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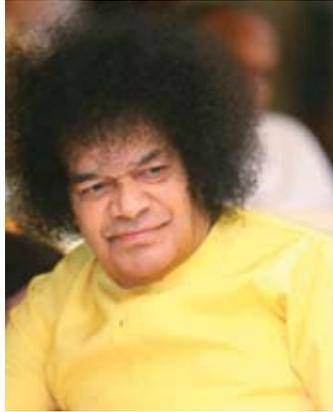
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Editor

G.L. ANAND



"The youth should always be young and energetic; they should not become prematurely old by misusing the power of their senses. We become old when we lose the power of our senses. We should preserve our energy."

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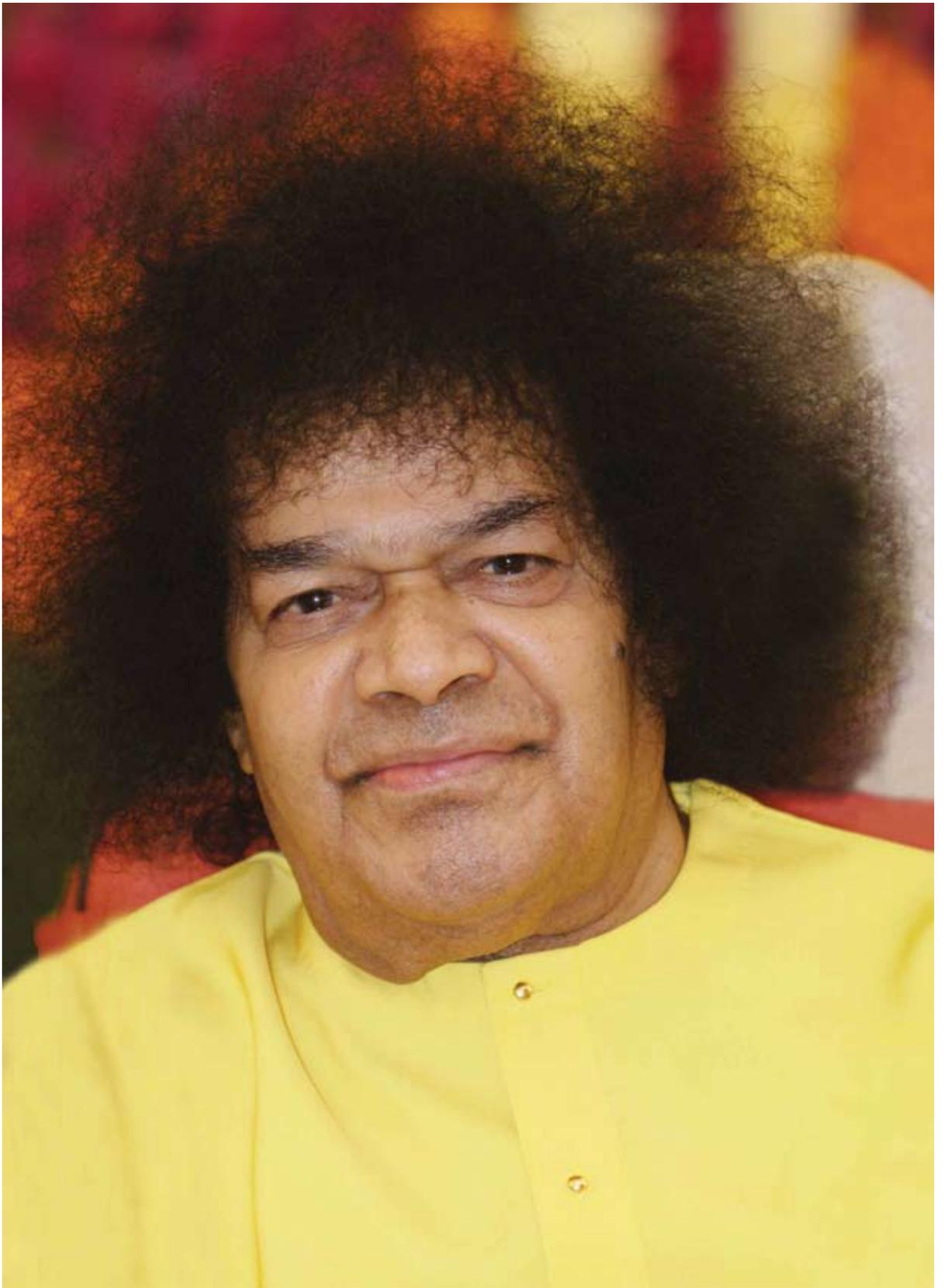
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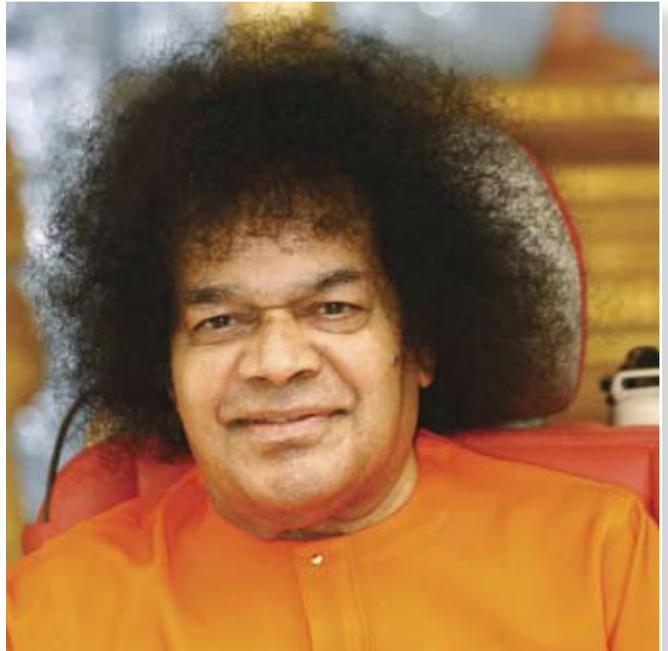


ONLY LOVE FOR GOD IS TRUE LOVE

WE SEE A LARGE NUMBER of living beings in this world. But none of them has the greatness, wisdom and discrimination of man. That is why it is said, Jantunam Nara Janma Durlabham (of all living beings, human birth is the rarest).

Develop the Power of Discrimination

Everything in this world is constituted by five elements. These five elements are present not only in man but in animals, birds, insects and trees also. But what is the use if he does not make proper use of these five elements? Today man is engaged in the pursuit of knowledge. How vast is his knowledge? It is as vast as an ocean. Similarly, man makes efforts to develop common sense. His common sense touches the height of the Himalayan mountains. In spite of all his knowledge and common sense, man's discrimination power is zero. What is good and what is bad? What should be done and what should not be done? This power of thinking is zero in man today. That is why humanness has suffered a great decline. The value of humanness depends only on discrimination power. Man may possess anything and everything, but what is the use if he has no discrimination? People keep on comparing themselves on their



The principle of love is the principle of divinity, nothing else. Accept that love which comes from God. Do not accept that love which comes from others. Your love for God is true love. Whomsoever you love other than that, it cannot be called true love. Man develops attachment to many people, but he is unable to experience true love. True love originates only from God. God is the embodiment of love. Love is God. Live in Love. You should experience only divine love, not worldly love.

own with others in many ways. But nobody is making efforts to know if his discrimination power is more or less. Today man is engaged in amassing money. But he does not use his knowledge of discrimination to know whether he needs that much money or not. Wherever we see today, we find people hankering after money.

