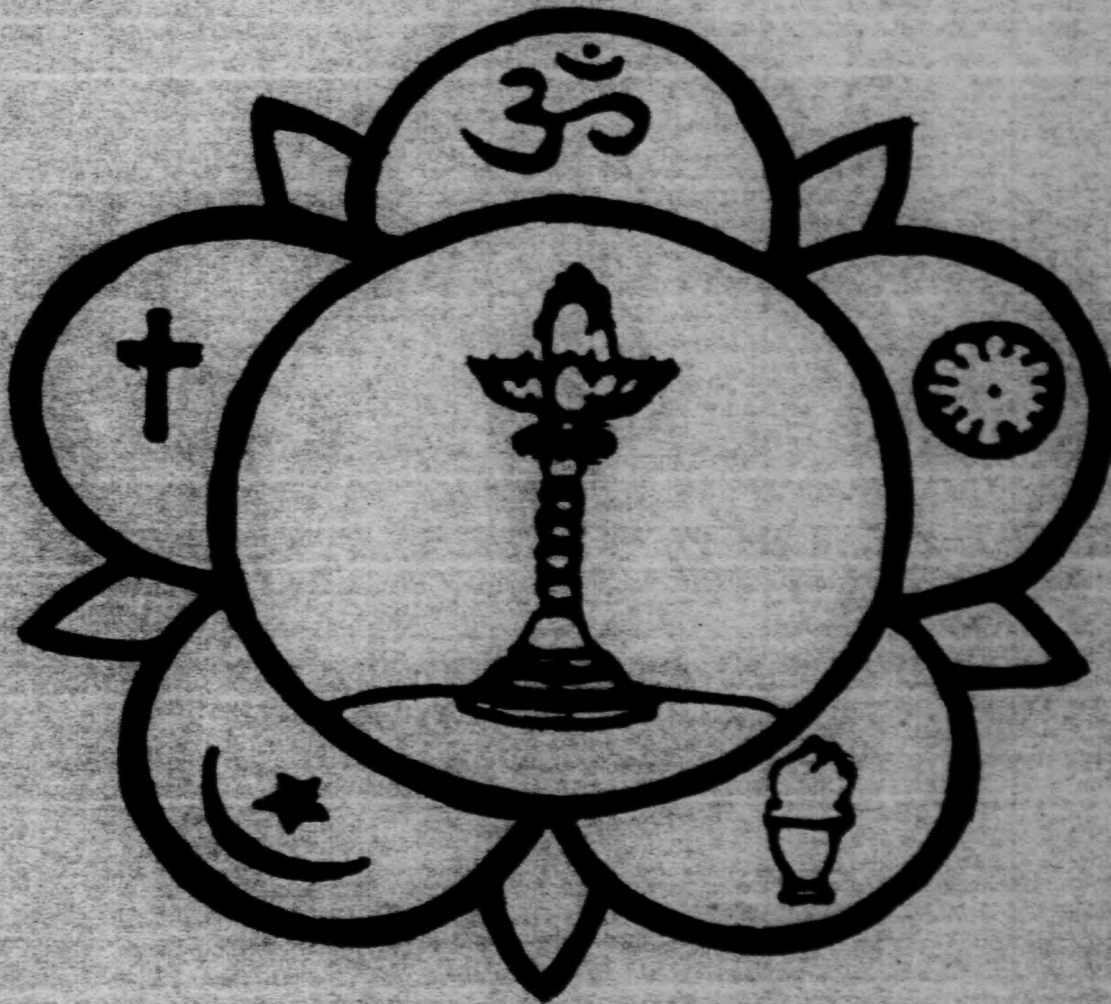


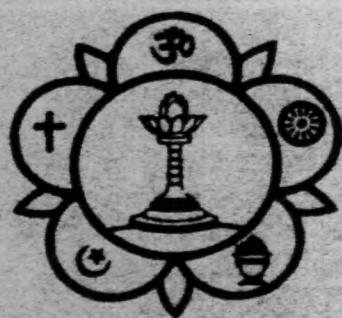
Sathya Sai Newsletter
1800 E. Garvey Avenue
West Covina, CA 91791

