

# LOVE IS YOUR ETERNAL WEALTH

*The creation emerges from truth and merges into truth,  
Is there a place in the cosmos where truth does not exist?  
Visualise this pure and unsullied truth.*

(Telugu Poem)

*The body is made up of five elements and is bound to perish sooner or later  
but the indweller has neither birth nor death. The indweller has no attachment  
whatsoever and is the eternal witness.*

(Telugu Poem)

*Embodiments of Love!*

**T**HIS MORNING YOU ENJOYED listening to the melodious devotional songs and Bhajans presented by the devotees from Hyderabad. This musical presentation was not merely a joy for the ears but a feast for the soul also.

## Make Proper Use of your Intelligence

Wherever you see, you cannot find anything more powerful and more valuable than love. There is nothing beyond love. All descriptions to estimate its greatness will be inadequate. In this vast world, there is no human being or living being without love. Saint Thyagaraja sang:

*Oh Rama! In Your pure and unsullied form  
of love, You indwell all beings from an ant  
to Brahma as also in Siva and Kesava.  
Please be my protector too. (Telugu Song)*

What is the form of an ant and what is the form of Brahma? Brahma is infinite. On the other hand, ant is a tiny creature. There can be no comparison between them. But one can learn many lessons from this tiny ant also.

Once a hungry bear went to an anthill and said to an ant, "I am very hungry. Please give me some food."

The ant smiled at the request of the bear and said, "How big is your form and how small



***When the fragrance of the sacredness  
of the Ramayana spreads in the  
country, the country will prosper and  
its inhabitants will experience love,  
peace and bliss. Not only that, in a  
few years time, nay, very shortly, the  
whole world will realise the  
sacredness and greatness of the  
Ramayana and follow its ideals. In  
fact, Rama Tattwa (principle of Rama)  
is present in all in the form of the  
Atma. Today we find many nations,  
religions and castes in the world. No.  
No. Within a short period of time, the  
whole world will have one race, one  
caste and one religion.***



am I? Yet you ask food from me! However, let me see what I can do for you." It is natural for ants to store food for six months in their anthills. The ant went inside and with the help of other ants brought out



some of the food they had stored for future. The bear wondered, "How could a tiny creature like an ant store so much food!" If one has the desire and puts in the necessary effort, one can do anything; it does not matter whether one is big or small.

It is said, *Jantunam Nara Janma Durlabham* (out of all living beings, human birth is the rarest). Ants, though tiny in form, are able to acquire food, share it with other

Everything is at their disposal. But they lack the discrimination to make proper use of the resources available. In spite of having everything in plenty, they are not able to give up their pettiness. There are many lessons to be learnt even from ants. When an ant bites you, you feel the irritation and immediately try to kill it. But you do not make efforts to kill the evil qualities within yourself. Deep-rooted selfishness and self-interest are making man's intelligence perverted and leading him astray. When you give up



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ants and also store for future. It is surprising that human beings are unable to provide food for themselves in spite of all their intelligence. In fact, there is no being superior to man in intelligence in this world. But he is unable to make proper use of his intelligence. He conducts himself in an unworthy manner because of his selfishness and self-interest. Humans do not lack anything in their life.

selfishness, then your power and intelligence will become manifold. Man is endowed with immense power of intelligence but he is not trying to make its proper use. Man, in fact, is misusing his intelligence due to his ignorance.

**Use God-given Body for others' Welfare**  
*Embodiments of Love!*

Students today read all sorts of books and fill their heads with useless information. There is little use in



studying a Pustaka (book) if the Mastaka (head) is filled with rubbish. Students should acquire the knowledge which will help them to lead a noble life and save them from the cycle of birth and death. They should acquire that knowledge which will make them immortal. Modern students have become proficient in bookish knowledge. They have the intelligence to answer any question from textbooks. But they are not making efforts to translate their bookish knowledge into practical knowledge.

*One may acquire a high academic qualification such as M.A. or B.A. and attain exalted position,*

*One may amass wealth, perform acts of charity and attain name and fame,*

*One may have physical strength and enjoy a long and healthy life,*

*One may be a great scholar studying and preaching the Vedas,*

*But none can equal a true devotee of the Lord.*

(Telugu Poem)

The knowledge one acquires should be utilised for the benefit of society. You should utilise your wealth and knowledge not for selfish purposes, but for the welfare of others. God has given you the human body not merely to eat, sleep and enjoy worldly pleasures. *Paropakartham Idam Sariram* (human body is meant to do good to others). The body is given to you to serve others. Of what use is your education and intelligence if society is not benefited from them? Presently, man is making new discoveries and inventions but till this day he has not really understood the purpose of human birth. What is the meaning of the word Manava? 'Ma' means

Ajnana (ignorance), 'Na' means without, 'Va' means to conduct oneself. Hence, Manava is one who conducts himself without ignorance. It is only by the grace of God that man acquires intelligence, knowledge and wealth. Man should understand this and lead a sacred and divine life. He should use his God-given gifts for the welfare of others. But man is acting contrary to it and thereby ruining himself. Animals like bulls and buffaloes render service to man in a number of ways. It is unfortunate that man is not able to understand even such a simple thing. Instead of developing Manavatwa (humanness), man is acquiring Danavatwa (demonic nature), and thus courting Dinatwa (miserable way of life). Vyashti (individual) signifies humanness and Samashti (society) symbolises divinity. Hence, one can attain divinity only by serving society.

### **Educare Manifests Man's Latent Divinity**

#### *Embodiments of Love!*

Despite our high education and intelligence, there is a great scope for learning valuable lessons which Nature teaches us. One can learn even from small creatures like ants, birds and animals. These lessons of life cannot be taught in the classroom. Even teachers are not making efforts to understand the principle of divinity within. Education is not meant to merely eke out a livelihood. You have to share your knowledge with others, give joy to one and all and thereby rise to the level of divinity. Samatwa (equal-mindedness) is the hallmark of a true human being. Manavatwa without Samatwa is of little worth. Hence, develop Samatwa



in the first instance. It is only through Samatwa that you can attain Divyatwa (divinity). Divinity is latent in every human being. But man is becoming weak as he is unable to realise his latent divinity. In order to realise one's divinity, one should cultivate sacred feelings.

Manavatwa has not come into existence in the recent past; it has been there since ages. Human being is born from the womb of the mother, but humanness originated from divinity and has been present at all times. There is divinity in every human being. As he is unable to recognise his innate divinity, man is forgetting his humanness itself. What is the use of being human only in form but not in practice? Human birth will find fulfilment only when man practises human qualities. All the sacred texts such as Upanishads and Sastras are meant to show mankind the path of redemption. What is the use of studying sacred texts if their teachings are not put into practice? Man should manifest his latent divinity by following their teachings. The sacred texts will bring out the hidden treasures of divinity from within. That is why I have introduced educare programme in the educational institutions. Education is related to worldly knowledge. It can be acquired by going through books, whereas educare is meant to manifest the latent divinity in man. Education has temporary benefits, whereas educare bestows everlasting happiness. One cannot become great by mere acquisition of education. One should practise educare and manifest one's latent qualities.

Educare is the need of the hour. Only through educare can you realise divinity which is present in every atom



and every cell of your body. In fact, you are seeing divinity every moment but are unable to recognise this truth. You can call yourself educated only when you recognise divinity which is all-pervasive. Education is related to secular knowledge which can be acquired from books. However, little benefit accrues by gathering information from books. What is required is transformation and it is possible only through educare. Acquisition of information which cannot lead to transformation is a mere waste of time. But man has developed a taste for such information. Man's intelligence, knowledge and power are all the gifts of God. They have to be nourished and made proper use of through educare.

### Love Unites All

Truly, God has endowed man with immense potential. That is love. It is beyond all description and measure. There is no greater power than this. But man is frittering away this power without realising its value. He is under the mistaken notion that love means physical and worldly relationship. No, no. This is not true love. True love is that which unites you with one and all. People utter this word repeatedly without actually knowing its meaning. Love does not hurt anybody. It always helps. Hence, consider love as your true property. There is no property more valuable than love in this world. You are misusing the God-given gift of love by diverting it to worldly matters and sensual pleasures. Your foremost duty is to make proper use of love by following the dictum, *Help ever, Hurt never*. There is no greater Dharma than this.

*Embodiments of Love!*

Love is your only true and eternal wealth. But you are misdirecting it towards mean and worldly pursuits. It should be treasured in your heart and utilised for sacred purposes. You may share it with any number of people, it will never diminish. But man today is unable to understand and experience the true spirit of love. Love is the life-breath of every being. In order to understand love, you have to dive deep into the ocean of love. Love cannot be understood from a superficial level; you have to immerse yourself completely in it. Worldly love is such that you can just taste it and give it up. But divine love is not like that; once you taste it, you will never leave it. Love is God's property. Safeguard and protect this property with utmost care. *Love is God, God is love.* Hence, you cannot separate love from God. Live in love. That is the only way you can understand love and experience God.

**Ramayana Expounds the Principle of the Atma**

*Embodiments of Love!*

It may be easy to give lectures on love, but it is difficult to understand it. Make every effort to comprehend it. If you understand the nature of your love, you will understand the love of others. Love is in you, with you and around you. Once you understand love, you will become the very embodiment of love. If you just talk about love without understanding it, then you cannot become the embodiment of love. The more you understand the principle of love, the nobler you become. Once you understand the principle of love and put it into practice, others will also try

to emulate you. In the Ramayana, the four brothers Rama, Lakshmana, Bharata and Satrugna set an ideal to the world how love should be put into practice in life. Their wives also demonstrated this great ideal to the world. Many people extol only the virtues of Rama and ignore the model conduct of other characters of the Ramayana. In fact, each of them was as great as Rama.

