

**Sai Pearls of Wisdom,  
Part 38-B**

**LOKA NATHA - MASTER OF THE UNIVERSE**

**Nov. 13th, 2022**

**Om Sri Sai Ram  
Prasanthi Sandesh**

Om Sri Sai Ram

Welcome to Prasanthi Sandesh, Sai Pearls of Wisdom.

Swami, who is the sole provider for this entire world looks after us even more lovingly than our closest relatives. He removes the obstacles and helps everyone cross this ocean of life.

Bhagavan Baba expects a similar attitude of service from His devotees. Bhagavan says, "You may not be able to help always but at least don't hurt anyone. Go to the needy; be one with them! Try to reduce their mental and physical agony to whatever extent you can!"

In earlier times, there were no comforts in *ashram* as compared to now. At that time, Swami used to tell *Sevadal* volunteers, "Everyone comes here for Sai. Not for you! They are undergoing lots of stress, a lot of suffering! Everyone has thousands of household problems, calamities and suffering. They just want to see Sai to their hearts' content and be peaceful and happy. So speak to them softly and lovingly as if they are your own brothers and sisters, and give them peace of mind!"

Swami always says, "My Life is My Message!" His glorious actions are proof that He is *Loka-bhandava!*

Here is a story from the times when Prasanthi Nilayam was not established. Yes! A couple who were devotees of Swami arrived for His *darshan*. They had brought their son along, yes, who had a severe stomach-ache and was suffering from dysentery. Even at night, he had to go to answer nature's call to the hills nearby. His parents had to leave for their village to attend some urgent work. So they entrusted the sick child to Swami and left.

Swami, who is the Divine parent of the entire world, is He not going to take care of His child? Yes! In those days, there were no toilets. So at night, Swami Himself used to

carry water and accompany the child. One night, when the boy felt like going to the toilet, Swami rebuked him in strong tone saying, "Don't go! Sit here!" Swami kept looking at him. After about half an hour, the child's stomach-ache and dysentery stopped and he fell asleep peacefully!

Even in the earlier incarnations, we heard about many instances when God has served His devotees. He stayed in Eknath's house and served him as Shikhandi ! Shikhandi ! He used to wash Janabai's clothes, weave Kabir's cloth. He was a charioteer of Arjuna. He even carried Draupadi's footwear. Only close relatives serve one in this manner and since Swami is *Loka-bhandava*, the Universal brother, He serves all His devotees lovingly.

While explaining in the *Gita*, why He incarnates, Bhagavan has declared, "*Paritranaya Sadhunam*" meaning thereby, "I am born from age to age to protect the good people!" In His present *Avatar*, Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba is constantly engaged in the task of protecting people.

Here is a story about how Swami protected a noble devotee of His! Sri Radhakrishna of Kuppam was an ardent devotee of Swami. He was suffering from a serious problem and whenever the problem became acute, he would suffer from unbearable stomach-ache and severe vomiting. Once when these symptoms surfaced, the vomiting and pain left him so weak that he could not even walk a single step without the support of 2 helpers. So the doctor injected him with a tranquilizer so that he could get some sleep. On seeing him fast asleep, his family members retired for the night.

After some time, when one of them woke up, he found that Radhakrishna was not in bed. They started looking for him all over and could not understand how he could have gone anywhere since he was unable to take even a single step without help. When they could not trace him in the house, they came out, yes, and started calling out to him aloud by name!

There was a response from a nearby well. They all rushed there. The well was very deep and the wall was 5 feet high. They wondered as to how he could have fallen in, yet could see him standing with both hands raised as if somebody was supporting him from below. So his son threw in a 20 feet long bamboo for support. But the well was so deep that it fell into the water. Just then, a policeman who was on night duty reached there. He brought a chair from the house, tied it to a rope and dropped it inside the well, but in vain, for that too could not reach Radhakrishna.

Finally, his son tried to go down by the steps of the well to lift him up with his hands but that effort also failed. And then suddenly, as if someone pushed him from below, Radhakrishna was thrown up and he landed exactly in the chair. He was pulled up with the rope. When he was brought out safely, everyone enquired what exactly happened.

He answered, "The agony was so unbearable that I decided to end my life and went towards the well. But I don't remember what happened later. But I recovered

consciousness with the touch of the cold water and I realized that I was standing on some sort of support.

When the family asked the policeman how he reached there, he said, "When I was patrolling in the area nearby, an old man came to me and said, 'Go immediately, Radhakrishna needs your help!' So I came here!" Although he had fallen from such a great height, he was completely unhurt. Only the metallic *Vibuthi* case in his pocket was crushed beyond recovery.

The next morning, they hired a cab and all of them left for Puttaparthi to seek Swami's *darshan*. The moment they reached Prasanthi Nilayam, they saw Swami standing on the verandah. He smiled and said, "My shoulders are still hurting! All of last night, I was carrying you over them!" They all fell at Swami's Divine Feet. What a miracle it is!

Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba is *Loka Natha*. He is the Master of this entire Universe. It is said that all the worlds are contained inside man himself. Thus Swami is the Supreme Lord of both which is visible outside and that which is contained inside.

*Jagatpathi* Baba was once asked a question, "While this present incarnation is walking this earth, Yogi Aurobindo is here too!"

In a flash, Bhagavan Baba answered, "He is *Vyakthi Natha*; Aurobindo is *Vyakthi Natha* and I am *Loka Natha*!"

The inner significance of this statement is Sri Aurobindo is the guardian of only those who worship him alone, but Swami is the guardian of all because He responds to the worship of any form of God. Therefore He is *Loka Natha*!

The person who asked this question probably did not know that the day after Swami's Advent, Sri Aurobindo had declared, "Today God has incarnated on earth!"

While describing Bhagavan Baba's glory, Swami Chinmayanada too has said, "I preach to the classes, but Swami preaches to the masses!"

The masses have now spread to the entire world. People of different faiths from all over have experienced that whichever form of God they worship, their prayers reach Bhagavan Baba.

Swami says, "I do not belong to any one place! I am not bound by any name! I have nothing which is 'yours and mine'! By whichever name you call me I respond; I am present here!"

The experience of an American devotee of Swami, Mrs. Hislop illustrates Swami is *Loka Natha*. When Mrs. Hislop was a young child, she saw a vision of an old man wearing a white robe and a white turban on the wall of the garden outside her house. In fact,

considering her tender age, her faith in her religion and Lord Jesus, there is no reason why she should get this *darshan*. But she was blessed with it!

Later when she came to Swami and saw the photograph of Shirdi Sainath, she recognized it and realized the oneness of both the incarnations, remembering the incident from her childhood. Bhagavan Baba showered His Grace on her long before she knew about Him!

In the *Markandeya Purana*, it is written there that Bhagavan Vishnu, the protector of this universe, will incarnate in South India during Kali Yuga. He will establish peace on earth. Everyone will worship Him as protector of mankind; His name will be Sathya! And it came true as we find today.

*Srishti*, *Stithi* and *Laya* are three out of the seven well known characteristics of an incarnation. *Srishti* is creation, *Stithi* is maintenance and *Laya* is ultimate dissolution.

Swami is God-Incarnate and we find all these three characteristics are within Swami's absolute control. *Stithi* or maintenance means to nurture and protect all living beings. Swami is constantly engaged in this task. In childhood, Swami always gave away food and clothes to any needy person who knocked on the door. He used to urge his family members to do the same, and several times Mother Eswamma would rebuke Him, but Little Sathya would never stir from His determination.

After the declaration of His Avatar-hood, the helpless and the seekers of wealth thronged to Swami and continued to do so even now. Swami showers His love and nurtures them and He also encourages their special talents.

Here is an unusual story to illustrate this. Along with the helpless and the seekers of wealth, seekers of knowledge and wisdom also come to Swami. A few years ago, a scholarly lady started coming to Him. She had mastery over several languages and she could translate any prose into poetry in no time! On hearing Swami's glory, she came to Him. She had *Darshan*; she was also blessed with *Pada-Sparshan* and *Sambashan*. Instantly she composed a poem on Baba and recited to Him.

Swami lovingly expressed His joy. After this incident, whenever this scholarly lady came for Swami's darshan, she would recite at least one poem to Swami, and however busy He was, He would appreciate it. This almost became a routine. Slowly a feeling of ego started developing in her mind. Once when she came for *darshan*, Swami initially ignored her. So on her own, she went up to Him and said, "Swami, recently I have composed a poem. Let me recite to You!"

On hearing this He said, "I don't have time!" and walked on. The scholarly lady followed Him. After walking a distance, Swami went to a shed where some women were cleaning grains, pounding spices. While working, they were singing *bhajans* and devotional songs. On seeing Swami, they stopped singing.

He asked them, “Why did you stop? Sing louder! God is standing right here in front of you! Will you not sing His glory?”

Immediately, the ladies started singing in a loud voice. Swami pulled up a chair, sat on it and got immersed in listening to the songs. This went on for about half an hour. The scholarly lady was watching all this from a distance. She wondered how He could listen to them for half an hour when He had told her that He had no time. Her ego was deflated and she realized that Swami had taught her a much needed lesson!

Later Swami asked the women to distribute the grains amongst themselves, gave them *Padanamaskar* and blessings and left.

So whenever a festival is being celebrated at Prasanthi Nilayam, a ‘*Narayana Seva*’ is organised and clothes are distributed. If any construction work is going on, Swami – The Sustainer of the poor, serves food to the hard-working labourers with His own hands. It is a divine sight to see that *Seva* ceremony, quite beyond description!

Sai Ram! Meet later!