Sai Pearls of Wisdom, Part 39-A

"NO WORRY!" Dec. 17th, 2020

Om Sri Sai Ram Prasanthi Sandesh

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Welcome to Prasanthi Sandesh, Sai Pearls of Wisdom.

One of the qualities of Divine Incarnation is *Karuna*; *Karuna* meaning compassion, kindness, empathy - the supremely compassionate and respond to a devotee's call, shower compassion on him and grant him bliss.

The present Sathya Sai Avatar is Himself the source of all compassion and His devotees have always experienced His Grace.

Well, a story from Chennai which tells us how compassionate Swami is! A few years ago, a manufacturing unit at Chennai signed a contract with a Korean firm to manufacture and supply railway wagons. The wagons had to be delivered in a stipulated timeframe but the non- cooperation of the factory workers resulted in a delay. As the last day for the stipulated timeframe neared, a Korean officer arrived in Chennai and booked a cargo ship to carry the consignment. But the wagons were not ready. Since it was not going to be possible to execute the contract on time, the Executive incharge was very worried.

He was an ardent Sai devotee. So he started praying to Swami fervently. The stress caused him to fall ill. But somehow he managed to write a letter to Bhagavan Baba praying to Him for His compassion and gave the letter to a subordinate officer to personally give it to Baba.

At that time, Swami was staying in a bungalow at Anantapur. When the officer reached there with the letter in hand, he saw Swami coming out of the main door. Baba was walking through the crowd and blessing the devotees. As He walked on, He kept tying knots in the handkerchief in His hand.

Swami came near the officer and on seeing the letter in his hand said, "Why are you worried? The ship will reach only when the wagons are ready and all their problems will

be solved!" As He was saying this, He pulled two corners of the knotted handkerchief and all the knots opened up. For a few moments, He looked at the sky, moved His finger as if writing something in the air and walked away.

At that very moment, a storm appeared in the sea and the ship was unable to reach Chennai as per the schedule. The ship was also damaged in the storm and it needed repairs. To stop it all when it finally arrived near the port, due to heavy traffic, there is a further delay of 4 days before it could be anchored at port. In this manner, the ship reached Chennai after a delay of 1 month! By this time, the wagons were ready. Only Swami's compassion had saved the devotee from disgrace.

The other incident is about Smt. Sharadamma. Once Swami said to her, "I am going to get you married to Karunyananda!" Both are old people, crossed seventies or even eighty. All those who were present there laughed. Sharadamma was old and Karunyananda was an aged *Sanyasi*. But when pondered deeply over Swami's statement, she realized the inner significance. He meant to tell her, "I am an ocean of *Karuna* – compassion! I want you to merge in Me! That is the inner meaning that she could know!

Well, to redeem a devotee from sin is to liberate him from suffering due to past *karma*. Only incarnations have the power to make this possible! While describing, Bhagavan said, "*Darshanam Papa Nashanam!*" Just by His *darshan* alone, the devotees get absolved of their sins. Bhagavan Baba's *darshan* inspires the devotees to shed their bad qualities and experience God's presence in their purified hearts. Well, they thereby get liberated from their suffering due to past *karmas*.

A story from the life of Shirdi Sai! A young man named Eshwar Lal came for Sainath' darshan from Mumbai. At that time, Rama Navami was festival, was being celebrated. He participated in it and served Sainath according to his capacity. All of a sudden, he contracted cholera and got bedridden. He was staying at the house of a lady named Radhakrishna Mayi. The lady never came for Sainath' darshan, nor did she ever visit the Dwarkamai! But she had attained such oneness with Sainath that whatever He spoke in the Dwarkamai, she could know and understand it while sitting in her house. When Eshwar Lal started grasping for breath, Radhakrishna Mayi realized that his end was drawing near.

She asked him, "Have you performed any good deeds to earn merit?"

He barely managed to say, "No!" and passed away.

At this Sainath said, "He has secured a good place in the other realm. Although he did not perform any meritorious deeds throughout his life, he offered his *seva* at Sainath's Feet during his last few days!" So the compassionate Sainath granted him the reward by absolving him of his sins – *Papa Nashanam* – and granted liberation.

