

The Glory of Shirdi Sai

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श्रद्धा

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R.B.P urandare was in the railway division of the government. He applied for leave once, which was accepted and granted along with passes for the journey. Joyfully, he made all kinds of preparations as he was going to Shirdi to see his Guru. A day before his departure, his superior officer called him and requested him to cancel the trip as there was an

impending workmen's strike. Purandare was acutely disappointed. How could he survive this blow?? "I would rather die, than to cancel my trip to Shirdi. Any other place of visit, I could do without", he thought. He was adamant to leave as planned, though his officer had promised to sanction leave later, after the crisis had blown over. That night, Baba appeared in his dream and angrily said, " Don't you dare come to Shirdi tomorrow ." Purandare obeyed and attended office as usual, the next day. This pleased the officer and the doubt that he harbored, that Purandare was in league with the strikers also vanished. A month later, the officer asked him to take leave and go to Shirdi. When he went to the Dwarkamai, Baba said, " Don't go mad. We have as yet, many responsibilities to discharge. Stay at home and chant My name. Am I not with you all the time??"

Leela 67

Baba asked Purandare to build a house, for himself and his family, at his own expense. Purandare, with great difficulty, bought land in the desolate Bandra suburb. He started construction, but was plagued by severe headaches. Unable to bear it anymore, he wrote to Baba, pleading that, instead of giving him such unbearable pain, He had better put and end to his life. This letter he gave Dr. Pillai, with the request to give it to Baba. Upon the receipt of the letter, Baba's heart melted and He sent some Udi and snuff like powder in a small packet. He asked Purandare to inhale it, and Purandare did just that and the headache was gone. A few days later, he wrote to Baba, asking Him when he should do 'Gruha-Pravesh'. Baba replied, " You may perform 'Gruha - Pravesh' on Thursday. I too will come along with you."

So, on Thursday, Purandare made 'naivedya' for Baba. Then with Baba's photograph clasped to his chest, he proceeded to the house. Being rather poor, he couldn't have an elaborate 'Pooja' and rituals. As long as Baba's photograph was there first with naivedya, everything would go well, he thought. To his surprise, as he was walking past the Datta Mandir, he saw Baba there. Baba accompanied him to the new house, till Purandare reverentially placed Baba's photograph on as 'aasan' and then vanished.







Upadhrava nívaríne

Namaha



By Shri S.N.Huddar (As published in Sri Sai Leela English Monthly Magazine from April 1975 onwards) Guru Sakshat Parabrahmah Tasmai Shree Gurave Namah

Chapter II

Siddha Muni Guides Namdharak

Yet Sandeepak tried his best to bring good delicious food and vegetables as directed by his Guru. Though he was living in Kashi, he never went to the Vishweshwar temple to worship and see the most holy shrine of Vishweshwar. Similarly he did not think of any other thing but he solely devoted himself to the nursing and giving best service to his Guru, whom he respected as God Shiva, Vishnu and Brahma. Though the Guru got enraged off and on, he did not retort harshly.

Seeing his such devoted service to his Guru, Kashi Vishweshwar was so pleased that he appeared before him and told him to ask for some favor or blessing. Sandeepak replied, "Without the approval of my Guru, I cannot ask for your blessings". He then came to his guru and said "Kashi Vishweshwar is pleased to offer me some blessing. If you permit me, I shall pray him to remove your physical pangs and give you sound health."

Hearing this, Veda Dharma was enraged. He said to Sandeepak "Do not pray Vishweshwar for my health. If I do not suffer these pangs, I will have to suffer in the next birth and this would abstract my path of salvation."

Sandeepak returned to Kashi Vishweshwar, and told him, " My Guru doesn't like me to accept any blessings from you." Being amazed Kashi Vishweshwar went to Shri Vishnu and reported this wonderful incident to him.

Hearing this, Shri Vishnu and Shri Kashi Vishweshwar desired to see this disciple and his Guru and so they both came to Kashi and approached Sandeepak. Shri Vishnu said, "Oh Sandeepak, I am pleased with your devotion to your Guru. You may ask for what ever you desire. I shall fulfill your wishes."

Sandeepak said, "Oh Narayan, even after undertaking penance in dense forest for infinite period, you disappoint your devotees. But when neither did I worship you, nor recite your name, why should you be pleased with me and ask me to have a boon from you?"

Shri Vishnu said, "Whatever devoted service you have rendered to your Guru, has been received by me. I love such disciples very much. I am under his influence and I willingly offer him my blessings. I like wife's devotion to her husband, bowing to Brahmins. Ascetics and Sanyasis, and such persons come to my place in the end."

****Will Continue****



Pujyasri B.V.Narasimhaswamiji, who visited Shirdi in the year 1936, collected authentic information about Lord Sainath from persons lived with Sai and wrote many books on Lord Sainath. All his works are authentic. One such book is SRI SAINATHA MANANAM. This book was published as early as in the year 1942 and the fourth edition came in the year 1945.