Take, for example, Sumitra, the mother of Lakshmana and Satrugna. People do not attach much importance to her role in the Ramayana. In fact, her name does not figure prominently in the epic. But the fact is that she was a paragon of virtues. Her name 'Su-mitra' itself signifies that she was a good friend to one and all. She shared her happiness with others. Kausalya and Kaikeyi had one son each, whereas Sumitra had two sons. When we enquire into the reason, we can understand the mystery behind it. After the performance of the Putrakameshti Yajna, Dasaratha distributed the sacred pudding equally between his three wives. Kausalya and Kaikeyi took their share of the pudding to their respective Puja rooms. Each of them was happy thinking that her son would be the future king of Ayodhya. But Sumitra had no such thoughts. She carried her bowl of pudding to the terrace and placed it on the parapet wall while drying her hair in the sun. Suddenly, an eagle swooped down and carried away the bowl of sacred pudding. She immediately ran down and informed Kausalya and Kaikeyi about what had happened. Kausalya and Kaikeyi came to

the rescue of Sumitra and shared their pudding with her. Kaikeyi gave half of her share to Sumitra. Kausalya did



the same. In due course, Kausalya gave birth to Rama, Kaikeyi to Bharata, and Sumitra to Lakshmana and Satrughna. The sons of Kausalya and Kaikeyi were happily playing in their cradles whereas Sumitra's sons were crying all the time, and were not taking milk. Sumitra went to Sage Vasishtha and told him about her predicament. Sage Vasishtha closed his eyes. His yogic vision enabled him to know the truth. He said to Sumitra, "As you partook of the sacred pudding given by Kausalya, you gave birth to Lakshmana who is an Amsa (part) of Rama. Similarly, Satrughna is born out of the share of pudding given to you by Kaikeyi. So, he is a part of Bharata. Put Lakshmana by the side of Rama and Satrughna by the side of Bharata. Then they will rest peacefully." Sumitra did as instructed by Vasishtha. Both Lakshmana and Satrughna stopped crying and started playing blissfully in their cradles. This was the basis of the intimate relationship between Rama and Lakshmana, Bharata and Satrughna.

Sumitra experienced great bliss to see her two sons Lakshmana and Satrughna always in the company of Rama and Bharata. No one can know why and how God ordains certain events to happen. As the four sons of King Dasaratha grew up, Lakshmana always followed Rama and Satrughna followed Bharata. Both Lakshmana and Satrughna were very brave and valorous. Without them, there could be no Ramayana. Lakshmana loved to be in the company of Rama. Similarly, Satrughna followed Bharata. Thus, the four brothers Rama, Lakshmana, Bharata and Satrughna grew up

together in an environment of love, unity and amity. The four brothers were virtually inseparable and manifested their divinity in equal measure. There was no discord between them. The unity between the four brothers is, in fact, the sum and substance of the story of Ramayana. Similarly, their blessed mothers Kausalya, Sumitra and Kaikeyi were the models of unity and amity. None can describe in full the glory of the Ramayana. Many writers have described the glory of the Ramayana in their own unique style. Thus, there are numerous books which describe the story of the Ramayana. But it is not possible for anyone to fathom the mysteries of the Ramayana.

Once when Kausalya was engaged in some work, Bharata came running, sat on her lap and started crying. Kausalya was a bit surprised and enquired as to what made him cry. Bharata replied, "We were playing a ball game and each time Rama was deliberately losing the game so that I could win." The bond of unity and love between the brothers was such that they always tried to please each other. They experienced supreme bliss in the company of each other. The eternal Rama principle is transcendental and beyond all description. It was only Lakshmana who could understand Rama. Similarly, it was Satrughna who could fully understand the nature of Bharata.

When Rama was going to the forest to fulfil the command of his father, King Dasaratha, Lakshmana followed Him. He experienced great joy in accompanying his elder brother Rama to the forest. Similarly, Satrughna also experienced great joy in the company of Bharata and accompanied him wherever he went.

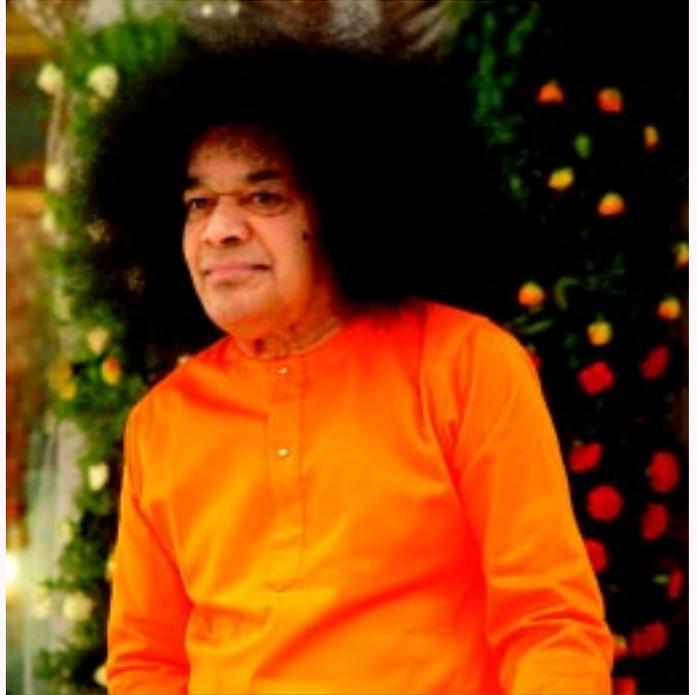


What does the name 'Satrughna' imply? It means the one who destroys Satrus (enemies). Rama, Lakshmana, Bharata and Satrughna were ideal brothers. It is not enough if we merely extol their ideals, we must also try to experience that great bond of love in our day-to-day lives and share it with others. The Ramayana is not a mere story. It explains and expounds the principle of the Atma. The Ramayana Tattwa has to be understood properly and translated into our life. Therefore, one should study the Ramayana with devotion and sacredness and experience the principle of the Atma.

### Ramayana Teaches the Principle of Unity

#### *Embodiments of Love!*

The Ramayana is not merely a Grantha (sacred text); it is full of the Gandha (fragrance) of sacredness which it spreads everywhere. When the fragrance of its sacredness spreads in the country, the country will prosper and its inhabitants will experience love, peace and bliss. Not only that, in a few years time, nay, very shortly, the whole world will realise the sacredness and greatness of the Ramayana and follow its ideals (*loud applause*). In fact, Rama Tattwa (principle of Rama) is present in all in the form of the Atma. Today we find many nations, religions and castes in the



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world. No. No. Within a short period of time, the whole world will have one race, one caste and one religion.

The greatest truth propounded by the Ramayana is the unity of mankind.



When there is such unity, then people will attain purity of heart. The purity of heart will bring the people close to each other. When there is amity among people, the whole world will experience bliss. Thus, the Ramayana can give bliss to one and all. Hence, everybody should chant the Divine Name, "Rama! Rama! Rama!"

The female characters of the Ramayana also set an ideal to the world. Sumitra gladly sent Lakshmana to follow and serve Rama when He went into exile for 14 years at the command of His father Dasaratha. Even when she heard the news that Lakshmana had fallen unconscious during the war with the Rakshasas (demons) in Lanka, Sumitra was not perturbed. She was always confident that no danger would ever befall Lakshmana since he was in the service of Lord Rama. Thus, during the entire period of 14 years of Rama's exile to the forest, all the brothers and their wives were always thinking and wishing the well-being of Rama; so were their mothers. Such was the nobility of their hearts.

Similarly, Lakshmana's wife Urmila did not feel sad even for a moment when her husband accompanied Rama to the forest. She was, in fact, painting a picture of Rama's coronation when Lakshmana came to inform her of his decision to accompany Rama to the forest. When Lakshmana suddenly entered her room, she wanted to get up and look who the visitor was. In the confusion, the paint got spilled over the unfinished painting. "How come this painting got spoiled when actually I wanted to portray the beauty and majesty of Sri Rama on the occasion of His coronation and show it to the world", she thought.

Urmila had a very compassionate heart. She always entertained noble thoughts. She was always contemplating on Rama during His exile to the forest. Not only she, the wives of Bharata and Satrugna, Mandavi and Srutakeerthi were also engaged in constant contemplation of Rama. Contemplation on Rama helped them to understand unity in divinity. Considering the ideal of unity between the brothers, their wives and other characters of the Ramayana, it becomes apparent that the main emphasis of the Ramayana is on the principle of unity.

*Embodiments of Love!*

Any amount of narration of the greatness and nobility of the characters of the Ramayana will be found inadequate. Every incident, every character, every episode of the Ramayana is full of bliss and divine mystery.

*The story of Lord Rama is amazing,  
It purifies the lives of the people in all the  
three worlds,  
It is like the sickle that cuts the creepers  
of worldly bondage,  
It is like a good friend who helps you in  
times of need,  
It is like a shelter for the sages and seers  
doing penance in the forest. (Telugu Poem)*

The story of Rama is most wonderful and endless. It is essential for every human being to put the ideals set by Rama into practice in his day-to-day life.

(Bhagavan concluded His Discourse with the Bhajan, "Rama Rama Rama Sita ...")

