

SAI DIVINE



॥श्रीगुरु भागवत्॥

श्रीगुरु भागवत्
संस्कृत एव विलोक्य

श्रीगुरु
भागवत्
(प्रथम खण्ड)

॥श्री गुरु भागवत्॥

अमेरिका
नेशनल असोसिएशन



Sai American Foundation



In Association with SHIRDI SAI GLOBAL FOUNDATION

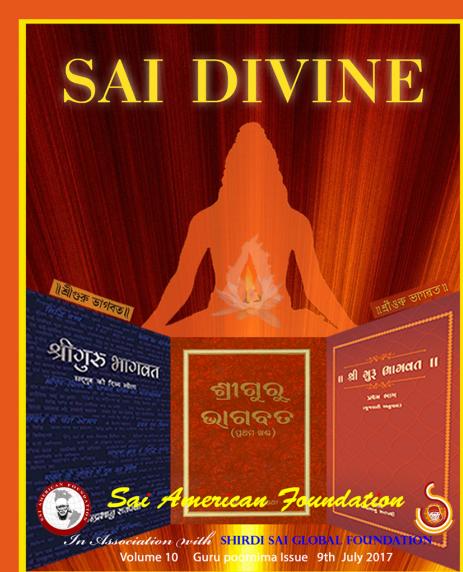
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Editor

Biswaranjan Jena

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Editorial

Let me just put my thoughts into it now. Sai Divine's Guru Purnima issue is just not an issue per say. It's a reflection of our thoughts, our minds and our souls into the services of our Guru (Dr. C.B Satpathy). We are among the lucky few ones, who have been born during his lifetime and further luckier to have earned his blessings as well. We can't ask for more, when our Guru is there all the time like the light of the light house, constantly beaming and directing us the meaningful ways to lead life. The role of Guru is immensely important as we stand to balance our life's daily activities with spiritual practices. It's not easy per say, and I stand to believe that without Guru's grace nothing works out better for us and we can't succeed in our goal. Every day, every moment he lives with us and will continue to do so....

Guru Purnima has immense significance in our calendar of events for all Sai devotees here in USA. Notwithstanding the fact, this day marks as the most auspicious day in Shirdi which started around 1908. One day in 1908 (Guru Purnima day) Baba told Madhavrao Despande (Shama) to worship the post (pillar) near the Dhuni where Baba used to lean on it. That was the day when he was glad to have chance to worship at least the post in Masjid. But Shama refused and instead requested to allow him to worship Baba himself. At last Baba gave the permission. People gathered the 'Puja' material. Dhoti was brought and people put on Dhoti to Baba, and worshiped him. Baba had no use of clothes but he gave permission in order to start the routine of Vyas puja. Thus this Puja was started at Baba's time and now has taken form of Festival lasting for three days. Ever since from that day, Guru Purnima is being celebrated at Shirdi and other parts of India has now spread across other parts of the world including USA.

We realize the fact that all are helpless creatures look to seek blessings at the feet of our Guru and its due to our Prarabdha (collection of past karmas) we are at his mercy. I'm reminded of few lines from the famous epic written by Dr. C.B Satpathy in his famous epic - "Shree Guru Bhagabat"

***Guru hey mote krupaakara // Agyaanataaru mukta kara
Janenaa gata karmaphala // Prarabdha aage mun nirbala***



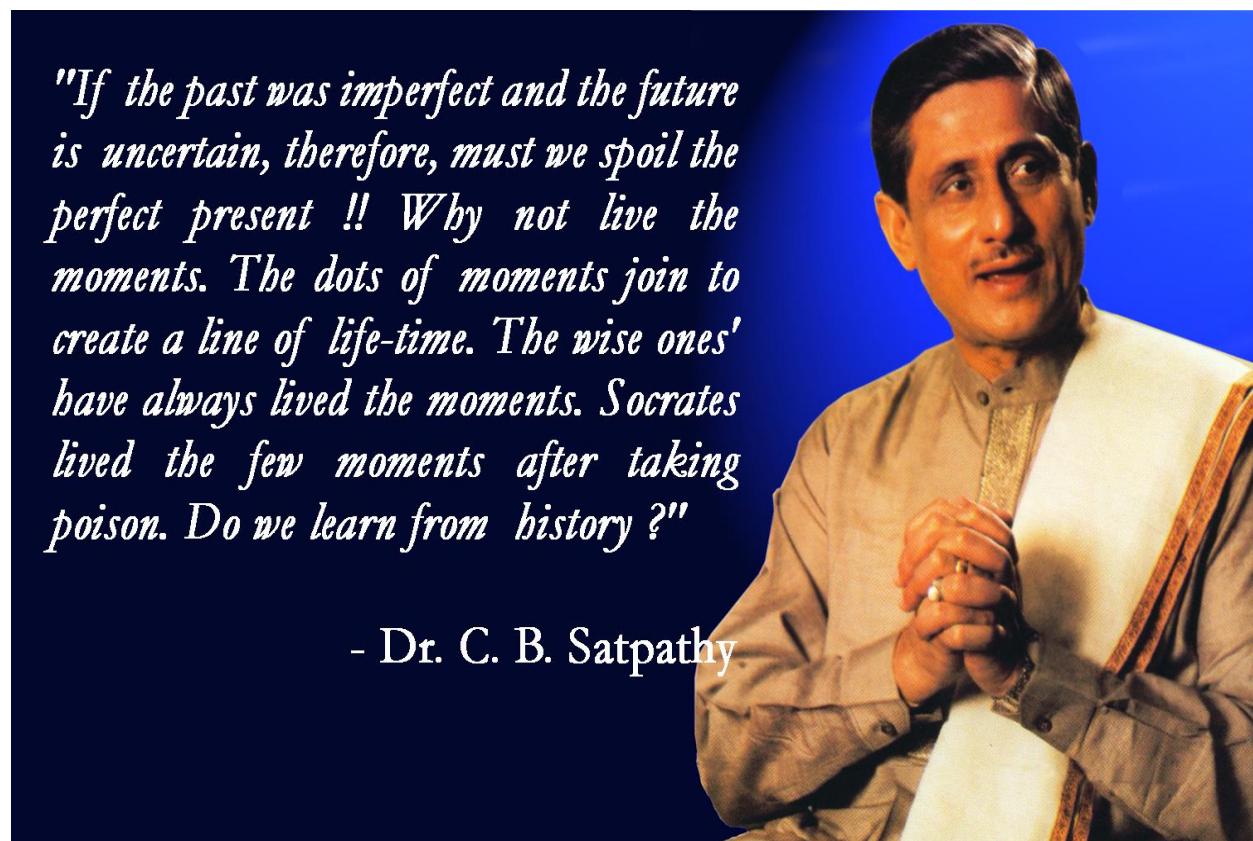
Oh Guru! Kindly dispel my ignorance. I am not aware about the karmaphala of my past lives. I am weak (helpless) before my prarabdha.