SATHYA SAI NEWSLETTER



SPRING 1979

VOL. 3, NO. 3



QUOTATIONS TAKEN FROM SRI SATHYA SAI BABA'S
SUMMER COURSE, 1978

True and sincere devotion is the only way for man to free himself from the endless chain of birth and death. God, like the Kalpatharu tree, will fulfill all man's wishes, if only he makes the attempt to reach the lotus feet of the Lord.

* * * * *

The Dehi or Atma is God, who is the greatest and the nearest of friends for all of us, even more than one's parents.

* * * * *

Human beings should first learn to live like real humans. Though man has learned to fly like a bird in the air and swim like a fish in the water, he has not yet learned to live like a human being on earth.

* * * * *

Good qualities make you climb up, while bad qualities bring you down. Swartha, or selfishness, is a demoniac tendency responsible for many evils. This selfishness prevents people from seeing the good in others or thinking about the safety of others.

* * * * *

Man can experience ananda or bliss not through ordinary worship with God-made flowers that fade away, but with the flower of man's sacred heart.

* * * * *

It is no use proclaiming bhakthi externally. It has to be hridaya-purva-prema or heart-filled love which realises that "I and You" are one.

QUOTATIONS TAKEN FROM THE BOOK

SRI SATHYA SAI AVATAR

I have a task - to foster all mankind and ensure for all lives full of ananda. I have a vow - to lead all who stray away from the straight path, again into goodness and save them.

* * * * *

Man can realise his mission on the earth only when he knows himself as Divine and when he reveres all others as Divine. And, man has to worship God in the form of Man. God appears before him as a blind beggar, an idiot, a leper, a child, or a madman. You must see even behind those veils, the Divine Embodiment of Love, Power, and Wisdom - the Sai, and worship Him through Seva.

* * * * *

The tongue is a post. Bhajan is the rope. And with that rope you can bring God near you and tie Him up, so that His grace becomes yours. God is so kind that He will yield to your prayers and get bound. You have only to call on Him to be by your side, with you, leading you, and guiding you.

* * * * *

Regular prayers twice a day will give strength and courage, which can withstand illness. The grace of God will confer mental peace, and so, good sleep and rest for the mind. Feel that you are a hundred per cent dependent on God. He will look after you and save you from harm and injury.

* * * * *

I do not belong to any place. I am not attached to any name. I have no 'mine' and 'thine'. I answer to whatever name you use. I go wherever I am taken. This is My first vow.

--Baba

HEALTH INFORMATION FOR SAI FAMILY TRAVELERS

The Sathya Sai Baba Council of the Americas would like to pass on the following advice about the health and living conditions of Westerners visiting India. There has recently been an increased incidence of hepatitis in India and a few cases have been reported at Prasanthi Nilayam and Brindavan. Sathya Sai Baba has given permission for us to distribute this information after meeting with Dr. Hislop and Michael Goldstein, M.D. on this matter.

1. Westerners visiting Sathya Sai Baba are urged to eat ONLY in the Ashram or College canteens, or in their own hotel in Bangalore if it has a modern, sanitary kitchen.
2. Fresh fruits and vegetables should be carefully cleaned and vegetables thoroughly cooked before eating.
3. Purchase and use your own eating utensils and keep them with you.
4. Observe fastidious hygiene at all times, especially after using toilet facilities.
5. Living accommodations should NOT be engaged in the villages surrounding Prasanthi Nilayam and Brindavan. At Prasanthi Nilayam, stay ONLY in the Ashram compound; at Brindavan, stay ONLY at a clean, well-maintained Bangalore hotel until such time as there are living facilities available within the Brindavan compound.
6. Before traveling to India, obtain a Gama Globulin injection for hepatitis prophylaxis from your physician, and a booster injection in India if the length of your stay warrants it.
7. If anyone becomes ill while in India, report to

the appropriate medical facility at Prasanthi Nilayam or Brindavan immediately; DO NOT DELAY. If you become ill upon returning home, see a physician promptly.

