

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

**MATERIALIZATION OF IDOLS AND OBJECTS,  
STAGING A DRAMA  
July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Om Sri Sai Ram  
Prasanthi Sandesh**

Om Sri Sai Ram

Prasanthi Sandesh, Sai Pearls of Wisdom welcomes you.

In the previous episode, I remember to have told you that one of His classmates -- Swami's classmates I mean, by name Hanumantha Reddy wanted to meet Him one day, and he had to wait for a long time, and (then) Baba did not look at him. In his anger, he threw at Baba whatever came into his hand.

When the Headmaster heard of this incident, he had Reddy's food stopped in the hostel as punishment for this outrageous offense. This came to the notice of Abdul Qadir, the student leader.

Now, Swami approached the Headmaster and asked him about the incident, requesting him to continue the food. This shows His compassion, His forgiveness. The Headmaster said that the student had acted with great disrespect.

I (Abdul Qadir, the student leader) suggested (to) him, "Sir, next Thursday I will meet Raju and ask Him what is the right course of action to take? Whatever He says, we can do!"

In other words, (the) Headmaster wanted Hanumantha Reddy to seek instructions from Swami concerning the course of action to be taken for the utter disrespect.

The following Thursday, he went to Raju. By that time, there was a long queue – about 100 -120 people waiting for *darshan*. After some time, somebody came and said Raju (is) calling one by name Abdul Qadir.

Abdul Qadir is the student leader. Abdul Qadir went to Raju and He tells this. Swami told him, "You have come to talk about Hanumantha Reddy, isn't it? It was I who forced

the boy to act in that manner! It is appropriate to punish someone for wrong-doing. Tell the Headmaster to resume feeding him again!"

Though the disrespect was shown to Him, He was so compassionate as to allow the Headmaster (to continue) serving food to this boy.

Well, the next incident: The Independence of India was a live issue in everybody's mind in those days. Somebody took the courage to blurt out a strange question, "When will India get Independence?"

Baba was immediate and firm. He said, "We will celebrate Independence on the 15<sup>th</sup> of August 1947!"

Qadir told this story to many of the friends and relatives. Nobody believed it. Even he did not! But what happened was, after 4 years it came true and he would not be able to believe that Raju's words had actually come true! That day, he realized His greatness!

One day when Raju took 3 of His friends to the Shiva temple nearby, the boys witnessed a miracle that surpassed all description. As Raju entered the inner shrine, the place was filled with a glow (that) emitted from His face. The glow surrounded the deity while another beam of light returned to Raju.

Anjaneyulu, the local Salt Inspector, Excise Inspector Anjaneyulu, was very close to Swami. Of course you must have understood (that) Raju, Swami, Sathyam are the names of same Bhagavan. Raju asked him to procure a statue of Shirdi Sai Baba. Anjaneyulu replied that it was impossible to obtain in the local market.

Raju said, "Go to the Lakshmi Narayana Swamy Temple festival at Bennohobilam, BENNOHOBILAM and try!"

To his surprise, during the annual festival that took place on the 9<sup>th</sup> of May that year, he got for 8 annas 50 paisa that statue of Shirdi.

Anjaneyulu, being a Shirdi Sai Baba devotee, created a personal shrine for Sai Baba in his garden, spreading a tiger's skin on a boulder and placing the statue there for *pooja* for every Thursday. The boulder later became a landmark with the name '*Sai Baba Gondu*' meaning '*Sai Baba Rock*.'

Raju attended the bhajans at Anjaneyulu's house as it was (in a) quite quiet place and did not disturb the neighbours, being on the outskirts of the main town.

Many devotees walked the distance happily to participate in *bhajans* every Thursday. Anjaneyulu's children, the Excise Inspector's children, Narasimha Das and Subbu Ratnamma, were Raju's classmates and were very close to Him.

Many years later, Narasimha Das would narrate some wonderful events relating to Raju, whom he would then respectfully call ‘Swami’.

“Swami was introduced to the family members as (my) classmate. They developed great love towards Him. He used to visit (our) house daily and enquire (about) the well-being of his parents before going to school. Sometimes, his father used to invite Him to share food and He would very kindly oblige. Swami used to wear a white shirt and a khaki shorts to school.”

Once He asked Narasimha Das’ mother, meaning Anjaneyulu’s wife, to sew buttons on His shirt. The shirt was torn and so Anjaneyulu Garu had the good fortune of presenting new clothes to Swami.

“Swami and I used to go to school together!” said this Narasimha Das.

