



The Glory of Shirdi Sai

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श्रद्धा

गुरुब्रह्मा गुरुर्विष्णुः गुरुर्देवो महेश्वरः ।
गुरुः शाक्षात् परब्रह्म तस्मै श्रीगुरुवे नमः॥

सबुरी

June 2018

Sri Sai Satcharita

CHAPTER 2

The Purpose of the Book –Naming of the Author

Upon this, Nana gave me, very earnestly and lovingly, a piece of sound advice. On hearing it, happily, my desire to visit Shirdi was revived, once again.

Only after extracting from me a promise that I would start immediately, did Nana go. I too, then resolved to leave at once and went home.

I then, finished my packing, made all the necessary arrangements and set out, on the same evening, to go to Shirdi.

Thinking that the evening Mail will halt at Dadar, I paid the fare up to Dadar and brought a ticket.

As I boarded the train, which was still at Bandra, a Muslim swiftly entered my compartment, even as the train was slowly moving out of the station.

Like a fly in a very first mouthful, my buying a ticket up to Dadar seemed to augur ill for my journey, right at the start.

Seeing all my luggage, 'Whereto this journey?' he asked me. So I said, 'I will go to Dadar and catch a train to Manmad'.

He, at once, alerted me, 'Do not get off at Dadar. The Mail will not halt there. Go straight to Victoria Terminus.'

Had this warning not come in good time. I would not have been able to catch the train at Dadar. And then, I know not what absurd ideas would have assailed the already wavering mind.

.Will continue

Sri Guru Charitra



*Jnatha brahma
parathparaya*

Namaha

**Sai Bhakti
Radio**



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 XLI

Sayamdev Serves Shri Guru: His Kashikhand Mahayatra

Namdharak. 'How did my forefathers serve Shri Guru?'

Shri Siddha - Your grand father's father, Sayamdev, had worshipped Shri Guru at Osargram. Shri Guru had affection for him. Shri Guru later came and stayed at Ganagapur. His fame spread all over the country. Knowing this, Sayamdev also came to Ganagapur. He came to the Math, bowed to Shri Guru and prayed him. Shri Guru was pleased. He placed his palm on his head, blessed him, and said 'You will be my devotee for generations.' Shri Guru asked him to bathe at the Sangam and return for the meals to the Math.

After returning from the Sangam, Sayamdev worshipped Shri Guru with 16 upchars and offered several delicious articles of food, as naiveidya. He dined with Shri Guru, who inquired about his family. Sayamdev said, 'My relatives and sons are living at Uttar Kanchi (Gadganchi) hail and healthy. I wish to stay with you and serve your holy self now.

Shri Guru said My service is difficult. I live in a town for some time, while in the forest at other time. It is troublesome to live in a forest. If your mind is firm then only you should stay here.'

S
ayamdev conceded and said, 'A devotee of Shri Guru has no fear.'

Three months passed. One evening Shri Guru went to the Sangam along with Sayamdev alone and sat below the Ashwattha tree. There was a great storm, followed by heavy rain, Sayamdev stood stretching a cloth over Shri Guru to protect him from the rain. There was a shivering cold in the night. So Shri Guru asked Sayamdev to go to the Math in the town and bring fire. Thick darkness and spread all over and there was lighting now and then. Shri Guru warned Sayamdev not to look to his right or left side. Anyhow Sayamdev reached the Math, took fire and returned. Out of curiosity, he looked to his right side and saw a Cobra going with him. He was frightened. He then looked to the left side. Here too he saw another Cobra. He recited Shri Guru's name and walked straight. He came to Shri Guru and lit the fire. The two Cobras came before Shri Guru, bowed to him and went away.

Shri Guru said to Sayamdev, 'Why are you so much afraid? I had sent these Cobras to protect you. I shall tell you a tale, about service to Shri Guru, to pass this night.

Will continue..