**- From Bhagavan's Ugadi Discourse in Sai Kulwant Hall, Prasanthi Nilayam on 9th April 2005.**





## CELEBRATIONS AT PRASANTHI NILAYAM

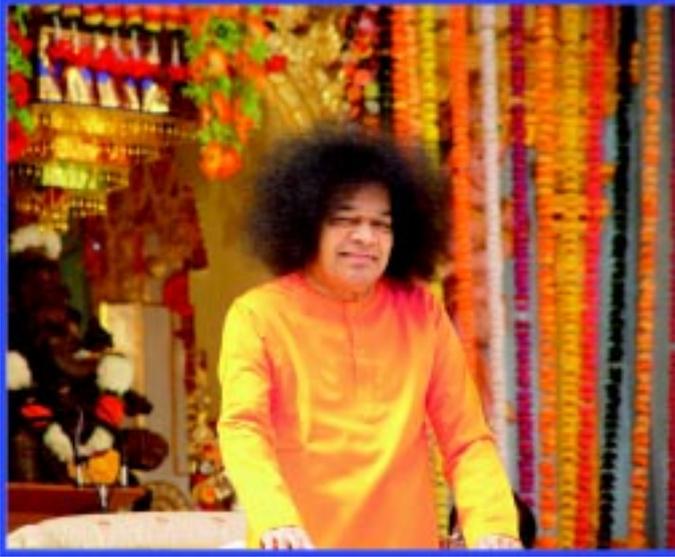
### Joyous Ugadi Celebrations

The festival of Ugadi marking the advent of the new year for the people of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka was celebrated at Prasanthi Nilayam on 9th April 2005 with great devotional fervour. Besides the Divine Discourse of Bhagavan, the programme included devotional music and Panchanga Sravanam (almanac listening). Sai Kulwant Hall, the venue of celebrations, was beautifully decorated for this occasion. Special decorations were made on the dais with fresh coconuts and flowers.

Amidst sweet notes of Panchavadyam music and chanting of Vedic Mantras, Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba came to Sai Kulwant Hall at 7.40 a.m. to shower His blessings on the devotees

on this auspicious day. At the outset, former Vice Chancellor of Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning, Sri S.V. Giri addressed the gathering. Quoting from Shikshavalli of Taittiriya Upanishad, the learned speaker explained the factors which contributed to the harmonious relations between a teacher and his students, and added that this was being put into practice in Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning where Bhagavan Himself is the Universal Teacher. Thereafter, the programme of Panchanga Sravanam, a traditional practice of Ugadi celebrations, started at 8.35 a.m. The Pandit who read the Panchanga (almanac) said that the name of the new year was Parthiva; he prayed that it should become the year of Parthiswara (Lord of Puttaparthi) and bring about peace and prosperity as





*Divine Darshan on the holy day of Ugadi.*

it was falling in the 80th year of the Advent of Bhagavan. He then read out the positions of stars and planets and explained their significance. He concluded with prayer to Bhagavan whose Anugraha (grace) could undo the impact of all Grahas (planets).

Panchanga Sravanam was followed by a scintillating music programme presented by the Sai Youth of Hyderabad. Beautiful devotional songs set to sweet music along with appropriate commentary were a delight for the ears and a feast for the soul. Starting with Sai Vandana (prayer to Sai) at 8.50 a.m., the programme concluded at 9.45 a.m. The singers earned the appreciation of one and all and blessings of Bhagavan who gave them the coveted opportunity of group photo with Him at the end of the programme. The morning programme came to a happy conclusion with Arati to Bhagavan at 9.50 a.m. Prasadam was distributed to all in the end.

The programme in the afternoon started with the arrival of Bhagavan in Sai Kulwant Hall at 3.20 p.m. Before the Divine Discourse of Bhagavan, Sri Sanjay Sahni, Principal, Brindavan Campus of the Institute, addressed the devotees. Referring to the Vedic saying describing God as the embodiment and master of time, Sri Sahni observed that the best way to adore the embodiment of time was to make the best use of time and follow the path of goodness as taught by Bhagavan by His own example.

After the speech of Sri Sahni, Bhagavan gave His Divine Ugadi Message (full text given elsewhere) and brought it to a close at 5.20 p.m. with the Bhajan, "Rama Rama Rama Sita ..." After the Discourse of Bhagavan, there was another excellent musical presentation of devotional songs which concluded at 6.10 p.m. Ugadi celebrations at Prasanthi Nilayam came to a happy conclusion with this music programme. In the end, Arati was offered to Bhagavan and Prasadam was distributed to all.

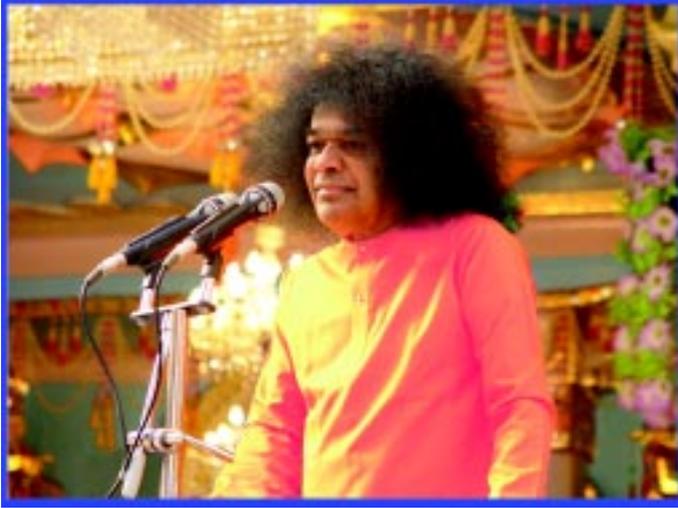
### **Sri Rama Navami at Prasanthi Nilayam**

The holy festival of Sri Rama Navami was celebrated at Prasanthi Nilayam on 18th April 2005. Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba showered His benedictions on the devotees in Sai Kulwant Hall and gave a nectarine Discourse on this occasion.

The programme started at 8.00 a.m. with Veda chanting. Before the Divine Discourse of Bhagavan, Sri S.V. Giri,



former Vice Chancellor of Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning gave a brief talk on the values propounded in the epic Ramayana. Quoting from the dialogue between Sage Narada and Valmiki, the author of the Ramayana, Sri Giri observed that Lord Rama was the embodiment of all virtues, and model for the entire mankind.



*Bhagavan giving Discourse on Sri Rama Navami day.*

After the talk of Sri Giri, Bhagavan gave His Sri Rama Navami Message. Narrating some episodes of the Ramayana in His inimitable style, Bhagavan exhorted the devotees to follow the ideals set by the noble characters like Urmila, Sumitra, and the four brothers Rama, Lakshmana, Bharata and Satrugna. After Bhagavan's Divine Discourse, the devotees tasted

the sweet melody of Bhajans in praise of Lord Rama which were led by the Institute students. The programme came to a close at 9.45 a.m. with Arati to Bhagavan. Prasadam was distributed to all in the end.

### **Bhagavan Leaves for Kodaikanal**

Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba was given a hearty send off in Sai Kulwant Hall, Prasanthi Nilayam on the morning of 19th April 2005 when He left for Kodaikanal, a summer resort in Tamil Nadu. All along the route of Bhagavan from Prasanthi Nilayam to Sri Sathya Sai Airport, Puttaparthi, people in large numbers were gathered to have His Divine Darshan and to offer their salutations to Him. Some of them offered flowers, some waved Arati and some broke coconuts. They hailed "Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Babaji Ki Jai" as soon as they got a glimpse of their Beloved

Bhagavan. At the airport also a large number of students and devotees had gathered to offer their Pranams to Bhagavan and wish Him a happy journey. Here, Bhagavan along with a group of students and a few senior devotees boarded the Indian Airlines plane which left at 12.30 p.m. for Madurai from where Bhagavan travelled by car and reached Kodaikanal in the evening.

Seva is twice blessed. It blesses both, the one who does and the one who receives. Its blessings are twofold. It eradicates ego and confers Ananda (bliss).

- Baba

# UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF SERVICE

*Karma is responsible for the birth, existence and death of man. It holds sway over all stages of his life as the very deity of human existence. It is responsible for the joy and sorrow of man.*

(Telugu Poem)

*Embodiments of Love!*

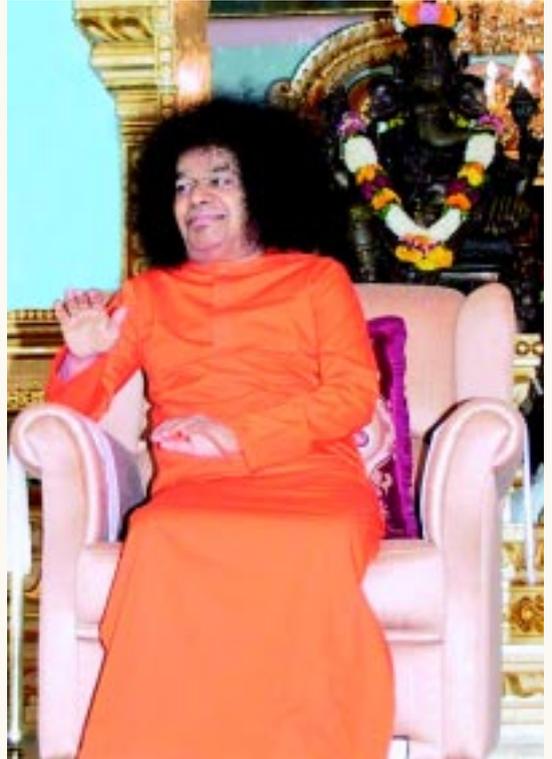
**H**APPINESS CANNOT EXIST without sorrow and sorrow cannot be separated from happiness. It is said, *Jantunam Nara Janma Durlabham* (out of all living beings, human birth is the rarest). Man is the crest jewel of the entire creation.

forgotten his humanness. Since he calls himself a human being, it is his duty to realise the greatness of humanness.

