive urge grew stronger and stronger each day. Dimitri felt that Swami was both - the cause and purpose of his life. And so, it only felt natural that he must express his overwhelming sense of gratitude to Swami.

As he sat in the darshan grounds daily, he kept praying for an opportunity to serve. Whenever Swami passed by him, he kept repeating, "Swami, service... service... service..." ever so softly for he somehow knew that Swami would be able to hear the whispers of his heart. A few days passed this way. And then, all of a sudden, something happened that set his heart fluttering.

It was after the darshan session as everyone was exiting the hall that it happened. A 'white man' as Dimitri refers to him, came out of the compound of the Divine Residence and called out aloud.

"Dimitri from Greece... Dimitri from Greece."

Dimitri knew instinctively that this person must be a 'VIP' in the worldly sense because he was lodged in the quarters on the other side of Swami's residence where only those allowed by Swami would stay. But how did he know about him? In fact, there was nothing 'Greek' about him. He had been an American citizen from long and held an American passport. He had not spoken to anybody and there was no chance for anyone to know that he was of Greek origin.



“Possibly, this is an amazing coincidence where a second Dimitri from Greece is also present”, he thought to himself.

Dimitri waited and watched for a while as nobody came forward to the beckoning ‘white man’. Curious to check whether he was actually referring to him, he walked forward and introduced himself,

“I am Dimitri from Greece.”

Instantly, the man came running to him and wrapped him in a tight embrace. Dimitri did not know what was happening. As he stopped quivering and quaking, the man revealed,

“Swami told me that I should find a certain ‘Dimitri from Greece’. I asked Him as to how I would find this Dimitri needle in the haystack of the populace at Whitefield. He simply told me that you would yourself come to me within minutes. And there, that is what exactly has happened.”

“How can I help you sir?”, Dimitri asked.

“Not me! Swami wants your help”, said the man and continued, “He has received this letter from the Sathya Sai Organization in Greece and he wants you to translate it into English for Him. Can you do that?”

Dimitri was thrilled. This was the answer to his prayers! He agreed immediately and, leaving everything aside, he seriously went about his task. He did three iterations in the translation in order to be perfect.

“It was all organizational matter. The devotees from Greece sought many clarifications from Swami.”

Apart from translating the letter, Dimitri rewrote it in English, all in CAPITAL letters. When he met the ‘white man’ and gave the translated sheet to him, he asked,

“Why did you write everything in capital letters?”

“I thought it would make it easier for Swami to read the letter...”





“How foolish of you! Don’t you know that Swami would have received the letter even as it was being composed in the heart of the writer? He just gave you an opportunity to serve Him.”

Dimitri just nodded in gratitude. Then it struck him - when Swami knew his name, birth country and everything else about him, wouldn’t he know the contents of a letter? Now he smiled and walked back to his room.



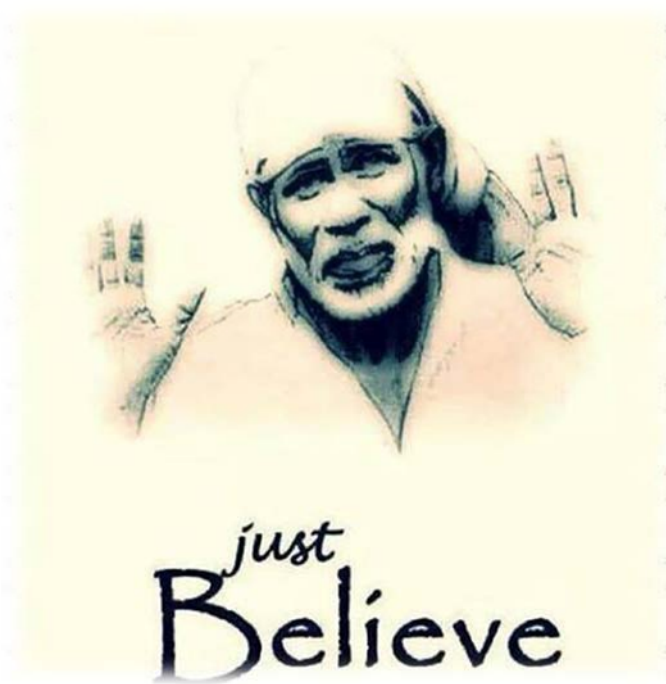
Baba is our Guide forever

By: Kalyani Kunduru

Om Sri Sainathaya Namah!

I am ever indebted to Sai for giving me such a wonderful and pious family where everyone is staunch believer of Sai. My parents had worked hard to educate us and inculcated moral values in us. I am writing this experience in Sai Samarpan as fulfilment of a vow that had been made two years ago about sharing my experience if my desires got fulfilled. By Sainath's blessings, all my desires came true. Although I repent delaying this for two years, I believe Sai would forgive me and am also happy that I am writing this on a very auspicious day of Ram Navami!

God sends us to this world for fulfilling our purpose, and during this course of life, we need to experience with patience all the good and bad karmas which we have done in this life or in past lives. And God is ever there to protect us through all the problems, if we take refuge in him.