-Shri Guru Bhagavat, Vol 3, Prayer

Editor

Biswaranjan Jena

Dallas, Texas



Guru Poornima Message

Many of the Sai devotees term the present epoch as the period of “Sai Globalization” or as ‘The Age of Sai’. Of late, this concept and also the terminology has gained currency, because of the approaching Celebration of the Centenary Year of Shirdi Saibaba’s Maha Samadhi falling in the month of October, 2018. Most of the organisations related with Shirdi Saibaba in India and abroad, are gearing up for the Celebration of the Centenary Year with much zeal and enthusiasm. Lots of news is afloat concerning the Global Sai Conferences, events and other related activities in the social network of the internet. Shirdi Sai Global Foundation (SSGF) is one such organisation which is fully dedicated to the globalization of the Sai Movement since long. It has already gone a long way in leading other organisations and individuals in this path and now, it is striving to intensify this globalization in different continents.

Given this backdrop, it would be pertinent to clearly understand the concept of globalization of the Sai Movement with its finer nuances or, simply speaking, to know what exactly it stands for. Clarity of concept would enable the various Sai-related organizations to program different events during the years 2017 – 2018 properly.

(I) Globalization, in the broadest sense of the term means the act of extending an idea or an organization to other or all parts of the world. It also means the world-wide integration of the Sai Movement in all its aspects.

(II) The different organisations that have been created in the name of Shri Shirdi Sai Baba all over the globe as also the integration of the vast social network propagating the noble deeds and philosophy of Baba, should come together



with a common theme. The main theme can contain sub-themes as well.

These are:

- Shirdi Sai Baba was a saint par excellence, who served whoever came to Him with love and compassion. He was beyond racialism, casteism and any sort of man-made differences in society.
- Before leaving His mortal body, He promised to continue to help His devotees from His subtle existence. Most of the devotees have experienced His subtle existence, because they are helped by Him in times of distress. Hence, they repose faith in Him.

(III) Baba preached humanism, service to all, tolerance of religions, castes, races, creeds etc. Political and social conflicts had never been a part of His philosophy. Therefore, when carrying on with global networking, the organizations located in India and beyond should try to avoid social conflicts and organizational politics, if any. Purity of purpose and not politics, social cohesion and not social conflicts, humanism and not egoism or egotism should be the guiding principles of Saism. Only the true followers of Shri Sai will adhere to these Cardinal Principles of Baba.

(IV) All organizations, whether located in India or abroad, should establish a strong communication channel with each other and exchange news, views and pictures. Sharing of information often leads to the sharing of happiness.

(V) Each organization, small, medium or large, should respect the other organizations/temples, their trustees, devotees and activities. Each temple should encourage the devotees visiting that temple to visit other temples as well. Members of different Sai Baba temples should help each other in any manner possible.



(VI) SSGF is creating an information data bank by collecting information from a large number of temples and trusts located in India and abroad about their current activities as well as the activities they propose to take up during the year of the Centenary Celebration. The list of such possible activities has been suggested to the associated temples and trusts by email.

(VII) One of the major activities towards Globalisation is to hold Global, National, State-Level or even temple level conferences and seminars to discuss and propagate the philosophy of Baba and also to exchange views and ideas on days convenient to all. Such initiatives, of Sai devotees of one place sharing experience with the devotees of the other places, across the Globe, would encourage unity among the Sai devotees as also create a common approach to the movement.

(VIII) Globalization also entails creation of Sai literature like books on Shirdi Sai Baba in different Indian and foreign languages. Many such books written on Baba by a large number of Indian writers and a small number of foreign writers have not been translated into other languages. This should be done. Writers on Baba from foreign lands should be encouraged to write more articles and books about Baba. Similar activities should be undertaken through magazines in different languages. Research subjects can be undertaken and supported.

(IX) There should be a common methodology of worship and common method of celebration of important days and events by all trusts/organizations/temples to the extent possible. No doubt that some amount of variance would always be there given the rules/regulations and facilities of a temple situated in a particular country. This is always acceptable.