The mind of man is very powerful. But man today has filled it with delusion. (Bhagavan showing His handkerchief) What is this? This is cloth. How does it take the form of cloth? It becomes cloth by weaving thread. But where does this thread come from? It comes from cotton. So, first cotton, second thread and third cloth. In the same way, you are not one person but three: the one you think you are, the one others think you are, the one you really are (loud applause). The thread and cloth come only from cotton. Similarly, man is constituted by five elements. Krishna declared in the Bhagavadgita: Mamaivamsho Jivaloke Jivabhuta Sanathana (the eternal Atma in all beings is a part of My Being). It means that we all are parts of the Divine. All of you are in search of God. But there is no need to search for God because you yourself are God. When you have light in your own house, where is the need to go to the houses of others in search of light?

Body Attachment is the Cause of all Delusions

You develop the feelings of I and mine due to the delusion caused by body attachment. Body is, in fact, the cause of all attachments. But, how long does this body last? It is wanted till there is life in it. When life principle goes out of it, the body is mercilessly put on fire. Then, whom does this body belong to? Therefore, you are not the body. You

First and foremost, you must have faith. You can recognise your true form only when you have faith. From faith comes peace. Truth emerges from peace. This truth is God. God does not have any separate form. God manifests from the truth within you. You undertake many spiritual practices. In spite of all practices, you are unable to experience truth. Do not waste your time in unnecessary pursuits. Time waste is life waste. First of all, you should understand that truth is your goal. You will have no obstacles when truth is on your side.

say, "This is my body, this is my hand, this is my leg, this is my mind, this is my Buddhi (intellect)." Everything is my, my, my. Then, who is that 'my'? When you say 'my leg', you are separate from your leg. Then you are you. In this way, man today is deluded by his attachment to his body and senses. But you are not the body, you are not the senses, you are not the intellect, you are you. You should realise, "I am I." That universal 'I' principle is only one. Ekam Sath Viprah Bahudha Vadanti (truth is one, but the wise refer to it by various names). The individual 'I' represents ego. When you cut this 'I', it becomes cross which is worshipped by the Christians. It means, when you give up your ego, you become your true self.

You are not an ordinary person; you are God yourself. There is no need to search for God. Wherever you see, God is there. This cloth is God, this flower is God, this table is God, everything is God. It is only due to your





Today man is engaged in the pursuit of knowledge. How vast is his knowledge? It is as vast as an ocean. Similarly, man makes efforts to develop common sense. His common sense touches the height of the Himalayan mountains. In spite of all his knowledge and common sense, man's discrimination power is zero. What is good and what is bad? What should be done and what should not be done? This power of thinking is zero in man today. That is why humanness has suffered a great decline. The value of humanness depends only on discrimination power. Man may possess anything and everything, but what is the use if he has no discrimination?

Prana, Apana, Vyana, Udana and Samana. They are the same in everyone. Therefore, you are not different from others. Those who are unaware of this spiritual principle become victims of ignorance and are subjected to delusion.

Everything in this world is reaction, reflection and resound. Where does the resound come from? Here I am speaking. Where do My words come from? They come from My heart. You think, you hear with your ears. But it is not so. All your senses are, in fact, like decorations to your body; they cannot function on their own without the life principle within you. There is no need to search for God. Have faith that God is within you. When you have faith in God, you develop love. From love emerges peace; peace gives rise to truth. This truth is God. Truth does not exist separately. There is no need to search for truth. Truth has no form. Truth is truth. Who has created peace? Peace is peace. It also has no form. Love is love. It is not anybody's creation.

ignorance that you give scope to differences like 'I' and 'you'. You are not a separate entity. I am I. I am not Sathya Sai Baba. Sathya Sai Baba is the name given to this body. I don't have any particular name. Your body is the gift of your parents. This body is endowed with Pancha Bhutas (five elements), Panchendriyas (five senses) and Pancha Pranas (five life principles). These Pancha Pranas are

Educare Manifests your Innate Values

What are the human values? They are Sathya, Dharma, Santhi, Prema and Ahimsa (truth, righteousness, peace, love and non-violence). They have no form. These formless principles are imprinted on your heart. All that we read and write corresponds to physical and worldly education. It cannot be



called education in the true sense of the term. What is true is educare. Educare means to bring out our latent values. They are immanent in our heart, but we cannot see them. They have to be manifested through self-enquiry. True Sadhana lies in recognising and manifesting peace, truth and sacrifice that are present in our heart. You undertake various spiritual practices like meditation and Japa. What do you understand by Japa? You think Japa means counting the beads of a rosary. But it is not so. All these spiritual practices are merely our imagination. They are all artificial, not real. Science teaches many things. It gives only that knowledge which we acquire through our senses. There can be no science without senses. We are leading artificial and mechanical life by acquiring this knowledge. It is not true life.

True Love Originates from God

First and foremost, you must have faith. You can recognise your true form only when you have faith. From faith comes peace. Truth emerges from peace. This truth is God. God does not have any separate form. God manifests from the truth within you. You undertake many spiritual practices. In spite of all practices, you are unable to experience truth. Do not waste your time in unnecessary pursuits. Time waste is life waste. First of all, you should understand that truth is your goal. You will have no obstacles when truth is on your side. Your senses and mind are very strong when you are young. Your intellect is also very sharp. Having endowed with such great power, why should you feel weak and helpless?

Love is not your individual property. It is universal and belongs to all. Love is in everyone. Love is there in you, Me and everyone. We attribute various names to this love and try to experience it. You should not think otherwise. Today even school children develop a tendency for artificial love.

But this is not correct. This artificial love makes man weak. This weakness can cause many diseases. Do not have such love which gives rise to diseases.

The principle of love is the principle of divinity, nothing else. Accept that love which comes from God. Do not accept that love which comes from others. Your love for God is true love. Whomsoever you love other than that, it cannot be called true love. Man develops attachment to many people, but he is unable to experience true love. True love originates only from God. God is the embodiment of love. Love is God. Live in Love. You should experience only divine love, not worldly love. I will explain to you this principle of love in detail later. We have already exceeded the time limit. Therefore, I don't want to cause inconvenience to you.