I remember seeing Sai Baba's photo for the first time when I was 8 years old in a satsang organized near our home. Later I came closer to him during my graduation days, thinking about him and going to his abode. My experiences as I remember started from this time. I always passed the examinations as a topper since my childhood and I am pretty much sure that it was less because of my talent and more due to the good deeds of my parents and the grace of God! I prayed to God to make me pursue post-graduation in a good university at an affordable fee (considering my family income) and the wish was granted to me! By the time in 2010 when I completed my PG, it was

recession time and there were no jobs in the market. This made me very stressful thinking about the burden I would be on my family without job in hand. One of my neighbours took me to a satsang and a Sai sevak advised me to read Sai Satcharithra! I started reading it and was blessed to see Sai in my dream twice during the 7 day parayan and very soon after that I was placed in the best company in my sector as an intern and then became permanent after 6 months in 2011. I am ever thankful to Baba as this had reduced burden on my family to some extent. I believe this was only the blessing of Sai as I was the one among the very few in thousands to get a job in our industry during recession time.



While my career had been shining brightly in the company, suddenly I started to experience a lot of negativity from my colleagues and the manager. I delivered my work with sincerity and felt I was always bullied around. I could share this to nobody as I was afraid I might lose my job if I complained, neither this could be shared to my parents as they could be worried since I was staying far from my hometown. I used to cry in the hostel in the evenings, share my problems to Sai and prayed him to come to my rescue. After sometime, God sent me a friend who is understanding and share similar outlook towards life. The problems in the office continued but I was growing strong enough to face them!

Meanwhile, I used to like a friend of mine and he liked me as well and asked my hand in marriage to my parents in 2013, which was not acceptable to my parents. After a lot of struggle and prayers to God, finally when the guy met my parents the very first time, they liked him very much! Very soon our parents from both the families agreed happily and the marriage took place on 20 Aug 2014, without an issue. I invited Sai to my marriage and it is due to his blessings, we are married happily now!

My husband used to work in London while we got married and had no job contracts till sometime after marriage. At the same time, my visa had been rejected when I applied for the first time in August 2015, due to insufficient funds in the bank account. By this time, I had already resigned my job hoping I would get my visa, which did not happen. For 4 months, I had to be in my hometown, with no job, and I started going to Baba temple daily to find



solace in him. I had been to Shirdi in December 2015 and did *Satcharitra parayan in his abode praying* to send me to my husband and to fetch me a good job in London! In January, when I applied for the visa second time, it got approved by Baba's blessings! On 29 Jan 2015, I flew to London and only due to God's grace, I was selected for a job in my dream company within a month, which is usually very tough to get in, but for me it somehow got so quick and easier. I realized later that there were not many jobs 3 months before I flew to London. Had I got my visa when applied for the first time, I and my husband would have stayed jobless in London. This made me believe completely that whatever happens is for own good, and the only thing we need to do is to ardently believe in God and that his actions never go wrong. My husband read Sai Satcharitra and he too is blessed with a very nice job now. Both of us are living happily due to Baba's blessings!



I had the habit of reading Baba miracles and somehow found this magazine in the internet. I had been reading it since two years and always waited for the next edition as this had been one of my companions in moments of pain. I could not stop writing this article without thanking the forum for sharing experiences of different devotees through this magazine, as my heart is always overjoyed and my belief grew stronger when I read these articles. Please keep sharing as there could be someone like me who is in need of these.

As I could not write all my experiences here, I would like to say that in many circumstances in my life, I understood that the best is given to you whenever you read Satcharitra or perform 9 Guruvar Sai vrat pooja, which I found are very powerful. I wish you all read the holy teachings and miracles of Sai Baba, follow His teachings and be a staunch believer in Him. May the Lord give you strength to face everything in life and bestow His blessings upon you. As it was said, the mere chanting of the name of God itself will remove all the sins. He will be with us till the END!!



Shradha & Saburi lessons over last two years

By: Nitu Walia

First email: From Nitu to Samarpan team (Sent by Nitu in July, 2013)

There are lots of changes taking place at my work currently but the final changes are yet to be opened to staff. But as per brief given, the changes would make my job 24 by 7 shift job with no weekends and would affect my family especially my little boys who need me. I have all my faith in Baba that he will do the best for me as I know he has always taken care of me and my family. Two years back also he got me safe out of a similar situation at my job and even made it better for me. It has been a while we were given the brief and somehow I am being protected by Baba. Some of the staffs working have already been told to either take it or leave it kind of offers. The news will be broken soon for our team. I am holding my complete faith in you Baba but please forgive me for some of the weak moments where I do get scared but only to think that you are there with me and I should just keep my faith going on. I will complete this experience soon and I know it is going to be best for me as my Baba will protect me from all odds. JAI SAI RAM. Please be with me and my family like always. Being a Thursday, I could not have asked for a better day to write this post. To be continued and may Baba with you all.

Email response from us to Nitu: (July, 2013)

Hello Nitu,

Do you have any update for your experience, is there anything which you would like to share as experience to be published in Samarpan magazine.

Regards,

Ashok

Reply from Nitu which we received after almost 2 years in April 2015.

Dear Ashok,

Nearly two years after writing my last post, today on a Thursday again, I would like to complete my experience. But before I write what happened next, let me share that a month after this post, when you wrote back to me for an update on my experience, reading your mail had tears flowing from my eyes as things had not changed, they were still gloomy, no miracle and no reply on my end to give you an update. That day, being sad but with faith in Baba, little did I know that this experience would change my life.

Baba always spoke about Shraddha (faith) and Saburi (patience), and through this experience I have learnt or I should say experienced the real meaning of faith and patience that I had only read till now in Baba's book.