Globalization cannot be constructed merely as a series of physical or mental activities. It calls for the inculcation of the true spirit of globalization, adhering to the

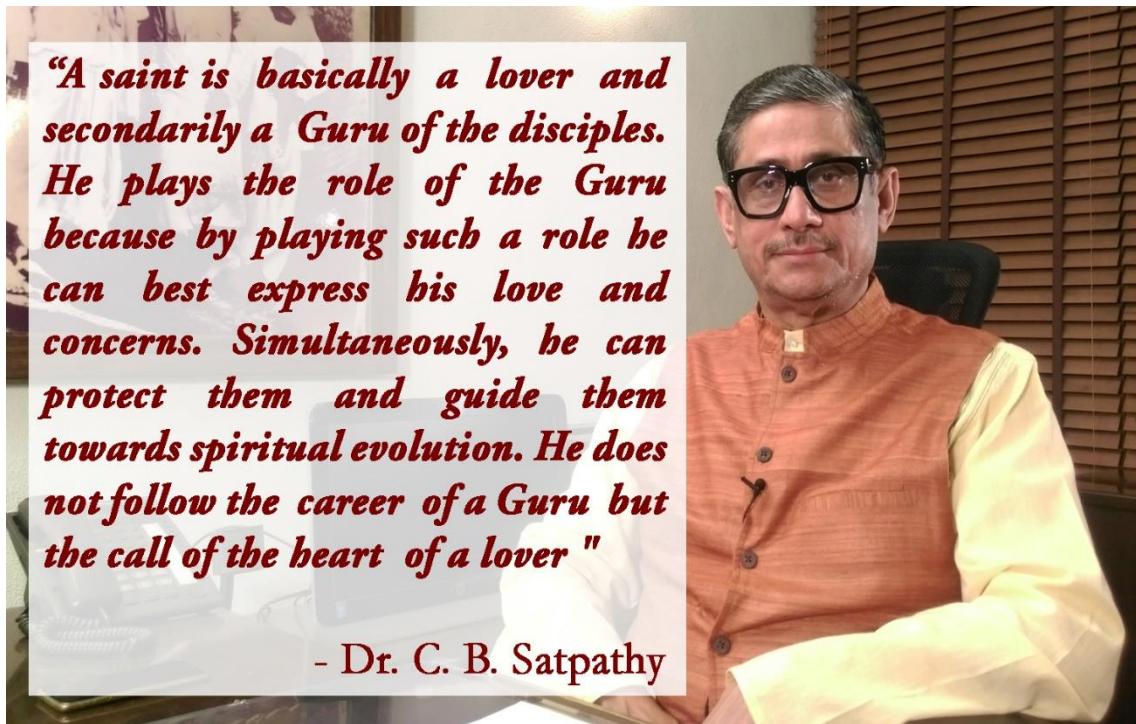


core values for which Baba stood throughout His life. This calls for a lot of understanding between the different organisations and also a sense of tolerance of each other. After all, Sai Baba is the Master and all the devotees are His followers and servants.

|| Jai Shri Sai ||

Dr. C.B. Satpathy,

Gurugram



The Guru awakens and heals the mind

The insatiable spirit of inquiry, investigation and discovery to make life totally happy and worth living has led man to unravel many secrets of creation and to make his life more and more comfortable. But, eclipsing all these achievements is the constant fear of old age, disease and death from which no mortal can escape, and all men are mortal! Evidently, man's quest remains incomplete as long as he cannot extricate himself from the clutches of mortality and attain eternal peace and bliss. How can he do it?

God alone, who is Omnipresent, Omnipotent and Omniscient, possesses these prerogatives of immortality and eternal peace and bliss. If, therefore, man wishes to acquire these qualities, he should attain Godhead. How can a mortal gain immortality? How can an ignorant man acquire knowledge? It is only possible through the guidance of a teacher, who has already acquired that knowledge. Similarly, the mortal man should seek the guidance of one who has already acquired Godhead, that is, a Guru. Who is a true Guru? Obviously Guru is one who has attained Godhead. He is immortal, and is the very embodiment of Peace and Bliss. The true meaning of Guru is "One who dispels darkness of Ignorance". "GU" means "Darkness of Ignorance" and "RU" means "One who destroys or removes". Hence a Guru is one characterized as someone who dispels spiritual ignorance (darkness), with spiritual illumination (light) - as per Advaya Taraka Upanishad (verse 16) Every individual who wishes to rise above his existing levels needs a lighthouse, a guiding star to guide him on the journey of life, who can help by dispelling darkness at every step.

The word Guru also means "One who is beyond Attributes and Forms". GU stands for Gunaattheetha - One who transcends the three Gunas (Satva, Rajas and Thamas) RU stands for Rupavarjitha - One who is formless. The One who is beyond all attributes and forms is none other than the Supreme Self who is resident within each of us. Prince or commoner, rich or poor, every individual who wishes to get empowered and enlightened benefits greatly from the guidance of an Able Guru. Even the Gods sought out Gurus for themselves. Lord Krishna's guru was Sandipani Maharshi. Lord Rama and Laxmana along with many other Princes learnt all skills from their Spiritual master, Guru Vasishtha.

In Sri Sai Satcharitra a seeker asks Baba: "Where to go?" Baba replies "High up". The seeker then asks "How to go there?" Baba answers: "Take a guide; he will take you straight to your destination, avoiding wolves, tigers and ditches etc. on the way. If there be no guide, there is the danger of your being lost in the jungles or falling into ditches."



Lord Swaminarayan ordained Sikshapatri, containing 212 conventions of code of conduct for every human being. One of the points reads: "Even the most learned of men will become morally declined if he is not involved in devotion to God and in good acquaintance."

This Jiva (human soul) transcends the three qualities, viz. Satva, Rajas and Thamas, but being deluded by Maya, he forgets his nature which is 'Existence-Knowledge-Bliss', and thinks that he is the doer and enjoyer and thus entangles himself in endless miseries and does not know the way of deliverance. The only way of deliverance is Loving Devotion towards the Guru's feet. The great Player or Actor Lord Sainath has delighted His Bhaktas and transformed them into Himself (His nature).