Long ago at Puttaparthi, a woman once offered poisoned *Vadas*, a type of snack, to Bhagavan. Very lovingly Swami ate the *Vadas*, although He knew they were poisoned. The woman followed Him to see the effects. Baba pressed His stomach and the *Vadas* came out of His mouth whole as they were served to Him! On seeing this, the woman repented and fell at Swami's Feet. With an open heart Swami forgave her and inspired her to tread the path of devotion. He absolved her of her sins and granted salvation.

So we naturally come across such incidents of His infinite compassion. Sri Shyam Juwale, JUWALE is the name of one among the countless devotees of Swami. On May 27th 1963, for the first time, he visited Whitefield and was blessed triple-fold with *Darshan, Pada-Sparshan* and *Sambashan*! After this, on many occasions, He visited Puttaparthi and Whitefield for Swami's *darshan*.

Every time Swami talked to him, gave him guidance and granted many interviews. With Swami's blessings, Mr Juwale started the first Study Circle in Maharashtra. In his life journey many a time he underwent physical suffering but he completely surrendered his life's care to Swami and remained unfazed.

In a short time after he became a Sai devotee, Shyam Babu suffered from eczema, a skin disease on his leg. He consulted a doctor in Mumbai and started treatment. But instead of getting cured, the eczema started spreading. It came to a point that he was unable to even walk properly. During that period, he yearned for Swami's *darshan* and went to Puttaparthi along with his family.

In those days it was not possible to know about Swami's whereabouts from long distance or via telephone. So when Juwale family reached Puttaparthi and found that Swami was not there, Mrs Juwale could not control her tears. On the next day, some devotees informed them about a spring of water nearby. The water from the spring collected in a pool and a basin was built around it. It was known to be holy water and it cured many diseases. Mrs Juwale insisted that they visit the spot! So the family reached there.

The water basin was surrounded by beautiful idols and there was an enchanting garden of Tulsi plants around. A lot of people were partaking the holy water. Some were collecting it in bottles, yet the level of water remained constant. Mr Juwale drank some of it, applied some on his leg and they turned to the *ashram*.

Two days passed, but no effect could be seen on the affected leg. May be this was because Swami's Grace had to directly fall upon His devotee to further strengthen and confirm his faith! On the third day, suddenly Swami returned and all the activities were resumed. The very next day, the family were called for an interview. On entering the room, they were blessed with *Padanamaskar*.

Swami materialized *vibuthi*, turned to Mr Juwale and said, "You are suffering from eczema on your leg, isn't it?"

The portion of the leg that had contracted the disease was not visible as it was covered by the trousers. But can anything remain hidden from our beloved Swami?

Swami continued, "Don't worry! For seven days, apply *ganji* on it!" *Ganji* is the liquid that gets collected over boiled rice. Shyam Babu was confused. He did not know what *ganji* meant. The omniscient Swami answered, "The excess water that we throw out while cooking rice is *ganji*!" And while saying so, Swami also enacted it with His hands.

The family reached Mumbai. With Swami's blessings, as per His instruction, Shyam Babu applied the *ganji* water on the infected area for 7 days. On the 8th day, there was no trace of the disease. The eczema had disappeared. Not even a spot or a mark could be seen and the leg was fine as before!

Well, the second incident is also from Juwale's life. A few years later, Mr Juwale realized that some cysts, CYSTS had developed behind his ear. Soon they began to grow in size and number. He did not suffer from any ear ache but he felt some heaviness. If any part of the body develops any growth, a person's mind gets burdened with worry. Mr Juwale was no exception. So he consulted a doctor who suggested that he should show it to an ENT surgeon. Accordingly, Shyam Babu met a well known ENT specialist in Mumbai. Shyam Babu, here meant Brother Shyam, yes, get some tests done for all the cysts.

On seeing the reports, the doctor said, "Surgery is the only remedy! If not immediately, you must get it done in a month's time. Otherwise, the cyst will go on increasing." Prior to the doctor's visit, Mr Juwale had booked railway tickets to Puttaparthi. So he decided to undergo surgery only on their return from Puttaparthi. Within two days after reaching there, Swami called them for interview. He enquired after the family.

