

**PROF. ANIL KUMAR'S SAI PEARLS OF WISDOM SATSANG:  
BABA'S CONVERSATIONS WITH STUDENTS**

**"Sai Pearls of Wisdom"  
Part Nine**

**January 8th, 2003**

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

**Sai Ram!**

**With Pranams at the Lotus Feet of Bhagavan!  
Dear Brothers and Sisters,**

**SAI, THE CENTRE OF OUR TRUST  
SEPTEMBER 10TH, 2002**

So far, by Bhagavan's Grace, we have completed eight parts of "Sai Pearls of Wisdom." And now, I want to share with you certain special and important events that occurred in September 2002.

One such event was the anniversary of the Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust. A big function was organised on September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2002. It was really a big day, and many things were brought to light that deserve our attention. To think about these points will also strengthen our faith in Swami. It is with this view in mind that I want to share them with you.

The function was held on Vinayaka Chaturthi Day. You know, Vinayaka Chaturthi? It is the birthday of Vinayaka, otherwise known as Ganesha, which we celebrate during the month of September. Bhagavan gave His Discourse that morning on Lord Vinayaka and the significance behind the worship of Vinayaka. All that was said during the morning session. You probably have read about it in '*Sanathana Sarathi*'. So, it does not require any repetition, much less my comment.

But the evening function -- the Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust function -- does deserve our attention. The whole function was organised by students of Sri Sathya Sai University, who work for the Central Trust. There are 100 former students, alumni of Sri Sathya Sai University, working with us in different places. All of them organised the function, and it was a really grand celebration indeed.

The Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust has completed thirty years. So, they thought that was an appropriate reason to organise a function to commemorate the event. They displayed a big sign with the words: '*Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust in Service of Humanity*'. 'In Service of Humanity' -- that is important. That has been the theme of the Central Trust since its inception.

And there were two more beautiful, multi-coloured banners that day, one on either side of the dais. One banner carried these words: '*Sai, the Source of our Growth*'. This was a very good title indeed, because Sai is the Source of any growth. If the Central Trust has reached this level today, rendering service to all humanity in such a magnificent way - what is the Source? Sai is the Source. So, befittingly, they had hung one banner proclaiming, '*Sai, the Source of our Growth*'.

On the other side of the dais, they had placed another colourful banner displaying the words: '*Sai, the Centre of our Trust*'. It is not simply 'Central Trust'. It is not simply a charitable trust. It said, 'the Centre of our Trust', which is also meaningful. Sai should be the centre of our trust. But unfortunately, our centre of trust is altogether different. Many of us put our trust in money, positions, influence, that's all. God was never the centre of our trust, and that's why we are confused. So, these two banners alone, one on either side of the dais, conveyed an ample message to everyone who witnessed that day's function.

First, the meeting began with an M.Com student named Ramakrishna, who works for the Central Trust. He welcomed Bhagavan Baba, the devotees and the main participants of the event. Who were the chief participants? Some elders: One was Sri P. Rama Mohana Rao, Chairman of Prashanti Nilayam Township. The second distinguished guest was N. Charanjivi Rao. And the third guest of honour was Sri K. Charkravarthi, the Secretary of the Central Trust. These three represented the Central Trust -- elderly persons, experienced, distinguished personalities, who have grown with the Trust. The other participants were former students at the University, who are now working for the Central Trust.

### **"BHAGAVAN SRI SATHYA SAI BABA, POORNA AVATAR"**

The first speaker was Sri Rama Mohana Rao, Chairman of Sri Sathya Sai Township, Prashanti Nilayam. He is an 83-year-old man, very lean and tall, a simple, humble man; an old-timer with unwavering faith in Bhagavan. He was in a different department before he moved to Prashanthi Nilayam. He has been rendering service to Bhagavan for the last 40 years, without ever applying for even one day of casual leave, working for Bhagavan day-in and day-out.

He made some very interesting remarks, which will be of immense interest to all of us: "Rama was an Incarnation. Krishna was an Incarnation. Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba is a *Poorna Avatar* -- an *Avatar* Incarnation in totality, fully." That's what he said.

And the next points he mentioned were from his own experiences. It seems he was suffering from bronchitis and Bhagavan cured him. He also mentioned that his wife once fell unconscious for three days. Everybody had given up hope for her survival. Then Bhagavan gave her *vibhuthi* and brought her back to life.

He also mentioned another miracle. It seems his wife lost the gold chain Bhagavan had given her. Where she lost it, she forgot. But one day, when she was crying, Swami materialised the same chain out of the sand in front of her. This was really a matter of surprise to everybody.