I had been with this company from year 2000 and was my first job too. Had really grown within the organisation, how???? again Baba`s grace.

Things at work took the worst turn, as expected life got tough and all the changes that I mentioned in my first mail, did take place, was working on a 24X7 routine. Money wise I was paid well, again Baba`s grace (in fact the highest in my entire office) but no family life, health was going down, lots of stress, not happy as a person most importantly not enjoying what I was doing. In these tough times my only resource or source of positivity was Baba. There were times I wanted to quit but it was not a viable option as my husband was establishing his new business and would have affected our financial stability. Still struggling to find a balance in my life on 9th May 2014, on my birthday, my sister a very strong devotee of Baba gifted me Baba`s book called SAI BABA IS STILL ALIVE, like a child hungry for food, I was hungry for Baba`s affirmation that He is with me and this book coming in my life was like a life support to a person drowning in the deep ocean of uncertainty.

As soon as I got the book, I got hooked to it like a honey bee to the sweet nectar of the flowers. Reading this book gave me a lot of peace and with HIS grace there was a new opening for a higher position which could have got me out of the 24X7 rut of my corporate life and would have helped me bring a balance in my life. Hence, with new hope I prayed to Baba to help me and if he thinks it is good for me, I should get it.

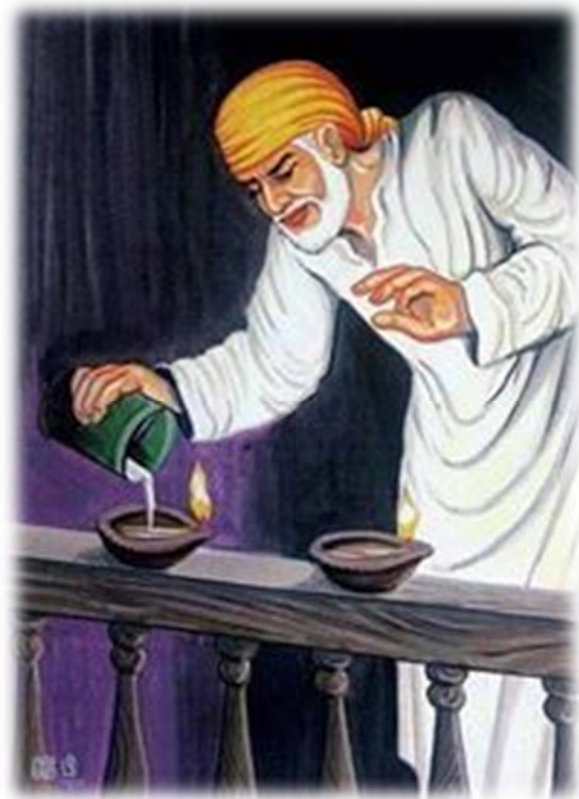
But deep in me I was also asking for this promotion as it looked like a quick remedy to all my sufferings.

In the meantime, I continued to read my new book which was strengthening my faith in Bbaba and patience? I doubt, as I was looking for quick changes.

Finally after internal interview which went off very well, I was not successful and hence I did not get this position.

From outside I was trying to be calm and composed but inside I was shattered.

Though for the fact that I have been praying to Baba to do what is best for me, it was hard for me to accept it. But Baba doesn`t think like us, when He loves us, He sees the big picture while my vision was very small. This let down hit me hard inside and one day while coming back from work and I broke down sitting in my car. That was a moment, where for a minute, I felt baba is not with me and my vision faded as my eyes were full of tears. Through those tears I saw a vision of Baba, the moment I cleared my eyes I saw a man riding a cycle with a photo of Baba on his handle, as if put in such a way that when I over take him , the photo should face me so that I have a clear view of it. It was a lonely road and in split seconds of me having a thought of Baba not being with me, I see this vison through





my tears. I was shocked for a moment to believe what I saw. That very moment I knew I was fool to even think that my Baba is not there with me. He yet again came and revived my faith which was going down. Something happened inside me and I started seeing a different perspective and this experience and reading the book made me realize that firstly I had faith but no patience as I was expecting things to change faster and secondly Baba will do what is best for us in a long run.

From that day onwards, I had a new direction, I started exploring options for my career that will give me more happiness and time for my family. With Baba's direction and support of my husband I started paving a foundation for starting my own business, something that I had not even thought of in my dreams. It was like I would have questions and doubts, and somewhere while reading Baba's book or visions in dreams I started getting the answers. But the most important thing that I learnt was that just have patience and leave rest on Baba. There were some cheating days where I used to be anxious but somehow I was in better control of things now.



Finally in 2015 Jan I went to USA to pursue a certification to start my business (which was also made possible by Baba as He took care of my boys back in India). The day I came back I had put my papers. Hence my first job of 14 and half years became my last job and a new chapter had started in my life. Not only this, I got my first assignment during my notice period only. Since then there is never looking back. It is more than a year now and I have all that I wanted, peace in my heart, a profession that I enjoy and HE is making every step in my business easy, and gives me enough time to take care of my boys and family. So he gave me what is best for me. And the best part is all the business development for my work is now being managed by Baba, this itself is a different experience as He is just paving the road for me at every step.