Excerpts from Sai Leela

SWAMI SAMARTHA IN SAI CHARITRA

(Saileela 2004)

After thinking it over she remembered and the old lady said to Pitale : “Now I recall completely. What Baba said is true. As you took your son now to Shirdi for Sai’s darshan, similarly your father had earlier taken you to Akkalkot. The Maharaj there was a Siddha, Benevolent, Very Famous, Omniscient, Yogi, Very Wise. Your father was also a very moral man. He accepted your father’s worship and the Yogiraja was pleased with it. As prasad he gave him two rupees, in order to perform puja.

These earlier two rupees too, Swami gave to you, my son, as prasad in order to worship. These two rupees were kept in the shrine and your father daily worshipped them with great faith. I alone know about his faith. He acted according to his faith. After his death, the puja and the articles for performing it became children’s playthings.

There was no faith in God; and even shame was felt to do puja. The children were appointed, in turns, to do the puja. Who would take care of the rupees ?

Many years passed thus. The importance of those rupees was lost. All memory of them faded away. The two rupees disappeared. So be it. You are really blessed. Not only have you met Maharaj, in the form of Sai, to remind you of a forgotten duty but to ward off dangers.

Therefore, from now onwards leave off all doubts and bad thoughts. Follow in the footsteps of your ancestors and do not slip into bad habits. Go on worshipping the rupees. Consider the Saint’s prasad as a jewel. Samartha Sai has convinced you of this significance and revived a life of bhakti.” Hearing this story from his mother, Pitale was full of bliss and joy. He realised Sai’s allpervasiveness and the significance of His darshan. That nectar of his mother’s words awakened his former feelings. He repented and atoned paving the way for his future welfare.

So be it. Whatever had to happen, happened ! The Saint had awakened in him the future obligations. Gratefully and conscientiously he, thereafter, carried out his duties. Gopal Narayan Ambdekar, was a great devotee of Baba from Pune. Listen to his story. He was in service in the excise department of the British regime. After completing service for ten years, he left it and stayed at home. Fortune changed and turned its back on him. All the days of one’s life are not the same. The stars rotated and brought a bad spell. Who is there who can avoid these changes ?

In the beginning he was in service in Thane district and later his luck brought him to Javhar, where he was an officer. It is there that he became jobless. To regain a job is not easy. Where could he get it again ? He tried his level best at that time. But he did not succeed. So he decided to follow an independent trade but here too troubles beset him until he finally lost all hope. Year after year, his financial condition worsened till he hit rock bottom. Calamities followed one after the other and the household condition became unbearable.

Seven years passed this way. Each year he went to Shirdi and related his grievances to Baba, imploring Him with prostrations day and night.

Continued on Page 5





*Jnanabhakthi
pradhaya
Namaha*



Please enjoy the talk
given by [Saibanisa ji](#)
in Telugu

Sri Vishnu SahasraNaamam

PHALASHRUTHI

brahmōvāca

**namōstvanaṁtāya sahasramūrtayē
sahasrapādākṣīrōrubāhavē |
sahasranāmnē puruṣāya śāśvatē
sahasrakōṭiyugadhāriṇē namaḥ || 28 ||
|| sahasrakōṭiyugadhāriṇē nama om nama iti ||**

Brahma said:
Salutations to thee oh lord,
Who runs the immeasurable time,
Of thousand crore yugas,
Who has no end,
Who has thousand names,
Who has thousand forms,
Who has thousand feet,
Who has thousand eyes,
Who has thousand heads,
Who has thousand arms,
And Who is always there.
Om Nama He who runs thousand crore yugas.

**sanjaya uvāca
yatra yōgēśvaraḥ kṛṣṇō yatra pāṛthō dhanurdharaḥ |
tatra śrīrvijayō bhūtirdhruvā nīrmatirmama || 29 ||**

Sanjaya said:
Where Krisna, the king of Yogas,
And where the wielder of bow,
Arjuna is there,
There will exist all the good,
All the the victory,
All the fame ,
And all the justice.
In this world.