He also said that the life of his daughter was saved when she had smallpox, and that she didn't even have a single scar on her face. Above all, his brother-in-law, a diabetic, was also cured at a time when the doctors said an operation was most necessary. But, without undergoing the operation, Swami cured him of his ailment. With

tears in his eyes, full of joy and gratitude to Bhagavan, he mentioned these miracles, one after another. His talk touched the hearts of everyone.

### **"I MAY BE NEW TO YOU, BUT YOU ARE NOT NEW TO ME"**

The second speaker happened to be Sri Charkravarthi, Secretary of Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust. Charkravarthi had served as a Collector earlier. He also served as Secretary of Finance, as a Commercial Tax Commissioner, and occupied several positions in the government before coming to Bhagavan.

For Bhagavan, he served as the Registrar of Sri Sathya Sai University for thirteen years, and was also associated with the Sri Sathya Sai Drinking Water Project in three important districts: Anantapur, Mahaboobnagar and Medak, in the State of Andhra Pradesh. He is a very experienced person and he made these remarks in his talk:

It seems when he first reached Prashanti Nilayam, Swami told him one point: "I may be new to you, but you are not new to Me. I have known you for several lives. I know you thoroughly." For a 'class one' officer to hear this statement -- that Bhagavan had known him since long before, though this was their first meeting -- was really a shock. That's what he said.

Thinking of his position as the Registrar of Sri Sathya Sai University, he said, "It is unbelievable how Bhagavan remembers the names of all the students, their marks in all of their subjects, their parents and their families. And how Bhagavan guided the whole University in framing the syllabus and introducing courses. This was something very amazing."

And further he added, "The Sri Sathya Sai Drinking Water Project, which was introduced in this Anantapur District, needed pipes from all over the country. One or two factories could not supply the needed pipes. The pipes had to be requisitioned from many places -- Ahmedabad, Aurangabad, Calcutta, Trichy and so on -- so many places. Also, thirty-five excavators were used in this drinking water project." That's what he said. It was quite amazing.

### **"GOD IS WITH ME, AND I AM WITH GOD"**

Then N. Charanjivi Rao also spoke that day. He said that he was so happy watching the children who had been admitted to the Primary School (many years ago) leave the University, after getting a PhD. A child joins in the first class, and comes out of the University with a PhD degree! This is really extraordinary, and really so beautiful.

Charanjivi Rao is 82 years old. He was an engineer and a builder before coming to Swami. He had his first *darshan* of Bhagavan in the year 1958 and he came to the strong conviction that Baba is God -- then, now and forever.

He said, "I always have the feeling that God is with me, and that I am with God. These two feelings, these two convictions, will make me do any amount of work for any length of time, however strenuous, difficult or tiresome it is. Because God is with me and I am with God, there will be no difficulty in accomplishing the assignments and the tasks given from time-to-time." Further, Charanjivi Rao mentioned that selfless service with the spirit of Love is absolutely necessary for every devotee.

He also recalled his experiences when Bhagavan sent him to the State of Gujarat. You must have heard about the unprecedented earthquake that happened there, resulting in the loss of thousands of lives, cattle, and a huge loss of wealth -- hundreds of crores of rupees. It was very tragic.

Swami sent Charanjivi Rao to do relief work along with a few associates. Charanjivi Rao recalled a touching scene in Gujarat where the villagers were so happy and grateful to Bhagavan, Who had sent them provisions in their hour-of-need. They were extremely happy about how Bhagavan cared for them after they had suffered the worst catastrophe that can happen to mankind.

## **THE DIVINE MISSION**

Later, former students of the University presented a unique discussion where they spoke briefly about one aspect of each of the projects undertaken by the Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust.

The first speaker was Srinivasan, an MBA graduate. He said, "This Sathya Sai Central Trust, and our association and involvement in the Central Trust, is a journey of Love." That's how he put it.

He was followed by two other young men: Satish, MSc, and Arun Kumar, B.Tech and MBA. They served as commentators or 'Masters of Ceremony' for the session that day.

Arun Kumar said, "Bhagavan's mission was very clearly stated by Bhagavan Himself in His letter to His brother long ago. His brother, Seshama Raju, doubted Him, thinking that He was under the influence of some evil spirit. Baba wrote a letter clarifying all his doubts and indicating His Mission."

I won't read the whole thing in Telugu, because you wouldn't understand it. I shall give you the English version for your benefit. The first aspect of His Mission is to protect and confer bliss on all mankind. He is determined to do this.