## Immense Divine Power of Man

A person cannot call himself a human being merely on the basis of his birth and

*While performing service activities, never consider yourself as the doer. Always think that whatever service activities you are undertaking are for your own upliftment. These service activities must be undertaken to develop self-confidence which will lead to self-satisfaction, self-sacrifice and ultimately to self-realisation. Thus, service is meant to realise your true Self. It should never be considered as help for others.*



He is the main cause behind the phenomenal progress of the world. But man today is unable to realise his humanness. Because of identifying himself with his physical form, he has

educational qualifications. Actually, real humanness cannot be found in academic degrees. Even birds and



beasts can be taught certain skills to perform wonderful feats imitating human beings. Man, in fact, has a special status in the entire creation. But he does not try to realise his true nature. It does no credit to a human being to derive satisfaction from studying scriptures and talking about them. Real merit lies in practising the ideals of humanness in one's life and setting an example to others. Man has no authority to teach ideals to others without putting them into practice himself first. In fact, he is gifted with human birth to be an ideal in the entire creation.

There is immense divine power in man. He is not simply a Dehadhari (one with body). He is endowed with Vijnana (wisdom), Prajnana (constant integrated awareness) and Sujnana (discrimination). He should channelise these powers in the right direction. First and foremost, one has to understand the true meaning of Jnana. Some people think that knowledge acquired by reading numerous books is Jnana. No, this is not correct. Real Jnana is the knowledge that emerges from within oneself. This should be experienced, put into practice and then shared with others. In the ultimate analysis, this would enable one to be greatly benefited and enlightened. One can be called a human only when one has human quality. One should therefore understand the real meaning of the term, human quality first. Human quality emerges from one's own Self. It cannot be acquired by reading books, listening to others or talking about it.

### **Acquire Practical Knowledge**

#### *Embodiments of Love!*

You have come all the way from Kerala to acquire Jnana. You should



also know the real meaning of the terms Prajnana, Vijnana, Sujnana. Mere textual knowledge without practical knowledge becomes 'allergy'. On the other hand, when bookish knowledge is transformed into practical knowledge, it becomes 'energy'. Practical knowledge is the real knowledge. One has to acquire practical knowledge by which one can gain experience. This experience can be shared with others. Such practical knowledge and experience give strength to a person. However, this strength should not to be considered as mere physical strength.

Just as there is electrical energy in a live wire, similarly, there is latent energy in the human body which manifests in different ways. It can be harnessed for different purposes like reading, writing, walking, talking, etc. It has, however, no form. Nevertheless, it travels throughout the body of a human being from head to toe. By tapping this energy, an Ajnani (ignorant person) can become Jnani (one of wisdom). Energy is most important for all the progress and advancement of man. It can be acquired only by practice.

#### *Embodiments of Love!*

All that we teach to others must be supported by practice. Everything is reaction, reflection and resound of one's own inner being. Every word we utter is the resound of the inner being. Reflection is that which is contemplated upon, experienced and put into practice. Reaction is, however, very important. Reaction comes out of action. Hence our actions must always be pure and sacred. Reaction,

reflection and resound occupy an important place in the life of a human being. All the worldly knowledge man acquires is the product of resound. Resound comes out of reaction and reaction transforms itself into reflection. The unity of these three constitutes humanness. Man should not waste his time in empty rhetoric. Every word he utters must be the product of his deep contemplation and knowledge of its inner meaning. It is only after that he should try to teach others. Unfortunately, these days mere bookish knowledge is considered as true knowledge and a lot of time is spent in acquiring it. Real knowledge is in the Mastaka (head) and not in the Pustaka (book). One should, therefore, cleanse one's Mastaka of all impurities.

*Oh man! Do not exult over your erudition.  
All your learning is just a burden on your  
head without humble prayer and devotion  
to God.* (Telugu Poem)

### **Depend upon the Power of the Self** *Embodiments of Love!*

It may be necessary for you to adapt yourself to modern techniques and new practices from time to time. The world today is undergoing phenomenal changes. All those changes may not be important for you. Nevertheless, you are required to study several branches of knowledge in modern times to cope up with these rapid changes taking place all over the world. However, this study does not constitute Vidya (real knowledge). Hence, there is no greatness in pursuing secular education. Avidya breeds Avidya. One has to make efforts to distinguish between Vidya

and Avidya. Vidya is that which helps you to understand, recognise and realise the principle of the Self. It enables you to recognise your true nature and realise the truth. On the other hand, Avidya constitutes indiscriminate use of words and vain argumentation.

### *Embodiments of Love!*

You are all students. Continue to be a student all your life. It is a mistake to think that you have completed your education and are now engaged in service activities. You are not servants working under somebody. In fact, you are leaders. While performing service activities, never consider yourself as the doer. Always think that whatever service activities you are undertaking are for your own upliftment. These service activities must be undertaken to develop self-confidence which will lead to self-satisfaction, self-sacrifice and ultimately to self-realisation. Thus, service is meant to realise your true Self. It should never be considered as help for others. You may be thinking that you are helping others by joining the Sathya Sai Seva Organisation and undertaking service activities. This is not correct. In fact, you are yourself the beneficiary of all your service activities and not others. Also, you need not seek the help of others in these service activities. You can depend upon your own innate strength and energy. The power of your Self will help you in all your endeavours. Your Self will protect you from within in all your endeavours; you do not need the protection of anybody else from outside.

### *Members of the Seva Dal!*

You may be thinking that you have come here for undertaking service.



This service is not for others but for yourself. Just as you eat food to satiate your hunger, every service activity undertaken by you is for your own satisfaction. There are many things which you have to learn during the next three days. This being the first day, I spoke to you in detail so that you would

beauty and fragrance of the flowers will give joy to one and all. There are several petals in a flower. The flower appears beautiful as long as there are petals in it. Once the petals fade and fall down, the flower ceases to exist. Hence, all of you should form yourself

*Real Jnana is the knowledge that emerges from within oneself. This should be experienced, put into practice and then shared with others. In the ultimate analysis, this would enable one to be greatly benefited and enlightened. One can be called a human only when one has human quality. One should therefore understand the real meaning of the term, human quality first. Human quality emerges from one's own Self. It cannot be acquired by reading books, listening to others or talking about it.*



understand the meaning of service. What is Seva Dal? Each member of the Seva Dal is like a Dal (petal) of a beautiful flower. Petals have a pattern of their own which lends beauty to the flower. If you sow a seed, it will grow into a plant in due course of time and yield beautiful flowers. However, the seed by itself is not attractive. When the plant grows and yields flowers, the

into a beautiful flower. Let everyone experience and enjoy its beauty and fragrance.

– From **Bhagavan's Inaugural Discourse on the occasion of third Sadhana Camp for Kerala youth in Sai Kulwant Hall, Prasanthi Nilayam on 11th April 2005.**



# Sadhana Camp for Kerala Youth

**O**n the eve of Vishu, a four-day Sadhana Camp was held at Prasanthi Nilayam from 11th to 14th April 2005 in which 1300 youth from Kerala took part. The theme of the Sadhana Camp was “Able and Noble Instruments of Bhagavan”. During the course of the Sadhana Camp, Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba gave two nectarine Discourses. Besides, there were illuminating talks by eminent educationists, and cultural and music programmes.

## Divine Discourses of Bhagavan

On the morning of 11th April 2005, Bhagavan blessed the participants with His Inaugural Discourse. The programme started after the arrival of Bhagavan in Sai Kulwant Hall at 7.40 a.m. Before the Divine Discourse of Bhagavan, Prof. E. Mukundan, State President, Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations, Kerala gave an introductory speech. Stating the theme of the Sadhana Camp, Prof. Mukundan reminded the youth that there were three most important features of a good instrument of Bhagavan. First, he/she should be soft, strong and straight. Secondly, he/she should remember ABC – Avoid Bad Company. Thirdly, he/she should keep in mind DEFG – Don't Ever Forget God.

In His Inaugural Discourse, Bhagavan explained the meaning of educare and Seva and exhorted the youth to acquire the knowledge which would enable them to realise their Self. (Full text of Bhagavan's Discourse has been given elsewhere in this issue.) Bhagavan concluded His Discourse at 8.50 a.m., after which Bhajans started. The programme in

Sai Kulwant Hall came to a close at 9.30 a.m. with Arati to Bhagavan. Bhagavan blessed the participants with another inspiring Discourse on the morning of 13th April 2005 prompting them to develop Ekatma Prema (non-dual love). Citing the examples of Jayadeva, Gauranga, Eknath, Mira and Sakkubai, Bhagavan counselled the youth to experience divinity with single-minded devotion to God and achieve the goal of life.

## Proceedings of the Sadhana Camp

After the inaugural session in Sai Kulwant Hall, the participants of the Sadhana Camp assembled in the Conference Hall on the first floor of the North Indian Canteen, the venue of the Sadhana Camp, where the proceedings were conducted on all the four days of the Camp from 11th to 14th April 2005.

The proceedings on 11th April 2005 started after Veda chanting by Sai Youth. Sri B.N. Narasimha Murthy, Warden, Brindavan Campus of Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning was the first speaker. In his inspiring talk, Sri Narasimha Murthy explained the significance of the Sadhana Camp and exhorted the youth to develop Daiva Bhakti (devotion to God) and Jiva Karunyam (compassion for living beings) which formed the basis of a happy life. A galaxy of erudite speakers including Sri V. Srinivasan, All India President, Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations, Sri Sanjay Sahni, Principal, Brindavan Campus of the Institute and Sri Anil Kumar from Prasanthi Nilayam Campus addressed the participants on all

the four days of the Camp. Other speakers who provided valuable insights to the participants included



Dr. T. Ravikumar, Sri Ruchir Desai and Dr. Shiv Kumar from the Brindavan Campus, Prof. Sudhir Bhaskar and Sri Srinivas Srirangarajan from the Prasanthi Nilayam Campus. Some research scholars and students also addressed the participants. They were: Sri Shashank Shah, Sri Sanjay Mahalingam, Sri Bharat Kumar and Dr. Deepak Anand.

