

*The Sunday Talk given by Prof. Anil Kumar*

*“Mahashivaratri”  
(Part 3)*

*February 10, 2010*

*OM...OM...OM...*

*Sai Ram*

*With Pranams at the Lotus Feet of Bhagavan,*

*Dear Brothers and Sisters,*

*THE MESSAGE OF SHIVARATRI*

My thanks to Swami for bringing us all together once again! I am so glad that the Spanish group from Argentina is here representing the different countries. It gives me a lot of joy and satisfaction to know that you want to hear more and more about Swami, and that you want to know more about the festival of Shivaratri.

This is the third talk in the series relating to Shivaratri, but it is not a repetition of what has been said already. The website [www.saiwisdom.com](http://www.saiwisdom.com) has the two earlier talks, and this will be the third one. So by visiting the website, you can have the advantage of viewing, reading, or listening to (video, audio, and text are there) all the material concerning Shivaratri and its message. Everything there was first stated by Bhagavan on the occasions of Shivaratri. The Spanish version of my talks is also on the website.

*THE SPIRITUAL ESSENCE IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE RITUAL*

My friends, you must have heard of the coconut palm. The fibre and hard shell of the coconut is useful, but we don't eat that part of the coconut. We want its water or milk. So the palm is cultivated for that and not for the fibre and hard shell. Similarly like the coconut water, the message of Shivaratri is the most precious part, while the rituals are like the hard shell and fibre of the coconut. So we should care for the sweet water which is important, not for the fibre and shell.

The plantain plant is another example. Its leaves and stem are useful, but the plantain fruit is the important product. The plantain leaves and plantain stem are secondary, while the fruit is primary.

The essence of the teachings of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba in relation to Shivaratri can be compared to the plantain fruit. The plantain leaves, stem, and the peel around the fruit are all comparable to the rituals.

So, I want to make it clear in one sentence: *the essence of Shivaratri is more important than the performance of the ritual*. But unfortunately we care more for the ritual and forget the essence.

### *RIUALS ARE RELIGIOUS, BUT SPIRITUALITY IS BEYOND RELIGION*

The performance of rituals will never make you spiritual; they make you orthodox and traditional. Rituals apply to a particular religion, but the spiritual is something beyond religion. This is because the spiritual applies to everybody—it has no distinction or difference. Therefore, my friends, if you take Shivaratri from the spiritual point of view, it is important for people of all religions, as spiritually it addresses everybody. But if you go by the ritual, it is a Hindu festival.

### *THE MEANING OF SALOKYA*

‘Sa’ is an important letter. *Salokya* means ‘living in the same world’. We are in the *salokya* of Bhagavan Baba, meaning we are His contemporaries, living in the same place where He lives. Today the whole world is *salokya*: Argentina, America or India, Guatemala, Venezuela, Ecuador, wherever it may be. We are all on the same planet earth, and Baba is on earth today. The whole earth is only one. So we are in the *salokya* of Baba.

### *THE MEANING OF SAMEEPIYA*

The second meaning of ‘sa’ is *sameepya*, which means ‘being near’. You have come from Argentina *salokya* to Prashanthi Nilayam to be near Swami. So *sameepya* means being near to Swami, seeing Him in *darshan* (the public appearance of Baba), and hearing His discourses.

*Salokya*, inhabiting the same earth, is the first step to being the contemporaries of Swami. This takes us to *sameepya*—nearness in Prashanthi Nilayam. And by being here, we find some special features appear in our lives, and in our appearance, too.

### *THE MEANING OF SAROOPYA*

Because of our hero worship of Baba, we develop some heroic qualities. For instance, an angry face becomes calm; a serious face starts to smile. The tensed mind becomes relaxed, and the self-centred, selfish mind becomes universal.

We want to be as loving as Baba, we want to be as truthful as Baba, we want to be as righteous and as blissful as Baba . . . and in so doing we more or less look like Him, if not exactly a twin replica, like the Leonardo Gunter brothers from Argentina. (*Laughter*) I bet nobody can definitely identify one Gunter from the other Gunter. Impossible! This is the creation of God!