The second point: He has taken a vow. What is that vow? To bring back those people who have gone astray from the right path, and to set them right. This is His second vow or point of the Divine Mission.

The third point of the Divine Mission is to come to the rescue of the poor and the needy, to be a refuge to the forlorn, and to help them – a point that is dear to Him, and very much to His taste.

The fourth aspect of the Divine Mission: The greatness of this Avatar lies in coming to the rescue of, and in extending protection to, those people who sincerely worship and adore Him in a prompt and disciplined way.

The fifth aspect of the Divine Mission is this: To see that we all cultivate a devotion that is unruffled by the bumps, jumps and jolts of life. We should not be agitated. We should develop a balanced state of mind and remain in equanimity. That is the definition of devotion, according to Baba. So, these are the five aspects of the Divine Mission mentioned by Bhagavan in His letter to His brother.

## **THREE PROMISES TO EASWARAMMA**

Then Arun Kumar mentioned that Bhagavan gave three promises to His mother, Easwaramma: Easwaramma wanted a well in Prashanti Nilayam so that the villagers wouldn't have to walk miles and miles just for a pot full of water. Bhagavan fulfilled her wish. Back in those days, there was a very big well near the Ganesha Gate. The old-timers will remember it. And today, there is more than a well! There is the Water Project, bringing drinking water to the Anantapur, Mahaboobnagar and Medak Districts. And now the Sathya Sai Drinking Water Supply scheme has been extended to Madras, in the State of Tamil Nadu!

The second wish His mother had was for a primary school. She wanted an elementary school for the local villagers, because the children had to walk long distances to go to school. So Bhagavan started the first school, Easwaramma High School. Now that has grown into the Sri Sathya Sai University, which has won a great reputation as a highly prestigious, academic institution. The University Grants Commission acclaims it as 'number one'!

His mother's third wish was for a primary health care centre to attend to the minimum health requirements of the villagers. So, Swami started a primary health care centre in the ashram. Now that has also grown into the Sri Sathya Sai Super Speciality Hospital! As though this was not enough, He has also constructed a second Sri Sathya Sai Super Speciality Hospital in Bangalore.

My friends, this shows the evolutionary process. It shows the Divine progress and advancement -- how the Divine Mission is marching forward in all its grandeur and majesty, without any obstacles, because the Divine Will is inscrutable and unparalleled. The Divine Will *will* manifest, beyond a doubt. That's what we find.

## **CONFIDENCE IN THE SELF**

Next, we heard from another young man, Dr. Sainath, MSc and PhD degree-holder. He quoted Bhagavan, "Secular knowledge is necessary for our living. Spiritual knowledge is necessary for our liberation."

Dr. Sainath was also mighty happy to share with the assembled audience that the Sri Sathya Sai University is now at the top (considered to be the best) of all Indian universities.

And then he made reference to two or three students. One student, who passed his MBA, appeared for a job interview. The interview members asked him one question: "What has Baba given you?"

He said, "He has given me Self-confidence. He has given me Self-confidence, not merely a degree."

My friends, because I know that you are already well informed in Sai literature, I don't think we have to go too deeply into this subject. I think a few sentences should be enough regarding Self-confidence.

Self-confidence is not physical, not intellectual, not social, not psychological and not political. Confidence in the Self is Self-confidence. Self is the supreme; Self is

Consciousness. So, confidence in that supreme Consciousness is Self-confidence. It has nothing to do with the body, mind or intellect.

Dr. Sainath also spoke about one of our old students, who is living in France. This student was honoured and specially felicitated not only because of his academic excellence, but also because of his sterling character. We were very happy to hear about this. Sathya Sai University offers free education, making no compromise as far as standards are concerned.

Then he gave an example of Swami's way of shaping devotees. You must have heard of tyre factories? They manufacture tyres for lorries, tractors and cars, etc. Before these tyres are sent out to the market, they are put through different tests. They are tested on how well they can travel along all sorts of Indian roads. Well, I don't need to tell you about Indian roads! (*Laughter*) Also, the approach roads to some villages, well, better I not speak about them. Are they roads or pits? Are they roads or simply full of gravel? Well, it's better I not speak about them. The tyres are tested in these situations to see to how they perform. Similarly, Baba prepares us like those tyres are prepared. He shapes us to be 'ready to roll' on any hopeless road of life, so that we are prepared to meet any kind of challenge. Thus, we don't need to get depressed for any reason.