In Baba's words," No Sadhanas, nor Proficiency in the six Shastras, are necessary. Have faith and confidence in your Guru. Believe fully, that Guru is the sole Actor or Doer. Blessed is he who knows the greatness of his Guru and thinks him to be Hari, Hara and Brahma (Trimurti) Incarnate." (Sri Sai Satcharitra Chap18/19). Lord Sainath also urged that bookish knowledge is worthless and added, " Let us do our prescribed duty and surrender our Body, Mind and Five Pranas (Life) to the Guru's feet. Guru is God, all pervading. To get this conviction, strong unbounded Faith is necessary." (Sai Satcharitra Chap 32)

Many seers have made various suggestions on how to embark on the spiritual path according to their perceived wisdom. Is there a universally accepted spiritual definition? How should one lead one's life, which balances both the spiritual and the material? To understand all this and choose the right path for a balanced life of duty, responsibility, love, detachment and striving for higher consciousness, you need the Grace and Guidance of a Spiritual master. As the saying goes " When the disciple is ready the Master arrives."

Friends, Let us purify our hearts to let the Divine dwell in it. Let us install our Guru God, our Sadguru Sainath, in our hearts!

Om Sai Shri Sai Jai Jai Sai !

Sai devotee,
- Sai Eshwari,
Canada.

CLAY IN THE POTTER'S HAND



A month ago, in the early hours of the morning, I woke up having distinctly dreamt of my beloved Master Shri Shiridi Sai Baba. I remembered the dream vividly as I saw my Baba sitting on a large stone surrounded by his devotees. I too was there, and remembered holding His hands. Rather, He holding my hands tightly. His hands were old but firm and strong. I felt so safe and secure in His hold. I wondered what that vision meant for me. I felt comforted knowing that he was assuring me that He was taking care of me and my children. But I also knew that he was trying to convey a deeper message for me. I prayed to him in my morning puja. Please tell me I prayed silently and hurried off to work. That morning a colleague of mine came to see me with a book in his hands. He was leaving for his vacation and wanted to give me something. He said that he had found this book and both he and his wife wanted to give it to me a gift. My hair stood on ends as I saw the cover of the book. It was the same HANDS I saw in my dream. The book was called “Clay in the Potters Hand”. It all came rushing to me and I instantly knew what Baba was trying to tell me in the dream.

We are all humans a word akin to the term *humus*, meaning earth or clay. We have been formed from clay. Coincidentally my name Renuka also means “from mother earth, born of dust”. We are, in a literal sense, pottery. The Bible says that God physically shaped Adam from the clay of the earth and breathed into him. Anybody who has worked with clay knows there are things you can do with clay, and there are things the clay will not let you do. Anyone who has worked with cloth, or with metal knows that the matter you are working with, constrains the results you are able to achieve. The material has, if you will, its own will and wisdom. And what you work in creates a partnership with you. If clay has its own property and a mind of its own, how much more so for us human beings or any of God’s creatures. Before clay can be formed into a pot, it must be centered, so that every part of it lines up with the very heart of the wheel. The unruly clay wobbles at first, heading off in all directions. The potter



adds water and presses his hands against the sides of the clay as it spins, pushing the clay closer to the wheel head, smoothing uneven places, and pressuring bumpy edges. Finally, under the firm and gentle guidance of the potter, the clay begins to center. **It is a process that requires time, trust and patience.** By the end the clay will be smooth, solid and perfectly aligned –on its way to becoming a true work of art.

Sant Kabir in his Doha says “*Guru kumhar sish kumbh hai, gadhi-gadhi kaadhe khot. Antar haath sahaar de, bahir maare chot*”, meaning, **the Guru is like the potter and the disciple is like the pot. The Guru keeps stroking outside the pot to make it in shape while all the time he supports it from within with the other hand so it doesn’t get broken. Such intense is His care and concern to make us righteous.**

Roman 8:28 says that God works all things for the good of those who love Him and are called according to His purpose. And the next verse (Roman 8:29) gives us His purpose “to be conformed to the image of His son”. God hovers over his creation, centering us or shaping us or even restoring us from collapse, he transforms us in ways we never imagined. He knows how to skillfully apply pressure, how to relax His grip, how to score your life with His fingernail, how to squeeze and nudge –all of it designed to make you a vessel fit for His use. Sometimes He even places us in the kiln where the fires of life turn us into more solid vessels for His use.

In the Sai Satcharitra, we see Sadguru SaiBaba like the potter, searching, centering, opening, shaping, restoring, transforming, repairing, returning and redeeming many of his close disciples like Mhalsapathi, Bhaogi Shinde and Radha Krishna Mai to name a few .

Mhalsapathi was a poor priest of the Khandoba temple, Shirdi. He had only an elementary education, which the village veranda schools impart. All that Mhalsapathi owned was a mud house in the village, and seven and a half acres of barren land without water supply, which yielded practically nothing. To eke out his living, he followed the hereditary profession of a goldsmith. But in a poor village with very few houses and very few visitors, brought very little income. Once Khandoba appeared as an old Brahmin in a vision, and said to him, 'What? Can you not get your bread without practicing your profession as a gold smith?' Then Mahalsapati answered in the vision. 'Yes. I shall give it up'. Then Khandoba in the vision said, 'Touch my feet and hold them. From that time onwards, he gave up goldsmith's work in perfect trust (NISHTA AND SRADDHA) and lived by begging, that is, he became really a Sanyasi 'Monk', though living with a family. Mahalsapati was very meek, obedient, and pious. He firmly adhered to a life of 'Holy Poverty' and Baba kept him to it. He watched Sai-baba distribute hundreds of rupees but he never begged Baba to give him some. On



account of poverty he maintained his family with great difficulty. Once a rich man named Hansraj wanted to give Mhalsapathi some cash in Baba's presence .He refused it and Baba did not tell him to accept it. Baba protected him from all calamities in his worldly life and brought about Mahalsapati's spiritual uplift. Mahalsapati had the fortune of being in the constant company of Baba day and night. He had the great opportunity to sleep with Baba in the Mosque for many years. Mahalsapati used to spread his own cloth and on that Baba would lie on one half, and he would lie on the other. Baba would tell Mahalsapati, 'Place your hand on my heart and listen my remembrance of Allah, if that suddenly stops and natural sleep supervenes, wake me up.' Mahalsapati used to sleep in the Masjid even after the Mahasamadhi of Sri Saibaba.