THE GLORY OF SHIRDI SAI

Continue from page 3 (SWAMI SAMARTHA IN SAI CHARITRA)

In 1916, he was so utterly disgusted that he felt like committing suicide after going to Shirdi. So this time he stayed for two months at Shirdi with his wife. Listen to the story of what happened one night. While sitting in a bullock-cart, in front of Dixit's wada, Ambdekar was in deep thoughts. Fed up with life and very depressed, he thought 'enough now ! No more of this trouble.' He lost the desire to live. Thinking thus and having lost interest in life.

Ambdekar got ready to throw himself immediately into the well. 'Availing of a quiet time when there would be nobody around, I will carry out my purpose and rid myself of all the troubles.' He knew that committing suicide was a great sin. Yet he determined to act upon his thought. But Baba Sai, being the Puppeteer, He averted this folly. At a very short distance, there was the residence of a hotel owner, who also had Baba's support, being one of the persons who served Baba.

Sagun came to the threshold of his house, at that time, and asked Ambdekar : "Have you ever read this book on the life of Akkalkot Maharaj ?" "Let me see, let me see. What is that book ?" Saying that Ambdekar took it in his hand. Turning the pages at random, he began to read here and there. By wonderful coincidence, the subject which he came across was worth reading as it related to his inner thoughts. He was deeply impressed. I will relate for all the listeners the story that he came across by chance, giving the sum and substance of the story very briefly, for fear of lengthening this book.

There was a great saint at Akkalkot. Maharaj used to be absorbed in meditation. A devotee, who was grievously ill, was undergoing unbearable suffering. He had served for a long time hoping to be rid of the disease. He was unable to bear the pain any more. He became very dejected. He determined to commit suicide, and choosing a time in the night, going to a well he threw himself in it.

Will continue

**Shree Swami Samarth*

Believed to be an incarnation of Shri Dattatreya the name of this spiritual master, popularly called Swami Samarth, is a household word in Maharashtra and the region around. As this Perfect Master chose to reside at a place called Akkalkot for 22 years where he took Mahasamadhi (left his mortal body) in 1878, he is also known as the Maharaj of Akkalkot, Akkalkot is situated in district Solapur of Maharashtra state of India.



Children Section

BHAGAVADGITA
FOR CHILDREN

GITA FOR CHILDREN



Arjuna says, 'OK, I accept that. But we are told that when a person dies, the Praana departs from the body. Since You say the Praana comes from the Atma, does that mean that when a person dies, the Atma also quits and there is no Atma in the corpse?'

Krishna sighs and says, 'Arjuna, you must think carefully and clearly. I have already told you that the Atma must be everywhere.'

Arjuna shakes his head and says, 'But Krishna, the Praana has gone and what is left is just a corpse. How do you explain that Atma is present even in a corpse?'

With great patience Krishna explains, 'Arjuna, did I not tell you that Consciousness can be present in the active as well as the passive form? Well, when a person dies, all that happens is that Consciousness associated with that mass of matter reverts from the active to the passive state - that is all. Death does not drain the Atma. You agree that the corpse too is made up of atoms? You agree that the Atma pervades the atoms even in inanimate matter? Then? Get this firmly into your head! Nobody can do anything to the Atma. I have already drawn your attention to this.'

'The Atma is ever existent. Sometimes, it manifests in gross form. Sometimes, it manifests only in a subtle form, like the Mind, for example. In addition, it is also all by itself, beyond both the gross and the subtle. The gross can be directly felt, touched, etc. The subtle can not be touched or felt but can be inferred; the super-subtle is beyond intellectual inference; it can only be experienced; not by the senses or even the Mind, but only by the Heart.'

Arjuna now asks another question. He says, 'Krishna, You are in me, You are in Bhishma, and You are in X, Y, and Z. Have You divided Yourself into many Krishnas, allocating one Krishna to each individual?'

Krishna laughs and says, 'O no Arjuna, nothing like that. I am only One. Even an

ignorant fool cannot parcel Me like that. I am indivisible.’