So psychologically, we are like Baba. Spiritually He and we are one. We are no different from Him; He is no different from us. This is the third ‘sa’—*saroopya*.

### *THE MEANING OF SAAUJYA*

Thus we move on from *salokya* to *sameepya*, from *sameepya* to *saroopya*. I think you are able to follow me. (We do have an excellent translator!) (*Applause*) And finally we merge in Him. The rivers that are born out of the ocean finally merge back into the ocean. Similarly, we are from Him, we are in Him and we will return to Him. This is called *saaujya*.

### *SWAMI IS THE DIVINE MOTHER*

Thus the letter 'sa' is Divine, and it is the first letter in the name of Sai Baba. Being a teacher I tend to repeat myself and I beg to be excused. Only two people repeat things again and again. One is a teacher, and the other is an old man, and I am both! (*Laughter*) So you have to bear with me!

The other two letters of 'Sai' are 'a-yi'. *Ayi* means 'mother'. But He is not a simple, ordinary mother. The physical mother will take care of us as long as we are home, or as long as she can carry us as babies in her arms. But Baba is the Divine Mother who takes care of us until the end of our life. We are in the care of this Divine Mother from the beginning till the end. The physical mother cannot be that near. But the Divine Mother is always with us, forever and ever.

The physical mother may have some expectations concerning her children, but the Divine Mother has no expectations. The physical mother may love only her children, but the Divine Mother loves all. A physical mother may have one or two children, but the Divine Mother has the entire population as her children.

The physical mother may have a little bit of love for one child, a little for her other child, and a lot of love for another child. There could be differences in the proportion of love of the physical mother towards her children, whereas the love of the Divine Mother is total and not fractional or preferential. He loves you and all the children totally and equally. So that is our Divine Mother Sai.

### *SWAMI IS THE DIVINE FATHER*

The last two letters of the name of Sai Baba are 'ba-ba'. Baba means 'father'. The first letter 'sa' also means 'Divine', while Baba is Father. So He is our Divine Father.

The father's role is different from the mother's. The mother can be more lenient and tolerant in bringing up the children. But the father cannot be so liberal. The mother can be soft, but the father should not be soft; the mother may pamper, but the father should not pamper.

So the role of the father is to be tough sometimes. He has to be stern, firm and stubborn; he may have to hit or smack a child if necessary. Of course, nowadays this is not possible in the western countries because the son will go and lodge a complaint with the police! (*Laughter*) In India, we have not reached that level yet, so there is still time. The father has to be harsh, rough and tough, in disciplining his son. That is the way he has to teach him from time-to-time.

### *BABA, THE DIVINE FATHER, DISCIPLINES DEVOTEES*

Baba, being the Divine Father, appears to be strict now and then. He looks very serious and pretends He is angry, and acts as if He is punishing you. He does not beat or slap you, but His silence is worse than slapping, beating, or even whipping. So Baba's silence is the worst of the punishments that could be given to us. But He is so soft inside!

I know a situation when He was severe to a devotee. Swami said to me, "See that poor man crying there?" (In fact, He had made him cry!) (*Laughter*) And He felt so badly that the man outside was crying. That is the nature of the father. The father feels so badly inside when he has to punish the child. He feels so badly for being harsh and unkind, but it is necessary because it is part of the training to correct the son.

Like that, Baba the Divine Father, also corrects and sets things right, enforcing the discipline. He uses harsh words making us feel extremely sorry and sad. But He feels doubly sorry for us, much more than what we feel. That is the expression of His love in correcting us.

When a doctor gives an injection or performs surgery, the pain is not caused out of anger or because of the ill feeling of the surgeon. It is only to cure your disease or complaint. So Baba, the Divine Father, also employs the method of a surgeon or a physician.