Baba had the uncanny ability to know each of his disciples from the inside: He knew what they could bear and what they couldn't. He knew their strengths and their needs. He urged them loving to transform themselves and evolve as better human beings. Those who trusted Him remained flexible enough to change and grow and had nothing to fear from His strong hands. We may not like the pounding of the mallet but its sole purpose is to make us more usable and pliable in the potter's hand. So the message for us is very simple: we are nothing less than who we truly are. Each one of us - clay in God's hands- is unique and different from each and every other one of us. And it is God's greatness to recognize our uniqueness. A great potter is not someone who crushes the clay; a great potter intuits the clay into magnificent functional art. The child of God need never fear that the Lord will walk out on us and leave us to spin out of control. No matter how fast the wheels spin, or what comes our way, we can be rest assured that the Lord Saibaba will never remove His hand from us. He is always in touch with His clay. Jai Shri Sai. Peace be to all.

Compiled From Various sources.

Renuka Arun,
Ontario, Canada.



The Guru and Avatara Tattwa

In Sanskrit, avatar means manifestation, descent, an associated word is ‘avataaranam’, which means descent or coming down. Avatar (ava + tara) or incarnation means a shooting star or the descent of a star into the earth atmosphere. In the philosophical context an avatar means a manifestation of god upon earth in the form of a human being or any living being, which can be either complete or partial and sometimes used to refer to any Guru or human being.

Causes of Avataaranam: The chief purpose of an avatar or incarnation is to restore balance by destroying excessive evil and reestablishing Dharma or righteousness. Serving as a role model and a source of inspiration to his devotees, protecting those who seek his protection against evil and helping them on the path to liberation.

Duties of Avatar: An incarnation gives us the hope that we are not alone in the world, and we will not be deserted by God at any time. He is our lord and protector who keeps a watch over us. He manifests in our lives in various guises to help and protect us from adversity, evil and chaos. An incarnation serves as a role model for the humans. Through his life and deeds he exemplifies virtues such as purity, non-violence, detachment, truthfulness, self-control, austerity, humility and so on. Suggests how human should live upon earth, uphold Dharma, cultivate divine qualities and regulate their lives with righteous conduct.

The incarnations of God also point to the significance of mortal life in the battle between the good and the evil forces and how the earth plays an important role in the destiny of the world. Just as the earth, the mortal body is also considered the Field (*kshetra*) in which the divine and demonic entities wage a continuous war with God as the witness and nature as his force. In this battle human beings have a huge responsibility to lead the world in the right direction and help the Gods in their fight against the evil forces.



Types of Avatar: Technically all living beings are incarnations of God only, as the soul is an aspect of Brahma and identical to him in all aspects. As per the doctrines of our ancient Rishis of yore, there are sixteen expanding *kalas* emanating from the Supreme Brahman. The different kinds of avatars are as follows: Purna Avatar, Amsa Avatar, and Lila Avatar.

Purna Avatar means full Avatar, in whom all sixteen *kalas* are present. Lord Krishna was a Purna Avatar. There are also Amsa Avatars with partial incarnations. Sri Sankaracharya was an Amsa Avatar. Lord Rama was a Lila Avatar with fourteen *kalas*. Ancient Rishis, modern philosophers, and theosophists mention seven *kalas*, twelve *kalas* and so on when they describe the stage of spiritual development of their Gurus. The Puranas describe ten main avatars of lord Vishnu, viz. Matsyavat, Kurmavat, Varahavat etc.

Guru as Avatar: Lord Dattatreya was primal manifestation in the guru tradition, the other guru incarnations in this traditions are Shripad Shri Vallabh, Shri Narasimha Saraswati, Shri Swami Samarth of Akkalkot, Kapila Muni, Sanakadi kumars, Rishava, Dhruva, Gautama, Nara-narayana, Maitreya, Vyasa, Durbasa, Ramanuja, Ramananda, Adi Shankaracharya, Gorakha, Gauranga, Shree Rama, Shree Krishna, Buddha, Shri Chaitanya so on and so forth. In addition there are several more Sadgurus, like Shri Manika Prabhu, Shri Sai Baba of Shirdi etc. The following three things are believed to happen due to the grace of the God, viz. First is birth, second is liberation or moksha and third is Guru's bliss. The spiritual masters or Sadgurus are born at different times in different places with different cultural backgrounds. By the touch or thought of such Gurus one feels inner happiness and bliss. They are often equated with God and always regarded as a link between the individual and the God. Guru is equated with Lord Brahma's creative aspect, lord Vishnu's preservative aspect and lord Shiva's destructive aspect. They are embodiment of existence, knowledge and bliss. They inspire, guide,