Arjuna is not satisfied and continues, ‘In that case, how come You are present in all?’



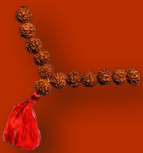
Krishna replies, ‘That can be understood as follows. You will agree that there is air in your lungs, will you not? You will also agree that air is present similarly in the lungs of all the people here on this battlefield. OK, now where did all this air come from? From the atmosphere, obviously. There is an inherent continuity of air, though some of it is free and some of it is in the lungs of various people. We do not pay much attention to this continuity, that is all. In the same way, the one Omnipresent God is seated in the Hearts of all. Got it?’

‘The question now is the following: “Space seems to be largely empty, with a scattering of matter here and there. Where in this combination does one seek and find Consciousness?” The answer is that Consciousness is present everywhere, including in regions that seem to be empty. There is no place where Consciousness is absent. That is why the Wise always say that God is Omnipresent.’

Arjuna now has a new doubt and asks, ‘OK, the same God is seated in all. The same God does the digesting in all people, the same God does the blood circulation in all people and so on. In that case, why so much difference between people? Why are some people good and others bad?’

Pleased with question asked, Krishna says, ‘Arjuna, have you ever seen the bed of a Himalayan river? If you had observed, you would have noticed that on the river bed there is not only water but also sand and nice smooth pebbles too.’





*Jnana vijnana
nischayaya*

Namaha

Sai Baba the Master

By Sri Ekkirala Bharadwaja

The writer expresses his thanks to the Sai Baba Samsthan, Shirdi, All India Sai Samaj, Madras and Sai Spiritual Centre, Bangalore, for the kind permission accorded to him to utilize the material available in all their publications and journals. Thanks are also due to all other writers of books published in Hindi, Gujarathi and Marathi for the material drawn from them. My special thanks go to those devotees of Baba, like Sri Marthand Mahalsapathi, Sri Nanasaheb Rasne, late Sri Sai Sharananandaji, who shared the reminiscences of their life in the immediate presence of Sai Baba The Master By Pujya Acharya Sri Ekkirala Bharadwaja.

Baba. Finally, I acknowledge with thanks the immense assistance extended to me by Sri Sivanesan Swami of Shirdi in reading out to me from the back numbers of "Sai Leela" (Marathi), the official organ of the Sai Samsthan, Shirdi.

The Master Calls Me

My quest for truth was awakened by the tragic demise of my nephew in 1955 on the occasion of my initiation (sacred thread) ceremony. Now I see, in retrospect, that it was indeed an initiation. The initial heartbreak had left and, in its wake, several fundamental questions arose in me: "Is there a Supreme Spirit? What is the nature? How can we contact it? What is life? What is death? Is there a soul? Why hasn't man found a way out of death? What is Time?" and such others. The search went on unanswered till 1960. One evening in that year, when I was taking a stroll, something mysterious occurred somewhere deep in me and all the questions vanished in a trice and peace prevailed. These questions seemed out of place, of no value any longer. A book on Zen which came to my hand quite unasked for, contained a description of inner illumination or satori which came nearest to my experience. It was a pleasant surprise and a promise. The quest took on a richer hue.

Will continue



Sri Suktam:

*Kardamena Prajaa-Bhuutaa Mayi Sambhava Kardama |
Shriyam Vaasaya Me Kule Maataram Padma-Maaliniim ||11||*

Meaning:

11.1: (*Harih Om. O Kardama, Invoke for me your Mother*) As Kardama (referring to Earth represented by Mud) acts as the substratum for the Existence of Mankind, Similarly O Kardama (now referring to sage Kardama, the son of Devi Lakshmi) you Stay with me,

11.2: *And be the cause to bring your Mother to Dwell in My Family; Your Mother who is the Embodiment of Sri and Encircled by Lotuses.*

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BOW TO SHRI SAI ~ PEACE BE TO ALL