### *SAI BABA AND SAMBHA SIVA ARE ONE AND THE SAME*

Sa—Divine, Ayi—Mother, Baba—Father. So, He is the Divine Mother and Divine Father. Why am I saying this now? It is important to know, to be reminded once again.

Lord Siva has many names. Sambha Siva is one of them. ‘Sa’—Divine, *Amba*—Mother, *Siva*—Father. Therefore, the name Samba Siva can be divided into ‘Sa’ plus *Amba* plus *Siva*, which means ‘Divine Mother and Father’. Therefore, Samba Siva is equal to Sai Baba. So, Sai Baba and Samba Siva are one and the same.

This is not my explanation and definitely not my interpretation—it has been given by Baba Himself. I say this because some of you may mistakenly think that I am giving my own interpretation. I will never do that, and I have never done it before. My job is that of a tape recorder, a DVD playing back to you! (*Laughter*) That’s all. When there is so much Sai literature and hundreds of books on Swami, why should I add my own interpretation? It is not necessary.

### *EVERYONE IS SAMBA SIVA—MATTER AND ENERGY*

Samba Shiva has this second meaning, too. People say that *Amba* is Parvati, the wife of Siva. And Siva is Parameshwara, or the husband. In other words, Parvati and Parameshwara are husband and wife. Siva is the husband, and *Amba*, Parvati, is the wife.

As a human being, by getting married, we have our own problems. Well, we do not want to leave God out! Let us enjoy His problems. We are very eager to see God getting married, so that He will know the problems of a married man. (*Laughter*) It is easy for a bachelor to give advice. So let Him get married . . . and He will be disciplined by His wife! (*Laughter*) In marriage, there is a wife and a husband, and one always ‘normalises’ the other! Therefore we can also think that ‘Samba Siva’ refers to Siva and Parvati, husband and wife.

My friends, mythology consists of stories. Every story has a meaning; every character has a message to convey. So Siva and Parvati are simply characters portrayed in the form of a story in order to make it interesting. But if you go deeply into it, they are not husband and wife as we think. No!

Parvati, the wife, is the feminine or matter part of the body. Siva, the husband, is the masculine part, the life within the body. Everyone is ‘Samba Siva’. It is so because I have the body, Parvati, and there is Siva, the life inside my body. Am I clear, please? So no matter whether you are a woman or a man, everyone is ‘Samba Siva’, meaning the body with life in it, the matter and energy. That is Sai Baba, the same as Samba Siva.

### *SIVAM, AUSPICIOUSNESS, IS TO KNOW TRUE LIFE*

The third point is that *sivam* means ‘auspiciousness, something auspicious’. While I am alive, you can say, “Sai Ram” to me. I say, “How are you?” You say, “*Hola, hola*, Anil Kumar! *Como estas?*” (“Hello, Anil Kumar! How are you?”) Well, I say, “*Muy bien*, very well.” Naturally you say, “*Gracias*, thank you!”

So that relationship is there as long as there is life in me. You don't talk to a dead body. The dead body is *savam*, which is inauspicious, useless, and without value. We dispose of a dead body. But as long as there is life in it, it is *sivam*. *Sivam* means 'life', *savam* mean 'death'. Therefore, Shivaratri is an occasion when we can remember to be thankful to the life or *sivam*, within us.

We do not know this because our mind is so worldly and sensual. It is turned outwards and its standards have fallen. Therefore, we do not know what is *sivam* or auspicious, and what is not. And if we do not know *sivam* or Shivaratri, it is living death. So if we want to know true life, we should know *sivam*, the energy and life within us. We should understand that the whole body is *savam* without *sivam*.

### *THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MOON AND WATER ON THE HEAD OF SIVA*

The next point is this: Siva is depicted with the moon and water on His head. Why? Does He really have water on His head? If you had water on your head every day, you would have pneumonia or bronchitis. (*Laughter*) You would suffer from an endless cold. He also has the moon also on the top of His head. Is this necessary? The moon in the sky is enough.