It is very easy to attain God. If you ask which is the easiest thing to attain in this world, it is only God. You can attain God in no time without undergoing any strain. It is very easy to experience love. Love is very powerful. There is nothing in this world which can surpass it. When you look at it, the word love appears to be very small. But love is as deep as an ocean and as high as a mountain. It is inexhaustible and infinite. You should realise this principle of love. Nobody can describe the principle of love because of man's limitations of circumstances and experiences.

– From Bhagavan's Inaugural Discourse in Sai Kulwant Hall, Prasanthi Nilayam on 26th July 2007 on the occasion of Sri Sathya Sai World Youth Conference.



GURU PURNIMA CELEBRATIONS

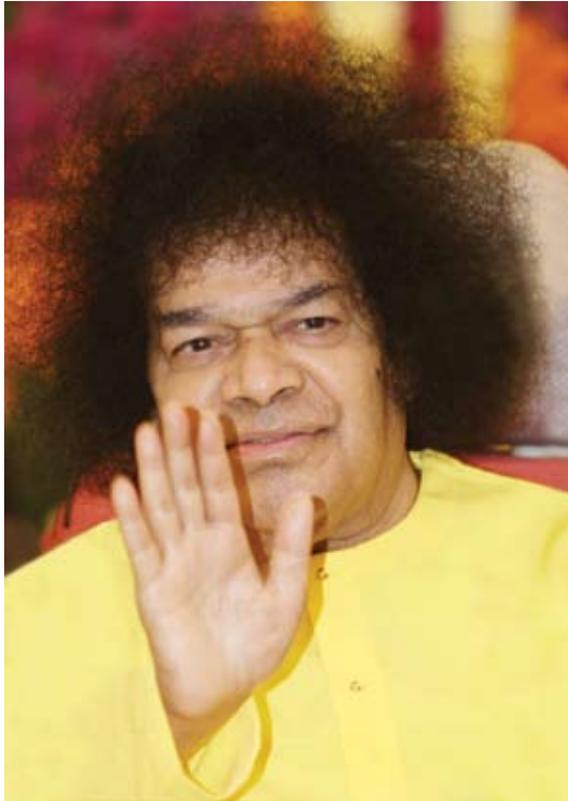
A MAMMOTH GATHERING OF devotees from all corners of the world congregated at Prasanthi Nilayam to pay tributes to their Divine Guru, Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba on the holy day of Guru Purnima. On this occasion, Sai Kulwant Hall was beautifully decorated with colourful buntings, festoons and flowers.

On the morning of 29th July 2007, Bhagavan came to Sai Kulwant Hall in a sparkling yellow robe at 7.45 a.m. in a grand procession led by richly caparisoned new elephant of Bhagavan, Veda chanting and Bhajan singing groups of students of Sri Sathya Sai University. Nadaswaram troupe of students welcomed Bhagavan with sweet notes of Nadaswaram as He entered the Hall.

A Soulful Musical Offering

After Bhagavan occupied His seat on the dais, renowned musicians Malladi Brothers of Vijayawada made their soulful musical offering to Bhagavan with sweet devotional songs. They poured out their heart to Bhagavan in the

musical compositions sung by them. Started at 8.10 a.m., this soul-elevating devotional session came to an end at 8.45 a.m. After this, Bhagavan came to the verandah and cut the cake placed there and lighted candles on it. The morning programme came to a close with Arati to Bhagavan at 9.05 a.m.



Bhagavan showered His blessings on the huge congregation of devotees in Sai Kulwant Hall on the holy festival of Guru Purnima on 29th July 2007.

On the afternoon of 29th July 2007, Bhagavan blessed the huge congregation of devotees with His Divine Darshan when He came to Sai Kulwant Hall in His yellow robe again at 4.10 p.m.

Latin American Cultural Programme

After Bhagavan was seated on the dais, the youth of Latin American countries, viz., Mexico, Brazil and Venezuela began their cultural programme. This colourful programme comprised two native American creation scenes which showcased their indigenous culture. Besides, there were folk dances from Venezuela and Mexico, which the dancers performed in their colourful costumes. The programme ended



The youth of Mexico, Brazil and Venezuela showcased their indigenous culture through colourful dances in Sai Kulwant Hall on 29th July 2007.

with a Mexican traditional dance which was performed by about 20 ladies with pineapples on their shoulders. At the end of these dances, the entire group came in front of the dais and delighted one and all with two sweet songs. The programme which started at 4.15 p.m. came to a close at 4.50 p.m. Bhagavan blessed the entire group and gave them the coveted opportunity of group photos with Him.

International Music Choir

After this, International Music Choir paid their musical tribute to Bhagavan. A fine fusion of cultures was witnessed when 170 youth from 40 countries of the world presented devotional songs in six different languages. Beginning with the traditional prayer to Lord Ganesh in Sanskrit, the choir delighted one and all when they paid tributes to their Divine Guru by singing the Guru Stotra "Tasmai Sri Guruve Namah" (salutations to the Guru). This was followed by devotional songs which were again sung by the entire group, both ladies and gents. This



A fine fusion of cultures was witnessed when 170 youth from 40 countries of the world presented devotional songs in six different languages to offer their musical tribute to Bhagavan on the sacred day of Guru Purnima on 29th July 2007.

delightful musical tribute to Bhagavan came to a happy conclusion at 5.15 p.m.

Musical Tributes to the Guru

After the international choir, rich musical tributes were paid to Bhagavan when Malladi Brothers sang devotional songs in Carnatic classical style in praise of Guru. They also enraptured one and all with their fine rendition of Thyagaraja Kritis (compositions). At the end of their concert, Bhagavan showered His blessings on the artistes, posed for photographs with them and honoured them with shawls. Bhagavan also gave shawls to the musicians who provided instrumental support to them.

Guru Purnima celebrations at Prasanthi Nilayam came to a happy conclusion at 5.55 p.m. with these rich musical tributes to Bhagavan. Arati was offered to Bhagavan in the end and Prasadam blessed by Bhagavan was distributed to all.



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Convener



A section of delegates in Sai Kulwant Hall

SRI SATHYA SAI WORLD YOUTH CONFERENCE

A GRAND SPECTACLE OF WORLD unity was witnessed when over 6,000 youth from 86 countries of the world congregated at Prasanthi Nilayam to participate in Sri Sathya Sai World Youth Conference held on 26th, 27th and 28th July 2007 in the Divine Presence of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. This conference was unique in that Bhagavan blessed the youth of Sri Sathya Sai University to participate and attend the conference as delegates. The theme of the conference was “Ideal Sai Youth: Messengers of Sai Love” and the five human values of truth, righteousness, peace, love and non-violence. The venue of the conference was Sai Kulwant Hall which was befittingly decorated with colourful festoons, bunting, flowers and banners with Bhagavan’s main teachings. The highlights of the conference were Inaugural and Valedictory Addresses of

Bhagavan, a grand rally of the youth, inspiring talks by eminent speakers, four workshops on the theme of the conference, a variety of cultural and music programmes and a friendly basketball match between India and Sri Lanka. An exhibition was also set up on this occasion which depicted the story of transformation of the youth worldwide and explained the modes of transformation.

