

Sai Pearls of Wisdom, Part 39-B

RESURRECTION

Dec. 18th, 2022

Om Sri Sai Ram
Prasanthi Sandesh

Om Sri Sai Ram

Prasanthi Sandesh, Sai Pearls of Wisdom welcomes you.

Bhagavan Vishnu has assured Narada, *Madh Bhakta Yatra Gayanthe Tatra Tishtami Narada*” meaning, “Narada, wherever My devotees sing My glory, I am always present there!”

Swami says, “I created this world for My own joy! Mountains rose up, rivers started flowing, earth and sky, oceans and water bodies were formed. The sun, moon and deserts sprang up. Then the living beings were created. Man was given the first place and My knowledge was placed in his mind. Since the knowledge about God was already placed in the human mind man started sing His glory from that very moment. He realized that by singing God’s glory, he can please Him!”

According to the saying, ‘*Devanam Priya Stuthi*’, ‘God is praised endlessly’ and it is going to remain so forever eternally. In *Bhakti Marga*, there are nine forms of devotion. Among these, the second form is *Keerthanam* – singing God’s glory. The devotees knew that through *Keerthanam* one can win God’s grace, in order to cross this ocean of life easily. So *Keerthanam* acquired the second place in *Navavidha Bhakti* – nine forms of devotion.

Then, in order to make the devotees understand the importance of singing God’s glory, Swami established the ‘Pandari Bhajan Group’ in His childhood itself. As a young boy, little Sathya used to collect children of similar age group and teach them *bhajans* describing the glory of various names of God. This ‘Pandari Bhajan Group’ would carry cymbals in hand, wear jingles in their feet and go all over Puttaparthi singing *bhajans*. Due to this, not just in Puttaparthi alone, but in the surrounding villages also, devotion sprang up in the hearts of elders.

The group was invited to sing *bhajans* in several villages and wherever they performed, the village is protected from the spread of epidemics and people started developing faith

in the power of *Keerthanam* or singing the glory or *bhajan*. Swami has given us this easiest path of devotion – *Namasmaran*, *Namasankeerthan*. Millions of Sai devotees from all over the world are singing God's glory and enjoying the bliss derived from it.

Well, here is an incident from Mumbai which shows that wherever God's glory is sung, He is present. A couple who were devotees of Swami used to visit various places to attend Sai *bhajans*. They felt that they should have a *bhajan* at their home. So on Good Friday, since it was a holiday, they planned a *bhajan*. Everyone was invited. With great enthusiasm, they made all the arrangements for *bhajan* and *Mahaprasad* – the *Prasadam*. In the evening, as the *bhajan* started, suddenly the garland on Swami's photograph started swinging. As the *bhajan* picked up momentum, it started swinging faster! In the photograph, one could see Swami standing in the ground in front of Prasanthi Mandir.

All of a sudden, a little girl shouted, "Swami, Swami, Swami..." When her mother asked her as to what happened, she said, "See, Swami is standing in front of me!" On asking where He was, she pointed to the front and said that He had come out from the photograph on which the garland was swinging and was standing there. Everyone was wonderstruck and was standing there! There were all wonderstruck. Yes! As long as the girl could see Swami, the garland on the photograph kept swinging. When He vanished, it stopped swinging.

Sage Narada says, "When one contemplates on God's name incessantly, an unending stream of devotion pours forth and fills the devotees heart with bliss! Due to this he forgets body consciousness and completely gets immersed in divine love." What a wonderful experience it is! What a power of *Kirtan*, singing the glory of Swami is!

Adi Purusha is the one who was there before; He is present now and will be there in the future also! The Divine – He is the *Purusha*, the eternal charioteer who rides the chariot of the body.

The Bhagavad Gita, in the 4th chapter 6th Shloka clearly says, "Though I am unborn, and am of imperishable nature, and though I am the Lord of all beings, yet ruling over My own Nature, I take birth through My own *Maya*!"

The present Sri Sathya Sai Avatar is *Adi Purusha* and He has incarnated in human form by His own will. During Sri Krishnavatar, there were some people who were unable to understand His divine nature and thinking of Him as a mere human, disobeyed and disregarded Him. In this day and age too, there are the ignorant who do not understand Bhagavan Baba's divinity and they are definitely the losers.

A number of *yogis* and devotees who are seekers of knowledge and wisdom, has experienced that Sri Sathya Sai is *Adi Purusha*. When Bhagavan Baba was at Rishikesh in the *ashram* of Swami Sivananda, He saved a *yogi* from drowning in the river near Vasishtha Caves. The *yogi* had invoked God and his plea reached Bhagavan Baba. Bhagavan responded to his prayer and saved his life. This incident illustrates that

Bhagavan Baba is *Adi Purusha*. Being *Adi Purusha*, He remembers the various births of His devotees during the times of every incarnation.

This story is from the life of Shirdi Sai Avatar. Mrs. Lakshmi Ganesh Khaparde was an ardent devotee of Sainath. He specially loved her and always showered His grace upon her. When she offered food to Him as *Naivedya* – offering, He would eat it immediately. Once when Madhav Rao Deshpande, Shyama asked Him about it, He said, “In one of her earlier births, she was a fat cow who yielded lots of milk. Then for some time she went missing. Later she was born in a *Kshatriya* family, and then she was a merchant’s wife. After this, she was born in a Brahmin family. I am seeing her now after a long time. So let Me enjoy eating some food which she has cooked with so much love and let her also get the satisfaction. That is the *Adi Purusha* nature of Bhagavan Baba!