No, my friends it has a symbolic meaning. The moon is consciousness or awareness, the eternal witness or Divinity. Do you understand me? Anyway, we have life . . . the inner consciousness that is Divine. It is called the spirit or soul. The Divinity within us is important.

The water is also symbolic. What is its significance? You can fast for a day and survive. You can fast for a week. There are some people who have fasted for fifty-two days also. One can live even when fasting for a long period; but you cannot live without water for long. If you stop drinking water for a day, fifty percent of life has gone. The next day, more life goes. On the third day without water, your photograph will appear on the first page of the newspaper under the obituary column! (*Laughter*) You cannot live without water, so water represents the life or vital force.

### *LORD SHIVA HAS ANOTHER NAME—DIGAMBARA*

Well, the next point is this. It seems a rat borrowed some money from Mother Earth. Usually those who borrow money want to escape from their creditors. They don't want to pay back the loan. So this rat was running away from Mother Earth; but wherever he ran, the earth below his feet started questioning, "How about the loan? You cannot escape from me." (*Laughter*)

Similarly, all are under the sky. Nobody can run away to a place where there is no sky. Impossible! *Ambara* is the space that is the sky. *Dik* are the four poles stretching out into space—north, south, east and west. That is another name of Lord Shiva, Digambara.

So what is the form of Siva? The whole cosmos, the whole universe, the whole world is His form. Don't think Siva is just a man with a snake around His body and the moon on His head, as you see in the pictures on the streets.

### *SIVA BEGS FOR YOUR LOVE*

Well, my friends, Lord Siva is also described as a beggar. If God begs, how about you and me? The bank can charge us interest and collect that money from us. But God does not expect money from you. He begs and you offer your love. So God is a beggar here. Love is the wealth for which He begs. Do you understand me?

### *WHY SIVA APPEARS AS A BEGGAR*

There is another reason why Siva is symbolic of a beggar: To have status, position, or money is an obstruction on the spiritual path. A rich man does not care about the world, or people or relations. This richness, the money, is a hindrance and an obstacle for the seeker. Likewise, position makes a man egoistic, arrogant, and full of pride.

A beggar has no position or money. A beggar is simple and humble. Therefore, the representation of Siva as a beggar symbolises being distant from richness and position, in the full understanding that these two are obstacles in our way. Therefore, Siva has chosen to beg.

### *LORD SIVA HAS ANOTHER NAME—YOGA SIKHA*

And then Siva has another name: Yoga Sika. Today *yoga* is popular all over the world. If you ask anybody, “Why are you so thin?” the answer will be, “I am doing *yoga*!” (*Laughter*) Or “I am doing *pranayama* (breath control).” It has become a matter of fashion and style.

The purpose of *yoga* is not just to be slim—physical exercise is only one side of *yoga*. But the real *yoga* is something more. It has three objectives: discipline, equanimity (a balanced state of mind), and to be one with God. Therefore, Siva is ‘Yoga Sika’, representing equanimity, equality, and steadiness.

### *A YOGI IS NOT BE AFFECTED BY PRAISE OR BLAME*

So, every one of us should be Yoga Sika, a *yogi* not affected by praise or blame. If anyone praises us, we are on the top of the world. “Hmmm! I am so great, you know that?” That is not the quality of a *yogi*. Then if anyone criticises or condemns us, we get angry with that person. “Well! I will see about that—we will meet outside!” (*Laughter*) I’ll see that you lose your office job, do you understand? Out! Dismissed!” Why are we like that?

We want praise. We don’t want anyone to criticise us. We tend to become irritated and angry if that happens. That is not the quality of a *yogi*. A *yogi* is neither elated by praise nor depressed by criticism or blame.

Shivaratri is the celebration of being balanced, equanimous, steady and totally undisturbed in all circumstances. Am I clear, please?

