



SATHYA SAI Newsletter

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Divine Discourse

The greatest love that we experienced took place in the *mandir*. Baba had called the foreign delegates in for a discourse. All the doors and windows were shut. The reverence and adoration of the group, and the joy and humor with which Swami reciprocated was incredible to behold. With the doors and windows closed, the love that Swami poured forth seemed to fill the *mandir* until we were virtually swimming in it. As the discourse began, I was struggling with the acoustics, Swami speaking over the translator, the heat and other discomforts, but as Baba spoke they all disappeared. There was only Swami. I understood every word He said. It was like He and I were one. It was blissful.

--An Officer

Sathya Sai Baba Council of USA



Embodiments of Love, Every man is living a life of self interest, a selfish life. He does not think of the welfare of society and does not have God as his life's objective. Man is a part of society and should not be narrow minded.

Every individual has to recognize the purpose of starting an organization. An organization [like this] is not formed to earn name and fame and make man selfish. It is not meant to claim one's own self as greater than others. Individual greatness is expressed in two ways. One, is to live for undertaking sacred tasks and to help others; this kind of life has to be adored. The other, is to publicize oneself by doing wrong deeds. In the world, the good man lives for an ideal, *adarsh*, while the bad man acts and lives for *akarsha*, that is attracting attention.

In Hindu mythology, the names of Sri Rama and Ravana are well known. Likewise, in the Christian religion, the names of Jesus and Judas are equally known. When Rama's name is mentioned, He receives respect and acclaim, but the name of Ravana is treated with contempt. When one thinks of Lord Jesus, His great-

ness commands all respect, but Judas stands as a symbol of wickedness and is remembered as a traitor.

This organization was started to enable man to lead an ideal life and to bring about a transformation in society. There are two factors that can ruin an individual. The first thing is ego, and the other jealousy. Jealousy is a pest and ego, a harmful insect. Both can kill a plant. In the tree of human life, jealousy works from inside and the human quality is hidden. Therefore, in our Organization, we should be far away from ego and jealousy and cultivate a broad mind. An individual with such bad qualities ruins himself and puts society to shame. To every extent possible, we should make an effort to reduce ego and jealousy.

Every individual is a servant. There is no master among us. To illustrate this, there is a small story. A king was talking with an old friend. He said that he, the king, was a master. The entire country was his and its citizens his servants. He did not need any money, and all authority was vested in him. He did not have to yield to anyone for anything. He was not

a servant to anyone. Hearing all this, his old friend laughed and said, "Oh King, you are mistaken! From a king to a pauper, from an illiterate to a saint, all are servants [there are] no masters. God is the one and only master. If you think that you are the supreme Lord, you are wrong. It is a sign of foolishness. You and I and everyone else are all servants." Hearing this, the king asked his old friend, "Can you prove all this before our people? I shall give you two days time. Ask the people and elicit from them whether I am the master or the servant. If you do not prove what you say, I will send you out of my country." The friend said, "O, King! You can do what you like, but what I say is true. Whether you believe it or not, whether you keep me in your kingdom or not, truth will never change. Truth is one, not two." The king gave his friend two days time for his search. He failed to find anyone who thought that the King was a servant, and so the King asked him to leave. The friend was walking with a third leg, his walking stick. As the king commanded him to go and as he was moving away, the old friend dropped his walking stick and said, "Alas, O King, I cannot bend. There are no servants around, and without the walking stick, I cannot go forward, even one step. I am feeling so bad, and I do not know how to move." Seeing the helplessness of his old friend, the king said, "Do not worry, my friend, I will help you." And saying this, the king picked up the walking stick and gave it to him. The friend collected his walking stick and exclaimed, "Well, sir! You are my servant now. At a time of difficulty, you helped me. Help is service. With all ego, you had stated that you are not a servant to anyone. To a helpless one like me, you

gave a walking stick. Now, I am the master, and you are the servant."

Knowingly or otherwise, everyone in the world is a servant, and no one is a master. How long can you render service? How long can you be a servant? In the world, everyone has a desire and tries to accomplish it. One loves another only in expectation of something in return. In this world, there is no one who loves another without expecting something in return. A man who expects something in return is a servant. The Lord, alone, loves without expecting any return. Therefore, He alone is the Master. All men are servants. The world is like a stage. All men are actors. Only God is the Director.

Considering yourself a master and exulting about the authority of your power and wealth is wrong. You should be aware that you are bound to serve, and not to lead the life of a master.