Grand Youth Rally

On the morning of 26th July 2007, Bhagavan came to Sai Kulwant Hall at 8.00 a.m. amidst Veda chanting by the students of Sri Sathya Sai University. Soon after Bhagavan’s arrival, the procession of the youth started entering the Hall from the main gate. At the head of the procession was a Veda chanting group of delegates with Poornakumbham who offered traditional welcome to Bhagavan. This group was followed by the brass band of Sri Sathya



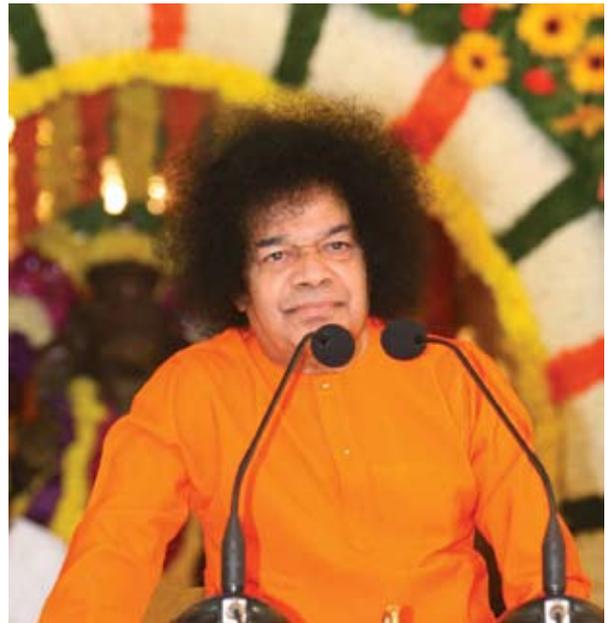
Delegates from 86 countries of the world participated in the grand rally in Sai Kulwant Hall on the inaugural day of Sri Sathya Sai World Youth Conference.

Sai University. After this came the contingents of 86 countries, carrying the name plates and national flags of their countries. All of them came to the dais and offered their salutations to Bhagavan who showered His blessings on them. Many of the groups were chanting Vedic hymns and singing Bhajans. The contingents of gents were followed by those of ladies. At the head of the ladies procession also there was a Veda chanting group with Poornakumbham and lighted candles. This was followed by the brass band of Anantapur Campus and the bagpipers of Sri Sathya Sai Primary School, Prasanthi Nilayam. The groups of delegates carrying the name plates of their countries came before the dais, bowed in reverence to Bhagavan and occupied their seats in the Hall. This grand rally which started at 8.00 a.m. came to a close at 8.55 a.m.

Inaugural Session of the Conference

Bhagavan inaugurated the conference by lighting the sacred lamp at 9.00 a.m. on 26th July 2007. The proceedings of the conference started with the welcome address by Dr. Michael Goldstein, Chairman, Sri Sathya Sai

World Foundation. Welcoming the delegates to the conference, the distinguished speaker called upon the youth to emulate the shining example of Bhagavan who is demonstrating to the world the ideals of love, sacrifice and selfless service. He exhorted the youth to achieve the goal of God-realisation by seeing God in all and by following the path of Sathya, Dharma, Santhi, Prema and Ahimsa as taught by Bhagavan. Ideal Sai Youth, he added, were the messengers of God who should not only work for their individual transformation but should also transform the world by making man



Bhagavan blessed the delegates with an inspiring Inaugural Discourse on the morning of 26th July 2007.

realise his inherent divinity. The next speaker was Sri Shitu Chudasama, International Youth Coordinator of Sri Sathya Sai Organisation. In his introductory speech, Sri Chudasama reminded the youth that this was a wonderful opportunity for them to understand the

fundamental truths of human life, namely, who am I, where have I come from, where am I to go? when Bhagavan Himself was there to teach them. It was not merely a conference but a journey of self-transformation, observed Sri Chudasama. Referring to the Sadhana that the delegates had been performing for the last six months, the speaker remarked that Sai would be within their reach if they persisted with Sadhana in their life. At the end of his speech, Bhagavan blessed Sri Chudasama and materialised a glittering gold chain for him. Thereafter, Bhagavan blessed the delegates with His Inaugural Discourse in which He exhorted them to follow the path of truth, love and self-sacrifice to achieve the goal of human life. (Full text of Bhagavan's Discourse has been given elsewhere in this issue.) The proceedings of the inaugural session of the conference came to a close with Arati to Bhagavan at 10.30 a.m. Prasadam was distributed to all in the end.

Second Day's Proceedings

The proceedings of the conference on 27th July 2007 began at 9.00 a.m. after the Divine Darshan of Bhagavan in Sai Kulwant Hall. Three speakers addressed the gathering in the morning session. The first speaker was Sri Shashank Shah, Research Scholar, Sri Sathya Sai University. Referring to the teachings of Bhagavan, Sri Shah observed that the values of Sathya, Dharma, Santhi, Prema, Ahimsa were the foundation of man's life. He exhorted the youth to put them into practice in their day-to-day life in thought, word and deed. The second speaker of the morning session was Ms. Alma Berra of Argentina who narrated her personal experiences of Bhagavan's divinity and urged the youth to have faith in God which would give them strength to face the challenges of life with self-confidence.

The last speaker of the morning session was Sri Jeremy Hoffer of the U.S.A. who exhorted the youth to avoid bad company and have always the company of God. Narrating his personal experiences, the speaker counselled the youth to love Sai with all their heart and soul and earn His grace. He concluded his talk by singing a Telugu song of Bhagavan which earned him a loud applause of the audience. Bhagavan showered His blessings on him at the conclusion of his speech and also materialised a gold chain for him. After a brief session of Bhajans, the morning session came to a close at 10.45 a.m. with Arati to Bhagavan. Prasadam was distributed to the entire assembly in the end.

In the afternoon session of 27th July, the delegates were addressed by three speakers. The first speaker was Sri Ivan Bavcevic of Croatia who dwelt on the value of surrender in man's journey to spirituality. The first step to surrender, he said, was to develop faith that whatever we got in life was perfectly made by God for us and it was for our highest well-being. He counselled the youth to live a divine life from this very moment, put the teachings of Bhagavan into practice and make this world a paradise on earth. The second speaker of the afternoon session was Dr. Shaun Setty of the U.S.A. who elaborated on the teachings of Bhagavan and urged the youth to realise that the entire mankind was one since the same Atma was present in all. Emphasizing the importance of practice on the path of spirituality, Dr. Setty observed that we should try to understand the deep meaning of Bhagavan's words and put His teachings into practice. The last speaker of the session was Smt. Chethana Raju, Managing Trustee of Easwaramma Women's Welfare Trust, Prasanthi Nilayam. Smt. Raju observed that man should attain purity



of heart to understand deep divine mysteries. She referred to the dialogue between Varuna and his son Bhrigu in Taittiriya Upanishad and observed that Brahman was the centre of everything in this universe and man should make efforts to realise this unity.