8. It is important that foreign visitors to India bring sufficient funds to live and eat well during their stay, or delay their visit until they have sufficient funds. There is a mistaken impression that one can live "for nothing" in India, and this is a false notion.

9. ALSO, FOREIGNERS MUST NOT BRING TAPE RECORDERS, CAMERAS, OR OTHER VALUABLE ARTICLES WITH THE INTENTION OF SELLING THESE ARTICLES IN INDIA; THIS CONSTITUTES SMUGGLING UNDER INDIAN LAW.

10. Careful and intelligent consideration of all aspects of your personal hygiene and health - cleanliness, diet, careful attention to illnesses, cuts, etc., and a sincere effort to avoid unsanitary places - will help you have a healthy and rewarding visit to India.

Michael Goldstein, M.D., Director
Medical Service Committee

* * * * *

SAI FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- New books now available from the Sri Sathya Sai Baba Book Center of America, P.O. Box 278, Tustin, California 92680, are as follows:

1. Spiritual Sadhana. This book includes a discourse by and dialogue with Sri Sathya Sai Baba during All India Central Training Camp of Bal Vikas Teachers. (\$.85)
2. The Advent of Sathya Sai, by Dr. V.K. Gokak. (\$.80)

3. Summer Showers in Brindavan 1978. Discourses by Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba during the summer course held for college students at Whitefield, Bangalore. (\$2.75)
4. Sri Sathya Sai Pre-Sevadal Balvikas Group III (for teachers and students). A course for young people 13 years and older. It prepares the young, concurrent with the progress in their school and college education, for admission to the Training Course of Sevadal or the Bal Vikas Teachers' Training Course. (\$2.60)
5. Divinity Within. Description and pictures of the Spiritual Museum at Sri Sathya Sai Arts, Science, and Commerce College at Brindavan, Whitefield. (Available soon - on order from India)
6. For Mankind. Sathya Sai Baba said, "I am exhorting the youth of the country to participate eagerly in various acts of service to the poor and the disabled. I call upon everyone to fill the world with joy. Service to the human community is the best offering you can make to the Sovereign Lord." The book, For Mankind, illustrates and describes the many Sathya Sai Baba Service Organizations' efforts in India. (Limited number of copies available soon - on order from India)

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- New books available from Birthday Publishing Company, P.O. Box 7722, San Diego, California 92107, are as follows:

1. Sai Diary of a Traveling Zen Lady, by Nazuna. This book is about the experience of Baba from a lady with a Zen Buddhist background. It is a lovely, rather short but very clear expression of the Sai experience. (\$2.25)

2. Conversations with Sathya Sai Baba, by Dr. Jack Hislop (American Edition). Will be available by mid-May. Tentative price: \$3.60
- - - - -

- Also available is the film, "The Lost Years of Jesus" which includes a sequence with Sai Baba and his comments about the eighteen years not revealed in the Bible. It was filmed in India, Europe, and the U.S.A. Super-8 sound prints on three 600-foot reels (92 min.) are now available for sale (\$350.00) or rental (\$40.00) from the Sathya Sai Baba Center of Hollywood, 7911 Willoughby Ave., Los Angeles, California 90046. This film is not available in 16mm.
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repeat in summer
The 1979 meeting of directors of the Sathya Sai Baba Council of the Americas will be held in southern California on August 18 and 19 (Saturday and Sunday). Further details will be sent to directors this spring.