Group discussions were held on all the days after the sessions in which the participants discussed each day's proceedings with their respective group leaders and observers. Besides these group discussions, a few of the youth got the rare opportunity of sharing their thoughts with the audience in Sai Kulwant Hall in the Divine Presence of Bhagavan. Four speakers, two boys and two girls, spoke on the morning of 12th April 2005 and an equal number spoke on the morning of 13th April 2005. Bhagavan showered His blessings on all and also materialised a ring and a chain for two of them. On the concluding day also, Sri B.N. Narasimha Murthy spoke to the participants and exhorted them to put into practice the insights they had gained in this Sadhana Camp.

### **Uttishtha Jagrata: A Drama**

This very inspiring drama was enacted by the Sai Youth of Kerala on the afternoon of 12th April 2005 in Sai Kulwant Hall in the Divine Presence of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. Based on the life story of Swami Vivekananda, the drama portrayed selected incidents from his life which provided a clarion call to the youth to sanctify their life by following the path shown by Swami Vivekananda. In



*A scene from the drama "Uttishtha Jagrata".*

conclusion, it conveyed that Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba is inspiring the youth to take to the path of service and sacredness and develop their character. The drama earned the appreciation of the viewers and blessings of Bhagavan who gave the cast the opportunity of group photo with Him. He graciously materialised a gold ring for one of the actors also.

### **Excellent Musical Presentations**

Devotional music was seen at its best when some renowned musicians of Kerala and Sundaram Bhajan Group of Chennai made their musical offerings at the Lotus Feet of Bhagavan during this Sadhana Camp and also as part of Vishu and Tamil New Year celebrations. While Sundaram Bhajan Group delighted the devotees with their Bhajans and devotional songs on the morning and afternoon of 14th April 2005, Kerala musicians enthralled them on all the four days from 11th to 14th April 2005. The Kerala singers who



made these excellent musical presentations were: Smt. Radhika Tilak, Ms. Gayatri Ashokan, Sri T.S. Radhakrishnan, Sri Ganesh Sundaram, Sri Biju Narayan, Sri Kavalam Sreekumar and Sri Padma Kumar. Not only were their presentations of excellent quality, their treasure of songs was also verily inexhaustible, which included Thyagaraja Kritis, light devotional songs, Malayalam songs, and Bhajans sung in Carnatic style. The singers displayed both devotion and talent and earned the appreciation of one and all and the profound blessings of Bhagavan. Bhagavan materialised a gold chain for one of the Kerala musicians who gave a soul-stirring presentation on the afternoon of 12th April 2005.

### **Tamil New Year and Vishu Celebrations**

A unique feature of this year's Tamil New year and Vishu celebrations was that both fell on the same day, and were celebrated at Prasanthi Nilayam in a combined function held on 14th April 2005 in the Divine Presence of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. Soul-stirring devotional music programmes by the devotees of Tamil Nadu and Kerala enthralled the devotees in Sai Kulwant Hall on this occasion.

Sai Kulwant Hall, the venue of the celebrations, was aesthetically decorated with beautiful festoons, colourful umbrellas and many banners with Bhagavan's sayings. The devotees of Kerala also arranged the celebrated Vishukkani, the customary symbol of prosperity in

front of the dais, besides other Kerala style decorations. On the morning of 14th April 2005, Bhagavan came to Sai Kulwant Hall at 7.30 a.m. and showered His blessings on the devotees on this blessed day. Along with usual Veda chanting by the Institute students, Bhagavan was welcomed into the Hall with sweet notes of Panchavadyam and Nadaswaram music.

The programme began with a scintillating musical presentation of devotional songs by the singers from Kerala. Thereafter, the Sundaram Bhajan Group of Tamil Nadu enthralled the devotees with their choicest Bhajans. After these musical presentations, two speakers from Tamil Nadu and one from Kerala addressed the gathering. The first speaker was Sri G.K. Raman, Convener, Sri Sathya Sai Trust, Tamil Nadu. Sri Raman



*The traditional Vishukkani as arranged in Sai Kulwant Hall.*

conveyed to Bhagavan the gratitude of the people of Chennai where water was now available even during



summer due to Sathya Sai Ganga Canal. Addressing the Kerala youth, Sri Raman counselled them to adhere to truth, integrity and honesty which made one a good human being. The second speaker, Sri Ram Subramanian, Senior Advocate, Madras High Court underlined the value of surrender to God and gave the example of Hanuman who was the perfect model of total surrender to Lord Rama. The last speaker was Prof. E. Mukundan who declared that the youth who had participated in the Sadhana Camp had resolved to perform Grama Seva in each and every village of Kerala after their return from this camp. After this, the Sundaram Bhajan Group started Bhajans which were followed by devotees with great devotional fervour surcharging the entire milieu with spiritual vibrations. The morning programme came to a close at 9.00 a.m. with Arati to Bhagavan.

The afternoon of 14th April 2005 was also devoted to the singing of glories of the Lord. It was the Sundaram Bhajan Group again which kept the audience spellbound with their brilliant presentation of devotional songs in Hindi, Tamil, Telugu and Marathi. The ladies singers also gave an excellent presentation



*Devotional music presentation in Sai Kulwant Hall on Tamil New Year day and Vishu.*

during this period. The music programme which started after the arrival of Bhagavan at 3.00 p.m. came to a happy conclusion at 4.40 p.m. The Sundaram Bhajan Group singers received Bhagavan's blessings in the end and also had the rare opportunity of group photos with Him. Arati was performed at 4.45 p.m. As Bhagavan moved towards His residence, once again Nadaswaram and Panchavadyam music filled the Hall, this time marking the close of the New Year celebrations.

**Sathya Sai Prabhu (Lord) and Sathya Sai Sevaks are inseparably bound by love and loyalty. Sai exists for you and you exist for Sai. We cannot be apart from each other.**

**- Baba**

# I AM THE TEACHER OF TRUTH

*Everyone has to face the consequences of his actions. Who has made the bats to hang from the branches of a tree with their heads downwards? It is their fate. Likewise, nobody can escape from the consequences of Karma.*

**(Telugu Poem)**

**I**T IS NATURAL FOR ALL LIVING beings to bear the consequences of their actions, good or bad. None can escape from them. Human beings in this world, however, think that they are undergoing suffering without having done

keeps doubting whether it is a natural consequence of his actions or it is due to any unknown reason. Man has been trying to know the truth about this phenomenon which he experiences in his life without knowing its real cause. Not only human beings, even insects, birds and animals have to experience the consequences of their



anything wrong. But the fact is otherwise. Whatever pleasure or pain one undergoes, it is certainly the outcome of one's actions.

Every human being performs actions and experiences their fruits as a consequence. Nevertheless, he





***My parents loved Me very much. They did not want Me to leave Puttaparthi. I gave them this promise. Right from childhood all loved Me. Sathya Sai is the only one who is loved by everybody. Making Puttaparthi as My headquarters, I am continuing My Mission as Sathya Bodhaka (Teacher of Truth).***



Karmas (actions). For example, bats hang from the branches of a tree with heads downwards. It is their destiny. That is how they are born to live.

**Sathya Sai always Keeps His Promise**

It is this inevitable law of Karma which guides the destiny of all living beings; it is the cause of their endless

cycle of birth and death. Good Karmas do bear good results and vice versa. I will explain this subject today with some examples. There used to be a great devotee by name Karanam Subbamma in Puttaparthi. She was very rich. She had no children. Whatever she had, she used to give in charity to one and all with the feeling, "I am only sharing my God-given wealth with my fellow human beings." With such feelings of equanimity, she led a pious and noble life. She had, however, one desire. She used to pray, "Swami! At the time of my departure from this earthly sojourn, please pour a few drops of water into my mouth with Your Divine Hands." I promised her that I would do so. Six years after I gave that promise to her, I had to go to Chennai. That was the time of Second World War. Once in every hour, there used to be an air raid siren and the streets would become deserted in no time. After staying there for a few days, I started My return journey straight to Bukkapatnam from Chennai in a car. Meanwhile, Subbamma fell seriously ill and was taken to her parental home in Bukkapatnam from Puttaparthi. There she died. Subbamma's brothers and relatives made all arrangements for taking her body for cremation. In those days, it was not easy to get firewood to cremate a dead body, especially in the villages. However, they procured some firewood and kept everything ready.

While passing by the house of Subbamma, I noticed many people gathered there. I enquired, "Who is going to be cremated?" Washerman Subbanna was there. He replied, "Swami! Subbamma is dead." I went into the

house where her body was kept. Her relatives were about to take her body out for cremation. All of them were crying. They told Me, "Swami! She is gone, thinking of You till her last moment." Then I asked, "Where has she gone?" pretending as if I did not know anything. They said, "The doctor came and told that there is no life in her body." I smiled at their answer. I had not forgotten the promise given to her. I removed the cloth that covered her face. Ants were crawling all over her body. I gently called her name, "Subbamma!" She opened her eyes and looked at Me (*loud applause*). She held My hands with eyes full of tears and enquired, "When did You come, Swami?" I replied, "I have come just now." I wiped her tears gently with a towel and said, "Subbamma! Look here." She smiled and asked, "Swami! Do You still remember the promise You gave me? How compassionate You are!" I created Vibhuti and smeared it on her forehead. I then poured a few drops of sacred water into her mouth and said, "You were worried that Swami was not by your side at the last moment. Now you have seen Swami, talked to Swami and held Swami's hand. Now close your eyes peacefully." Subbamma drank water from My hands and breathed her last. Thus, I kept My promise to Subbamma. Sathya Sai always keeps His promise (*loud applause*). His name is Sathya. Whatever He says is truth.

### Subbamma Comes Back to Life

While this strange phenomenon was going on, all her relatives and the doctors who attended on her were watching the happenings with wonder. They could not believe their eyes. They were



saying, "How come! Subbamma was dead. There was no breath in her body. How is it that she opened her eyes and started speaking? Perhaps it is due to the divine power of Sai Baba."