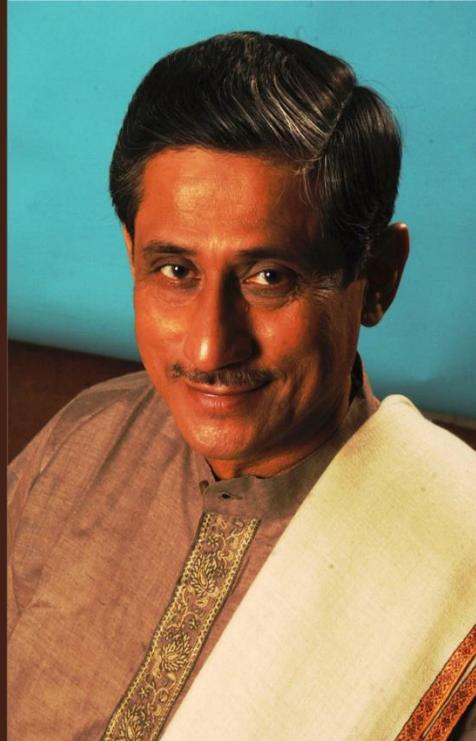


enlighten the seekers and struggling souls of the Samsarik world. He is the root of worship, mediation, salvation and all hymns. Guru acts as the actor by God's will or grace. While God being the actor by Avatar's will or wish.

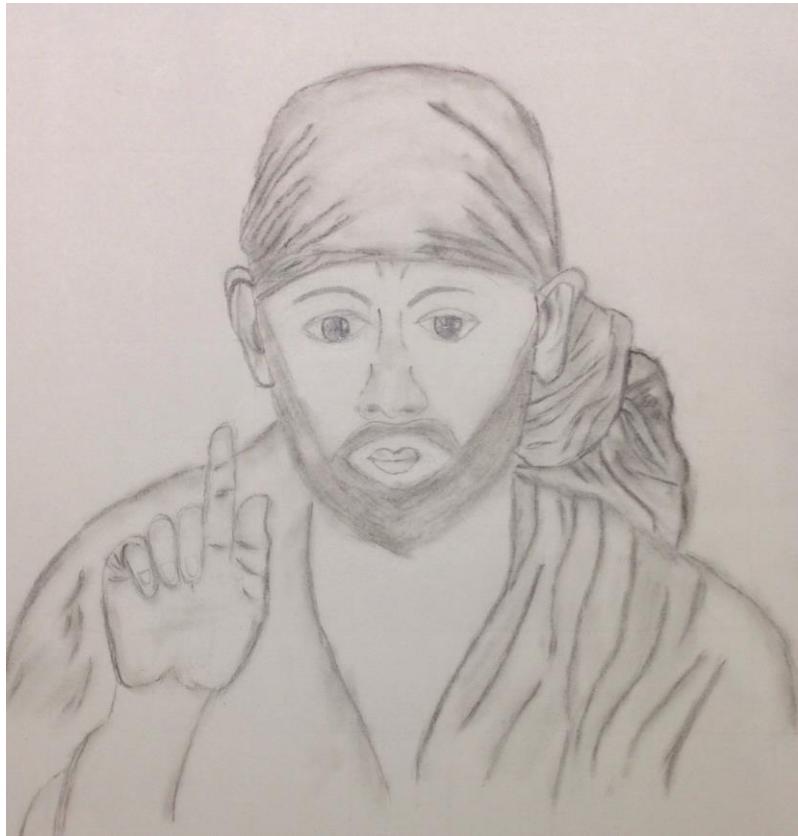
Sasmita Mohapatra,
Dallas, Texas

"Every shock in life makes one stronger if he does not breakdown. A wise man turns suffering to creativity and the unwise one to morbidity. Why channelise the impact of pain to morbidity ? Why not to creativity ? The Spiritual Masters teach the art of creativity to their disciples."

- Dr. C. B. Satpathy



Kids Corner



*Shreya Agrawal,
Plano, Texas*

Poem

You are our *Sadguru* Sai

You watch our *Actions*

You *Inspire* us to do great things

You give us *Knowledge*

You *Refresh* our minds

You give us *Imagination*



You make us *Smile* everyday

You keep us *Happy*

You are very *Noble*

And beyond everything you are our *Atma* Rama

Sampriti Senapati

Plano, Texas

Importance of a Teacher

Throughout our life, we have lost our ways several times and we will be lost again in the future. Most of the time, we don't know how to find our way back and it's then when we realize how important teachers are. Most of the time when we hear the word teacher, we think of an adult teaching kids at school but its more than that. God is a teacher. Our parents are teachers. Someone you might look up to is a teacher. They might all be different people but in the end, they are all the same: they teach us a lesson in our life which helps us take another step in our path and better understand who we are. A teacher helps us when we are stuck. They show us the path and teach us to understand so we can make decisions by ourselves. Every person who is born will have a teacher. Without a teacher, we would all be lost and never be able to move forward. Without a teacher, you wouldn't be what you are now.

Wish You All A Happy Guru Purnima!

Rushav Dash,

Seattle, Washington



Events Diary

Symposium on Gopyaru Agopya at Utkal University, Bhubaneswar

Dr. C.B. Satpathy addressed a symposium on 24th March 2017 on “Shrastha and Shrasti based on his literary work titled ‘Gopyaru Agopya’ in the auditorium of Utkal University in Vanivihar. The symposium was organised by the Sanskrit Department and was attended by academics, students and many intellectuals of Odisha. Dr Satpathyji said that it was necessary to keep the sense of purity and purpose alive since the new generation could take forward the precepts of pious and pristine thoughts.