Sri Sathya Sai is the Divine Mother and is the Primal Cosmic Energy, the *Shakti* aspect of *Adi Purusha*. According to the boon conferred on Sage Bharadwaja, Lord Shiva decided to incarnate thrice during Kali Yuga. According to, Shirdi Sai was Shiva Avatar, Parthi Sai is *Shiva-Shakti* Avatar and Prema Sai will be Shakti Avatar.

Since Bhagavan Baba is *Shiva-Shakti* Incarnate, the source of all power, the *Adi Shakti* dwells in Him. He has given *darshan* to several devotees as *Adi Shakti*.

In 1940, Swami declared His Avatar-hood. Thereafter, during the Navaratri festival, the devotees used to worship Him every day, and in the evenings, they used to take Him in a procession seated in a decorated palanquin. During this time, He gave *darshan* to several devotees in the form of *Adi Shakti*. The devotees used to be blessed with *darshan* in many forms of *Devi Ma*, the Mother – like *Jagan Mohini*, *Tripura Sundari*, *Durga Matha*, *Meenakshi*, *Visalakshi*, *Kamakshi*, so on and so forth.

Later this festival changed its form and Swami blessed the lady devotees with opportunity of chanting the *Lalitha Ashtothram - Shata Namavali* and *Kumkum Archana*. From 1961, Swami started organizing ‘*Sri Veda Purusha Saptaha Jnana Yagna*.’ During this weeklong celebration, there was Veda chanting, *Athi Rudra Yaga*, *Japa Homa*, *Sri Chakra Pooja*, *Sahasra Linga Pooja*, reading of *Srimad Ramayana*, *Sri Devi Bhagavatha*.

So the ever – compassionate *Adi Shakti Roopini*, Swami started *Jnana Yagna* along with the worship of *Dasa Pooja*; *Dasa Pooja* or *Dasa Bhuja Dharini* – *Sri Durga Devi* and blessed everyone. *Dasa Bhuja* meaning the ten-armed *Sri Durga Devi*, and blessed everyone!

Since *Adi Shakti* is in the form of Divine Mother, She is full of love and compassion towards Her devotees, and instantly rushes to their aid. Here is an enlightening example. After Prasanthi Nilayam was established, in one instance, while talking to His devotees, Swami suddenly stated, twisting and turning His body and became stiff like wood. On seeing Him that way, the devotees were shocked and felt very anxious. Swami was in that condition for about 10 minutes.

Then He awakened slowly and with a soft smile, *Sai Matha* – The Mother Sai said, “A lady devotee of Mine in America was suffering from labour pains. In order to free her I had to rush there! I blessed her and the baby daughter; and returned back!” A few months later, the lady came for Swami’s *darshan* and this incident was confirmed.

On 20th October 1965, during the inaugural function of ‘*Prasanthi Vidwan Maha Sabha*’, Swami announced that He was *Adi Shakti*.

He said, “Earlier *Devi Bhavani* had blessed Raja Shivaji with a sword and ordered him to protect the Hindus. Today, this *Shiva-Shakti* is giving these Pundits, the weapons of fortitude and I order them to go into the world to carry out the mission of the revival and upliftment of *Dharma* or Righteousness.

Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba is *Shiva-Shakti* Incarnate. Before taking human form, He had given auspicious indications about His Advent. After birth and right from his childhood, He has performed many miracles. The special qualities of *Sakshatkar* – realization, *Chamatkar* – miracles and *Paropakar* – benevolence, which are present in divine incarnations, have been prominently seen in Swami from His childhood.

The seven special characteristics which can be seen only in an Avatar are prosperity, knowledge, non-attachment, glory, creation, maintenance and dissolution; and all this can be seen embodied in Bhagavan Sathya Sai Baba.

By His *Sankalpa* – the divine will, He has performed many miracles which are beyond the scope of science. But it making a dead person come alive, or being present in two places at the same time – these things are possible only through Swami’s divine will.

Here are two examples which give a glimpse of His divine qualities. Once Swami’s ardent devotee, Sri Panduranga Dixit had gone to Puttaparthi along with his family during Dasara celebration. His daughter, Jyothsna used to participate in the morning *Nagara Sankirtan* with a lot of zeal.

One morning when some of her friends came to wake her up she said, “Today I had a wonderful dream! In that dream, Swami materialized a crystal *Japa Mala* and put it around my neck.”

The same morning, Swami called the Dixit family for an interview. He materialized a crystal *Japa Mala* exactly like the same one shown in the dream, gave it to Jyothsna and said, “Your dream has come true!”

From this incident, we can clearly understand that Swami controls our lives, not only waking state but also in the dream state of our mind, and is a divine incarnation with wondrous powers!

The other example is that of Mr. Walter Cowan. He suffered from a massive heart attack and was moved to hospital in Madras immediately by his wife Elsie Cowan with the help of Mrs. Ratan Lal and others. On arrival, the doctors declared him dead. His nose and ears were blocked with cotton wool. The body was covered and was transferred to another part of the hospital.

It was the morning, 25th December 1971. Swami responded to Mrs. Cowan's prayers and went to the hospital and restored him to life. Mr. Cowan who was declared dead by the doctors was resurrected! But at that time physically, Swami was giving a discourse to a gathering of devotees somewhere else! When Mr. Cowan was found to be alive, the doctors conducted some tests on him. At that time, he was not only found to be in perfect health but there was no trace, no trace of the severe diabetes or any other illness from which he had been suffering earlier.

So Swami not only blessed him with rebirth but He awarded him a new life free from all diseases, which disappeared with the death. All this happened only due to the wondrous, miraculous power of Swami's *Sankalpa*!

Sai Ram! Meet later!