The dead body of Subbamma was then cremated by her relatives as per their family custom. From Bukkapatnam, I had to go to Puttaparthi. A bullock cart was kept ready for Me. The brother of Griham Ammayi (Easwaramma) also sat in the bullock cart with Me when we were returning to Puttaparthi. His name was Chandramouli. We saw smoke emanating from the cremation ground where Subbamma's mortal remains were being consigned to flames. Chandramouli said, "Swami! You were with Subbamma till her last breath. Now her body is being cremated. You could have waited for some more time." I told him, "Chandramouli! I gave word to Subbamma that I would be present by her side during her last moments and pour water into her mouth. That I did. She departed very peacefully. Now I am going to Puttaparthi after fulfilling My promise." Chandramouli felt very happy. In fact, Subbamma was held in high esteem by the entire village. She was the head of the village, being the wife of the Karanam. Entire property of the village was in her name. However, since she came into Swami's fold, she had no other interest in life except Swami. Right from early morning till she went to bed, she was constantly engaged in Swami's work only.

On certain occasions, I would go out in the hills without informing her. Poor lady! She used to go round the hills in search of Me. She would pack

Upma, Dosa, Vada, Idli, etc., in a tiffin carrier and come in search of Me. At last, when she could find Me, I used to enquire teasingly, "Subbamma! What have you brought for Me?" She would reply, "Swami! I have brought the items of Your taste." Then I would tell her, "Give Me Dosa." She would then serve Dosa in a plate. Then I would tell her playfully, "Subbamma! I don't like this Dosa. Give Me Idli." Later, I would ask for Upma, Vada, etc. Poor Subbamma! She used to serve Me all those items. From morning till evening, she would prepare a number of items because she was not sure what I would ask for at a particular time. Ultimately, I told her "Subbamma! You need not worry. I don't need anything. I ask for this and that only to make your devotion and surrender known to the world." Subbamma then requested Me, "Swami! I am happy that I have been able to serve You food and You have accepted these items with love and affection towards me." She then requested Me to put a small quantity of this food in her mouth. I took a small piece of Idli from the plate and put it in her mouth with a little Chutney. She felt extremely happy. Thus, Subbamma experienced great bliss in the divine proximity of Swami till her last breath. Chandramouli, who was a witness to My showering love and grace on Subbamma on a number of occasions, observed, "Swami! How compassionate You are towards the devotees! We don't have words to express Your love and compassion towards devotees, especially Subbamma." True! Words fail to describe Swami's love and compassion towards Subbamma.

Subbamma's devotion towards Swami was also unparalleled. In fact,



the devotion of Subbamma surpasses even that of Prahlada.

The news of Subbamma's coming back to life spread very fast. This incident became the talk of the entire village. People said in one voice, "Sai Baba has kept His promise; Subbamma has attained liberation." Soon this news spread far and wide. Many people came in their cars from Bangalore to

for it. One day, he requested Me, "Swami! You are born in our family, in our lineage. You have brought honour and glory to our entire clan. I pray that You sanctify my birth in this family and pour water into my mouth at the time of my death." I assured him that I would certainly fulfil his wish. He felt very



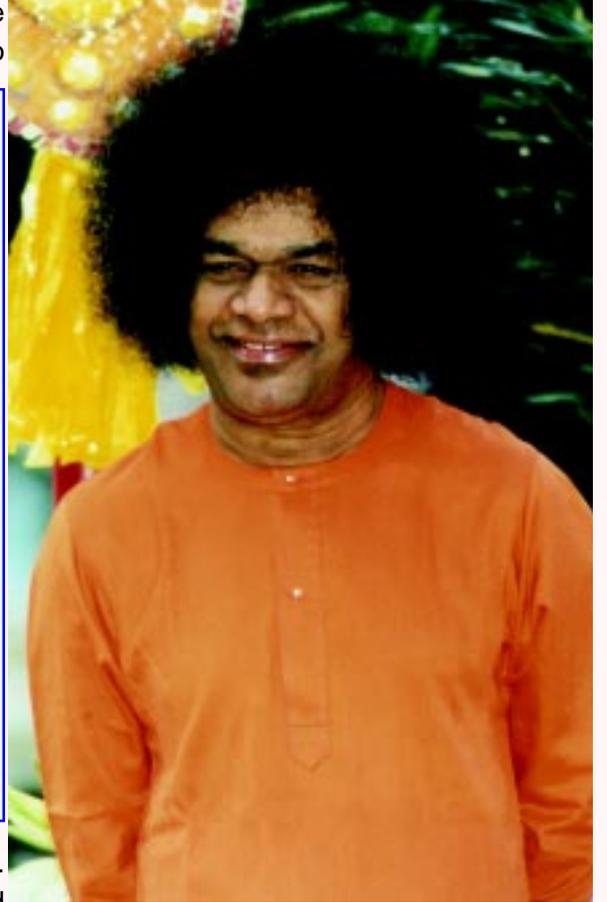
***I have also constructed a home for orphan children near Puttaparthi.***

***They have been provided food, clothing and education so that they are able to lead a life of honour and dignity. Those who could not pass even Class 1 have now passed 10th Class. They learnt all subjects like Telugu, English from scratch. They are learning music too. I have also built houses for these boys so that they may stay there comfortably.***

***Thus, there are so many service activities that I have undertaken right from My childhood.***



Puttaparthi to have Darshan of Swami. Thereafter, many elderly persons would come to Me with the request, "Swami! Please promise that You will pour water into my mouth with Your Divine Hands at the time of my departure from this world." I used to tell them, "My dear ones! All cannot get this. If you have deservedness, I will come on My own at the appropriate time." Kondama Raju also had a yearning



happy, for he knew that once Swami gave His word, He would certainly stick to it. He was 112 years old then. Every morning, he would walk from the village to the New Mandir to have My Darshan. One day I asked him, "Why do you walk all the way from the village to the Mandir and back. There may be cattle on the way



and if they attack you, you will fall down and get injured.” He would say very boldly, “Swami! When You are protecting me and constantly standing by my side, which animal could attack me?” One day, he told Easwamma to prepare Obbattu (a sweet dish like pancake). Meanwhile, he lay down on his bed. At that time, I went there to fulfil My promise. Easwamma put it in a plate and placed it before Me. Bit by bit, I fed a little to Kondama Raju. He relished it much and said to Easwamma, “This Obbattu is excellent. You never prepared such a delicious one earlier.” She said, “You are relishing it much because Swami is feeding you.” After this, I poured water into his mouth. Kondama Raju closed his eyes and passed away peacefully. With this incident of Kondama Raju, it was once again revealed to the whole world that Sathya Sai Baba always keeps His promise, come what may! True to My Name, I always adhere to Sathya (truth). Kondama Raju always called Me by the name Sathya. Easwamma, however, called Me Sathyam. Others called Me by other names like Sathanarayana, Raju, etc. The lives of Subbamma and Kondama Raju were thus redeemed. I manifest My Leelas (divine play) in many ways to fulfil My word. I go to any extent to fulfil My promise. However, many people make promises and do not fulfil them. When I say to some devotee, “I am with you”, then I am always with him. He may forget this with the passage of time, but I never forget it.

### My Days at Kamalapuram

The elder brother of this body, Seshama Raju, wanted Me to acquire higher education. So, he took Me



along with him to Kamalapuram and admitted Me in a school. In Kamalapuram, there was a businessman by name Kotte Subbanna. He brought a new medicine to his shop. Having come to know of My poetic talent, Kotte Subbanna requested Me to compose a poem to advertise this new medicine. I agreed to his request, but asked for some more information about the medicine. Then, I composed a song about the efficacy of the medicine and trained a few small children to sing it. They went round the streets with placards in their hands and sang the song composed by Me. The song ran thus:

*There it is! There it is! Oh, children! come, come!*

*There is the medicine Bala Bhaskara;  
Be it an upset stomach or a swollen leg;  
Be it a joint pain or flatulence;  
Be it any ailment, known or unknown;  
Take this Bala Bhaskara for an instant cure!*

*If you wish to know where it is available:  
There is the shop of Kotte Subbanna;  
It is in that shop that you can pick it up.  
Come here boys! come here!*

*It is an excellent tonic  
Prepared by the famous physician  
Gopalacharya himself,  
Come here boys! come here!*

(Telugu Song)

By the time the task of advertising the medicine was completed, all its stock in Subbanna’s shop had been sold out. He felt very happy. Then he called Me and offered a pair of knickers and a shirt to Me. But I flatly refused saying,

“Subbanna! I did not compose that song for the sake of new clothes. I don't need them. I won't touch them. Please take them back. If you thus offer some money or articles in return for My services, I will not even step into your shop.” He realised My sincerity and strong feelings. After this, Kotte Subbanna never made such a request. He said to Me, “It is enough if I get Your love.”

I never complain against anybody nor do I criticise anyone. True to My name, Sathya, I always adhere to truth. It so happened that I went to Pushpagiri to attend a scout camp. A big fair was held there. I was away from the house for a few days and there was nobody to fetch water from a distant well for household purposes. Hence, the wife of Seshama Raju had to shoulder that responsibility. By the time I returned from the scout camp, Seshama Raju had also come back to Kamalapuram. He was angry that there was nobody in the house to help his wife. No doubt, he loved Me but this incident made him very angry. He was then drawing lines in a notebook with the help of a wooden ruler. As soon as he saw Me, he shouted at Me, “Hey! Come here. There was no one in the house to fetch water for the last few days. Your sister-in-law had to attend to that job also, besides her normal domestic chores.” So saying, he beat Me hard with the ruler. The ruler broke into three pieces. My hand was swollen and it was giving Me a lot of pain. I did not give a reply nor did I reveal this incident to anybody. I tied a bandage on My hand with a wet cloth. The next day, Seshama Raju's son died. He gave a telegram to Pedda Venkama Raju (Swami's father). Venkama Raju

immediately rushed to Kamalapuram. He started from Puttaparthi, reached Bukkapatnam and from there came to Kamalapuram. The Griham Abbayi (Swami's father) enquired from Me, why I was having a bandage on My hand. I tried to explain away very casually as if nothing had happened. I told him there was a slight pain due to a blister on the palm and therefore I put a bandage on it.