### *LORD SIVA HAS ANOTHER NAME—PANCHANANA*

Then Siva has another name: Panchanana. Panchanana means ‘five faces’. *Anana* means ‘face’; *pancha* means ‘five’. *Panchanana*—five faces. Can you imagine a man with five faces? Five heads! One head gives us enough headache! (*Laughter*)

My friends, it is again symbolic. The five faces of Panchanana represent the five basic elements: earth, water, fire, space and air. Our body is made up of these five elements. So everyone is Panchanana. The body is earth; the blood is water; the temperature, 98.4 degrees, is fire. Inside the body is space, where the intestines, lungs, and heart are all packed, as in a suitcase. (*Laughter*)

### *CREATION IS BASED ON THREE ESSENTIAL QUALITIES OR GUNAS*

Then the next point: the whole of creation is based on three essential qualities that are called *gunas* or attributes. Here are examples of groups of threes: the eye has a red tinge around it, the eyeball is white, and the iris in the centre is black—there are three colours. Then look at the sunrise, which has the same three colours. These ‘threes’ can be regarded as three basic qualities.

We all have three *gunas*, attributes, or qualities. The *guna* which is the most dominant decides our personality. The three qualities are *sathwic*, *rajasic* and *thamasic*.

The *sathwic* attributes are softness, piousness, nobility, calmness, quietness and peace. The *rajasic* attributes are desire, emotion, passion, sentiment, and feeling. The *thamasic* attributes are excessive eating, excessive sleep, laziness, drinking (alcohol), and eating non-vegetarian food. So inertia, dullness, and passivity are expressions of the *thamasic* quality.

When you go to sleep, the *thamasic* quality dominates; when you desire something, the *rajasic* quality is the most powerful; and when you are calm, it is the *sathwic* quality that prevails. So everyone has these three qualities.

When the *thamasic* quality is the greater, we feel like sleeping all day. Some of my students sleep in class, some people who travel in the train sleep on the lap of their neighbour, and some sleep during Swami's discourse also. (*Laughter*) The latest thing is that one can sleep with the eyes open, too!

### *THE THAMASIC NATURE*

Some people get up at nine o'clock in the morning. They have a doctorate degree in *thamasic* quality! (*Laughter*) Or some fellows are eating all the time, even chewing gum in Kulwant Hall. No food is allowed in there, no popcorn, peanuts or cashew nuts—so they masticate their gums like a buffalo or a cow. (*Laughter*) That is a *thamasic* quality.

Or a man has a dull face. There is no smile, or laughter; there is no activity there. If you tell him something interesting, his face is still dull. (*Laughter*) There is no change at all.

If the *thamasic* quality is foremost, he is a *thamasic* man. He has the other two qualities also, but the *thamasic* nature dominates.

### *THE RAJASIC NATURE AND SATHWIC NATURE*

Then the second type of fellow is full of desire: 'I should get . . .', 'I should have . . .', and 'You should not have it'. 'I want to be the centre president', 'I want to be the state president', 'I want to be President of the country.' 'I want to be more handsome and beautiful than film stars, better than the heroes of Bollywood or Hollywood or Tollywood.' (Bollywood is Bombay, Tollywood is Hyderabad—the Indian film-making cities). 'I want to be rich, richer than Ambani, the richest man in this country.'

Some people ask me, "Anil Kumar, are you rich?" (*Laughter*) There are two Ambani brothers, and one is called Anil Ambani. So I say, "I am rich. (*Laughter*) He is Anil Ambani, and I am Anil Kumar. 'Anil' is common to both of us, so I am rich!" (*Laughter*)

So my friends, endless desires are the quality of a *rajasic* man. If the *rajasic* quality dominates and over-powers the other two qualities, then that is a *rajasic* man.

A *sathwic* man is saintly, calm and peaceful, balanced and blissful.

### *THE THREE QUALITIES ARE DIVINE*

These three qualities are Divine. They are not made by you; they are not made by man. They are our innate qualities. Please understand that! The fire is hot, so the fire burns; its burning quality was not given by you—it is the nature of the fire. The ice is cold, and that is its natural quality. It is not something given to the ice by you.