Bliss emanates from *seva bhava* (spirit of service) and not from *adhikara bhava* (feeling of supremacy). Wealth and power cannot appease one's hunger. It is only food that will satisfy hunger. Wealth cannot endow one with beauty. Only virtue gives one beauty.

We must try to understand the source of peace, prosperity and happiness. There is a small example of this. Three individuals are living in a house: the father, the mother and the son. When all three members live in perfect harmony in the house, there cannot be a higher heaven on earth. But, if there is even a slight difference of opinion among them, there cannot be a worse hell than that house. Similarly, the body is a house where the three people are thought, word and deed. When all the individuals live together in harmony in the body, there is bliss. On the other hand,

when there is diversity in thought, word and deed, there cannot be a worse hell than that. Therefore, the most essential thing in life is unity of these three. This is the real Divinity. Out of this unity, you will reach purity, and this purity will take you to Divinity. In spiritual parlance, this is known as *thriputi* or trinity. It is not only in our spiritual, worldly and social life that this assumes importance. In our entire life this unity in word, deed and thought must be cultivated, as it is only then we can experience genuine peace. For man today, peace is very essential.

These organizations were formed to confer peace. They were not established for Sai's name and fame. The objective is to make everyone happy. There are many organizations in the world, but the Sai Organizations should not be like the others. We should work in unity. All are brothers and sisters. Remember the dictum of the brotherhood of man and the fatherhood of God. This is not properly done in society. The attitude that "I am the coordinator. I know more; do not talk!" should be given up. You are just a coordinator for name's sake only. All are servants. You are a servant of a master, that's all, a servant master. When the master servant leads, others follow. If he sits and does nothing, saying that he is a master, no one will follow him. A coordinator should first lead and work with humility. Then he will earn the right to tell others [what to do.] Without doing anything yourself, you have no right to tell others; when you have no right, others will not respect you. To earn real respect, you should do what you say. First Be, second, Do and third, Tell. Without the first Be and second Do, you cannot merely Tell.

In our organization, all are working hard. But, on the spiritual path, they are unable to know the procedure—what is to be done, how is it to be done? These should be clear. All are good, but they have no opportunity to know the spiritual path. All have enthusiasm, but to be happy you need to have the feeling that you are working with God and for God. Happiness is union with God. There is nothing without God. Whatever you do, you should feel that it is God's work. God is acting through this body; He is acting through this mind; He is working through these hands. If you work with this feeling, there is no chance for any ego to arise. The body is only the negative connection; it is lifeless—just matter. The mind is a bundle of desires—just imagination. You are not just imagination. You are not the body. You are the *Atma*. Think like this: "I am the *Atma*; I am the *Atma*." then you can work to any extent. You should not feel that you are serving anyone else. You should feel: "Whatever I do, I am doing for myself, myself, myself." This is because you are everywhere. You should have the feeling that the same *Atma* is in all. You should have single-mindedness. You may call any name—Rama, Krishna, Jesus, Allah—all are One. Though the names and forms are different, you should know that Divinity is One. With that feeling, you should enter into service. We should never exercise authority or power. We should demonstrate love and teach it. When you start exercising authority, differences will arise. Sometimes you may have to change the tone of your words and raise your voice, but do not change the heart. There is a connection between love and love, and between heart and heart. This is what Swami says sometimes when students do not behave. Swami first tells

them softly, "*Bangaru* (golden one), don't do that, don't do that." If they still do not behave, Swami raises His voice, "DON'T DO IT!" His voice changes, but Swami's heart does not change. That, you should also demonstrate. You should never give scope to hatred. If the voice changes, sometimes there is a purpose behind it. Keeping the purpose in mind, you should go forward.

In this world, peace is needed very much. Embodiments of Divine Love, *seva* is *sadhana* (spiritual practice), not service. Actually speaking, spiritual practice is not merely doing meditation and *japa* (repeating the Lord's name). The noblest and most sacred short-cut is service. You sit in meditation, but can you concentrate for a second? You do *japa*, but can you concentrate for a moment? It has become a daily routine. This is not right. Instead of wasting time like that, go into society and serve. While serving, serve with love then you will feel that you are serving the Lord. In service, you get away from ego. All should have a feeling of brotherhood. What is your wealth? It is the wealth of love. That is the real wealth. Money comes and goes, but the wealth of love comes and grows. It does not go. You have to recognize this truth. To do social service, one has to get rid of selfishness and develop spiritual awareness.