There was a lady belonging to the Vaisya community in the neighbouring house, who used to make her living by selling Dosas. She tried to reason with Griham Abbayi, saying, “What! Venkama Raju Garu! Can't you take care of your son? Why should you put Him to so much suffering by keeping Him under the care of His elder brother at such a distant place? The poor boy has to fetch water from a long distance carrying two big pitchers in a Kavadi (a bamboo stick with pitchers on either side) on His young shoulders daily.” Thus, she narrated several incidents which revealed the suffering I was undergoing there. Griham Abbayi was deeply moved on hearing My plight. In the evening, he took Me outside the village on some pretext and said, “My dear son! I have come to know that the injury on Your hand was due to Your elder brother's beating. I myself never beat You till date. You are undergoing so much suffering here. Come! Let us go back to Puttaparthi.” But I told him that I would come later. At the time when this incident happened, Griham Abbayi made a comment which rings in My ears even today: “Sathyam! If one is alive, one can make a living even by selling salt. I can no longer put You to such an ordeal. Can I not provide for Your living with



my meagre income?" So saying, he shed tears.

### Puttaparthi is My Headquarters

My parents loved Me very much. They did not want Me to leave Puttaparthi. I gave them this promise. Right from childhood all loved Me. Sathya Sai is the only one who is loved by everybody. (*loud prolonged applause*) Making Puttaparthi as My headquarters, I am continuing My Mission as Sathya Bodhaka (Teacher of Truth).

Subbamma's devotion cannot be described in words. She was an orthodox Brahmin and would not allow anyone to enter her house. I was the only one who was permitted to move about in her house. All other Brahmins of the village faulted her for this breach of rules. I built a residential colony in commemoration of the great love and devotion Subbamma had towards Me and named it Karanam Subbamma Nagar, which is next to Gokulam. I also purchased some cows and engaged some people to look after them. Some of these people were accommodated in a few of those houses in Karanam Subbamma Nagar. Thus, I made

efforts to see that the name of Subbamma is remembered forever by devotees. I have always attached high value to the name of Subbamma.

I have also constructed a home for orphan children near Puttaparthi. They have been provided food, clothing and education so that they are able to lead a life of honour and dignity. Those who could not pass even Class 1 have now passed 10th Class. They learnt all subjects like Telugu, English from scratch. They are learning music too. I have also built houses for these boys so that they may stay there comfortably. Thus, there are so many service activities that I have undertaken right from My childhood. If they are all to be narrated now, it can go on for hours together.

*Dear Students!*

I have great love for you. I wish that all of you should come up well in life and earn a good name. I love such boys who earn a good name. I will give you whatever you want. In fact, I give Myself to such boys.

– **From Bhagavan's Divine Discourse in Sai Kulwant Hall, Prasanthi Nilayam on 9th March 2005.**

## *Love without Desire is Supreme*

The supreme secret is that man must live in the world where he is born like the lotus leaf, which though born in water floats upon it without being affected or wetted by it. Of course, it is good to love and adore God with a view to gain some valuable fruit either here or hereafter; but, since there is no fruit or object more valuable than God or more worthwhile than God, the Vedas advise us to love God, with no touch of desire in our minds. Love, since you must love for love's sake; love God, since whatever He can give is less than He Himself; love Him alone, with no other wish or demand.

*- Baba*

# 80th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS THE WORK CONTINUES

## 1. Medical Camps

**Sri Lanka:** From 11th to 25th March 2005, 152 Sai volunteers from the United Kingdom and Australia in collaboration with Sri Sathya Sai Organisation of Sri Lanka served the people in the tsunami affected areas in Sri Lanka. Dr. Upadhyaya, Member of Sri Sathya Sai International Medical Committee, headed this massive relief mission that comprised eye and ENT specialists, neurosurgeons, general physicians, dental surgeons, paediatricians, gynaecologists, pharmacists, optometrists, nurses and other skilled individuals from various disciplines. They brought with them six tonnes of general and medical supplies that included medicines, antibiotics, vitamins, medical equipment, as also stationery, toys and clothes for children. The medical equipment included phaco-emulsification machines that are used for cataract surgery, slit lamps, optical microscopes, orthopaedic and neurosurgical equipment.

These 152 volunteers worked as seven teams in different locations throughout their relief mission. The logistics of the relief operation were well planned and coordinated between the UK, Australia and Sri Lanka Sai Organisations and demanded a lot of dedication, patience and perseverance. This stupendous task of taking surgical and general medical equipment to six locations simultaneously would not have been possible without Bhagavan's grace.

The teams in the North, East and South of Sri Lanka provided the following medical services: eye examination, cataract surgery, neurosurgery, orthopaedic surgery, health check for school children, grief counselling,



*A view of the medical camp in Sri Lanka organised by Sri Sathya Sai International Medical Committee.*

classes on dental hygiene for children, psychological support, provision of medical equipment and supplies to the hospitals. They performed about 800 cataract surgeries and 200 dental surgeries. 22,000 consultations in various specialities, 2000 dental consultations, and several hundreds of orthopaedic procedures were accomplished. They disbursed around 7000 pairs of eyeglasses. The doctors screened several thousand school children from 58 schools and updated their health report cards. The seven teams worked together and there was no distinction between the UK, Australian and Sri Lankan teams. On the completion of their relief mission, medical supplies including medicines, two phaco-machines, medical



equipment worth thousands of dollars were donated to the hospitals where the teams had worked. It was evident throughout the relief mission that Bhagavan's grace was abundant everywhere and His love manifested both in the hearts of those who were served and also in the hearts of those who served. In the year of unity, the UK, Australian and Sri Lankan relief teams have spread Bhagavan's message of love in all the tsunami affected areas of Sri Lanka.

**USA:** A medical camp was conducted on 12th March 2005 in the First Baptist Church in San Augustine, Texas. 120 volunteers travelled from all over Texas and from the neighbouring State of Arkansas to serve in the camp. The place was filled with smiling faces, and the greetings of "Sai Ram" echoed everywhere. Several of the volunteers reached the campsite one day before the camp, set up the booths and organised the area for the medical camp.

The camp commenced after prayer by Rev. David Burcham, the Pastor of the Church. The brief inaugural ceremony consisted of remarks by the Hon. Mayor of San Augustine, Camp Directors Drs. Prasad and Chintapalli. Hon. Mayor Pat Fussell welcomed the volunteers and appreciated their efforts. He underlined the fact that several people in the country did not have medical insurance and had not seen a doctor for many years.

The team included 19 doctors, 5 registered nurses, 4 laboratory technicians, 3 social workers, 3 nutritionists, 5 translators and 79 volunteers. The doctors, specialised in internal medicine, paediatrics, family

practice, nephrology, orthopaedics, anaesthesia, pathology, radiology and dentistry offered their services with great devotion and love. Blood screening services for diabetes, high cholesterol, high blood pressure and obesity were provided. Specially trained paediatricians discussed the emotional and developmental problems with the families. Screening for vision, hearing, foot and dental problems were done. Women volunteers did breast examinations and patients who needed further evaluation by Mammograms were referred to the local area Health Network personnel who were on site. Osteoporosis (bone density) screening services and free blood sugar test kits were provided to the patients with diabetes or over 50 years. To prevent adult onset of diabetes mellitus, health education about diet, meals plans and physical exercises were discussed. The doctors also explained to the patients the benefits of preventive health care, meditation and prayer. The State Health Department provided immunisations for those who had not completed their immunisation schedules. 30 children, 78 men and 136 women were seen in consultation at the camp. The residents of the city with tears in their eyes thanked all the volunteers and requested the team to come again. Volunteers and patients experienced the pure love of Bhagavan.

## 2. Community Service Programmes

**Greece:** On 5th March 2005, despite the heavy rain, 17 dedicated Sai devotees from Athens cooked and distributed 80 portions of hot food, sandwiches and sweets for 70 needy people near Koumoundourou Square. They gave



out 18 bags of raw food, two big boxes of concentrated milk, one litre oilcans and sugar packets to 12 families. In addition, they also provided clothing and shoes to all the people.

On 12th March 2005, seven Sai devotees distributed 26 bags of raw food to the needy families in the courtyard of St. Paraskevi Church in Perama district of the city of Piraeus. Some bags were delivered at the homes of these families who were living at a distance from the church. Large boxes of nearly new clothes and shoes were also given to the low-income families.



*Sri Sathya Sai School in Peru, South America inaugurated on 23rd March 2005.*

**South America:** A Sri Sathya Sai School with a free medical clinic was inaugurated on 23rd March 2005 in a poor rural area on the outskirts of Ariquepa, Peru in the presence of the Hon. Mayor of Ariquepa, the Deputy Mayor of Ariquepa, and office bearers of Sri Sathya Sai Organisation. On 8th March 2005, flyers were circulated in the area, and the first student was registered. On 10th March 2005, the rest of the 35 students were inscribed and a

waiting list was also started. On 21st March 2005, first meeting with parents and students was held to explain the objectives of education in human values, to require parents to participate in learning certain skills and to have a deeper understanding of the programme. On 30th March 2005, classes were started. The school is fortunate to have three well-trained teachers who have already been working with the Sathya Sai Human Values programme.

