

# PRASANTHI NEWS

**23rd to 28th January 2005**

Everyone in Sai Kulwant Hall, the devotees and students were eagerly waiting to have a glimpse of the Lord. Waiting to recharge their spiritual batteries, waiting to see the Lord to their heart's content so that they can cherish it till their next visit. The Lord disappointed none. As the clock ticked nine, Bhagawan came out of His abode, satisfied the yearnings of devotees with His Divine Darshan, sat for the Bhajan, at the end of which Arati was offered to Him. He then retired to His abode. In the evening, Swami came out for Darshan at around 3.15 p.m. It was a momentous one as Bhagawan sat for one full hour outside. That came like a cascade filling the hearts of everyone with contentment.

On the 24th morning, unlike the previous few days, Bhagawan surprised everyone by coming at 7.15 a.m. These are His wonderful ways! In the evening, Swami came out by 3.15 p.m. but went into the interview room, only to emerge out for the Bhajans at 5.00 p.m.

On the 25th evening Bhagawan came out for Darshan, at 4.40 p.m. He sat outside and asked the Bhajan boys to start Bhajans. It was again a memorable session as everyone could feast their eyes on the Lord, meticulously keep beat to the Bhajans till 5.30 p.m.

## **26th January 2005**

Being the 56th Anniversary of the Republic of India, the students had come for morning Darshan after the function in their respective institutions. Swami came out at 7.55 a.m. and went round the devotees in the golf cart. All the devotees and students were blessed to receive Prasadam on this occasion. Bhajans started at 8.25 a.m. and went on till 9.15 a.m. By then the distribution of Prasadam was over.

In the evening, Swami came out at 3.15 p.m. Bhagawan got down from golf cart and to everyone's delight sat on the sofa amid loud applause. This session was different as there was an inspiring speech by a student and a translation of Sri Suktam (Vedic Mantra) by a former student. The student from the Institute filled everyone with patriotic feelings, reminding everyone of his/her obligation to the motherland!

Following him, a brother who had completed his education in the Institute and presently working in the Ashram, was called upon by Bhagawan to translate the

Sri Suktam. What ensued was a vivid translation and an occasional explanation about the inner significance of the Vedic utterances. After this, another student who had completed his MBA and is presently pursuing his M.Phil. course was blessed by Bhagawan to share his experiences.

This brother spoke at length, describing the major landmarks in the life of Bhagawan, starting right from His declaration to the world about His Avatarhood, until the latest commissioning of Chennai Water Project coinciding with the 79th Birthday celebrations of Bhagawan. He ended his talk at 5.05 p.m. Swami called him closer and materialised a gold ring with an emerald embossed on it and slipped it onto his finger. The student was filled with great joy and gratitude at this spontaneous Love of Bhagawan!!

### **27th January 2005**

Bhagawan came out for Darshan at 7.45 a.m. The First Lady, Her Excellency - Mrs. Sara Nazarbayeva of Kazakhstan had arrived the previous night. Bhagawan gave her and her entourage an audience. In the evening, Swami came out at 3.00 p.m. He first took a group of devotees into the interview room. After a long session, the door opened, but then the First Lady of Kazakhstan was called in with her team. It was close to 5.00 p.m. when Bhagawan came out and went into the Bhajan Hall. Bhajans began at 5.00 p.m. and at 5.30 p.m. Arati was offered to Bhagawan. Then He retired to His abode.

### **28th January 2005**

Bhagawan came out for Darshan at 7.15 a.m. The First Lady and her entourage from Kazakhstan were once again privileged to have an interview with the Lord which went on till 8.20 a.m. Subsequently, Swami came and sat outside on the sofa. Sai Kulwant Hall was filled to capacity with thousands of devotees from Anantapur District. Around 6000 of them had arrived at Prasanthi Nilayam to take part in the 80th Year



Celebrations of the advent of Bhagawan. Ladies and Gents wearing badges sat eagerly awaiting to have Darshan of the Lord. After Swami sat down, an announcement was made that sewing machines and wet grinders would be distributed by Bhagawan Himself to the needy poor people from Anantapur district. The devotees from Anantapur were privileged to organise this function.