One individual cannot correct the world. Many should join together to ensure security. For example, look at these five fingers. Can any one finger alone do anything? No, no. Impossible. When all five fingers join together, they can work. Look at the handkerchief. You can pick it up when all the fingers join together. A single finger cannot even lift a handkerchief. When all the fingers join, there is

value. Therefore, the Sai Organization, Sai Seva Dal, Sai Seva Samithi, Sai Study Circle, Sai Bal Vikas, all Sai Organizations should join together. That is oneness. Each one has to do his duty. When everyone does his own duty without giving thought to big or small, there will be prosperity.

There is a small example for this. Today, you have rockets driven by atomic power. There are so many instruments in the rocket. We think of a rocket as a giant machine. But in this rocket, there are bolts, nuts, wires, screws, pins, all fixed at appropriate positions. In this big machine, if a screw or a pin goes out of action, you cannot say what will happen to the rocket. Even a single pin is important. Without it, the rocket may crash and burn to ashes. Similarly, in the organization, all are mighty and powerful. We should not have differences like big and small. An organization is like a machine. Each one has to discharge his own duty. One may be a screw, another a bolt or a nut, but all are needed for this machine. This is unity in diversity. When there is this unity, we can achieve and accomplish anything. This is a cloth [Swami holds up His handkerchief]. It is very difficult to tear it. What is the reason? The reason is that the threads are woven together. It is strong, because it is well knit. If you remove the threads one-by-one, you can break them easily. When they are all joined together, they are strong, very strong. When the individuals are separated, there is no strength in the organization. When all stand united, it will be powerful. Strength lies in unity. Unity ensures welfare. Unity fosters theistic spirit. Unity is the prosperity of a nation. The prosperity of a nation does not come from the heavens. It

comes from the unity of individuals. All should work in unity.

You have a lot of love for Swami, but you do not follow Him. What is the use? When you love Swami, you should follow what He says. Some of you may know, or may not know, the *Bhagavad Gita* and Arjuna. Arjuna was a very clever man. His knowledge was very great. He argued with Krishna repeatedly. For two chapters in the *Gita*, Arjuna went on arguing with Krishna. Krishna was listening. Arjuna was tired and exhausted. Then Krishna asked, "Arjuna, have you finally finished? May I speak now?" "Yes, Swami," he said. Krishna told Arjuna, "This is all a waste of time. Your knowledge is not in perfect balance. When the balance is imperfect, mankind cannot develop. You are not "skilling" knowledge, but "killing" it. Better you should be skilled in your knowledge, then there will be balance in life.

Today life has lost all balance. When there is no balance in life, knowledge is killed. So, first we should skill our knowledge. What is meant by skilling knowledge? To move on the sacred path is skilling. See no evil, see what is good. That is skilling knowledge. Likewise, hear no evil, hear what is good. Speak no evil, say what is good. Do no evil, do what is good. That is skilling knowledge. Bad looking, bad talking, bad hearing, bad thoughts, bad work—all this is killing knowledge. Knowingly or otherwise, we are killing our knowledge—not skilling it. Krishna said, "Arjuna, stop your talk. Follow what I say" Arjuna joined both his hands and said, "Whatever You say, whatever You do, it is good for me. I will follow You." Then Krishna took him to the noblest heights. We should not discriminate

about God's commands—good or bad, right or wrong—because God's commands are selfless, but you do not understand them. When you do good work, that is your profit. When you do bad work, that is your loss. Your good or bad work does not give profit or loss to Swami. Both profit and loss go to you alone. For Swami, there is no profit or loss. I am always happy. If you want to be happy like this, follow Swami, meaning that you should follow the rules and regulations of the organization. Then mentally, physically and socially, there will be peace and security.

Embodiments of Divine Love, past is past. It cannot come back. The future is not yours yet. Do not brood over the future. Live in the present. This is not an ordinary present. It is omnipresent. The past is in the present. Future is also in the present. Be happy and do good. Think of the present. Thinking of the future or the past is a waste of time. He said this; you said that. Do not think that way. Past is past. There should be no hatred because of harsh words. You should forget all that. When you say, "Hello, hello," what is the use? Hello comes out of the hollow within. When you are hollow inside, keeping all the hatred inside, what is the use of saying hello? Say "Hello" whole-heartedly. That is uniting your thoughts, words and deeds. If you did that, then the entire world would be in your hands.