### 3. Public Meetings

**Australia:** On 20th February 2005, a public meeting was held in Melbourne's Town Hall, located in the heart of the city. The venue fits the grand occasion of spreading Bhagavan's message of love to more people and thereby to realise the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man. The meeting was attended by approximately 700 people.

After the Australian National Anthem, Sri Albert Barelds, Deputy Central Coordinator of Sai Organisation of Australia, briefly described the occasion and introduced the speakers: Dr. Pal Dhall, Zonal Chairman, Sri Neville Fredericks, Central Coordinator of Australia and Smt. Sandra Cranage-Dzanovic who represents the Sai young adults. Dr. Pal Dhall gave an overview of the teachings of Bhagavan that unite humanity and accept all faiths. He elaborated on the educational and medical implications of Bhagavan's message of love and the impact this has had around the globe. Sri Neville Fredericks spoke about the five human values in everyday life. He described how

even the simple values Sathya (truth), Dharma (righteousness), Santhi (peace), Prema (love) and Ahimsa





*A view of the public meeting held in Melbourne's Town Hall, Australia.*

(non-violence) could be used to run a big corporation or business successfully. In a short but moving address, Smt. Sandra Cranage-Dzanovic inspired the august assembly by narrating how the teachings of Bhagavan influenced her, firstly as a young girl, then as a Sai Youth and now as a mother. The film "His Work", depicting the many projects initiated and inspired by Bhagavan was screened. The meeting ended with the reading of a message from Bhagavan.

**USA:** On 22nd January 2005, a public meeting was held in a Town Hall in Seattle, Washington. Around 240 persons attended the meeting. The meeting began with brief remarks by Sri Ashok Kumar, Regional President of Sai Organisation. He spoke about Bhagavan and Sai Organisation, and introduced the speakers: Dr. Michael Goldstein, Chairman, Prasanthi Council and Dr. Narendranath Reddy, Member, Prasanthi Council. Dr. Goldstein delivered a powerful and uplifting talk on Swami's Divinity, His love and His mission. He exhorted everyone to follow Swami's teachings and realise the Self, which is the

purpose of life. Dr. Narendranath Reddy urged everyone to follow the 4 F formula of Swami, i.e., "Follow the Master, Face the Devil, Fight to the End and Finish the Game." He also emphasised how practical and simple Bhagavan's teachings were to understand and practise. Finally, the meeting concluded with the screening of the film "His Work".

– Prasanthi Council

## B H A R A T

**Andhra Pradesh:** The Guntur District Organisation distributed clothes and blankets to all inmates of 250 houses on 13th March 2005 in Pallepalem, a seashore village affected by the tsunami and fed all the villagers sumptuously. This district conducted a medical camp treating 263 patients, planted 200 shady trees, started Bhajans and Bal Vikas classes, and cleaned drains in that village. This district started a drinking water distribution centre in the local N.R.T. Centre on 8th March 2005. It distributed coloured rice, butter milk and water to 8000 pilgrims at Kotappa Konda pilgrim centre from 6th to 8th March 2005.

The Srikakulam District Organisation as part of Sri Sathya Sai Sahasra Grama Seva Maha Yajnam, conducted medical camps in 14 villages treating 4503 patients in March 2005. It gave new clothes to 36 children in a home for the mentally retarded in Srikakulam on the occasion of Ugadi festival. This district carried out Grama Seva in 89 new villages.

The Grama Seva consisted of Sri Sathya Sai Vratams, Nagar Sankirtan, honouring the aged, food provisions



to selected poor, sanitation works in the villages and service to poor pregnant women.

**Assam, Manipur and N.E. States:** The long cherished dream of the devotees of the Dibrugarh Samithi saw fulfilment when the main building of Prasanthi Divine Valley School was inaugurated on 20th January 2005 in Hatimura village near Dibrugarh. In the public meeting held on this occasion, ideals of Sai education were expounded. The highlight was the inspiring talk delivered by the Member of Parliament, Sri Sarbananda Sonowal. The cultural performance of Bal Vikas students was highly appreciated by the large number of people who attended this function. The whole area could feel a new fervour as the youth and Seva Dal members of the Samithi created a new atmosphere on different aspects of human values in the village surroundings.

**Himachal Pradesh:** Six general medical camps and three eye camps were organised in different parts of Himachal Pradesh in the months of February and March 2005. The villages covered were Sehra Thana, Khundia, Ghumarvi, Bathri, Dhama, Jabloo and Goodwin. Many of these villages are in the remote areas of the State. Ten thousand needy people of the State were benefited by these medical camps. 180 eye operations were successfully conducted by eye surgeons. Every patient was provided free medicine as per the prescription of the doctor. Follow-up action was undertaken by the active workers of Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation. All the patients felt grateful to Bhagavan Baba for the positive and speedy recovery.

An exhibition on the Life and Message of Bhagavan Baba was held at Mandi during the Maha Sivarathri Festival from 8th March to 14th March 2005. Thousands of people from the State and other regions of the neighbouring States came to see the exhibition and to understand the teachings of Bhagavan Baba. The exhibition was displayed at another place known as Sujampur Tihra from 23rd March to 25th March 2005 during Holi festival. Thousands of people came from nearby villages to witness the glory of Bhagavan Baba and went back in ecstasy. On 26th March 2005, the exhibition was displayed within the campus of Government College, Ghumarvi in district Bilaspur. Thousands of young members of the student community, both from schools and colleges, were motivated and are now participating in Bhajans and other activities of Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation.

**Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal:** The Cancer Patients' Ward in the Paediatrics Department of KG Medical University, Lucknow has been adopted by the Sai Organisation. Our Seva Dal members thoroughly cleaned the ward rooms, especially their toilets. Damaged valves and drain-pipes were replaced. The chemotherapy room attached with the wards, being very vital was given complete face-lift by putting fresh decorated tiles on the floor and side walls. The walls, doors and windows were painted. New curtains were put up. The old damaged electric wiring and plumbing were replaced completely. A much-needed new air conditioner was installed to

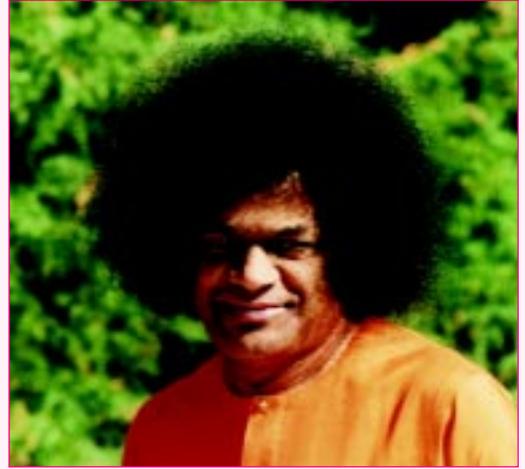


maintain proper temperature. Bhagavan's photographs were put up to adorn all the rooms.

Before formally handing over this humble offering to the hospital authorities on 3rd April 2005, Bhajan was arranged in which the hospital authorities and the patients of all religions participated enthusiastically. Bhagavan's presence was experienced throughout the session. Seva Dal members visit this ward every Sunday. They provide food for one week, fruit and medicines to poor families. Blood for the deserving patients is arranged from the quota of blood donated by our Seva Dal Youth in blood bank in previous Blood Donation Camps.

Mahila Wing of the Lucknow Samithi has been visiting the Women Model Jail in Lucknow and arranging Bhajans, moral and ethical teachings for the inmates of the jail and their children. Now even the inmates lead the Bhajans. There has been remarkable change in their behaviour. They eagerly await the visit by our Mahila group. They have developed faith in Bhagavan Baba and His teachings. Every time, Prasadam in the form of Vibhuti, fruit and other edibles is distributed to all present. Our Organisation is arranging for the school fees of the children of the inmates so that they can turn out to be good citizens of our country.

On the auspicious occasion of Holi this year, a cultural programme was presented by the inmates and their children. Eight women who completed their jail term were given sewing machines to enable them to lead an independent life.



This tree shall not be transplanted; it will grow where it first arose from the earth. This Avatar has no affinity or attachment with members of the family wherein He appeared. Unlike appearances of Rama, Krishna, etc., where life was around the family, this Avatar is for the Bhaktas, the aspirants, the Sadhus and the Sadhakas only.

- Baba

# TRAYEE BRINDAVAN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS AT KODAIKANAL

benign blessings of Bhagavan on this auspicious occasion.

The joy and ecstasy of the devotees knew no bounds when Beloved Bhagavan appeared to grant His Divine Darshan to the accompaniment of Bhajans by students of Sri Sathya Sai institutions. Bhagavan in His immense grace and love bestowed His blessings on all the devotees. Narayana Seva and Vastra Danam was performed to 430 beneficiaries both gents and ladies in the Divine Presence. After the divine

*Sai Sruthi, the abode of Bhagavan at Kodaikanal.*

**T**HE anniversary of Trayee Brindavan was celebrated on 26th April 2005. On this auspicious day, "Sai Sruthi" – the divine abode of our Beloved Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba at Kodaikanal, Tamil Nadu wore a festive look. It was exquisitely decorated with flowers of jasmine and Kanakambaram. The



*Narayana Seva and Vastra Danam was performed as part of anniversary celebrations of Trayee Brindavan in the Divine Presence.*

*Swami blessing the devotees on the anniversary of Trayee Brindavan at Kodaikanal.*

decoration was unique in all its aspects, depicting the traditional floral decoration of Tamil Nadu. The devotees in thousands, unmindful of inhospitable chilly weather started forming up the queue in front of Sai Sruthi main gate as early as 5 a.m. to have Divine Darshan and

blessings of Bhagavan, Prasadam was distributed to all the devotees. In the evening also Bhagavan blessed the devotees with His Divine Darshan followed by soul-stirring devotional music by students. The day's programme concluded with Maha Mangala Arati offered to Bhagavan.

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