

**Sai Pearls of Wisdom,  
Part 46-A**

**SUFFERED YET REVEALED THE DIVINITY  
July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Om Sri Sai Ram  
Prasanthi Sandesh**

Om Sri Sai Ram.

Prasanthi Sandesh, Sai Pearls of Wisdom.

We have been studying the biography of Baba since His childhood times and we are knowing so many divine secrets underlying many of the events that happened during those days. Let us continue the study further.

Raju, meaning our Baba - though Raju resented any treatment, He was once again forced to go to a particular Sidh Gunananda Swami – also called Chit Ganananda Maharaj. He has two names: Sidh Gunananda Swami. He's also called Chit Ganananda Maharaj.

Well, he stays at his hermitage in Kothacheruvu. Raju and the others set out from Puttaparthi in a bullock cart, intending to cross the Bukkapatnam reservoir. Krishnama Raju, who was in the group, would say later that after going a little way, the bullock cart would go no further.

Chandramouli, the driver, complained that he was unable to see properly. He felt as if the hills around the area were falling over him. When he turned the bullock cart in the direction of Puttaparthi, not only did the cart move easily, but the driver too could see clearly and was rid of his strange feeling.

It only means Baba did not allow the cart to move nor the driver to persuade the cart (to) move further. There He revealed His Divinity. Later what happened was when someone sought Chit Ganananda Maharaj audience, he said, referring to Baba, "He is *Daivamsha Sambootha*," meaning 'embodied Divinity'. "Don't take Him anywhere. Leave Him alone!"

It was strange that humanity, as usual, would be steeped in fear of the unknown that the divine manifestations or wise counsels would not change it. So this is an instance of (the) expression of His Divinity.

Now during this period, the erudite lawyer P T Krishnamachari who had performed Raju's *Aksharabhyasam*, meaning introducing to formal education – *Aksharabhyasa*, practising writing alphabets, came from Penukonda to see Raju. His forefathers were honoured residents of Puttaparthi where he had spent his childhood.

Now having heard of the remarkably wonderful words and behaviour of that same Sathya Narayana Raju, he came to investigate for himself, perhaps at the request of Raju's parents or at the insistence of Raju Himself.

Having seen Raju, - you must have known by this time, Raju is our Baba! Having seen Raju, he pronounced his judgement: "A demon has entered this boy, an extra-ordinarily powerful one! Human exorcists cannot help, and even ordinary gods will fail."

God Narasimha, the Divine incarnation as man-lion, alone has the power to frighten the demon and force him to free Raju. Take Him to Ghatikachalam, to the big Narasimha Swami temple there, where 100 such cases have been cured by His Grace.

Venkamaraju felt a new hope in this idea knowing about Narasimha from pilgrimage to other Narasimha shrines. He was about to write down the directions for travelling. Sathya held up His hand.

"Krishnamachari Garu, this is funny – the advice you give! Who do you think is there in the Ghatikachalam temple? !! And you want these people to take Me to Me? Take Me to Me?"

This is an instance of expression of His Divinity and total identification with Narasimha Swami! This is said to this P. T. Krishnamachari – a lawyer, very esteemed person! Yes!

Soon the bouts of fits disappeared and the alternating states of trance and poetry recitation returned. The villagers thought He was in the grip of lunacy. Eswaramma was distraught with worry and despair at this baffling state of her son, yet very few could see in these things a pattern of Divine behaviour.

However, the climax took place one day. His father had been upset at the rude reply his son had given the learned Krishnamachari. Coming out of the streets, he saw a crowd flocking around Raju. How could a mere boy call Himself Narasimha, and in that process hoodwink so many people? He could not take it any more! He grabbed a stick and approached Raju, who by then had many people gathered around Him on His grandfather's veranda.

Venkamaraju, the father, pushed himself towards Raju and shouted, "Stop this stupid drama! Tell me, are you a ghost or a rogue or a mad cap? Are you a God? Are you Narasimha Swami or Narayana?"

The moment to know the truth had come! The frustration of the confused father demanded an explanation. Perhaps it is the process -- the chaff had to be winnowed

from the grain. Revelation had to surface! For young Sathya Narayana Raju – Baba, this was probably the much awaited moment to reveal the truth.

In a determined voice He said, “I am Sai Baba!”

The stick had fallen from his hands, but he went on angrily, “You may be Sai Baba or Hari Baba! It does not concern us. But you had better leave this boy and this place!”

He was apparently addressing the spirit. He addressed the evil spirit that possessed his son. “Please understand! You better leave this body!” That’s what he meant.

“No!” said Raju, with the same composure.

“I am Sai Baba! I belong to *Apasthamba Sutra*. I am of *Bharadwaja Gotra*! I have come because *Venkavadootha* and other saints prayed for My coming! I shall bless you and remove all that troubles you. Worship Me on every *Guruvara* or Thursday – the day of the *Guru*. Keep your mind and homes pure!”

Throughout the afternoon, He kept repeating to Himself ‘*Bharadwaja Gotra*,’ ‘*Apasthamba Sutra*.’ This was to become a declaration to the world.

Few could understand then what Raju had told them. Few would understand even later, only when overwhelming waves of adoration swept over the people. None could resist the angry but blessed father who on behalf of all humanity had dared to question his son, became a subdued man later. He too was overwhelmed. Before Divinity, this was a perennial gesture of human race.

At Penukonda, people had heard of Sai Baba. Gopal Rao, the Karanam village head’s foster son, brought the news that Keshavaiah, the Sub-Registrar of Penukonda, was a devotee of Sai Baba of Shirdi. He felt Keshavaiah would be able to explain Raju’s craziness and insisted that Raju be taken to him for treatment.

Accordingly, one Thursday the parents took Him to Penukonda. Keshavaiah, as a true devotee of Sai Baba of Shirdi, offered *vibuthi* to Raju.

“Can’t you see me, this Sai Baba? You have worshipped Me for years and I am here before you! Here, take this *Udi*!” So saying, Raju threw back the ash at the Sub-Registrar’s face.

Keshavaiah was taken aback by the response. Unable to comprehend Raju’s gesture, he was annoyed and pronounced that Raju was suffering from delusion and (he was) sending the family back to Puttaparthi. Keshavaiah however advised the family to install Shirdi Sai Baba’s idol and sing *bhajans*. He assured that everything would be set right. Raju’s craziness would leave.

The family obeyed and brought a Shirdi Sai Baba statue made up of clay and a picture. On their return, they put the idol and the photo of Shirdi Sai Baba in the middle of the hall and performed *bhajans* for many days.

In the period that followed, Raju cast off His mood of ill temper. He was no longer difficult and the days of gloom were gone. He determined to be congenial and co-operative, and Eswaramma and Subbamma were allowed to feed Him with delicacies in their full delight.

One day, someone from Penukonda, probably at the insistence of the lately-provoked Keshavaiah, came to Raju home. Having heard of Raju audacious claim that He was the Sai Baba of Shirdi, he threw out a challenge with a glaring eye: "We know who You are! You are just a small boy, son of Venkamaraju and Eswaramma. But if You are the same Sai Baba the Sub-Registrar worships, let us have the proof now!"

Hearing the unknown voice ringing arrogantly through the house, Eswaramma emerged from the inner apartments.

"I shall give you the proof!" said Raju unruffled.

He asked that flowers be brought to Him. The man asked Eswaramma herself to bring them and she did so with trepidation.

In a quick gesture, Raju flung them on the floor, "There, that is who I am!"

They all saw the petals arranged themselves to form the Telugu words, 'Sai Baba', 'Sai Baba!'

We will continue in the next session.