Yes it took me more than 2 years to complete my experience from the last mail that I have attached for you to refer and this is my testimonial to say that it is easy to have faith but patience is what plays a major role. But the good news is that if you don't have patience, Baba himself will come to your aid and help you understand the power of patience, because once He holds your hand, He never leaves us even if we in our week moments.

I love you Baba, without you I have no meaning of my life you are my father, my best friend and my guide and thank you for being there always for me and my family. How you have blessed us, please bless all.....OM SAI RAM!



Baba always keeps his watchful eyes on us

By: Manjita Karekar

In Jan 16, after returning home from some function, I thought of keeping all my gold ornaments in cupboard safe. While arranging each ornament, in a hurry I missed out to keep my gold watch in the safe. I didn't notice that the pouch containing the watch was lying on the floor. Next day when I reached home from work, I saw a pouch on the cupboard. When I opened it I was shocked to see my gold watch. My maid told me that she saw the pouch lying on the floor, assuming that it might be my



daughters , she just picked it and was about to throw in the dustbin, she could feel the pouch heavy so she opened and found that it was a watch. She immediately placed it on the cupboard. Thank you Baba for always taking care of us. Because of Baba, my maid kept the watch in place otherwise she could have secretly kept it for her and I wouldn't have known about this until my next function. Baba always be with us.

Similarly, one month back I was looking out for my passport in the cupboard to make some copies. I always keep everyone's passport together in a box. While searching, I found my passport was missing. I searched every corner of the cupboard but all in vain. I was so worried but I had full faith in Baba and started taking Baba's name constantly during my search and also promised that if I found my

passport then I would publish my experience in Samarpan. After few minutes of searching here & there, all of a sudden to my surprise I found my passport in a zipped plastic folder. I was very happy and relieved. I don't have words to Thank Baba. Thank you Baba for always blessing us. Baba koti koti pranam, I love u Baba.



Happy to be stuck with You, my Sai

By: Shantha

Oh my dearest Sai, there are so many songs which I dedicate to You.
When I hear some songs, it feels like the lyrics are written keeping You in mind.
I am so happy to be stuck with You, my Sai.

Your love and mercy upon me is inexplicable.
You prove Your affection time and again through Your innumerable Leela.
I am so happy to be stuck with You, my Sai.

When I feel low, I question You, why?
I rave and rant at You.
I cry at Your Holy Feet.
I vent my anger at You.
Before I know it, You fill me with great delight and show me that everything is fine and will be fine.
Truly sorry my Sai for being harsh with You.
Only because You are my only True Love and Confidant I am able to be myself with You.
I am so happy to be stuck with You, my Sai.

You made those eleven promises to Your devotees.
Your immense help to me shows those assurances are all for me. ☺
For each of your Devotee to feel that way is Your prowess, My Sai.
I am so happy to be stuck with You, my Sai.

Even in Your crowded temple, You give me complete attention.
You reserve the best place for me in Your temple and shield me from disturbance.
You save part of Your food because it is my favourite dish. ☺
You play my most favourite bhajans and prolong Your worship.
You pick me from devotees gathered and allow me to perform Aarti for You!
All this is only because of Your immense true love for me, my Sai.
I am so happy to be stuck with You, my Sai.



Baba's Assurances

By: G Virucha

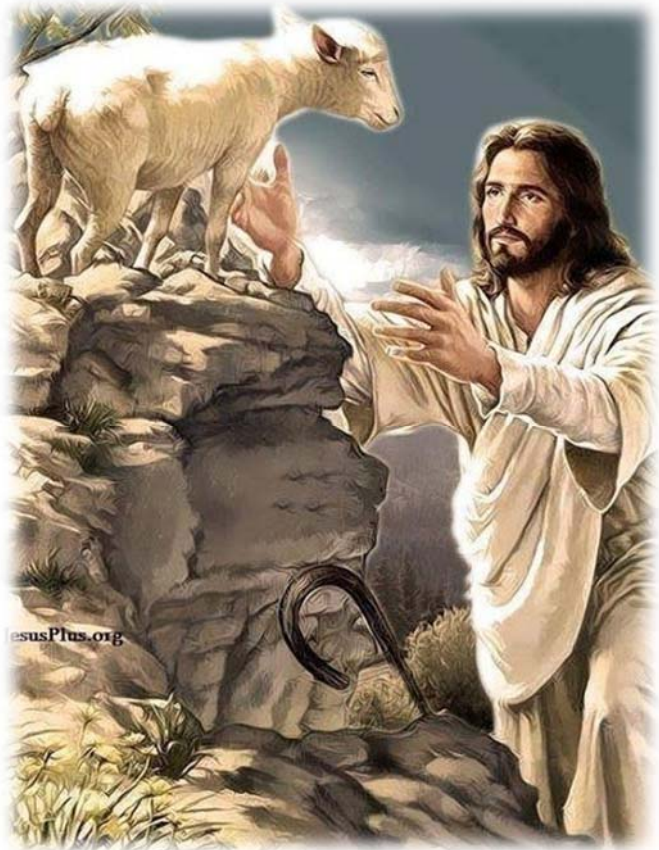
Jai Sai Ram! Thank you very much for sharing April 2016 edition of Samarpan. I had already shared an experience in which Baba blessed twin kids to my daughter after eight years of her marriage! This experience of mine will make any devotee of Him feel how much our Sai protects us.