Four speakers shared their thoughts with the delegates in the morning session of 28th July 2007. The first speaker was Sri Dimitry Udovikin of Russia who observed that coming to Prasanthi Nilayam gave the delegates the practical experience of unity of mankind since delegates from many regions and religions of the world had become united at Prasanthi Nilayam by the divine love of Bhagavan. He exhorted the delegates to follow the path of selfless service shown by Bhagavan and spread His teachings in the world, remembering Him all the time wherever they were. The next speaker was Smt. Rita Chudasama of the U.K. who observed that people today in all parts of the world were fortunate that they were witnessing the omnipresence, omnipotence and omniscience of God with their eyes. The speaker narrated her personal experiences of Bhagavan's Divinity and said that He caters to the needs of all His devotees who should make themselves worthy of His grace. The third speaker was Sri Sanjay Mahalingam, Research Scholar, Sri Sathya Sai University, Prasanthi Nilayam. Sri Mahalingam said that world today needed men and women of purity. Reminding the delegates of their responsibility, the speaker observed that the yardstick of this spiritual organisation was that all its members should be completely illumined from within. The last speaker of the session Smt. Phyllis Krystal observed that Sadhana should begin from one's own family and all should endeavour to bring harmony in the family by caring for each other. Thereafter, we should serve the big Sai

family so that Bhagavan's love reaches one and all.

Valedictory Function

The valedictory function of the conference was held on the afternoon of 28th July 2007. At the outset, International Youth Coordinator of Sri Sathya Sai Organisation, Sri Shitu Chudasama expressed gratitude to Bhagavan for the wonderful opportunity granted by Him to the youth from different parts of the world. He also presented a summary of the proceedings of the four workshops held during these three days. Sri Chudasama observed that devotion was not enough; the need of the hour was transformation which had four facets: love for God, fear of sin, selfless service and morality in life. The second speaker was Dr. Narendra Reddy, Director, Sri Sathya Sai World Foundation who expressed deep gratitude to Bhagavan for providing loving guidance, delicious food and affectionate care to the delegates. Dr. Reddy also thanked the Karnataka youth and students and staff of Sri Sathya Sai University for their valuable help in making the conference a success. Dr. Reddy called upon the delegates to make the best use of this opportunity, love God with all their heart and follow His command to receive His grace. The last speaker of the session was Dr. Michael Goldstein, Chairman, Sri Sathya Sai World Foundation. Dr. Goldstein called upon the delegates to realise the purpose of being at Prasanthi Nilayam and accelerate their Godward movement. He exhorted them to fill their life with divine love of Bhagavan and illumine the world with the message of Sai love. After the speech of Dr. Goldstein, Bhagavan blessed the delegates with His Valedictory Discourse. Explaining the origin of creation, Bhagavan said that the entire universe emerged from truth which was embodied in God. (Bhagavan

here materialised a Hiranyagarbha Linga and asked): “Who else can manifest such pure consciousness?” Expressing His happiness on the gathering of such a large number of youth from all parts of the world, Bhagavan said, “I am extremely happy to see you all here. This is your good fortune.” In conclusion, Bhagavan showered His blessings on all the delegates and exhorted them to lead a happy and peaceful life.

Workshops on “Ideal Sai Youth: Messengers of Sai Love”

Four workshops were held during the course of the conference in which all the delegates took part. A galaxy of learned speakers addressed the delegates on various aspects of Sadhana and spirituality which could bring about transformation in the life of the youth. These illuminating talks were delivered by the following speakers: Smt. Mallika Srinivasan, Sri Sanjay Sahnii, Dr. Samuel Sandweiss, Sri Narasimha Murthy, Sri Leonardo Gutter, Sri G.S. Srirangarajan, Smt. Phyllis Krystal, Dr. William Harvey, Prof. Anil Kumar, Dr. Geeta Reddy.

Peace through Basketball Friendly Match

On the occasion of Sri Sathya Sai World Youth Conference, a friendly basketball match was played between India and Sri Lanka in Sri Sathya Sai International Centre for Sports on the afternoon of 26th July 2007. All the delegates to the conference were invited to witness this match. Bhagavan arrived at the stadium at 4.25 p.m. and blessed both the teams. The Secretary General of FIBA, Asia, Dato Yeoh Choo Hosk introduced the players, coaches and officials of both the sides to Bhagavan. The match began at 4.45 p.m. What followed this was a thrilling display of speed and skill. Though both the teams were poised



The delegates to Sri Sathya Sai World Youth Conference witnessing a friendly basketball match between India and Sri Lanka in Sri Sathya Sai International Centre for Sports on 26th July 2007.

equally, India maintained a slight lead from the very beginning and the score at the end of the first half was 26-23 in favour of India. India maintained its lead in the second half also and clinched the match 46-40 at 5.10 p.m. During the breaks, a dance troupe entertained the spectators with their exhilarating dance.

European Music Programme

An enthralling music concert was presented by the overseas delegates from 21 countries at the end of the Valedictory Function of Sri Sathya Sai World Youth Conference on the



Delegates from 21 countries presented European Music Programme in six languages in Sai Kulwant Hall on the afternoon of 28th July 2007.

afternoon of 28th July 2007, marking its befitting grand finale. The programme entitled "European Music Programme" comprised nine devotional songs in German, Russian, Polish, Latvian, Italian and Czech languages. At the end of the programme, Bhagavan blessed the artistes and distributed watches to them. The proceedings of the conference came to a happy conclusion with Arati to Bhagavan at 6.15 p.m.

Love All, Serve All: A Musical Presentation

The youth of Italy, Spain, Croatia and Slovenia made a soulful musical presentation entitled "Love All, Serve All" on the afternoon of



A group of 45 youth of Italy, Spain, Croatia and Slovenia presented an excellent devotional music programme entitled "Love All, Serve All" in Sai Kulwant Hall on 30th July 2007.

30th July 2007. The programme began at 3.45 p.m. after the Divine Darshan of Bhagavan in Sai Kulwant Hall. A group of 45 singers poured out their hearts to Bhagavan in their sweet compositions. At the end of the programme, Bhagavan showered His blessings on the singers. He also materialised a gold chain for a lady singer.

Sadhana: A Step-by-Step Journey – A Pictorial Exhibition

On the occasion of Sri Sathya Sai World Youth Conference 2007, an exhibition was set up in the Exhibition Hall at Prasanthi Nilayam from 26th to 30th July 2007. It outlined the modes of transformation and portrayed the story of transformation of the youth worldwide through the path of love and selfless service taught and exemplified by Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. There were 9 kiosks exhibiting the Sadhana programme (nine spiritual disciplines) adopted by the international Youth of all the continents since Sivarathri 2007.