The whole world is here. What is the reason? It is Swami's love that is responsible. What Swami says, Swami does. It is this nature that draws everyone here from all over the world. Similarly, you are all messengers of God. If you have unity of these three [thought, word, deed] the whole world will become a Sai Organiza-

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the biggest number. Nine is big in quantity, but one is the biggest in quality. Without quality, quantity is of no use.

Embodiments of Divine Love, you are working together and trying for the welfare of the world. This is real *seva* rendered to one's country. You can all do that which cannot be accomplished by a Prime Minister or a President. That which is done by government is fragmented. That which is done through love brings unity. We should work for the welfare of all countries. Our motto should be, *Loka Samashta Sukhino Bhavantu* (May all mankind live in happiness and peace). This is our objective. The reason is this: Nations are many, but the earth is one. Stars are many, but the sky is one. Jewels are many, but gold is one. With this spirit, you should work. This is the truth of unity in diversity. I am here; you are there; but

shed. That is the uniqueness of the Sai Organization. That is Sai's love. You should develop that love. Where else will you see this unity in diversity? Only in Prasanthi Nilayam. She comes from Iran and she comes from Iraq. Iran and Iraq are rivals. But here, both live together. That is love. When we develop this love, the whole world will be one. Everything should be done through love, through love, through love. Start the day with love, fill the day with love, spend the day with love, end the day with love. That is the way to God. The best way to love God is to love all and serve all. This is the first message and also the last message. Healthy life, happy life, peaceful life, divine life. I will bless you. I love you.

—Sathya Sai Baba

Message Delivered to Overseas Office
Bearers in Prasanthi Nilayam Mandir
November 20, 1992

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The whole world is here. What is the reason? It is Swami's love that is responsible. What Swami says, Swami does. It is this nature that draws everyone here from all over the world. Similarly, you are all messengers of God. If you have unity of these three [thought, word, deed] the whole world will become a Sai Organiza-

tion. One cannot always oblige, but one can speak obligingly.

Make friendships by speaking soft, sweet words. Because of previous bad actions, some may have pride and jealousy, but these feelings should not exist. The feeling that he is a German, he is an American, he is an Australian, he is a Hindu, he is a Christian—all these differences must not be there. Jesus said, "All are one, my dear son. Be alike to everyone." So all are one. It is only the one that manifests into many. This oneness is present in everyone. Here is the number one, and here is the number nine. Ask yourself which is bigger—one or nine? Ask yourself. For the worldly aspect, nine is bigger than one. But in spirituality, number one is bigger. How? One, plus one, plus one, plus one, plus one. . . equals nine. Without number one, there can be no number nine. Do not pride yourself that nine is the biggest number. Nine is big in quantity, but one is the biggest in quality. Without quality, quantity is of no use.

Embodiments of Divine Love, you are working together and trying for the welfare of the world. This is real *seva* rendered to one's country. You can all do that which cannot be accomplished by a Prime Minister or a President. That which is done by government is fragmented. That which is done through love brings unity. We should work for the welfare of all countries. Our motto should be, *Loka Samashta Sukhino Bhavantu* (May all mankind live in happiness and peace). This is our objective. The reason is this: Nations are many, but the earth is one. Stars are many, but the sky is one. Jewels are many, but gold is one. With this spirit, you should work. This is the truth of unity in diversity. I am here; you are there; but

our breath is one and the same. When breath is one, birth, also, should be one. With this spiritual love, you should develop the organization and foster the spirit of service. Many are working wholeheartedly, but there are some mistakes because of ignorance. Your love for Swami will give you enough strength. That comes first. Do not worry about it, and go forward. That is important. That gives you victory in all possible ways. A spiritual life is the noblest of all. In no other field, will you have this bliss and happiness.

There are many spiritual organizations in the world, but there is a lot of difference between them and the Sai Organization. Here all should be one, like children of the same mother. That is the greatness of the Sai Organization. A German may not like a Chinese. A Chinese may not like an American. But in Prasanthi Nilayam Germans, Chinese, Russians all live in one shed. That is the uniqueness of the Sai Organization. That is Sai's love. You should develop that love. Where else will you see this unity in diversity? Only in Prasanthi Nilayam. She comes from Iran and she comes from Iraq. Iran and Iraq are rivals. But here, both live together. That is love. When we develop this love, the whole world will be one. Everything should be done through love, through love, through love. Start the day with love, fill the day with love, spend the day with love, end the day with love. That is the way to God. The best way to love God is to love all and serve all. This is the first message and also the last message. Healthy life, happy life, peaceful life, divine life. I will bless you. I love you.

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