In general, my feet starts to get swelling if I travel 2 -3 hours of in buses and they become alright in a day or two. In February 2016, due to work I was forced to travel for over 14 hours and as a result my I had heavy swelling on my . I waited for 4-5 days but the swelling did not subside. I went to consult an Ayurvedic doctor nearby and he prescribed some medicines which did not help even after four days.

Consulted another doctor and took medicines for three days without any improvement. In desperation I went to a cardiologist whom my mother was also consulting. Underwent some blood, urine, echo tests etc. and finally he too said that there was mild reflection of BP on heart function and changed medicines. But no improvement happened, all the times I was visiting a nearby lab for checking pressure and found that to be always in control.

During this problem I had sever piles too and was paining very much. Could not sit and work. So again I need to go to a lady doctor since previous doctor was out of station. At this time, my sister told me that this could be a problem in Kidney (because we had lost one of my younger sisters to kidney issues) and she called me to come to Salem.

She could provide me accommodation and provide food but not for medication, commute, and medication fees etc. had to be borne by me. I have an aged mother and she too is under many medications. I am working for a private company where we do not get any medical support. So my mother and I decided to take Baba's advice to proceed with the treatment. We took two piece of paper and wrote on one Trichy Hospital (where my mom got cured for her illness) and in other paper Salem. Baba advised to proceed treatment in Trichy Hospital. I went to that lady doctor and she said this swelling might be due to obesity and suggested medicine both for piles and BP and upon my insistence she advised me to consult Dr.





Raghunathan (internal medicine specialist). He too checked and said it might be obesity. Fortunately I showed him the test reports which we had taken under cardiologist's instructions. In that he suddenly spotted the urine test and said albumin showed positive and immediately advised me take a urine test. After new report, he was sure that there was some problem in kidney. For normal person there can be a leakage of protein to the level of 100mg, whereas for me it had crossed 6000mg.

That doctor asked whether we know any nephrologist. I was totally messed up because my mother who was with me was crying. My mother, I and my daughter who had just finished 12th standard constitute my family and with my salary we are supporting our family. Baba had already taken care of her education and she completed under sports quota from 7th to till 12th. Now also Baba had blessed her with admission into four or five colleges and we are following His advice to put her in Chennai. Coming back to my experience, that doctor himself referred me to another doctor and informed him that we were on the way. I was having only about Rs 2000 in my hand. We went to the referred doctor whose name was Dr.Raja Rajan (My mother trusted that our SAI RAM - RAJATHI RAJA YOGI RAJAN ONLY GOING TO TAKE THIS TREATMENT FOR ME AND ME TOO). Immediately he advised for a few tests which was I could take within the money available. After that biopsy, what not more tests were advised to diagnose the disease. When I checked for the cost I was bit



worried because it was almost close to 30-40 thousand. Trusting Sai Ram, I called-up two of my friends and requested for help and nobody can believe that I got Rs.20,000 that day itself and a neighbour who herself came and gave Rs10,000 for further testing. Though all are personal loans it's an unimaginable money for person like me to get it ready with such a short span of time. As He wants to safeguard this poor child, He arranged all this money.

In between we booked train tickets for Shirdi Trip. I told doctor that it's a very big dream for us to go to Shirdi. Finally we did make it to Shirdi and were blessed by Sadguru. Entering into the temple and bowing in front of Baba was an experience which cannot be described in words. We are safely back



and the disease was identified as Membranous Nephropathy - 90% curable with Steroid tablets and at this moment, I remember Baba's promises as follows:

- * Whoever puts his feet on Shirdi soil, his sufferings would come to an end.
- * The wretched and miserable would rise into plenty of joy and happiness, as soon as they climb the steps of my Mosque.
- * I am ever living to help and guide all, who come to me, who surrender to me and who seek refuge in me.
- * If you cast your burden on me, I shall surely bear it.
- * If you seek my advice and help, it shall be given to you at once.

My main medicine every morning is Baba's udhi. My treatment has also started. In between this Baba provided full groceries for this month through a neighbour. She came and gave money and in fact pressurised to buy all things to run the month. Though we said we could manage, she said that healthy food was must.

Baba had promised-

- * There shall be no want in the house of my devotees.



Sri Ramana Maharishi – Realm Of Self Realization

By: Rajiv Kaicker

Sri Ramana Maharishi is one of the unique Sage of Arunachala whose advent has enriched the spiritual horizon of our country as well as of the world. The Maharishi was neither a philosopher nor a preacher but a realised soul. People of great distinction and knowledge have testified to it. The focal point of His teachings was “Who am I”. His methodology of Self- Enquiry both simple and profound.

The essence of Sri Ramana’s teachings is conveyed in his frequent assertions that there is a single immanent reality, directly experienced by everyone, which is simultaneously the source, the substance and the real nature of everything that exists. There may be a number of different names, each one signifying a different aspect of the same indivisible reality.

The man who has not experienced his own real Self, thinking ‘I am this body’ sees himself as ‘I’, the first person of grammar. He sees another person whom he calls ‘you’, and refers to a third person as ‘he’. These three distinct persons are not real and are the result of the false notion, ‘I am the body’. When the ego is annihilated as a sequel to the quest of the real Self, only that Self, consciousness alone, will shine.