It was noteworthy that the youth from all parts of the world participated in preparing the exhibits for this exhibition and worked unitedly for its success. Not only was the theme of the exhibition well explained but the presentation was also very beautiful. Naturally, it attracted a large number of visitors.

Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Medical Sciences,

EPIP Area, Whitefield, Bangalore, Pin - 500 066.

E-mail: directorwfd@sssihms.org.in Phone: 080-28411500 ext 415, Fax: 080-28411502

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PERFORM ACTIONS BEFITTING YOUR HUMAN BIRTH

*Man is born out of Karma,
He lives and dies in Karma.
Karma is eternal and everlasting,
It has neither a beginning nor an end.*

(Telugu Poem)

KARMA CONNOTES ACTIONS done by us. Karma is the cause of man's birth, his life on earth and his ultimate death. Man, in fact, has no existence without Karma as Karma is the very basis of his life. Rituals like Yajnas, Yagas, etc, are also related to Karma. Welfare and well-being of the world is not possible without performing Karma. Therefore, every man should perform Karma as part of his duty recognising the divinity immanent in Karma.

Perform only Appropriate Actions

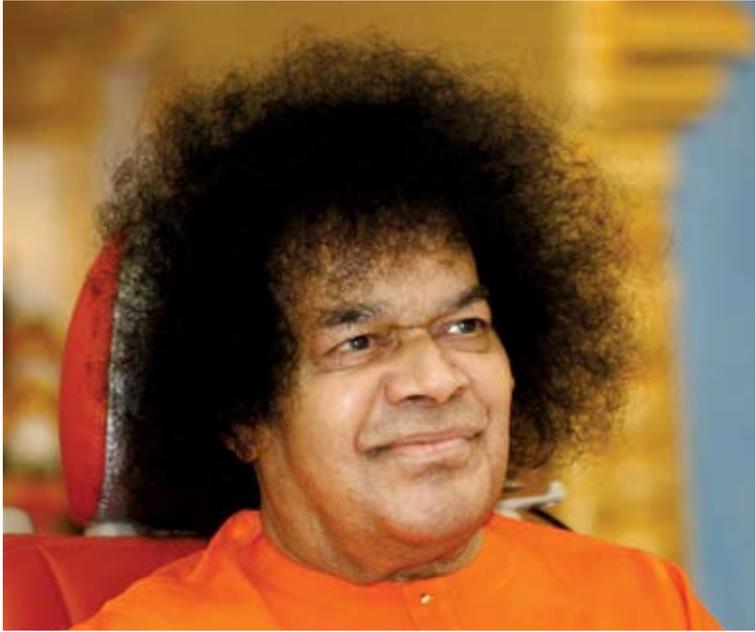
As is the action, so is the result. One has to reap the consequences of one's actions, whosoever one may be. Karma is not limited merely to the actions done by the various limbs of the body. Our inhalation and exhalation is also Karma. Not only that, eating, drinking, walking, sitting, etc., also come under the category of Karma. Nobody can say for sure what will be the result of a particular action. We should question ourselves before performing any action, "I am a human being; is the action that I am going to perform befitting for a human being or not?" Your actions cannot give you the desired result if you act without taking this question into consideration.

Embodiments of Love!

For a human being, his Karma is verily his God. God is not somewhere distant from him; He is very much

present in his actions in subtle form. From microcosm to macrocosm, God is present everywhere in the form of Karma. The Vedas declare: Anoraneeyan Mahato Maheeyan (Brahman is subtler than the subtlest and vaster than the vastest). Every human being keeps performing actions everyday. However, he should perform all actions to please God. Sarva Karma Bhagavad Preetyartham

It is the duty of man to speak truth and lead his life with love, adhering to the canons of Dharma. A man without truth, righteousness, peace, kindness and love is like a living corpse. Man should consider these values as his very life principle. Never tell a lie even jokingly. Never make fun of anybody. Criticising others is a great sin. There is no greater sin than criticising others. Therefore, we should not criticise anybody whosoever he may be. Love all. Love is God. God is Love. Love is life.



These days, women find it hard even to listen to the words of their husbands. Draupadi had not one but five husbands; yet she conscientiously obeyed the commands of all of them and served them diligently. She was satisfied with whatever was provided to her. Such women are also there who would pester their husband for a Sari of two hundred rupees even though he earned a salary of one hundred rupees. But Draupadi was not such a woman. She found satisfaction in whatever she got. Draupadi earned great fame as a woman of unmatched chastity due to her these qualities.

understanding this divine principle. Man should not venture into those matters which he cannot understand; he should involve himself in an action only after properly understanding its pros and cons. But man today ventures into everything without proper understanding. Thereby, he exposes himself to so many troubles. Both men and women should perform actions which are appropriate for them.

In childhood, one develops absorbing interest in play and enjoys the company of one's playmates. In youth and middle age, one is engrossed in cultivating worldly relations and earning money. In old age, one repents for not having this and that; one still craves for money without contemplating on God even at that ripe age. In this way, man wastes his precious human birth. (Telugu Poem)

From birth to death, man should lead his life befitting his human birth. Humanness is suffused with divinity. Today you are a student; afterwards you will become a householder. You spend your childhood and youth in playing, merry making and earning money. In old age, you lose your peace by worrying about all that you lack, saying, "I do not have this, I do not have that." This is not correct. What is the use of wasting your life in this manner without thinking of God? From this very day,

(do all actions to please God). If we perform actions with these feelings, then our actions will not bind us. Easwara Sarva Bhutanam (God is the indweller of all beings). God is present in every living being, be it a snake, a scorpion or man. The actions of every being should be appropriate to the form it is endowed with. Do not debase your mind with unnecessary thoughts without

make your thinking appropriate and lead your life on the right path. Vinay (youth leader from Karnataka) has prayed for guidance regarding the duty of the youth. The youth should always be young and energetic; they should not become prematurely old by misusing the power of their senses. We become old when we lose the power of our senses. We should preserve our



energy.

This body is now 81 years old. Do I look like an 81-year-old man? This body has no ailment whatsoever. My hip bone was fractured when a boy accidentally fell on Me. Doctors performed the operation. Though I walk normally in My house, the doctors advised Me not to walk alone when I move amidst devotees outside. They told Me to hold the hand of someone while doing so. Acting upon the advice of the doctors, I hold the hand of boys for the satisfaction of doctors. However, I keep telling the boys not to hold My hand. Whatever I do, there is a subtle meaning in it. But none can understand My Divine principle. So far I have never suffered from any ailment like fever, headache, bad cold, etc. I am always healthy. Not only healthy, I am also wealthy. I observe everything minutely. Some Ritwiks sit here and talk. I keep hearing all that. For Me, everything is equal whether it is good or bad. I do not see bad in anything. I consider everything good. You consume tasty dishes today, but by tomorrow all this is changed. The same thing may appear good as well as bad due to difference of time. Therefore, we should take proper caution in all matters and conduct ourselves judiciously after understanding everything thoroughly.

