

# The Glory of Shirdi Sai

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#### गुरुब्रहमा गुरुविष्णुः गुरुर्देवो महेश्वरः | गुरुः शाक्षात परब्रहम तस्मै श्रीगुरवे नमः:||



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#### Sai a Beacon for Humanity

#### **EXPERIENCES OF SAI.BA.NI.SA WITH SHIRDI SAI-4**



EAR 2016-ISSUE 25

When Hemadri Panth (Anna Sahib Dhabolkar) contemplated to write Sai Satcharita, Sri Sai advised Shyama (Madhava Rao Deshpande), the mediator to see that Hemadri Panth sheds his Ahankara and take recourse to his feet, then I myself shall complete the writing. Sai was always instrumental in removing ahankara (ego) from the mind of his devotees and thereby contribute to the spiritual advancement of his devotees. In this experience, the 5th under the series, I shall show how Sai tackled with my ahankara.

It was a cool morning of winter during the month of December, 1990; I offered prayers at the Ganesh Temple near Secunderabad Station and came out. A smiling middle aged person clad in white South Indian attire wanted me to offer 1/- as dakshina. The typical smile reminded me of Sai's Photograph in my house. I naturally felt happy that Sai himself was demanding and I readily obliged to. After parting I walked towards another temple of Panduranga Vittal in the nearby vicinity. While doing so a thought crept in to my position conscious mind that I am a class one Officer and why Sai always demands a dakshina Rs.1/-only when I have capacity to pay more i.e Rs.2/- as Baba normally does. Certainly this cannot be my fault. As I was passing through a lodging house in busy traffic area my attention was drawn to a fakir calling for me.

Involuntarily I moved towards him. Without any wait he blasted me with words "you are a big officer and I am considered a poor Sai Baba. Can you give me as much as I demand? Are you treating me as a beggar? It appears that your ahankara has grown out of proportion".

Like a statue I listened to these sermons and realized my grave mistake. How did this fakir on road capture thoughts reeling in my mind? Definitely I consider it was none other than Sai Baba himself graced in fakir's form to put a check on my growing ahankara and guide me on to the path of righteousness. Unmindful of the surroundings and with tremors in my body I touched his feet and requested him to pardon me while quickly dumping a two rupees note in to his palm. After coming out of Pandu Ranga Vittal's Temple I looked back nervously to find the fakir nowhere around. I concluded that Sai is SARVAN-TARYAAMI and what fitting lesson he gave me to remember and practice it forever.

BOW TO SHRI SAI - PEACE BE TO ALL.







#### Guroho Samadhi parsvastha nímba-cchaya nívasakruthe

Namaha



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

#### Chapter XXIV

#### Trivikram bharati Sees Vishwaroop of Shri Guru

Being praised by Trivikram in this way, Shri Guru appeared before him in his real form in the procession. Shri Guru said to him, 'You have been criticizing me and have called me a pretender. Just tell me who is a pretender.'

Trivikram said, 'Kindly pardon me. Wipe off my ignorance. I am sinking in the sea of ignorance. Give me a lift in the boat of knowledge and take me with you. Shri Krishna showed Vishwaroop to Arjuna. Similarly you have favored me by showing your universal form. Oh guru of the Universe, your greatness cannot be fully described by people like me.'

Shri Guru: 'You have known the Paramartha. You will not have any birth hereafter.' Blessing Trivikram Shri Guru returned back to Ganagapur.

#### **Chapter XXV**

#### **Impudent Brahmins vanity**

There was a cruel Muslim king in Vidura. He used to call the Brahmins, ask them to recited Vedas and explain their meaning. He would then give money to such Brahmins. He would say that if Brahmins kill animals in sacrifices, then why should they blame us for killing animals?

One day two Brahmins, knowing three Vedas, came to the king and said to him, `If there are any learned Brahmins in your city, call them to discuss with us on all the four Vedas.

The king inquired, but no learned Brahmin came forward to discuss with these Brahmins. They decided to visit other places in the country and discuss. Vedas with Brahmins and obtain victory certificates from them.

In course of time they came to Kumasi and invited Trivikram Bharati for discussion or else demanded a certificate for victory.

Trivikram Bharati humbly declined to discuss. But due to their persistence he said, 'My Gurudeo resides at Ganagapur. Let us go there. You will be given certificates if necessary.'