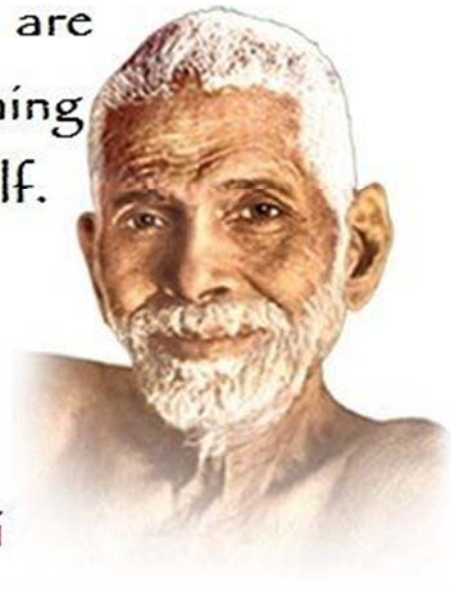
One who has become wise to the reality of an optical illusion may again see it without being deluded. Similarly, the sage, views this world as transient since he has overcome his ignorance. By being unaware of the Self, one thinks that the body is real. Therefore, the cycle of innumerable births and deaths is an ongoing phenomenon. However, in the end, he remembers and realizes

the Self, knows that this is only like awakening from a dream wherein one has wandered all over the world.

If during the quest of one’s own Self, the mind turns outwards on account of its attachment to objects of perception, the seeker should turn it inwards again. He should bring the mind back again and again and be persistent in it. There must be a resolve to become aware of the truth of oneself by means of the question, “Who is he that has this attachment to the objects of perception?” The dawn of knowledge shines forth only by the experience of the real Self.

We imagine that we will
realize that Self some time,
whereas we are
never anything
but the Self.

Ramana
Maharshi





By the practice of meditation mental strength will be intensified. After first achieving stillness of the mind by meditation, it is important for the aspirant must seek the truth of his own Self. The mind, affected by intense sufferings of the world, witnesses tranquillity by returning to the source: the Real Self.

Self –Realization is the establishment in the supreme state in which desires do not arise, because the desirer, the ego, has ceased to exist. It is the state of everlasting bliss.

Sri Ramana also taught us that work is love for others. He imbued us with the spirit that we are to serve others. By his very presence he taught us that we are always in the presence of God and that all work is His.

The Sage of Arunachala was called Bhagwan by His devotees. He showered His grace on those who came in contact with Him and paved the way for their spiritual upliftment. In this context, the following verse from Ramana Stuti Panchakam is apt: “Your spiritual splendour fills the universe with its perfume. Attracted by it, numberless beings turn their face to you. I too grew restless and sought You eagerly”.



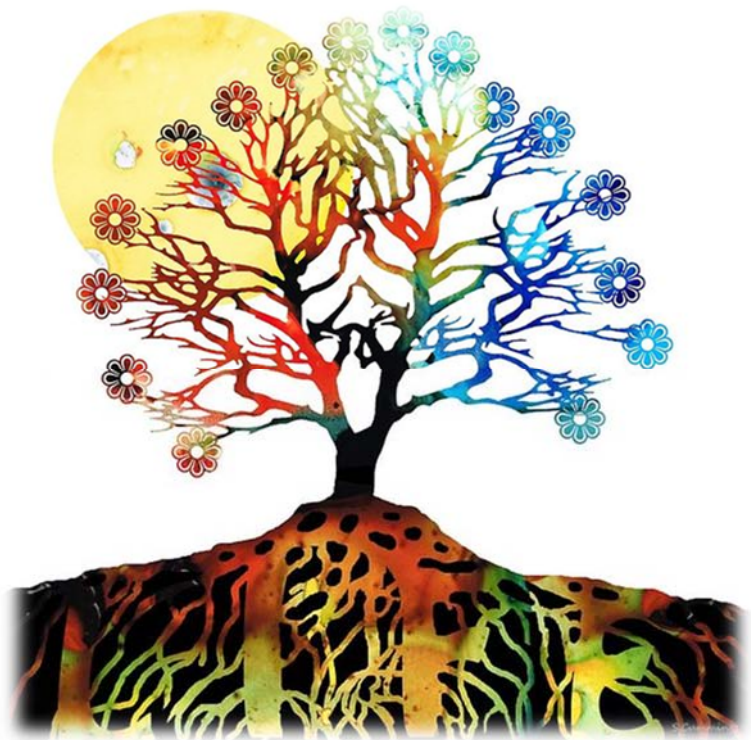
Baba brought me back to Bangalore

By: Ramaa Chavan

It was in 2013, I was working for an MNC company where I had worked for almost 5 years. A new manager joined and things became very tough for me and finally on Dec 31st 2012 I had no choice but to resign. After I had put down my papers I had to serve two months of notice period and during this period I attended few interviews but things were not progressing that well. I was getting a bit worried but I had full faith in Sai Baba. Whenever time permits I used to watch Sai Baba darshan online. In the month of December 2012, I had applied for a position in Mumbai, but I was not very keen on it as the location was Mumbai and as I am based out of Bangalore I wanted a job in Bangalore.

I attended all levels of interviews and got through, but at back of my mind I was not interested due to location. One fine day the onshore person called me and told that they are planning to move the position to Bangalore and asked if I was interested. I had no words to express my happiness. After this there were couple of other rounds of interviews and I finally got the offer letter and I joined the new company on 6th of May 2013. This was solely due to Baba's blessings, the work place was quite near my place and I was happy. Travelled to US and worked in that company for year and a half.