Finally he concluded by saying, "It is not Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning. It is Sri Sathya Sai Institute of *Highest Learning!*"

### **"YOUR PRAYERS MELTED MY HEART"**

Then another young man named Prashant, MBA, spoke. He narrated some of his experiences. I chose these speakers and their speeches because these experiences will be of most interest to you.

While he was doing the final year of his MBA, this young man, Prashant, had an accident. During examination time, he fractured his hand. As per the University rules, when anyone has an accident, he can call for a scribe to write on his behalf. The student can dictate and the scribe will write for him. However, the scribe cannot be a student of the same class and the same subject. (*Laughter*) The scribe can write on behalf of the person; that is the strict rule. So, this boy, with a bandage on his hand, went to Swami and requested permission to have a scribe write on his behalf at examination time.

Swami said, "Nothing doing. No! I want you to write by yourself. I don't want you to employ anybody."

So, he wrote the entire examination himself and he scored higher marks that semester than any of his earlier semesters. As he said, "That is the Will of Sai."

And when he came to Swami after the results were posted, Bhagavan said, "Your prayers melted My heart. I conferred My Grace, which made you to perform so well, so well."

The young man ended his talk by singing a song. He is a regular singer in the Mandir every evening during *bhajans*. Here is the substance of his song:

***O God, my heart melts when I sing Thy Glory.  
O God, You have lit up the Light of Wisdom in my heart with Your Love.  
O God, in my life here and hereafter, You are everything to me.***

## **58,000 CARDIOLOGY PATIENTS TREATED**

Then we had another speaker from the hospital. This student has an MSc in bioscience and an MBA also. He mentioned that 58,000 patients have been treated by the Sri Sathya Sai Super Speciality Hospital Cardiology Department so far -- 58,000! In addition, about 1,500 people have come for valve replacements. And in the Urology Department, 18,000 patients have been treated. He mentioned these statistics and then talked about some of the experiences of certain patients.

There is a village very close to Prashanti Nilayam called Bukkapatnam. A teacher from there, who is a heart patient, needed an injection. It was very costly -- 50,000 rupees!

Swami said, "Come what may, we should save the life of any man who comes to us."

And so, the doctors gave him the injection. And, after two days, he was operated upon. Some people came and asked him, "How are you, sir?" He said, "I am ready for lunch now!" (*Laughter*)

The man who should have left this world was ready for lunch! That is the grace of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba.

A Christian from Kerala came to the hospital. He was a heart patient who was to be operated upon. He had full faith that Baba and Christ are one, but his wife had no faith. It always happens that one of the two (in a couple) lacks faith in Swami. It always happens, and I am no exception!

So, Swami appeared in his wife's dream. Not the man's dream, because this man already had faith, so he did not need to dream of Baba. Thus, Baba appeared in the wife's dream and said that He was the Cosmic Christ. This dream happened in the early hours of the morning. It is a convention in India to believe that whatever we dream in the early hours of the morning is true or that it will come true. That is the tradition.

So, this lady now had total faith in Baba. Her husband was operated on and he recovered. Now both of them have been visiting Prashanti Nilayam repeatedly. They do service here in Prashanti Nilayam. They must have visited here 16 times at least. That's what he mentioned.

And in his talk, Ravi Mariwala from the hospital gave another illustration. He talked about a patient from Nepal. Before this man came here, he had sold his house and all his belongings to pay for treatment somewhere else. Yet, he was not cured there. He was not all right. So, what happened? He came to Swami because he could not afford any more treatment. After coming here, he was operated on successfully and today he is doing his job in a normal way, as he did before.

A husband and wife came for treatment from Jabalpur. The husband was suffering from heart disease, while the wife had stones in her kidneys. Both of them had health problems. They were given free treatment here, and today they are hale and healthy. That was the gist of Mariwala's talk.

**"DOES HE EVER GET TIRED?"**

Towards the end, another gentleman, Nirajacharya, BTech, MBA spoke. He said that the Sathya Sai Drinking Water Project is supplying water to ten lakhs of people in Anantapur District. Huge tanks have been built and today, even private residences have taps. Hitherto, the people were walking miles and miles to fetch water. Today they have taps in their residences.

And he made this statement: "Does Bhagavan really know what tiredness is? Does He ever get tired? Because we see Him working and working and working. We see Him giving and giving and giving. No time to stand and stare, not even a moment to rest. He goes on serving all of humanity."

The last speaker happened to be Srinivas, MSc, and another good singer. You have probably heard his songs here daily at *bhajans*. He talked about the Ganges. You must have heard of this holy river in India.