Narasimha Das would add, “He would call me Das, my father Anjaneyulu as ‘*Iyengar*’ and my mother ‘*Ammagaru*’. We used to call Him Sathyam. After school we used to play football with friends. He would be (the) goalkeeper. That’s a relationship not of blood but of love for Swami! On every Thursday, He would come to our house from school and after bath, wearing silk *dhoti* and upper garment, He would perform *pooja* to a shrine of Shirdi Sai Baba.

He would then sing,

***‘Manasa Bhajore Guru Charanam  
Dustara Bhava Sagara Taranam’***

Then He would sing,

***‘Baba Raava Sai Baba Raava’***

Both are composed by Him. When He sang, He would ask everyone to follow the chorus.

During the *bhajans*, He would stand in deep concentration, glowing in splendour and keep swaying His body forward and backward for 3 – 4 hours. During this time, He would advise, instruct, bless and materialize things, *Vibuthi*, pieces of cloth from the *kafni* of Sri Shirdi Sai Baba, picture, prints and fruits for the visitors. He would raise His hand, pick up things from nowhere and give them away.

Normally, He gave fruits or candies. He asked the devotees to open their mouths and would feed them eatables Himself. They had to eat the *prasadam* immediately.

Other objects that He gave were immediately to be taken home. None else were to know what He had given. They were not supposed to be told of to others. He would tell some people to go to a specific place on a different day for an interview. Afterwards, He would say, “I want to go, take *Arathi*, (and) break the coconut after *Arathi*.”

After *Arathi*, He would usually fall down. He would wait in different places in the room to break His fall, for we were not sure where He would fall!" I think I am quite clear. At the end of the *bhajan*, He used to fall and people did not know where He would fall. That is the point. Yes!

"So, father, Anjaneyulu Garu, would pick Him up, keep His head on his lap and wave a fan on Him. He would get up after 15 minutes or so, tired with His eyes red. On recovery, Swami would ask (for), "My mother", meaning Narasimha Das mother or Anjaneyulu's wife.

Swami wrote a play, '*Parijathapaharanam*', *Parijathapaharanam*' and staged it at their house. He asked his father, Anjaneyulu Garu, to arrange a stage for the performance, and Anjaneyulu Garu had maintained 8 attendants. They arranged the stage in no time.

This play was only for the family. He would wear his mother's saree – meaning Anjaneyulu's wife. Father used to dress Him up! My sister, Subba Ratnamma – meaning Anjaneyulu's daughter, played Devendrudu. Sathyam took on the role of Satyabhama and He asked me to play the part of Sri Krishna."

To be very clear, Narasimha Das played the role of Sri Krishna and Baba played the role of Satyabhama; and this Subba Ratnamma played the role of Devendra. Like that, all roles have been fixed.

The most enthralling scene in the drama is when Sri Krishna approaches Sathyabhama to appease her anger, and she kicks Him on His head with her left foot.

Sri Krishna says that He was thrilled at the touch of Satyabhama's foot! "So I was thrilled when Satyabhama's sacred foot touched my head," because Satyabhama was the role played by Swami Himself, who had to kick Krishna, and Narasimha Das was playing the role of Krishna.

"Even today, I am thrilled to recollect the touch of His foot on my head, and I am grateful to Him for blessing me in this way! Raju observed propriety, even selecting the role. I always thank Swami for having given me the role of Sri Krishna and taking up the role of Satyabhama Himself instead of doing the converse, which would have saddled me with the sin of touching the person of an *Avatar* with my foot. I may not have bowed down to His Feet, considering Him as a classmate only. But He touched my head with His Foot and I now realize how blessed I am!"

Raju treated Kameswaramma, His teacher Tammi Raju's wife, as His mother and affectionately called her 'Amma'. Kameswaramma used to sing *bhajans*. In the early days, the *bhajans* were about Lord Rama. One of the important *bhajans* was '*Sri Rama Jaya Rama*'. They were originally held in Seshama Raju's home but due to the large crowd and objections from Seshama Raju's wife, the venue was shifted to the house opposite belonging to Narayana Shastri.

Tammi Raju was one of the active participants of *bhajans* and would walk for a kilometre to 'Sai Baba Gondu' situated in the garden of Anjaneyulu. Raju's sister Venkamma would recall that Tammi Raju's home had become a home of Sai miracles. Raju would grant them visions of the gods and show them other thrilling spectacles.

On Lord Krishna's birthday, Raju asked Tammi Raju's wife, Kameswaramma to keep a *Peetam* – a pedestal for an idol, a seat for the Divine in the *pooja* room, and said that He would go over to give her *darshan* there. That day and the next, He blessed them with thrilling experiences.

Thank you. We will continue in the next session.