One fine day in Dec'13 there was a management announcement saying that my position would move to Mumbai, I did not know what to do. They selected only three out of 10 member team and I was picked first and asked to make decision to move to Mumbai within a day. I was so worried and literally in tears, I discussed at home and with heavy heart told them yes.



I relocated to Mumbai in the month of Feb 2015 and one of my friends who moved along with me with his family was of great help, I rented a flat in Goregoan east close to office and to my surprise there was a small Sai Baba temple and the name of the apartment was Sai Milan in Sai Baba complex. My mom joined and I stayed there but was praying Baba to help me find a job in Bangalore.



I can tell the readers from the bottom of my heart that Sai Baba was with me all though my stay in Mumbai guarding me like my parents. There was a Saibaba photo right outside the door and I used to light scented sticks.

I progressed a lot after going there, I took up weekend classes for CA students and got paid well for those classes. I utilised my time really well. I was getting adjusted to Mumbai but because of my mom I wanted to relocate back to Bangalore.

One fine day one of my onshore Manager who had recruited me in this company and had moved out to new company dropped me an email asking me to attend an interview, she is a very nice lady and because of her I went and attended the interview in Malad, the position was in Mumbai but I told them that I'd would attend further interviews only if the position was in Bangalore. The interviewer and HR of that company asked me to attend the interview and that they were fine to move the position to Bangalore. I was so happy and I told my mom, she was also happy as she wanted to move back home.



On Guru Poornima day July 31st 2015 I got the offer letter, we had a Pooja organised in the Saibaba mandir that was close to my house. I accepted the offer letter on Guru Poornima day. I thanked Baba for taking care of me and for giving me hopes of moving back to Bangalore. There were some initial hiccups in the new company but with Sai's blessings enemies surrendered and got all my issues resolved.

I visited Shirdi before moving back to Bangalore on 5th of Feb 2016. This is a miracle and it's Sai Baba who was with me all though my life. Now, I am waiting for my Sai to bless my sister, brother and me.

My sister is still not married and we have been looking for alliance for very long time now, praying Baba to bless her with good life partner. Her age is going out of hand, hence a bit worried for her and me as well. I am quite confident that with Baba's

blessing my Sister will get married and post which I will also get married and everything will be fine.

Baba, you have given me everything in life and I need nothing more except you in my life till my last breath. Bow to Sri Sai baba, peace be with all.



१४ प्रकार के श्रोता

श्री नन्दी सूत्र में १४ प्रकार के श्रोता बताए गए हैं |

१. चलनी के समान –

जैसे चलनी अच्छे अनाज को छोड़कर भीतर असार (छिलका, कंकर आदि) पदार्थों को धारण कर रखती है, उसी प्रकार कोई-कोई श्रोता सदबोध सुनकर उसमें से सार वस्तु-गुण छोड़कर असार वस्तु को ही ग्रहण करते हैं |

२. मार्जार के समान –

जैसे बिल्ली पात्र में रखे दूध को पहले जमीन पर बिखेर देती है और फिर बिखरे हुए दूध को चाट-चाट कर पीती है, उसी प्रकार कितने श्रोता पहले वक्ता का चित्त दुखी करके फिर उपदेश श्रवण करते हैं |

३. बगुला के समान –

जैसे बगुला ऊपर से निर्मल धवल दिखाई देता है, किन्तु भीतर कपट रखता है कि कब मछली को पकड़ लूं; उसी प्रकार कोई-कोई श्रोता ऊपर से वक्ता की भक्ति करते हैं, पर भीतर ही भीतर कपट रखते हैं |

४. पाषाण के समान –

पत्थर के ऊपर वर्षा होती है तो वह भीग जाता है, किन्तु उसके भीतर जरा भी पानी का प्रवेश नहीं होता | इसी प्रकार कई श्रोता ऐसे होते हैं, जो उपदेश सुनते समय बड़ा वैराग्य दिखलाते हैं, किन्तु दुष्कृत्य करते तनिक भी नहीं डरते | इससे जान पड़ता है किउनका अन्तःकरण पत्थर के समान कठोर है |

५. सर्प के समान –

सांप दूध पीकर भी उसे विष रूप में परिणत करता है, इसी प्रकार कितने ही श्रोता उपदेशक और उपदेश के विरोधी बन जाते हैं | धर्म को ही उत्थापने लगते हैं |

६. भैंसा के समान -

कई श्रोता सभा रूपी सरोवर में विकथा-कदाग्रह रूप गोबर और मूत्र त्याग कर उपदेश-जल का पान करते हैं |

७. फूटे घड़े के समान -

जैसे फूटे घड़े में पानी टिकता नहीं है, उसी प्रकार कितने ही श्रोताओं के मन में सुना हुआ उपदेश नहीं ठहरता है | वे वहीं का वहीं पल्ला झाड़कर चल देते हैं |

८. डांस के समान –

जैसे डांस दंश करके लोह पीता है, उसी तरह कितने श्रोता सदबोध को, सदबोध देनेवाले को और सदगुण को छोड़कर दुर्गुण और दुर्गुणी को ग्रहण करते हैं |

९. जौंक के समान –

जैसे जौंक गाय के स्तन में लगकर भी दूध नहीं पीती, किन्तु रक्त पीती है, उसी प्रकार कई श्रोता गुणों को छोड़कर अवगुण ही ग्रहण करते हैं |