### ***THE MEANING OF TRIGUNA, TRIKALA AND TRILOKA***

*Triguna* are the three qualities: *sathwic*, *rajasic* and *thamasic*. They are present in the three periods of time known as *trikala*: past, present, and future.

*Triloka* are the three worlds in your body: the outer physical body or gross body, the subtle body or mind, and the causal body or spirit and consciousness. So *triloka* means the gross body, the subtle body and the causal body.

### ***LORD SIVA HAS ANOTHER NAME—TRINETRA***

Siva has three eyes, *trinetra*. The three eyes symbolise *trikala* (the past, present and future), *triguna* (the three attributes), and *triloka* (the three worlds of the gross body, subtle body and causal body). Do you understand? You cannot simply say “God has three eyes.” It’s not so. It is symbolic.

The central eye of Lord Siva is the place of fire. Fire arises out of it. But the fire of Siva will not burn you; it will not reduce you to ashes. No, the fire of Siva will burn your sins and your *karmic* effects.

### ***THERE ARE THREE GODS KNOWN AS THE TRINITY***

There are three gods, the triune gods, or the Trinity. One is Brahma, the creator and generator; the second god is Vishnu, the organiser or sustainer; the third god is Siva, the destroyer.

GOD=Generator, Organiser and Destroyer

G—generator is Brahma

O—organiser is Vishnu

D—destroyer is Siva

God—the generator, organiser, and destroyer—is nameless, formless, immortal, ever-present, the witness, the Divinity.

### ***GOD IS NIRAKARA AND NIRGUNA —FORMLESS AND ATTRIBUTELESS***

There is air in me. There is air also in the tyres of a bicycle, or a car, in a plane, and in the twelve or sixteen tyres of a truck, as I saw in the United States. It is in all these different shapes; but air itself has no shape. Air has no form.

Similarly, God has no attributes and no form: *nirakara*—formless, *nirguna*—without attributes. He is *trikala*—present in all the three periods of time, and *triguna*—present in all the three attributes. He is present in all the three states, but He is also beyond. He is *nirakara* and *nirguna*, the nameless, formless, attribute-less, all-pervading God.

### ***SIVA IS SAKARA, WITH A FORM, AND SAGUNA, WITH ATTRIBUTES***

But He is also *sakara* (with a form) and *saguna* (with attributes). He, being *nirguna*, He appears as *saguna* within us. The nameless has a name—I see you with that name; the formless has a form—I see you in that form.

We are all forms of Siva. We are all Siva. That is the celestial dance of Siva, which we call Shiva *tandava*. Siva *tandava* is the celestial dance of Lord Siva, as we see it in this whole creation of the living world, the organic and non-organic.

### ***THE PERSONAL SADHANA OF ANIL KUMAR IS TO SPREAD SWAMI'S MESSAGE***

I thank you very much for your gracious presence. It is my pleasure to share the little knowledge I have. I derive the greatest pleasure in talking to devotees from different places, from India and abroad. In one sentence, I can say that I take it as my personal *sadhana* (spiritual practice). I don't do any worship and I don't follow any mode of meditation. I believe my *sadhana* is to spread His message, taking God to the doorstep of everybody. I have been doing this since 1972.

### ***THE EXPERIENCE OF SRI ANIL KUMAR IN ARGENTINA***

I have been travelling widely only for the last couple of years. Fortunately, being blessed by Baba, Argentina was one of the countries that I happened to visit. I really love that country, I really love those people. The country is so beautiful and there are so many devotees there.

I recall the very large gathering in the auditorium where my lecture was organised in Buenos Aires. I had the honour of having Leonardo Gunter as my translator. The stage was so big, and the queue was so long. Everyone was given a pass. When we were driving there in a car, Gunter told me that the queue was as long as the canteen queue during the time of Shivaratri at Prashanthi Nilayam. It was difficult for us to get into the auditorium, and I had to be taken in from the back, behind the stage.