Sai Baba's Pledge

God Sai Hari must be worshipped by all the world, because:

- (1) Of his kindness
- (2) His grant of Sanctuary or freedom from all fears.
- (3) His removal of the troubles of the distressed.
- (4) Of his lofty qualities.
- (5) His wiping away of sin.
- (6) and his conferring the loftiest position on the devotees.

There are six witnesses for this namely:

- (1) N.G.Chandorkar
- (2) Mirikar
- (3) S.B.Nachne
- (4) G.G.Narke
- (5) the Snake and
- (6) Nulkar (the sub-Judge)

Victory is yours O Pundarikaksha! Victory is yours O All--Blessed.!

Sainath is my mother . And Sai, the King of Gods, is my father. Sai's devotees are my kinsmen. My own motherland is the Universe.

Which wise man will seek refuge with any other but you,--you the friend of devotee, whose words are ever true and who is always friendly and grateful? All the prayers of your devotees, you grant and you give even yourself to them. To you there is neither growth nor destruction.

Will continue....

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Upamsuja pabodhakaya

Namaha





Bhrajishnur-bhojanam-bhokta sahisnur jagada-dijah anagho vijayo jeta visvayonih punarvasuh ||

bhrajishnuh: One who is effulgent. Om brajishnave namah.

bhojanam: One who is the object of enjoyment. Om bhojanaya namah.

bhokta: The Enjoyer. Om bhoktre namah.

sahishnuh: The Forgiver. Om sahishnave namah.

jagadadijah: He who was born at the beginning of the Universe. Om jagadadijaya namah.

anaghah: One who is Sinless, uncontaminated. Om anaghaya namah.

vijayah: Victory Incarnate. Om vijayaya namah.

jeta: The conqueror. Om jetre namah.

visva-yonih: The Cause of the Universe. Om visva-yonaye namah.

punarvasuh: One who lives again and again as the antaratma of all His creations.

Upendro vamanah pramsur amoghah sucirurjtah | atindrah samgrahah sargo dhrtatma niyamo yamah ||

upendrah: a) One who appeared as the younger brother of Indra to help him. b) One who is superior to Indra. Om upendraya namah.

vamanah: One with the Dwarf form. Om vamanaya namah.

pramsuh: The Tall. Om pramsave namah.

amoghah: One whose acts are never purposeless. Om amoghaya namah.

sucih: Pure. Om sucaye namah.

urjitah: One who is endowed with immense strength. Om Urjitaya namah.

atIndrah: One who is superior to Indra. Om atindraya namah.

samgrahah: a) He who is easily reached. b) He who has everyone under His control. Om samgrahaya namah.

sargah: The creator of Himself. Om sargaya namah.

dhritatma: The supporter of all the jivatmas. Om dhritatmane namah.

niyamah: The Controller. Om niyamaya namah.

yamah: The Ruler. Om yamaya namah.

Will Continue.....



(SAI'S MESSAGE FOR LIFE FROM THE DIARY OF SAI.BA.NI.SA)

09 -04- 1992

Do not refuse food even from the bad persons, provided they are reformed.

02 - 08- 1992

Life is a great play. Remember that your role in life is limited only to introduce other fellow artistes to the World.



Stories from "Chinna Katha"

The Pundit and the Milkmaid

There was a pundit who led a disciplined life, sticking to a prearranged timetable. He woke up from sleep in the early hours of the morning, recited Pranava and later, after ablutions, drank a cup of milk at 7 a.m. exactly.

Sometimes the milkmaid arrived late, for she lived on the other side of a river that flowed between the area in which she lived and the area in which the pundit lived. She had to catch a ferry to cross over the river with the milk. The ferryboat either started a little earlier or a little later. So, sometimes by the time she reached the Pundit's house it used to be very late.

One day the Pundit scolded her and said, "You are upsetting my disciplined life. Don't you know that I must have my cup of milk at 7 a.m.? Why do you depend on that boat to take you across? Just repeat the name of Rama. You will be able to walk across the river. Rama will see that you do not get drowned."

The maid being very simple and unsophisticated had faith in the words of the Pundit. Next day, the maid repeated the name of Rama and she just walked across the river. The Pundit questioned her: "How could you come on time?" The milkmaid replied: "Sir, I repeated the name of Rama as you instructed yesterday, and I could just walk across." The Pundit was flabbergasted. He did not believe. He just drank the milk and said: "Let's now go to the bank of the river. Let me see you walk across the river." The maid stepped into the river repeating the name of Rama; she could just walk across.

The maid requested the Pundit to follow her. But the Pundit knew that he would not be able to walk across the river, because he did not have faith in what he himself had said - the power of the Name.

Recite the sacred name

Sri Krishna Chaitanya was the pioneer of the movement of Nagarasamkirtan. He used to get himself immersed in the contemplation of the Lord while singing His glory and used to be oblivious of the external world.