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- WE HAVE RECEIVED MANY INQUIRIES CONCERNING SRI SATHYA SAI BABA'S VISIT TO THE U.S. IN 1979. WE HAVE NO PRESENT INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS VISIT. AS SOON AS A DATE HAS BEEN CONFIRMED, WE WILL SEND A SPECIAL EDITION OF THE NEWSLETTER, AND WILL NOTIFY CENTERS BY TELEPHONE OR TELEGRAM.
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- New Sathya Sai Baba Centers. Add to each location Sathya Sai Baba Center of:
- LOMPOC, CALIFORNIA, Wynona Wynn, 900 E. Cherry, Lompoc, California 93436. Bhajans: Wednesday & Friday 8-10 PM
 - ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN, S. Kannan, 4802 Washtenaw, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104. Phone: (313)434-0972 Bhajans: Thursday 7:00 PM
 - CANTON, MICHIGAN, Stanley Warren, 1917 Jan Circle, Canton, Michigan 48187. Bhajans: Sunday & Thursday evenings

- LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO, Pat Babovich, 202 Cascabel, Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544. Phone: (505)662-7122 Bhajans: Thursday 7:30 PM
- ALBANY, NEW YORK, Mrs. Kusuma Thallam, 11 Meadowlark Drive, Latham, New York 12110. Phone: (413)499-3330 Bhajans: Sunday 6:00 PM
- EUGENE, OREGON, James A. Peden, 1009 S. Bertelsen Road, Eugene, Oregon 97402. Phone: (503)935-7028 Bhajans: Sunday 7:00 PM Study Circle: Thursday 7:00 PM
- ALDERWOOD MANOR, WASHINGTON, Howard Alltounian, 17015 Larch Way, Alderwood Manor, Washington 98036. Phone: (206)743-3848 Bhajans: Thursday 7:00 PM

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- Change of Address for Sathya Sai Baba Centers:

- Sathya Sai Baba Center of Turlock, California, c/o Nicholas Pinhey, 558 Monroe Avenue, Turlock, California 95380. Phone: (209)632-7853 Bhajans: Thursday 7:00 PM
- Sathya Sai Baba Center of Alewa Heights, Hawaii, c/o David Lenhoff, 2222 Aulii Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817. Phone: (808)595-3063 Bhajans: Sunday & Friday 7:00 PM Study Circle: Wednesday 7:00 PM

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- Change of Address of Councilmembers, Sathya Sai Baba Council of the Americas:

- Richard Bayer, 4727 Bonny Doon Road, Santa Cruz, California 95060. Phone: (408)429-9297 home; (408)476-5636 office
- Duane Robinson, P.O. Box 6, Grapeview, Washington 98546. Phone: (206)426-5797
- David Thomas, Corne Church, Newport, Rhode Island 02840. Phone: (401)846-9553 home; (800)221-5814 office

- Announcing: THE WEST COAST RETREAT
La Honda, California
April 27,28,29

The Spring 1979 Retreat of West Coast Sathya Sai Baba Centers will be held at the San Francisco YMCA Camp in La Honda, California. The Fall Retreat will be held in southern California. Activities include seven-hour bhajan session, workshops on Dharma, and Family Sadhana. There will be time for walks, and meditation in the beautiful Santa Cruz mountains.

Rates are \$28.00 for adults, and \$15.00 for children under 12. There is no charge for children under 2. A Friday evening meal is available for an additional \$3.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children. Please send in your reservations and check by April 1, 1979. Be sure to specify if you wish the Friday evening meal. Further information will be sent upon receiving your reservations, or you may write Sai Retreat for more details.

- - - - -
TO: Sai Retreat
c/o Mr. Rinehart
777 N. Indian Hill
Claremont, California 91711

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: () _____

Children's names and ages: _____

Do you wish Friday evening meal? _____

Enclosed is my check/money order for \$ _____ so that I may reserve _____ places at the West Coast Retreat, and _____ Friday evening meals.

Please include a stamped, self-addressed business-size envelope.