### ***THE CULTURAL PROGRAM IN ARGENTINA***

It was very interesting to see the cultural programme that night. There were dances of Krishna and Radha, people playing the harmonium, and a youth playing the *tabla* (Indian drum). All of them were white Argentinians! I did not see any Indians on the dais at all!

The girl from Argentina playing the role of Radha danced excellently, and another man in the role of Krishna did it classically. The one on the *tabla* was like any *tabla* player from India. There were about a hundred youths on the dais. All of them are from Argentina, singing *bhajans* (devotional songs). I have not come across anything like that!

### ***THE ORGANISATION IN ARGENTINA ATTRACTS NATIVE-BORN ARGENTINEANS***

In America, in each state, there are different groups. But about eighty percent of those attending are of Indian origin in USA. But hats off, and my compliments to the Argentina organisation for attracting so many natives of that country.

### ***THE EDUCATION WING OF SRI SATHYA SAI ORGANISATION IN ARGENTINA***

Also my special compliments to the Sai School in Buenos Aires and its administration. Fernando is the Chairman and Ricardo is the manager. I am so happy to have met them. The principal of the school breathes and eats education, nothing but education! (*Laughter*) I met a young girl, Fernanda, who is really a committed girl with a number of questions to ask me—all of which I could not answer! I remember and convey my deepest sense of appreciation to the Education Wing of the Sri Sathya Sai Organisation in Argentina.

### ***THE VISIT TO CATARATAS***

I also happily recall my visit to Cataratas (the famous Iguassu waterfalls in Argentina), where my passport had a beautiful shower! (*Laughter*) I enjoyed it very much. I was there at night too. It was a moonlit night and all the Cataratas looked like a silver casket with the waters all around. There is Shivaratri! And there resides Lord Siva! If you want to know the address of Siva, go to Cataratas! (*Laughter*) (*Applause*) There you will find Him, on the mountains, in the waterfall, in the water cascades there.

*BEST WISHES TO BROTHER DANIEL*

I also convey my special felicitations, praying for Baba's blessings, together with my own best wishes to brother Daniel. He will be celebrating his birthday and his wedding day on Shivaratri. To Daniel, it means three celebrations: birthday, wedding day, and Shivaratri. 'Three-in-one' in the life of Mr. Daniel! (Applause) I really appreciate his presence and I pray to Baba to bless him and his family.

*THANKS TO THE TRANSLATOR AND TO LAKHI AND MARCOS*

Now, I cannot fail in my duty in congratulating and thanking in particular the best translator I ever had! (Applause) And my heartfelt greetings and thanks to Lakhi who is instrumental in arranging and making a video of this talk. I express my thanks to my friend Marcos, also.

*THEIR EXCELLENT HOSPITALITY IS NOT FORGOTTEN*

Kindly convey my greetings to Rolo, Martin, Sarita, Sarina, Mohirapoden, and Wesley whom I cannot forget and will not forget, because I enjoyed their love, excellent hospitality, their warmth of reception.

May Bhagavan bless that beautiful land of Argentina and all those people from other countries like Venezuela, Guatemala, Ecuador, Peru, Chile, Columbia and Brazil! My prayers to Swami are that He will have me visit these countries also, whenever He decides and wills. (Applause)

I pray Bhagavan to shower His blessings on each and every one of you.

This is the third talk connected to Shivaratri, and you are welcome to visit the website [www.saiwisdom.com](http://www.saiwisdom.com) to hear them all. (Applause) Sai Ram.

*Om . . . Om . . . Om  
Asato Maa Sadgamaya  
Tamaso Maa Jyotirgamaya  
Mrityormaa Amritamgamaya*

*Om Shanti Shanti Shanti*

*Jai Bolo Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Babaji ki Jai!  
Jai Bolo Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Babaji ki Jai!  
Jai Bolo Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Babaji ki Jai!*

© Copyright Prof. Anil Kumar Kamaraju - Puttaparthi All rights reserved.