He also asked, "How is Study Circle? In what way you are conducting it?" Swami seemed pleased with his answers. Suddenly as He was talking, He materialized *Vibuthi*. In order to receive it Mr Juwale stretched his palm but Swami ignored it, walked two steps forward, rubbed it behind Shyam Babu's ears with His own hands. It is only then Mr Juwale remembered about the cyst. He had only forgotten about it completely.

Swami patted him on his back and asked him to return home. When Shyam Babu returned to Mumbai, he realized there was no sign of the cysts at all. Yet he wanted to be sure. So he went to see the specialist. The doctor too could not see the cyst. Once again all the tests were done. On seeing the reports the doctor said, "Maybe the earlier reports were wrong. How could the doctor have known that the report was not incorrect but that the patient had been healed by the Doctor of doctors, the Supreme healer, Dhanvantri, who had made the cysts disappear in a moment!

Thousands of devotees from all over the world have experienced this phenomenon, where they have been healed mentally and physically just by Swami's divine will. What a miraculous thing it is! God's heart is softer than butter. It melts at the devotee's suffering and His Grace starts flowing abundantly. Only His Grace can relieve the

devotees of his agony. Many a time, in order to free him, God has taken on His devotees' suffering upon His own physical body, the body which has assumed for the sake of the devotees.

Here is a story from Sai Shirdi incarnation! There was a devotee of Sai Maharaj by the name Dadasaheb Khaparde, KHAPARDE, Dadasaheb Khaparde. In January 1912, while he and his wife were residing at Shirdi, all of a sudden, his son suffered from high fever. It was so high that the boy started struggling, struggling, writhing in agony, so the mother's mind became restless!

One evening when Sainath set out on His evening round, the boy's mother Mrs. Lakshmi Khaparde ran to Sainath and fell at His Feet. Wailing aloud, she narrated everything to Sai. In this difficult situation, Sainath comforted her saying, "Think that the sky is overcast! There will be a cloudburst and the sky will be cleared as before. When such is the case, why be afraid?" Saying so, He lifted His robe and after showing everyone present there, the odorous glands as large as hen's eggs that had erupted all over His body, all over His body!

And He said, "See, this is how I have to take your suffering upon Myself!" On returning home, Lakshmibhai found out that her son's fever had abated. God removes not only physical, but also mental suffering and ordains the devotees worldly as well as spiritual progress.

A long time ago, Swami once had gone to Delhi to give *darshan* to His devotees there. A huge crowd gathered at the venue where Swami was to give *darshan*. Among them were many wealthy personalities too! The chauffer of one of these persons was curious to know whose *darshan* his *Saheb*, the boss I mean, had gone for! So he parked the car and reached the venue. But the crowd was so large that He got Swami's *darshan* only from afar and it was not very clear.

As he was looking at Swami, he started thinking about the mountain of physical sufferings and financial difficulties that he was overburdened with and thought, 'If I could have got closer to this Baba, at least I would have been able to tell Him about my difficulties!" But he was destined to get *darshan* only from afar. So he had to return back without making a mention of his problems to Baba.

A few years passed. Whatever problems the chauffer had, they dissolved on their own. The mountains of difficulties disappeared. After becoming free from worry and fear, he heard from somebody about Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba and he reached Prasanthi Nilayam along with his family.

As he sat in *darshan* line, Swami selected him for interview. During interview Baba said to him, "We have met once earlier long time ago! Your prayers reached Me!"

On hearing this, he remembered the incident in Delhi where he had got Swami's darshan from afar and he had been disappointed he was unable to convey his problems

to Swami. But from what Baba told him now, he was convinced that Swami is God because although at that time he did not even get a close *darshan* or a chance to talk to Swami, He knew about his suffering. Also He had turned His gracious gaze at the chauffer and removed all his difficulties.

God alone is closest to us because He is the Indweller in everyone's heart. A devotee's earnest plea melts His heart and He takes care of every detail in the devotee's life.

Sai Ram! We will meet next!