"Oh Bhagavan, you have brought the Ganges to Anantapur, which is hundreds of miles from this place. You really made it happen!"

### **"WHAT A LOVE YOU HAVE! WHAT A LOVE!"**

Swami's mission is not for publicity or for exhibition. These things are the proof of His Divinity, nothing more than that. Srinivas also mentioned an instance of a lady whose four children were in an orphanage. Her husband died, and she was left with no one.

That lady came to Srinivas and asked, "Will I get an opportunity to come close to Swami, to fulfil my only desire? I want to call Him, 'Dear Father'. He is my Father, my dear Father. I want to call Him, 'Father'. Will I get an opportunity to address Him like that?"

That was what he mentioned. Then, being a singer, he sang a beautiful song. He has a melodious voice. This is the meaning of the song that he sang:

***O Sai, our God,  
You are the personification of Love and Compassion.  
O God Sai,  
You are the refuge of the forlorn.  
O God, when there are none to love me,  
When my heart is so heavy,  
When I don't have anywhere to go,  
When everything is dark all around,  
You are my Mother, You are my Father, You are my God,  
Who extends the Divine Hand of Love to me,  
O God, my dear Sai.***

That is the meaning of the song. He sang another song, which is also meaningful:

***O God Sai,  
You have come down to this earth.  
You made this a paradise.  
You have come down to earth as an Incarnation,  
To make man himself God.  
What a Love You have!  
What a Love You have!***

There was thunderous applause all around in response to this meaningful song. I wanted to share these things with you as the first part of today's session.

## **"GOD IS WITH YOU"**

### **MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 2002**

You must have heard of a boy named Prahlada from that great epic, '*Bhagavatham*'. The boy Prahlada was a great devotee, but his father was against God. His father was a king who controlled the whole universe -- a mighty man, who wanted his son to be his successor. He sent his little boy to teachers for his studies. But his son refused to learn anything under these teachers.

Instead, Prahlada sang the glory of God. This was much to the dislike of his father, who was fed up with him. But the king didn't give up. He tried many things to change him. He had him put in fire, thrown from mountaintops and thrown into the ocean. He made elephants trample him and snakes bite him. And he also made Prahlada drink poison. But, nothing happened to the boy, because he was always singing the glory of God.

Bhagavan mentioned that episode and how powerful God is -- that nothing can happen to man, whatever it may be, under any circumstances. God will not allow His devotee to collapse or to die. He is always there behind him.

Then I said, "Swami, is God present in such a subtle form? Is God present everywhere from microcosm to macrocosm, from an atom to the whole universe?"

Baba said, "Yes. That's exactly what I mean in My discourses when I say that God is with you, in you, above you, below you and around you. That's what I mean."

Then I asked, "Swami, is there anybody with that awareness? Is there anybody with the awareness that God is everywhere? Easy to say, but are there people like that?"

Bhagavan said, "Yes, why not? There are many people."

Then He also added, "If there weren't any such people here in the world, the sun wouldn't shine; there would be no moonlight; and no wind would blow. The whole world would be different. Yes, there are people who have the awareness of Divinity pervading everything."

Then, "Swami?" I asked another question: "Swami, why aren't we able to understand this Truth? God is everywhere, all pervading everywhere. Why am I not able to understand this Truth? Why?"

Bhagavan said, "It's illusion. Illusion is responsible. What is illusion? Illusion is mistaken identity. Illusion is super-imposition. Illusion is to think a thing is real when it is non-existent. So, that which is unreal seems real due to illusion. That which is illusion makes you believe in that which is not." That's what Bhagavan said. Am I clear?

And then, "This thought of illusion will follow you like a shadow till the end of your life. Suppose one evening you find something on the path in front of you. You think it is a snake, and you try to get it away from you. By switching on the torchlight, you notice that it is not a snake at all, only a rope. When you observe carefully, you will see that it is not a snake but a rope. What happened here? There was no snake in the beginning and no

snake later. The snake did not come and the snake did not leave. It was a rope all along. It was only the man mistaking the rope for a snake. That is what illusion is.”

So, what happened? Fear when he thought it was a snake. Fearlessness when he knew it was a rope. So, what is it that came and then left? It was fear that came and fear that left. The snake did not come and the snake did not leave. There was no snake at all. It was a rope from the beginning. It was only fear that came, because of mistaken identity. This is what is called ‘illusion’.