- Announcing: THE SATHYA SAI BABA SUNBELT RETREAT
Oro Valley, Arizona

~~May 25, 26, 27~~

OCTOBER 5-6-7

The first Sai Baba Sunbelt Retreat is sponsored by the Sai Baba Centers of Tucson and Phoenix, and will be held at the Rancho Los Cerros in Oro Valley, Arizona, a camp for YWCA activities located about ten miles north of Tucson. There will be accommodations for 100 persons. There are 80 bunk beds. Others who would like to pitch a tent or bring a small camper can do so, but will be charged the same for use of facilities and meals. We ask you to please send in your reservations and check before

~~March 15, 1979~~

SEPTEMBER 5, 1979

Call For Help: We will need bhajan leaders plus volunteers to help in different areas. Please let us know when you send in your reservation if you will help us. Thank you. Thank you. Please call Ken or Ann Cady (602) 749-5807 for further information.

PEG BOYALL (602) 297-0564
BARBARA BOZZANI

PEG (602) 759-3364

OR DEBOYALL OFFICE

(602) 297-6894

TO: Sai Retreat

Adults: \$25.00

~~2330 N. Tanque Verde Pl.~~

Children under 10: \$12.00

Tucson, Az. 85704

(includes meals and
lodging or camping)

6628 LOS ANGELES

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: () _____

Children's names and ages: _____

Cabin or camping _____

Will you lead bhajans? _____

Enclosed is my check/money order for \$ _____ so that I may reserve _____ places at the Sunbelt Retreat.

Map and information will be sent upon receiving your reservation.

SAI FAMILY NATIONAL NEWS

- May we share with you the message that was given by Charles Penn to some 250 devotees from distances as far as 3,000 miles, who gathered in the redwood forest on the night of December 1, 1978 for the West Coast Regional Retreat.

"You have come here from all walks of life and from many different directions and some from great distances. Now that you have arrived, you should know that this is no ordinary meeting place. You are here to become spiritually inspired. The ground you tread on is now as Holy as at Brindavan and Puttaparthi, for whenever you are in the Divine Presence, that place is hallowed.

Cast off your past and do not delve into your future. Participate in this Retreat with quiet simple reverence. Here you retreat from what you have become accustomed to, to a place where God alone can be found. Every part of your being, at every moment, must be controlled if you hope to enjoy spiritual growth during this period.

Joyfully experience the SILENCE that is being manifested here. To understand SILENCE one must experience it.

There is another word that you are more familiar with, and it is Shanti. The simple meaning is peace, but it also has a much deeper meaning. First, Shanti has to be earned, and then it will be felt in your being. Its discovery is made only after great yearning for God. Shanti is next felt outside you. In your place of prayer and meditation. Finally the inner peace becomes one with the Universal Peace. That is Shanti.

And so with SILENCE this is much more than just quietness. Your Divine Self has grown and you become That. Such inner quietness requires even greater steadfastness. The outer world noise is like thunder that has to be quelled. Few are able in this life-

time to live fully in the SILENCE. The world's torments are all too severe for most to be ready to accept it. That is why I am here to encourage you. To be with you as you walk over the Plains of Sorrow and Discontent! As you walk down the Valleys of Greed and Falseness! As you climb the Slopes of Encouragement!

I will walk beside you and guide. Your Inner Ear of Perception must be attuned to Me forever to reach the Summit of the Mountain of Consciousness. But I have for you this assurance. You are never alone, for how can I forsake you? How can I be away from you? Only you are unaware of our ONENESS."

Charles Penn received the message during meditation, when in his words, "I felt His divine presence. He began to talk, and gave a discourse on the subjects I had been asked to talk on at the Retreat, just as though He was giving it Himself." After Charles delivered the message at the Retreat, Don Heath addressed the devotees and told an interesting climax to the group. Don said that while he was with Baba in October, he asked Baba if he could take back a message to be read at the Retreat. Baba said, "Yes, yes." Several days passed, and Don was preparing to return to San Francisco. He again asked Baba about the message. This time Baba said it was coming. Don arrived in San Francisco thinking that Baba was sending him a cablegram. But nothing arrived. The message from the Lord, as it was given through Charles Penn, was quite a surprise to Don.