......Continued in next page





#### BHAGWAN DATTATREYA'S SIXTEEN AVATARS

#### SECOND AVATAR - ATRIVARAD

When Atri lived as a grahastha, he had many sons. They were learned and erudite; but he longed to have a son, who would be famous in all the three lokas and would guide the people to attain the highest goal of life. He, therefore, observed severe penance on the Riksha mountain. Due to the lustre of his penance, the three lokas suffered from heat and all the creatures and birds became uneasy. All the Gods, Rishi-munis approached Brahma, Vishnu and Mahesh. Then Brahma, riding on hans, Vishnu on garud and Mahesh on nandi appeared before Atri and roused him from his meditation. Atri bowed to them and said, "I adored only one God then who are you three ?" The three Gods said, "We are the same whom you aimed at. We appear in three forms; but we are one. Maya (illusion) is threefold sattwa, raj and tamas. Raj creates, sattwa protects and tam destroys. These three powers are prominent. Parmatma possesses all these three powers." Atri was blessed with a son by the three Gods as desired. Hence this Avatar is known as 'Atrivarad'. He had lustre like hot gold and a smiling face. This Avatar appeared on Kartik Vadya Pratipada, Rohini Nakshatra, Thursday, first prahar and first muhurta. He had one or three heads and held Brahma's garland and kamandalu in the lower two hands, God Shiva's drum and trishul in the middle two hands and Vishnu's shankha and chakra in the upper two hands.

#### THIRD AVATAR - SHRI DATTATREYA

Bhagwan Shri Hari appeared before Atri as a boy on the Kartik Vadya 2, Mrug Nakshatra, Friday at sunrise on the first muhurta. He looked bluish as Indranil in colour. His face was pleasant as the moon, his four hands possessed shankha, chakra, gada and padma. Vibhuti was applied on his body and he had locks of hair on his head. He appeared saying, "Dattoham". Atri and Anasuya said, "We shall not be content till you take birth from us." Being pleased with their speech, he entered in the heart of Atri as a spark of lightening and afterwards took birth as a son of Anasuya.

#### Continued from page 2.....

Trivikram Bharati and two Brahmins came to Ganagapur. Trivikram bowed to Shri Guru and told him why those Brahmin had come there.

Shri Guru asked the Brahmins' 'Why do you want to discuss? We being Sanyasis do not give any importance to victory or defeat. What will you gain by such discussion?'

The Brahmins said, `We have roamed all over the country and have won victory everywhere. Here we have several certificates of victory. Hence you and Trivikram can both discuss with us.'

Shri Guru: `Vanity results in destruction. What was bali's fate? What did Banasur gain? Ravana and Kauravas have also perished. Even Brahma and others do not know all the Vedas. So think over again and give up the idea of discussing.'

Still he impudent Brahmins insisted to have a discussion.



#### PAGE 4





Gururvenkusa sampraptha vasthrestíka sadhadruthaya

Namaha





Subha'ngo loka-sara'ngah su-tantuh tantu-vardanah | Indra-karma maha-karma krta-karma krtagamah ||84||

Subha'ngah - om subhangaya namh

- a) He with a bewitching form that mesmerizes the asura-s and misleads them.
- b) He with an auspicious form that is meditated upon by His true devotees.
- c) He Who makes the ashtanga yoga successful for those who follow this path with devotion.
- d) He Who has beautiful gaits.
- e) He Who pervades everywhere at all times with His auspicious form.
- f) He Who makes things functional in this Universal in a beautiful way.
- g) He Who brings the auspicious aspects such as trust in sastra-s, guru's words, etc., to His devotees.

loka-sara'ngah - Om loka-sara'ngaya namah.

- a) He Who preached the superficially acceptable goals in the world.
- b) He Who grasps the essence of the world like a sara'nga or honeybee.
- c) He Who is reachable through the essence (sara) of the vedas, namely pranava.
- d) He Who is the object of devotion (loka-sara).
- e) He Who is attracted by bhakti.
- f) He Who bestows moksham, and He to whom the jnani-s are attracted.
- g) He Who has devotees singing His auspicious qualities.

su-tantuh - Om su-tantave namah.