Once he was conducting Nagarasamkirtan in Navadweep. Several leaders of the town too joined him in his Bhajan. They were all ecstatically singing Bhajans and walking along the streets. A thief also joined this group. He thought it would be an opportunity for him to pick the pockets of rich devotees who would be lost in singing and dancing. But when he actually participated in it he began singing with more zeal than others. All of them had come to a temple and were seated. He sat near Chaitanya, while those sitting in front were listening to his discourse. Many had left the temple precincts by then. He held Chaitanya's both feet and said: "Swami, you are giving so much advice to so many people. Kindly impart to me some sacred "mantra". Chaitanya looked at him and said: "Tell me first of all who you are and what you do". The thief said: "Swami! How can I lie to you? I am a thief. I have been a thief all my life. My name is Rama, people call me 'Rama' - the thief."

Chaitanya said: "Oh what a pity. I shall give you a name or a message but what will you give me as guru Dakshina?" The thief at once said without any hesitation: "I shall give you a share in the booty I get from my theft." Chaitanya said: "I have no need for any money. All that I insist is that you should give up stealing." The thief said: "Swami, that is my profession, how else can I earn a living, when I do not have any other skill?" "Well," said Chaitanya, "I shall give you a sacred name on one condition, when you go for thieving, you must first recite the sacred name I give you 1008 times." Chaitanya whispered into his ear: "Om Namo Bhagavathe Vasudevaya". Transformation even by then had taken place in the thief because of the touch of the holy person. He was also freed from the sin of his past deeds because of the conversation with Chaitanya. The thief went back a refined person.

One day many wealthy householders had locked their houses and had gone for the Darshan of Sri Krishna Chaitanya. The thief did not want to lose this opportunity to break into a house. He went to the house of the richest man of the town. He broke into the house and entered the room where the iron safe was kept. He opened it and saw valuable gems and jewels of gold. He resolved not to touch anything until he had finished reciting 1008 times the mantra given to him. Before he completed the number, the master of the house arrived along with the family. The lady of the house wanted to remove all the jewels she had worn before she left the house and keeps them back in the safe. She saw a stranger lost in the recitation of the sacred mantra "Om Namo Bhagavathe Vasudevaya." She thought he must be a great sage who had come to their house to bless them. She called her husband. The thief was lost in his meditation. The entire family sat round him with folded hands. They thought he must be a saintly soul like Chaitanya. The thief opened his eyes after the completion of 1008 times the mantra. He was surprised to find a group of people sitting reverentially before him. The master of the house asked him, "Oh Sir! May we know who you are and may we request you to honour us by accepting to take food with us today so that we shall be redeemed of our sins." The thief said to himself: "If the mere recitation of the Lord's name, now and then can bring me such honour, what greater things cannot happen to me if I sincerely make it my daily habit of reciting the name continuously. I may certainly win the grace of the Lord." He decided to give up thieving. He prostrated before the master of the house and his wife and said, "Mother, let me tell you the truth. I am a thief. Let me go to the forest. I shall spend the rest of my life in the contemplation of God." All were surprised at his words but were very happy.

He stayed with them as their guest that night. The news of this event spread fast around in the morning. As a result, the whole neighborhood came to see him. They took him in a palanquin round the town and left him in the forest where he wanted to do his Tapas. Later, once again, he came to Chaitanya and received his blessings so that he may blossom into a real sage.

SAI AMRIT VANI

Shri Sai Mahima

Amritroop Sai gun gaan, amrit kathan Sai vyaakhyaan | amrit vachan Sai ki charchaa, sudhaa sama geet Sai ki archaa ||42|| The songs sung in His praise are Sweet, For Him the voices raised are sweet (Sweet are the explanations given with respect to Sai),The words are sweet said in devotion (Sweet are words uttered in His discussion), Like nectar is Shri-Ram's adoration

Shubha rasanaa vahi kahaave, Sai Ram jahaan naam suhaave | shubha karma hei naam kamaayi, Sai Ram parama sukhadaayi ||43|| The tongue that tells the Name-SaiRam, Is most melodious, full of charm ; Gather within the wealth of Name, Giver of highest joy is Name. Blessed is the tongue that forever remembers 'Sai-Ram'. Indeed, the only significant wealth and righteous deed worth performing consists in constant and sustained recitation of 'Sai-Ram'. This surely bestows lasting inner happiness.

Jab jee chaahe darshan paayiye, jai jai kaar Sai ki gaayiye | Sai naam ki dhuni lagaayiye, sahaj hi bhavsaagar tar jaayiye ||44|| Whenever you desire, you can have the Darshan of Sai, Sing the Glory of Sai Sing the Name of Sai, and Cross the ocean of Misery and Sorrow easily.

.....Will continue



Umesamesa ukthathmane

Namaha

Purusha Sooktam:

Trí-Paad-Uurdhva Udait-Puurussah Paado-Asye[a-I]ha-Abhavat-Punah | Tato Vissvang Vya[i-A]kraamat-Saashana-Anashane Abhi ||4||

Meaníng:

4.1: The Three Feet of the Purusha is raised high Above (in Transcendental Realm), and His One Foot becomes the Creation again and again. 4.2: There, in the Creation, He pervades all the Living (who eats) and the Non-Living (who does not eat) beings.

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