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- The Third West Coast Regional Retreat of Sathya Sai Baba Centers was held on December 1, 2, and 3 at the YMCA Camp in the beautiful Santa Cruz Mountains. Blessed with beautiful weather, the large peaceful site in the redwoods was the ideal setting for a weekend of satsang and quiet sadhana. Over 250 persons from all over the west coast and

other parts of the U.S. attended. The weekend program, hosted by the San Francisco Sai Baba Center, included workshops on the five Vahini volumes, rearing children, nutrition and health, bhajan learning, a women's panel discussion, meetings of Center officers, as well as a daily program of Omkar, Suprabhatam, Nagarsankirtan, and Bhajan. Films by Richard Bock and Richard Kaplowitz were shown. There was a wonderful Bal Vikas program and presentation with more than 25 children. The inspiring and refreshing weekend was a worthwhile and stimulating experience for all who attended, and the same camp has been reserved for the Spring Retreat to be held April 27, 28, and 29. (See page 8 of the Newsletter)

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- Seva (service) projects of the Sathya Sai Baba Center of Claremont, California have included preparing a musical program for area rest homes and hospitals, recording for the blind, and showing films about Baba to inmates of a women's facility at California Rehabilitation Center. A group of the women there hold meditation every morning, and having heard about Baba from a devotee who is a counselor, they were eager to know more about him. On November 11, the center held 24-hour bhajans and were joined by devotees from the Santa Ana, San Pedro, Hollywood, and Buena Park centers. We have word that "it was truly inspiring."

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- New York area devotees gathered at the Flushing Center on November 11 for very beautiful Akhandabhajan (24-hour bhajans), and again on New Year's Eve to welcome in the New Year with bhajans. They did celebrate Sivarathri together also at the Flushing Center.

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- After becoming aware of the need for English language books in India, two devotees started to collect books on all subjects for all ages wherever they were available. After many months of collecting, the Sai Baba Society assumed the responsibility of packing and

shipping the books to India. Volunteers from the staff of the Book Center of America worked on this project for several months. When the task was completed, a total of 258 boxes of books weighing 2,628 pounds had been mailed to the principal of the Sri Sathya Sai Arts, Science, and Commerce College at Brindavan, and to Sri Sathya Sai Vidya Vihar at Ootacamund School.

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- Color videotapes taken at Prasanthi Nilayam during Christmas 1978 were recently shown at two New York area centers. The tapes include darshan, an interview, the wedding ceremony Swami performed on Christmas Day, and Swami's Christmas discourse.

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- Service projects of the Sathya Sai Baba Center of Ojai, California continue to involve the members with the community. The projects include painting park benches, gathering litter from roadsides, caring for the sick, tending gardens, and maintaining the home where the Sathya Sai Baba Center meetings are held. The Bal Vikas program is extremely active. The children present plays to the members, sing bhajans, and participate in the reading of Sai Baba's teachings.

BHAJAN COLUMN

The beautiful bhajan printed in last season's issue (Fall 1978, Vol. 3, No. 2) was unfortunately missing a line. The English translation was complete, but the corresponding Hindi line to "Without darshan of God one cannot attain wisdom" was missing, and is:

Prabhu Darsha Bina Prajnana Nahin

This line follows "Japa Dhyana Bina Samyoga Nahin".

"THE INNER MELODY"
by Sri Sathya Sai Baba

Bhajans have to be sung and offered to God in an attitude of utter humility; they are not to be taken as exercises in an exhibition of talents and as competitions for mastery of musical skill.

Attitudes of difference and distinction should not enter the hearts of devotees so far as this sacred sadhana is concerned. Nor can the song of such people be pleasant to the ear; for, it is only when the feeling arises in the heart that the song will appeal to the hearts of others. It would be far better for all parties if such self-important and conceited folk stay away from Bhajan, rather than pollute the sacred atmosphere by the spirit of rivalry and factionalism.