- a) He who has a powerful net of threads to capture the asuras and retain them from escaping.
- b) He Who has expanded this Universe starting from Himself.
- c) He Who has progeny such as brahmA.
- d) He Who expanded the yadava race in auspicious way by being born as the son of vasudeva.

tantu-vardhanah - Om tantu-vardhanaya namah

- a) He Who increases the meshes.
- b) He Who augments the expansion of Himself into this world, by protecting it.
- c) He Who withdraws this world into Himself after creating it.
- d) He Who expanded the Vasudeva family through pradyumna and others.

indra-karma - Om indra-karmane namah.

- a) He Who did all this for the sake of Indra.
- b) He Who is responsible for the powers of indra.
- c) He Who performs acts that reflect His Supreme Lordship.

mahA-karma - Om maha-karmane namah.

He of magnanimous actions.

krta-karma - om krta-karmaNe namah.

- a) He Who practiced the acts He preached to the asura-s, in order to convince them.
- b) One Who has achieved all there is to achieve.
- c) One Who keeps repeating the processes of creation etc., with perfection.
- d) One Who has performed acts that no one else can ever perform.

krtagamah - om krtagamaya namah.

- a) The Propounder of Agama-s (Spiritual texts) including those dealing with Buddhism, Jainism, etc.
- b) He Who propounded the Vedas Rig, Sama, etc.
- c) He Who is the Originator of the pancaratra Agama.
- d) He Who made His appearance at Dvaraka after performing His several leelas.
- e) He Who makes His appearance repeatedly through different incarnations.

Please enjoy the talk given by <u>Saibanisa</u> ji in Telugu

Sai\_Krishna\_1 by SaiBanisa GopalRao Ravada Sai\_Krishna\_2 by SaiBanisa GopalRao Ravada Sai\_Krishna\_3 by SaiBanisa GopalRao Ravada

<u>Samadhiye Samadhanam</u> (My bones will speak from my Tomb-1) <u>Samadhiye Samadhanam</u> (My bones will speak from my Tomb-2)



Saicharitralo Makarasankranti-part One-Saibanisa Ravada Saicharitralo Makarasankranti-part Two-Saibanisa Ravada

Sai Margam Series of Speeches (listen to the latest speech)

Ankitha Bhaktulu Speeches by Sri Shankaraiah







#### **GITA FOR CHILDREN**



'Arjuna, the key principle on which the Universe functions is sacrifice. That one word says it all. That is why at the time of Creation God told man, "You can prosper only if you sacrifice".'

'People imagine that sacrifice means giving up something valuable or giving away something precious, something that you would very much like to keep for yourself. This is a very limited interpretation of the word sacrifice. I use that word in a larger sense. I would in fact prefer to use the word offering in place of the word sacrifice.'

'Here I should caution you about what happens when the key principle is misunderstood and followed in a mistaken fashion. For example, many people think they should give charity so that they can go to heaven. This is wrong. When charity is given this way, the giver of charity starts feeling he is superior to the one receiving. Giving should not at all be done that way. One must give as a loving offering to a brother, who also is a child of God. In other words, the spirit must be one of sharing and caring, and not of condescension, and without any expectations of any kind from anybody.'

'The people who give charity and food to beggars with the idea of booking a seat in heaven are really trying to make a business deal! God is so kind that He may even reserve a seat in heaven for such people. But Arjuna, God should not be trivialised like this by asking Him for trinkets! You may be a businessman but God is not. Remember that!'

'Well, how then should one relate to God? That is your unstated question, is it not? The answer is simple. Look upon God as your Father, Mother, Guru, and even Friend. Are you surprised? You should not be because God is the only true Friend you can have. All others would make themselves scarce when you need assistance and help most. God is not like that. On the contrary, it is in those dire moments that

He would be closest to you. Also, do whatever you are doing for God's pleasure.'

'For example, right now I am asking you to fight. When you start fighting say, "God, I offer this duty I am doing as a soldier to You. Please accept it as my loving offering to You! I want nothing in return but Your Grace and Love".

'Everyone can make an offering to God in this manner, including a cobbler. Are you wondering how the cobbler ought to pray? Simple. He should just say, "Lord, in Your Cosmic Drama You have given me this particular role. My prayer to You is that a) I do my job to the best of my ability, and b) my slippers bring comfort and satisfaction to the buyer, who is none other than You in disguise. When my customer is satisfied, it means that You are satisfied!""