Do not Ignore the Words of your Parents

In the Mahabharata war, Duryodhana and Dussasana could not attain victory over the Pandavas even after doing their utmost. What was the reason? The reason was that Krishna was on the side of the Pandavas. During the course of the battle, Dronacharya set up Padmavyuha (a lotus-shaped military formation) and challenged Abhimanyu to come to the battlefield when he was alone in the house. His father Arjuna and uncle Krishna were engaged in the battle elsewhere. Abhimanyu went to his mother Subhadra and sought her permission to enter Padmavyuha. Then his mother advised him thus: "Dear son! It is not easy to pierce Padmavyuha. Moreover, this is not the auspicious time to enter it. Therefore, defer the idea of entering it."

The Kaurava army has been arrayed in the

shape of Padmavyuha by Dronacharya who has the power to subdue the pride of the mightiest of enemies at will. It is not easy to withstand the onslaught of Bhishma. Moreover, your wife is in the family way. We do not know whether the time is favourable to us or not. Your father and uncle Krishna are not here to help you. Hence, give up your resolve to enter the battlefield.

(Telugu Poem)

Abhimanyu was upset on hearing the words of his mother and said to her: "I am the son of the mighty warrior Arjuna. Not responding to the challenge thrown by the enemy for a fight is not the Dharma of a Kshatriya. If I do not go to fight the enemy, it will bring disrepute to my father. Even if I lose my life in the battlefield, I must accept this challenge to fight the enemy."

At a time when I am about to pounce fearlessly on the Kaurava army like a lion and annihilate them with the rain of powerful arrows, is it proper on your part to dissuade me from going to the battlefield, instead of conferring your blessings on me and saying a few words of encouragement?

(Telugu Poem)

When Abhimanyu expressed his resolve like this, his mother had no option but to permit him and bless him to go to the battlefield.

May you be the recipient of the same blessings which mother Gauri conferred on her son Kumara when he went out for battle against Tarakasura, the blessings Bhargavi bestowed on her son at the time of slaying of Shambarasura, the blessings showered by Vinata on her son when he set out on the sacred mission of getting his mother freed from servitude, the blessings mother Kausalya conferred on her son Rama when He went to forest to safeguard the Yajna of Viswamitra, and above all the most powerful and divine blessings of Rama be with you and protect you in the battlefield.

(Telugu Poem)

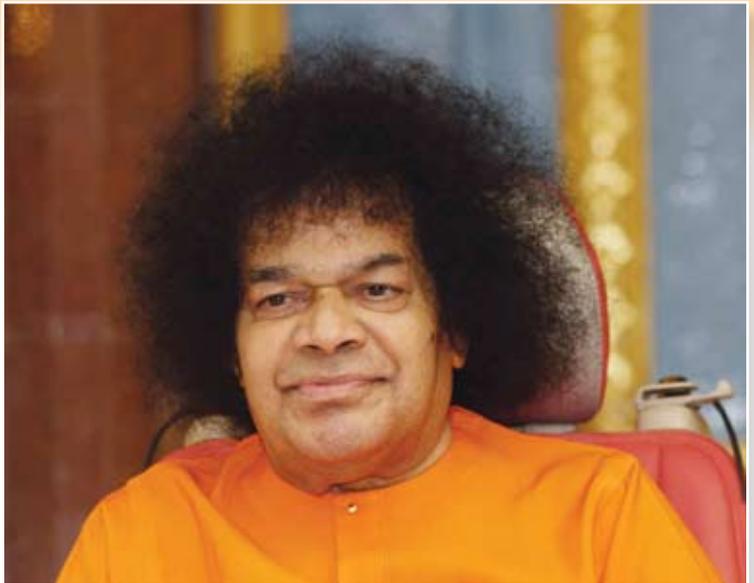
Blessing her son with these words, Subhadra sent him to the battlefield. After receiving the



blessings of his mother, Abhimanyu went to the battlefield and entered the Padmavyuha. He knew only the method of entering it, but did not know how to come out of it. There was a reason for this. Once when Subhadra was in the family way, Arjuna narrated to her the description of Padmavyuha. Though she kept responding to the narration of Arjuna by saying 'yes, yes', it was Abhimanyu in her womb who was listening to the entire description. At that time, Krishna came there and told Arjuna, "Arjuna! Do you think it is Subhadra who is listening to what you are telling? No, no. It is the baby in her womb who is actually listening to all this. Therefore, do not speak now about Padmavyuha." Arjuna had already completed the description of entering the Padmavyuha till then. That is why Abhimanyu was able to enter the Padmavyuha, but lost his life since he did not know how to come out of it. Therefore, we should never ignore the words of our parents. We should listen carefully to the counsel of our elders, think over it and put it into practice in our life. In this way, all the actions performed by the various limbs of our body should reflect the essence of the good words heard by us. The Vedas say, Matru Devo Bhava, Pitru Devo Bhava (revere your mother and father as God). Therefore, we should never disregard the words of our parents. We should obey their orders on all subjects and in all situations.

Relish the Taste of God's Tests

Meanwhile, Krishna and Arjuna returned from the battlefield. Noticing the absence of Abhimanyu in the house at that time, Arjuna became worried and started thinking with great concern, "As soon



For a human being, his Karma is verily his God. God is not somewhere distant from him; He is very much present in his actions in subtle form. From microcosm to macrocosm, God is present everywhere in the form of Karma. The Vedas declare: Anoraneeyan Mahato Maheeyan (Brahman is subtler than the subtlest and vaster than the vastest). Every human being keeps performing actions everyday. However, he should perform all actions to please God. Sarva Karma Bhagavad Preetartham (do all actions to please God). If we perform actions with these feelings, then our actions will not bind us.

as I came to the house, he used to embrace me. But today my dear son has not come to receive me." Arjuna was drowned in sorrow when he heard that Abhimanyu was killed by the Kauravas after he entered the Padmavyuha. Consoling Arjuna, Krishna said to him, "You are undergoing all sorts of suffering due to the evil designs of the Kauravas. The death of your son now is also the consequence of their deception. Whatever was destined to happen has happened. Do not



give room to weakness on this account.” Blaming Krishna for the death of his son, Arjuna became very angry and complained to Krishna, “Krishna! You did not forewarn me about the death of my son. You have also deceived me. You only are responsible for all this.” Krishna did not become angry on hearing these words of Arjuna. Krishna was ever smiling in all situations since this was His nature.