The office-bearers in the Units of our Organization should be ever vigilant, that this poison does not creep into the working of the Units, either in Bhajans, or in the activities of the Mahila Vibhag or Seva Dal.

Remember all are the sons and daughters of Sai Matha. How can I tolerate when the sons and daughters quarrel among themselves and divide themselves into rival groups? Unless you sing Bhajans for your own joy, you cannot bring joy to others.

I am pleased only when Love is the keynote, when the feeling of Unity prevails, when the melody comes from a cleansed God-loving heart.





DIVINE DISCOURSE ON SWAMI'S CHILDHOOD
delivered to summer course students, 1978

As the clouds gather and move about in the sky in the same neighborhood where lightning strikes, so also where there is education, there should be wisdom behind education. A student who has such qualities alone will be entitled to be called a student. The worker who works in the machine shop, the trader who trades in the bazaar, and the farmer who takes the plow and plows the land - you, I, and all of us are students in this educational institution of the Universe. The Universe is a university. Every individual is a student in that university. He may be a poor man, unlearned man, or he may be a scholar like a paramahansa. He may be an ordinary man, he may be a great man amongst ordinary men, or he may be Purushothama himself. All take the form of students who have to learn in this world.

Rama, Lakshmana, Bharatha, and Shathrughna were students in the presence of the guru, Vashista. Even Krishna was learning in the presence of Sandeepa. Even when the Divinity which has no form or quality takes a human form, it has to undergo certain actions which are common to human beings. When God takes a human form, it becomes necessary for him to conduct himself in a manner which is agreeable to and understood by other human beings. Under certain conditions, in order to show ideal examples to other students, even the Divine Avatar has to submit itself to certain disciplines and certain limitations. In the same manner, the fact that Sai also was a student in a school and was demonstrating some examples to fellow students, is something to which you who are students should also listen.

When Sai joined the eighth standard, he was seven years old. You know that I am now five feet high. At the time when I was seven years old, I was not even as high as the measure. But in that class there were people who were much older and grown. In every class Sai was getting the first place.

Not only in the minds of students today, but in the minds of students of those days as well, there was an amount of jealousy.

The distance between Puttaparthi and Bukkapatnam was two and a half miles, and Sai had to cover this distance. In the morning he had to walk this distance and attend the school. At 11:00, which was interval time, he had to return home for his meal, take his meal, and walk back to the school by 2:00.

There used to be a class leader or monitor chosen from among the students who were getting the first place; unlike what they do these days in choosing someone who is able to exercise flamboyant authority. So in those days, Sai was the monitor for the class. Since he was the monitor, it was not possible to make one minute this way or that way on the prescribed time. Other students could break the prescribed time to some extent, but the monitor could not do that. The first thing which Sai undertook to show was how the monitor should conduct himself - keeping the blackboard clean before the teacher entered the class, keeping all the seats clean, and particularly giving attention to the students who had not been making noise or misbehaving. Since I was such a monitor, all the other classes approached the eighth, but no other class acquired such an education as the eighth standard.

But in what Sai was doing, in one respect there was something which could be regarded as contrary to the discipline. There was an English teacher by the name of Mahbub Khan. By his special fortune which he carried with him from his previous birth, he loved Sai very much. Whenever he came into his class, he used to always touch the head of Sai, squeeze the cheeks of Sai, and show so much love. Only then would he commence taking the class. Not only this, he was a Muslim. In spite of that fact, they prepared in their home some pakoda or some sweets, and he used to bring them for me. He was always looking at the timetable, anxiously looking forward to when he would have the chance of taking Sai's class.

As soon as Mahbub Khan entered the class, all the students used to make fun of me by saying, "Raju, Mahbub Khan has come.

Now you can go. You let us go." Here, if I looked at the students, they were suffering from an amount of jealousy. If I looked at the teacher, Mahbub Khan, he was in ecstasy with love towards me. I did not like to displease the students, and I did not like to displease the teacher. But I had to establish the fact that one has to take the orders of the group without any hesitation.