As their names were called out, the candidates, most of them women and a few men, came over to the front of the dais, bowed down and offered rose flower at the Lotus Feet of Swami and received the tokens of Love. It was very eventful and more meaningful for those who realised that it was not just a sewing machine or a wet grinder that was presented by Bhagawan but a source of income – a source of livelihood for them that would change their whole lives!! 80 people were benefited by these gifts.

At 8.50 a.m., Bhajans were sung by the gent devotees of Anantapur. Bhajans continued till 9.15 a.m. when Bhagawan was offered Arati.

In the evening, Swami came out for Darshan at 3.00 p.m. The devotees from Anantapur district had their stage backdrop ready for the cultural programme to be presented by them. Swami got down from the golf cart and went inside the interview room. Bhagawan then came out at 3.50 p.m. He walked to the centre of the dais and sat down on the sofa.

The dance drama presented by the Anantapur district Samithi children was titled, “Ananthavaradayee – Sri Satya Sai” – “The Bestower of Infinite Boons – Sri Sathya Sai”. The dance drama was presented in modules; each module starting with a commentary by a small boy who would come forward and speak in Telugu. This was followed by a dance, the lyrics of which talked about the theme of that module.



An innovative part of the play was the backdrops. All the backdrops, a dozen or more of them, were huge printings on canvas, but were all on a continuous canvas sheet. The whole sheet was rolled up on an axle and was rolled down one after the other as the scene began.

The first module spoke about the Lord as the one who bestows infinite boons on humanity. The second module was on the Educational Institutions started by Swami. The backdrop was a beautiful photograph of the Administrative Block and on top was written – “Om Sri Sai Vidya Dayine Namaha” – Sai the Bestower of Vidya (Knowledge). Towards the end of the



dance for this module, young boys came in with small banners in their hands exhibiting the photographs of the various educational institutions started by Swami, the ones at Puttaparthi, Bukkapatnam, Kothacheruvu, Anantapur, etc.

The third module was on the Super Speciality Hospitals. The scene at the background had this writing on the top – “Om Sri Sai Arogyapradaya Namaha” – Sai the Bestower of Health. This was followed by “Om Sri Sai Deenajana Poshanaya Namaha” – Sai the Caretaker of the Poor and the Needy – which talked about the Deenajanoddharana Pathakam – the orphanage started by Swami. The fifth module was – “Om Sri Sai Annavastradaya Namaha” – Sai the Bestower of Food and Clothes. This covered the Grama Seva, construction of Kalyana Mantapams in villages and other service activities to the poor and needy.



The sixth module, needless to say was – “Om Sri Sai Jeevadhara Namaha” – Sai the Support of our Life – depicting the Water Project Gift of Bhagawan. The first backdrop for this module was a lone villager sitting on a dry parched land. Then came in a makeshift well, which was fully dry and a tree with no leaves. Following the dance, came the next scene of Swami’s Water Project Tanks, and a group of girls rushing in with blue saris in their hands making wave like patterns! Sai Ganga had gushed in to save the thirsty villagers!!

The final scene was a dance with the backdrop reading – “Om Sri Sai Jagat Rakshakaya Namaha” – Sai the Protector of the Universe! The dance drama came to a close at 4.30 p.m. All the participants assembled in front of the dais. Swami got up from the sofa and got down the steps to bless the participants with group photographs, one group after the other amid loud applause. The organisers, both ladies and gents too were blessed by Bhagawan with a photograph session.



As Swami went and sat down on the sofa, classical songs filled the air of Sai Kulwant Hall. Both men and women rendered three songs at the end of which Bhagawan signalled for the Arati. It was 4.55 p.m. when Bhagawan, after having satisfied all the devotees from Anantapur district by giving them an opportunity to perform in His Presence and saturating their hearts with Bliss, retired to His abode.

**JAI SAI RAM**