So, to get out of this illusion, we should pray to God, *Madhava*. ‘*Ma*’ + ‘*dhava*’. ‘*Ma*’ stands for *Maya* or illusion and ‘*dhava*’ means Master. So, God is the Master of illusion. He can see to it that we are not victims of illusion. There is no point in approaching this man or that man. God will help us get out of this illusion. That’s what Bhagavan said. Do you see?

“Oh Swami, if God removes my illusion, isn’t God affected by that illusion? Why am I affected by delusion? Why isn’t God? When I touch the fire, my hand gets burnt. When You touch fire, the same thing should happen? Don’t you think so? So, when I am victimised by *Maya* or illusion, then why isn’t God?”

Baba, being all-merciful, could initially excuse my foolish question. He came out with this answer:

“It is the cat that carries the kitten with its teeth from place to place. The teeth of the cat will not kill the young kittens, but the same teeth of the cat will kill the rat immediately. They are the same teeth. In the one case, they will not kill. In the other case, they will kill. Similarly, God helps to remove your illusion, but He is not affected by the illusion.”

## **REACTION, REFLECTION AND RESOUND**

Swami also mentioned that this whole world is nothing but reaction, reflection and resound. Whatever we do, it will come back to us. That is certain. The consequences are inescapable. The results are inescapable. They will come back to us as reaction, reflection and resound.

He gave an example of an illiterate shepherd boy. The shepherd took all the sheep to a nearby mountainous area. While the sheep were grazing, this boy started singing. To his surprise, he heard another person also singing the same song he was singing. He stopped, and the other fellow also stopped. He started, and the other fellow also started. He changed to another song, and that other fellow also did the same. He was very angry. So, he returned home and complained to his mother.

“Mother, there is a stupid person there in the forest. Whatever I do, he does the same. Whatever song I sing, he sings it too. If I start a new song, he also sings it. I am very angry.”

His mother said, “There is nobody else there, my son. Don’t worry, I’ll come along with you tomorrow.”

The mother followed her son the next day. He started singing. And again, the other voice also started singing.

His mother said, "There's no other person. Because it is a valley, the sound has come back to you as a resound. It is a resound (echo), that's all. Nobody else is singing there." That's the example Bhagavan gave.

Similarly, we should know that God is with us, and that everything we are facing is nothing but reaction, reflection and resound -- nothing new, nothing new.

"Everything is the reaction, and everything is a reflection of the inner being." That's what Bhagavan said.

## **THE GREATEST ACT OF CHARITY**

One senior professor asked this question, "Swami, of all the charities, which is greatest?"

Though that question had no relevance to what was being discussed, Swami tolerated it because of the professor's age. If I were to put such a question in the midst of that *maya*, illusion – well, I know the reaction, reflection and resound that would come back to me! (*Laughter*) So, a senior man asked the question, "What is the highest, biggest act of charity?"

Swami said, "Food distribution. Feeding others is the biggest act of charity." That's what Bhagavan said.

There was still more time left before the instrumental music would start, which precedes *bhajans*. I wanted to make the best use of this time, so I asked another question: "Swami, in charity, the giver is superior and the receiver is inferior. Am I right?"

Swami said, "You are completely wrong. Why? The giver is never the greater because the giver, a rich man, may not be rich tomorrow. Money comes and goes. How can you say the giver is greater No, no! You should not think that way. In fact, in this world, no one is superior to anybody. All are equal."

## **"I KNOW ALL OF YOU -- I REMEMBER EVERYONE"**

In the meantime, Bhagavan started giving compassionate looks to a boy. I saw His eyes getting wet. He called the boy to come close and hugged him.

"What are you studying, my boy?"

That boy said, "Swami, twelfth class."

Then Swami said, "This boy came to Me in Brindavan when he was five years old. I gave him a place in our school. That day he received a telegram, informing him of the demise of his mother. Since that day, I have been taking care of this boy. He is now in the twelfth class. His brother is studying medicine. His sister is in Ananthapur."

He went on explaining about the boy. And then He said, "Do you know why I am telling you about this boy? You boys think that I am not talking to you. You boys think that I am not noticing you. But remember, I know all of you. I remember everyone. I see everyone, but I don't necessarily speak to you."

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

**Om Asato Maa Sad Gamaya  
Tamaso Maa Jyotir Gamaya  
Mrtyormaa Amrtam Gamaya**

**Om Loka Samastha Sukhino Bhavantu  
Loka Samastha Sukhino Bhavantu  
Loka Samastha Sukhino Bhavantu**

**Om Shanti Shanti Shanti**