When Mahbub Khan came into the class, he used to ask some questions. Although I was sitting in the center of the class, the other boys who were sitting ahead could not give the right answers to the questions. He used to make the students rise by pointing out one after another, "Next, next, next." By the time he came to me, he would not make me get up, but he would pass on to the others. When the question was such that no one in the class could give a correct answer, he would then call me and say, "Raju, you now give the answer." When I gave the correct answer, he would then find out that the others could not answer, and would give them some punishment. The other boys used to try and persuade me to tell an untruth or give an incorrect answer. I said that I was never prepared to tell an incorrect and untrue answer.

By the time it was evening, I had to return to Puttaparthi from Bukkapatnam two and a half miles in the sands. Out of jealousy, all the boys used to push me down and drag me by my two legs. Not only this, you are aware of this forest of hair on my head. This was curly, and they used to look at it. There were some thorny fruits on the trees, and they would pluck these and stick them on my head. To remove each one of these fruits and disentangle it from my head used to take ten minutes. But no matter what troubles they gave me, I would never swerve from the path of Truth.

This certain day, there was a person called Kondappa who was teaching mathematics and Telegu. Here, there is a small mistake which I committed. On that day, one of the students went and complained to him. What was the complaint? The complaint was that "Raju is not writing notes in his book." I never wrote notes in my book when the teacher was teaching. I did not have either a guidebook or a notebook. On that day, Kondappa asked all the boys to bring their respective note-

books and put them on the table. If he had stopped at that, it would have meant that some students brought the books, and others did not. But he pursued it and said, "Those who did not bring notebooks, stand up on the bench." They all sat. I was the only one who got up on the bench. One should not reply to the face of a guru, but in giving the Truth there is no fault. He asked me a question, "Why did you not write the notes?" I replied, "Sir, it is not important to take down notes. I can answer whatever question you would ask. How many boys are there who take down the notes and cannot give the right answer for your questions? Is it important for you that I should write the notes, or that I should give the correct answer to your questions?" He said, "You are giving me a reply! You have the audacity to give me a reply! You must stand on the bench for three weeks for the whole period. You can stand on the bench for all the three periods." When he said that, I did not give a reply - I was standing.

The next period, Mahbub Khan came. The moment he came to the class and saw me, he began shedding tears. He looked at Kondappa and spoke to him softly, saying, "There can be no blemish in Raju. Raju would never have committed anything wrong. For you to have put such a student on the bench is not right." Kondappa replied, "I have given him this punishment because he did not write the notes." Mahbub Khan came close to me and asked lullingy, "Raju, why did you not write the notes?" I gave him the same reply as I gave the pandit. Mahbub Khan said, "This is correct. Kondappa, what you want is not the notes, but the correct answer to your questions." Kondappa was quietly trying to get up from his chair, but the chair was also moving around with Kondappa. Realizing this, he softly said, "Mahbub Khan, I will also take the second period. There is a lot which I have to cover, so I am going to take the second period also." Mahbub Khan said, "I have been anxiously waiting to get the chance to take the class where Raju is sitting. You cannot take my class. You must immediately leave the class to me." Then Kondappa softly whispered into the ear of Mahbub Khan, "Something is happening to my chair." Mahbub Khan told him, "Raju is not an ordinary person. He is a Divine Person. I have seen Divine Brilliance in him many times. You do not understand. Immediately withdraw the punishment, and your punishment too will disappear."

Kondappa immediately said, "Sit down." As soon as he did so, he could get up from the chair. Within one minute this fact had spread into all the other classes. The teachers from all the other classes came and surrounded me, and began asking, "Did you want to give any punishment to Kondappa? Did you think harshly about him in your mind? What have you done?" Then I replied, "I have no ill feeling towards Kondappa. I did not want to give him any punishment. He is simply suffering the consequences of what he has done."

(to be continued in the next issue)

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