'So you see how perfection combined with selflessness can readily sanctify action. Every act without exception, including the smallest, can be sanctified in this manner.'

'Take food. You are able to eat on account of God's Grace and not because of your salary. But for God's Grace, you would be jobless and hungry. Having received food as Divine Grace, how do you express your gratitude to God? By sharing your food with someone else. Give some food first to a starving soul, see him happy, and then eat. That would fill you also with happiness.'

'Arjuna, it is a sin to eat without first sharing your food with some other person. Suppose no one is available; no problem. Share it with some birds or even ants. In any case, you can always offer the food first to God. In fact this is a must I would say.'

'When you so offer, say a simple prayer, "O God, who is in me and taking care of me all the time in a thousand different ways that I am not even aware of, I offer this food to You, my Indweller. Please accept."'

'No Arjuna, this is not a gimmick. It is an attitude of Mind that reflects the virtues of the Heart. See God everywhere and try to please Him with all the actions that you perform. God does not expect anything special from you. He would be extremely happy if you transform your duty into devotion and work into worship by following My simple formula."





Guru parampara dhísta sarva thyaga parayanaya

Namaha

## Sri Sai Baba's Sermon

#### SHREE SANT KATHAMRUT BY SHREE DAS GANU CHAPTER - 57

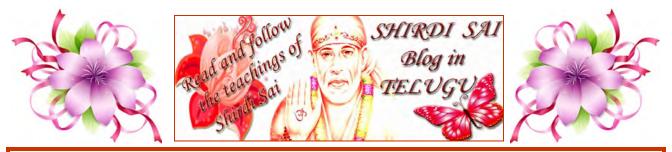
Shri.Ganeshayanamah . Oh Lord Lambodar your form is the Truth. Oh Generous One, you are the Origin. Please hold my hand and help me write. Oh Listeners, please listen to this Sant Kathamrut -a book comparable to spring. The stories of the saints are the mango trees here. They have the branches of miracles performed by the saints. The poetic arrangement is the foliage of the tender leaves and the advice given by the saints is the fruit. I beg you to become a cuckoo and enjoy the sweet juice of the fruit. This book is the Manas Sarovar.

The stories of the saints are the fully bloomed water lillies. The pure honey of advice is contained in them. Oh Listeners, enjoy this honey like humble bumble bees. I have narrated the life of Sainath of Shirdi in Chapter 31,32 and 33 of Bhakta Leelamrut. He is the Kalpatam (The Divine Tree). He is the ship to cross the ocean of the mundane world, he is very generous. He is the ocean of mercy. He loves his devotees.

Sai's devotees went to Shirdi at the time of Dhanu Sankraman in the month of Pausha. Listeners may think that the Dhanu Sankranti is not as important as the Makar Sankranti. Why should, then, the devotees choose a less important day for the Darshan? On Dhanu Sankranti. people offer the Naivedha to the Sun and take their meals at sunrise. A similar situation is here too. I shall try to explain it to you.

The worldly miseries froze the devotees with cold. They donned themselves with the warm clothing of devotion and rushed to see Baba their Sadguru. Shirdi is the mountain from where rises Sai the Sun. Sai's grace is the dawn. The devotees bathed themselves in the Ganga of faith and went for his darshan. The Lord, then, offered them a meal prepared from Self realization. This is Dhanurmas in Shirdi and hence the devotees gathered in Shirdi in anticipation of the meal. Narayan, the son of Shri.Govind born in the family of Chandorkar Haripant, a pious devotee and a firm believer in the teachings of the Vedas. Beray, Nimonkar, Laxman Maruti and other great devotees gathered there.

..will continue



#### Srí Sooktam:

Yaa Saa Padma-[A]asana-Sthaa Vipula-Kattitattii Padma-Patraayata-Akssii | Gambhiiraa Varta-Naabhih Stanabhara Namitaa Shubhra Vastro[a-u]ttariiyaa ||25||

#### Meaníng:

25.1: (Haríh Om, Salutations to Mother Lakshmí) Who Stands on Lotus with Her Beautiful Form, with Wide Hip and Eyes like the Lotus Leaf.

25.2: Her Deep Navel (indicating Depth of Character) is Bent Inwards, and with Her Full Bosom (indicating Abundance and Compassion) She is slightly Bent Down (towards the Devotees); and She is Dressed in Pure White Garments.

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