Book Release Function at Vijayawada

Dr. C. B. Satpathy's Magnum Opus, comprising five volumes of Shri Guru Bhagavata originally written in Odia language, was released in Telugu on 25th March 2017 at the Convention Center, Vijayawada by Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Shri Chandrababu Naidu and other ministers. In his address, Shri Naidu said that the epic emitted great light and had a distinctive role in kindling all into the spiritual path. Also present on the occasion were the Deputy Speaker, Shri M.B. Prasad, State Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Shri K. Srinivas, Minister for Endowments, Shri P.M. Rao, Scientific Advisor to the Defence Minister of the Government of India, Dr Satish Reddy, and a representative of Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam, Dr S Lakshmaniah. A dance program on Guru Bhagavatam was performed by the members of Dr. Dikkys Academy of Dance, Tirupathi

Honoris Causa (D.Litt.) from North Odisha University, Baripada

Dr Chandra Bhanu Satpathyji was conferred with the D.Litt. (Honoris Causa) in recognition of his contribution to spiritual and literary excellence and his leadership on the 27 March 2017, on the occasion of the tenth anniversary celebrations of North Odisha University, Baripada, by the Governor of Odisha & Chancellor of the University Shri S. C. Jamir. Baripada is the native place of Dr. Satpathy. Dr. Satpathy instituted a Gold medal in memory of his father, Late Shri Gokul Chandra Satpathy for the student receiving the highest marks in B.A. (Hons) English. This year the Gold medal was awarded to Miss Aparajita Ojha.

14th Foundation Day Celebrations, Sai Karuna Dham NOIDA

Sai Karuna Dham, Noida, a unit of Shirdi Sai Global Foundation, celebrated its 14th Foundation Day on 2nd April, 2017. Dr. C.B. Satpathy was the Chief Guest. An enthralling dance performance by the children of the temple, a folk-dance performance by the famous Rajasthani Folk Dance group and melodious songs by Shri Suresh Wadkar enchanted the audience. The annual magazine '**Sai Prabha**' was released. In his



keynote address, Dr. Satpathy said that it is desirable to maintain equanimity of mind and go through the process of life. One has to accept both pleasure and pain in life. The function took place in the ground of the City Public School and was aired live through Livestream, YouTube and Facebook.

Pran Pratishtha of Maha Shiva Linga on Ram Navami at Sai Ka Aangan, Gurugram

Dr. C. B. Satpathy conducted the Pran Pratishtha of Maha Shiva Linga on Ram Navami, 5th April, 2017 at Sai Ka Aangan, Gurugram. The Shiva Linga is a monolithic sculpture of 5.5 feet height weighing about 1.5 tons. A large gathering of devotees attended the event and witnessed the ceremony, which was organised by Sai Prakash Spiritual and Charitable Trust in association with Shirdi Sai Global Foundation.

Pranpratistha Ceremony & Shirdi Sai Temple Trustee Summit at Sai International School, Odisha



Dr. C. B. Satpathy inaugurated a Shirdi Saibaba temple and installed the holy statue of Shirdi Sai Baba in the campus of Sai International Residential University in Ramdaspur, Odisha on 10th May 2017. The function was attended by about a thousand Sai devotees and trustees and representatives of 50 Shirdi Saibaba Trusts of Odisha and a few from other places. Addressing the Conference of the trustees of the Shirdi Saibaba temples of Odisha on vital topics relating to the Sai Movement in India and abroad, Dr. Satpathy advised them to intensify humanitarian activities like "poor feeding", "free medical aid", "help in the time of natural disasters" etc. He asked them to prepare for the Centenary Year of Baba's Mahasamadhi, falling in Oct 2018.

He promised to chalk out a program containing events pertaining to the celebration, spanning over the entire celebration period.

Shri Bijay Sahu, Chairman of the Sai International School, Odisha organised the function.



***Shri Guru Bhagavat -
Eka Tatwika Alochana,
Sarala Bhavan, Cuttack,
Odisha***



On the 11th May 2017, Dr. C. B. Satpathy attended a conference organized by “Sai Naivedya” & “Jignsa” on “Shri Guru Bhagavata” as the chief Guest at Sarala Bhavan at Cuttack, Odisha. The discussion and interactive session was on the five volumes of Shri Guru Bhagavata consisting of 20,000

lines and 10 couplets written by Dr. Satpathy in Odia language. It has been translated in many Indian Languages, has been musically rendered in various languages and is being discussed through the Live Radio Program “On Desi” 1250 AM (<http://www.desi1250am.com/>) from Seattle on Every Sunday: 8:30 am – 9:00 am(PST). Prof. Rajkishore Mishra presided over the function. Dr. Deepa Padhy, Dr. Shishir Kumar Panda, Dr. Sudha Mishra, and Dr. Babaji Patnaik spoke on different aspects of Shri Guru Bhagavat.



Pranpratistha Ceremony & Varshik Utsav Celebrations of Shri Shirdi Saibaba Temple, Alandi Road, Pune

Shri Sai Sewa Pratishtan, Alandi Road, Pune celebrated its Foundation day on 4th June, 2017. **Dr. Pratibha Devi Singh Patil**, Former President of India, was the Chief Guest. She felicitated Dr. C.B. Satpathyji for his lifelong humanitarian endeavors and spreading of Indian culture, philosophy and spirituality in numerous national and international forums. Shri Dilip Kamble (MoS for Social Justice & Special Assistance, Govt. of Maharashtra) and Members of Parliament Shri Shriranga Barne, Shri Sadasiv Lokhande & Shri Amar Sable were other distinguished guests. The programme

was also attended by the trustees of Shri Sai Temples from all over India. Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Guest, Dr Pratibha Patil, urged the temples to dedicate themselves to the service of humanity based on the path shown by Dr Satpathy in selfless devotion and service. She released the Marathi version of the third volume of the 'Shri Guru Bhagawat', originally written in



Odia language by Dr Satpathy. The Chief Guest, Dr Pratibha Patil, also released a logo of the Shirdi Sai Global Foundation, a registered Public Charitable Trust under the Chairmanship of Dr Satpathy, titled 'From Century - Towards Eternity', to mark the forthcoming centenary celebrations of the Mahasamadhi of Shri Shirdi Saibaba. Bhajans performed by famous Marathi singer Pandit Ajit Karkare was well appreciated. On 5th June 2017, Dr Satpathy performed the Pranpratistha of the idols of Ram Darbar, and idols of other deities and Saints in the temple premises and consecrated the temple Kalash.