यह ९ प्रकार के श्रोता अधम और उपदेश देने के लिए अपात्र हैं |

१०. पृथ्वी के समान -

पृथ्वी को जितनी ज्यादा खोदें, उतनी ही कोमल निकलती है और उतनी ही उपज ज्यादा देती है, उसी प्रकार कोई-कोई श्रोता बहुत तकलीफ़ देकर ज्ञान-ग्रहण करता है, किन्तु बाद में अपने ज्ञान आदि गुणों का खूब विस्तार करता है

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११. इत्र के समान -

इत्र ज्यों-ज्यों ज्यादा मसला जाता है, त्यों-त्यों अधिक सुगंध देता है,
उसी प्रकार कितने ही श्रोता गुरु की प्रेरणा पाकर कुशल बनते हैं और अपने सदगुण-सौरभ का प्रसार करते हैं |
(यह दो मध्यम श्रोता हैं)

१२. बकरी के समान -

जैसे बकरी बड़ी सावधानी से स्वच्छ पानी पीती है, पानी को लेष मात्र भी गंदला नहीं करती,
उसी प्रकार कितने ही श्रोता, वक्ता को तनिक भी कष्ट नहीं पहुंचाते,
वे वक्ता की अल्पज्ञता आदि का विचार नहीं करते, किन्तु सदगुण ही ग्रहण करते हैं |

१३. गाय के समान -

जैसे गाय जूठन और सुखा घास खाकर भी उत्तम और मधुर दूध देती है | उसी प्रकार कितने श्रोता साधारण उपदेश सुनकर भी उसे असाधारण रूप में परिणत कर लेते हैं |

१४. हंस के समान -

जैसे हंस मिले हुए दूध और पानी में से पानी का त्याग कर दूध ही दूध ग्रहण कर लेता है,
उसी प्रकार कोई-कोई श्रोता व्याख्यान के दोषों का त्याग कर गुण ही गुण ग्रहण करता है |

यह अंतिम तीन प्रकार के श्रोता उत्तम हैं |

कबीर: हंसा बगुला एकसा, मानसरोवर माहिं | बगा ढूँढ़े मछरी, हंसा मोती खांहि |



स्थानांग सूत्र में रोग की उत्पत्ति के नौ कारण बतलाए गए हैं -

१. निरंतर बैठे रहना |
२. अहितकर भोजन करना | अति भोजन करना |
३. अति निद्रा |
४. अति जागरण |
५. मल का निरोध करना |
६. प्रस्रवण (urine) का निरोध करना |
७. पंथगमन |
८. भोजन की प्रतिकूलता |
९. कामविकार |

इन कारणों से रोग की उत्पत्ति हो सकती है | किन्तु इनमें एक भी कारण ऐसा नहीं है, जिसे हम पूर्व-



कृत कह सकें | अधिक आहार से रोग पैदा होता है, अधिक नींद लेने से रोग पैदा होता है और अधिक जागरण से भी रोग पैदा होता है | आहार, नींद और जागरण -ये हमारे क्रिया-पक्ष हैं | ये किसी कर्म के उदय नहीं हैं | कोई भी कर्म इनमें काम नहीं करता | हमारा व्यवहार ही इनमें काम करता है |

- आचार्यश्री महाप्रज्ञजी की " कर्मवाद..पृष्ठ संख्या ११४ " से



Experiences with Neem Karoli Baba

Source: Internet

1. Before Ram Dass became a devotee of Neem Karoli, he was a psychedelic and personality researcher in the psychology department at Harvard. He was fired from Harvard because of the controversy caused by Timothy Leary and his promotion of LSD. Ram Dass went off to India to find a form of true spiritualism and to introduce spiritualists to LSD while recording their response and experience. He was directed to Bhagavan Das, an American, who had become a sadu or renunciate. Bhagavan Das had nearly no possessions at the time and was focused on his inner journey when a giant Land Rover with stressed American elitists arrived with copious amounts of acid. Ram Dass was at first in love with Bhagavan Das with his loin cloth, dreadlocks and spiritual life. Eventually Bhagavan Das brought Ram Dass unwillingly to kneel before Neem Karoli Baba's feet. Ram Dass had had a dream the night before that his recently deceased mother spoke to him. Ram Dass was silently grieving and had not told anyone about his Mother. Neem Karoli Baba then commented on both the dream and the cause of his Mother's death. Ram Dass was overwhelmed with emotion and openly wept. He then made the decision to become a devotee of Neem Karoli Baba.
2. Ram Dass in a Lecture at Naropa in 1974 recited an exchange with a local man and Neem Karoli



Baba, in which Neem Karoli Baba describes how one can know if a teacher is their Sat (true) Guru. "How do I know if a person is my guru?" A man asked Maharaji.

"Do you feel he can fulfill you in every way spiritually? Do you feel he can free you from all desires and attachments? Do you feel he can lead you to final liberation? When you feel all these things perhaps then you have found your guru."
(Ram Dass 1974)

Neem Karoli Baba would remind his disciples constantly to share the message that gurus do not have to be experienced physically. He stressed that there are many astral beings available to guide us. He says: "The guru is not external it is not necessary to meet your guru on the physical plane."



Neem Karoli Baba was asked what is in the heart of a saint? He responded lovingly: “The saint’s heart melts like butter, no, it melts even more than butter. Butter only melts when it’s near heat itself. The saint’s heart melts when anyone else comes near the heat.”



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