Sai Movement in Europe

The Shirdi Sai Global Foundation (SSGF) under the leadership of its chairman Dr. C. B. Satpathy is undertaking a Global reach-out particularly in the context of the forth-coming Centenary year Celebration of The Mahasamadhi of Shirdi Saibaba from

October 2017 to October 2018. Invited by the various Shirdi Sai Baba trusts /organisations of six European countries, namely, Finland, Germany, Austria, Belgium, Luxembourg and Netherlands, Dr. Satpathy attended eight functions in these countries between the 10th and 19th of June 2017. His visits not only expanded the Sai Consciousness of the Sai devotees residing in these countries but also the Indian diaspora in general and some of the nationals of these countries.



He began his European visit from **Helsinki (Finland)**. Finland is known as the country of the mid night sun. The local diaspora consists of Indians coming from various parts of India, but predominantly from Tamil Nadu.

On 10th June 2017, Shirdi Sai Global Foundation in association with Shirdi Sai Foundation, Finland organised 'An Evening with Sai' event in **Helsinki, Finland**. Dr. C.B. Satpathy attended the event as the Chief Guest. Mr. Ashok Kumar Sharma, Indian Ambassador to Finland, attended the event as the 'Guest of Honour' and felicitated Dr. Satpathy. Dr. Satpathy addressed the audience, including devotees, on the Global Sai Movement. A cultural programme was also organised, which included dance performances by local devotees based

on bhajans written and music composed by Dr. Satpathy in different Times Music CDs. Two non-Indian artists of the Mayuri Group of Russia also performed a dance. Besides the local devotees, other participants from UK, Germany and India also attended the event.



Shirdi Sai Global Foundation in association with Shirdi Sai Foundation Germany organised 'An Evening with Sai' event in **Frankfurt, Germany** on 11th June 2017. Dr. C. B. Satpathy attended the event as the Chief Guest and addressed the devotees about the Sai path and Indian cultural heritage. A cultural programme was organised, which included dance performances by the local devotees and artistes. Attended by devotees from different parts of Germany, UK, Belgium, Luxembourg, France and India, it represented a panoramic view of the Indian culture.





Hindu temple in Vienna and spoke to the devotees about the teachings of Shirdi Sai Baba.



On 12th June 2017, Shirdi Sai Global Foundation in association with the local Hindu Mandir, organised 'An Evening with Sai' event in **Vienna, Austria**. Dr. C. B. Satpathy was the Chief Guest. On his way to the event, he also visited another Hindu Temple where Baba is being worshipped. Dr. Satpathy addressed the gathering of the devotees in the temple and offered flowers to the deities. Devotees from UK, Germany and India also attended the function. Prior to this, Dr. Satpathy visited another

Shirdi Sai Global Foundation in association with Shirdi Sai Foundation, Luxembourg, organised 'An Evening with Sai' in **Luxembourg** on 17th June 2017. Dr. C.B. Satpathy attended the event as the Chief Guest. Mr. Ambi Venkataraman, the Honorary Consul General of India to Luxembourg, felicitated Dr. Satpathy on this occasion. Dr. Satpathy addressed the Sai devotees and others present. The local Indians and their family members organised a cultural programme, followed by a dinner.

On 18th June 2017, Shirdi Sai Global Foundation in association with the Hindu Mandir organised 'Sai Satsang' in **Brussels, Belgium**. Dr.Satpathy addressed the devotees as the Chief Guest. A cultural programme was also organised by the Sai Devotees and their children. The local Indian diaspora as well as devotees from UK, Germany, Netherlands and India participated in the event in large numbers.



On 18th June 2017, Shirdi Sai Global Foundation in association with Shirdi Sai Samaj, Netherlands, organised 'An Evening with Sai' event at the Sai Temple in **Amsterdam, Netherlands**. Dr. C.B. Satpathy attended the event as the Chief Guest. Mr. D.V.N Rao, First Secretary, Indian Embassy, Netherlands, also attended the event and felicitated Dr. Satpathy. Addressing the devotees, Dr. Satpathy spoke on the finer nuances of the Sai Path.

On 19th June 2017, Shirdi Sai Global Foundation in association with Shirdi Sai

Mandir organized the Pran Pratista of a new Sai temple in **Olst, Netherlands**. Dr. C.B. Satpathy conducted the Pran Pratishtha of the statue of Shirdi Sai Baba and opened the temple. Dr Etienne Premdani is the main trustee of this temple. Devotees from UK, Germany, Belgium, Finland and India also attended the Pran Pratista ceremony.



During his visit a large number of people, mostly of the Indian diaspora, gathered to listen to his speech even on the working days. Most of these programmes were broadcast live through the Facebook page of Shirdi Sai Global Foundation.



ELEVEN SAYINGS OF SHRI SAI BABA

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 Samadhi.

I shall be ever active and vigorous even after leaving the earthly body.

My tomb shall bless and speak to the needs of My devotees.

I shall be active and vigorous even from My tomb.

My mortal remains would speak from My tomb.

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 look to Me, I look to you.

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

There shall be no want in the house of My devotees.



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