After some months, Abhimanyu’s wife Uttara gave birth to a child. But the child was born dead as Aswatthama had killed the baby in the womb by using Brahmastra (a weapon of highest potency). Earlier, Aswatthama had killed Upapandavas (sons of Draupadi). Subhadra’s son Abhimanyu was killed when he was entrapped in Padmavyuha. Now the child of Uttara was born dead. All this made the Pandavas very worried since there was none left to continue their lineage. With melancholy faces, they sat together in a room, blaming Krishna for all their miseries. At that time, Krishna entered the room with a beautiful smile on His face. He sat amidst them and said, “Oh Pandavas! Reacting in haste is not good. Be calm and quiet.” Saying this, Krishna asked Draupadi to bring the still-born child. Draupadi put the child in a large tray and brought it before Krishna. Then Krishna started describing the beauty of the child, saying, “Aha! See its nose, its ears, its mouth; all its limbs resemble those of Abhimanyu.” The Pandavas were filled with anger when Krishna described the beauty of the dead child like this. “Yes, yes, even its breath resembles that of Abhimanyu,” the Pandavas retorted in disgust. Meanwhile, Krishna took the child in His hands and started patting its hips and stomach. Suddenly, the child started crying loudly. Since Krishna gave new life to the child after putting the Pandavas to Pariksha (test), the child was named Parikshit. Nobody can go to the next class without passing the examination. God puts man to many tests. We should not consider these as tests. Rather, we should develop taste for such tests since the tests of God are so very tasty.

None can Escape the Consequences of his Actions

On Arjuna’s return to Hastinapur after his stay with Krishna at Dwaraka, mother Kunti asked him about the welfare of Krishna. “Krishna is no longer with us, mother. He has left for His abode in heaven,” replied Arjuna, crying loudly. As soon as Kunti heard this, she left her mortal coil. All the Pandavas decided to proceed to the Himalayas on their last journey, thinking, “Krishna was our life. Krishna was our God. Our life without Krishna is useless.” After performing the last rites of Kunti and entrusting the reins of the kingdom to Parikshit, the Pandavas started their journey towards north. All the three tasks were performed on the same day. In no other kingdom and at no other time has such an event ever taken place. Dharmaraja walked in front, followed by Bhima, Arjuna, Nakula and Sahadeva. Draupadi walked behind all of them.

On the way, Draupadi, Sahadeva, Nakula, Arjuna and Bhima fell dead. Dharmaraja alone journeyed forward. He had never told a lie in his life. But during the Mahabharata war, he said Aswatthama Hata Kunjara within the hearing of Aswatthama’s father Dronacharya. While uttering these words, he pronounced Aswatthama Hata (Aswatthama is dead) loudly and Kunjara (elephant) in a low tone, so that Drona could not hear the last word and he thought that his son Aswatthama had died. On hearing these words of Dharmaraja pronouncing the death of his son, Drona immediately put down his weapons and was killed. In this way, Dharmaraja told a lie and caused the death of Drona. As a consequence of this, he had to spend some time in hell. People should note that even Dharmaraja who adhered to Dharma all his life had to go to hell. Hence, nobody can escape from the consequences of his actions, whosoever he may be.

Everyone has to face the consequences of his actions, whoever he may be.

No one can know what lies ahead for him in future.

But this much is sure that everybody has to reap the consequences of his actions.

(Telugu Poem)

Those who were undergoing punishment



in hell felt great relief during the time of Dharmaraja's stay in hell. They all fell at the feet of Dharmaraja and requested him, "Please stay at this place for some more time as we are feeling great relief by your presence." Dharmaraja said, "My dear ones! I cannot stay here any longer since the Lord of Death will send me out." Thereafter, Dharmaraja went to heaven.

Unmatched Chastity of Draupadi

See! Even the Pandavas had to experience the consequences of their actions, although they were the embodiments of Dharma and had earned great merit. Draupadi was a woman of great chastity. Once Krishna was asked, "Who is the greatest chaste woman in the world?" Then Krishna replied:

Draupadi dutifully obeyed the command of her husbands. She would never say to any one of them that she had no time to serve him. She was satisfied with whatever she got in life. She was the supreme example

Continued on page 285 ...



CELEBRATIONS AT PRASANTHI NILAYAM

Medak District Devotees on Pilgrimage to Prasanthi Nilayam

MORE THAN 5,000 DEVOTEES from the Medak district of Andhra Pradesh came to Prasanthi Nilayam on a pilgrimage for three days from 10th to 12th July 2007.

During this pilgrimage, they presented a dance drama and organised a rally in Sai Kulwant Hall in the Divine Presence of Bhagavan on 11th July, and a music programme on 12th July 2007 at the same venue. The dance drama entitled “Amma” (mother) depicted the story of a mother and her son, emphasising the need for reinforcing the traditional values of holding the mother in highest esteem and highlighting the sacred qualities of the mother. The drama which began with a beautifully choreographed invocation song and dance at 3.45 p.m. came to a close with another enchanting dance. At the conclusion of the drama, Bhagavan blessed the cast, posed for group photos with



A scene from the dance drama “Amma” presented by the devotees of Medak district of Andhra Pradesh in Sai Kulwant Hall on 11th July 2007.

them and distributed clothes to them. The next item of the programme was a magnificent rally organised by these devotees. The rally started at 5.15 p.m. when small groups of these devotees made their entry into Sai Kulwant Hall displaying the cultural traditions of their region through singing and dancing. The grand finale of the rally was a mobile model of Sri Sathya Sai Water Supply Project as an expression of gratitude to Bhagavan for the supply of water to the people of this district.

These devotees made an excellent presentation of devotional songs on the afternoon of 12th July 2007. Before the start of the programme, two small children, one boy and one girl, came to the dais to seek the blessings of Bhagavan. Bhagavan made them and the entire assembly of devotees in Sai Kulwant Hall blissful by materialising a gold chain for each of them. The programme started at 3.50 p.m. with a beautiful song in praise of Lord Ganesh. What followed this was a medley of group and solo devotional songs by the ladies and gents singers from these devotees, enthraling the audience for nearly one hour. After Bhajans led by these devotees and later by the students of Sri Sathya Sai University, the programme concluded at 5.35 p.m. with Arati to Bhagavan.

The Sacred Bridge: A Short Drama

This short but excellent drama was presented by Sri Sathya Sai Baba Centre of Cooksville, Ontario, Canada on the afternoon of 19th July 2007 in Sai Kulwant Hall as part

of their pilgrimage to Prasanthi Nilayam. The drama was based on the famous episode of the Ramayana which showcased the potency



Sri Sathya Sai Baba Centre of Cooksville, Ontario, Canada presented the drama "The Sacred Bridge" in Sai Kulwant Hall on 19th July 2007, highlighting the importance of Namasmarana.

of the Divine Name of Rama when the stones inscribed with Rama's Name floated on the water of the ocean, thereby making the bridge across the ocean to Lanka, symbolising the victory of divine forces over the vices represented by Ravana. Through this episode, the drama emphatically depicted the potency of Namasmarana and demonstrated that recitation of the Divine Name was the sacred bridge to help man cross the ocean of life in Kali Yuga. The drama was marked by the nobility of its theme, appropriateness of the costumes and simplicity of its story. Consisting only of two scenes, the drama began at 5.15 p.m. with Veda chanting and came to a close with the Bhajan, "Prema Mudita Manase Kaho Rama Rama Ram ..." at 5.30 p.m. Bhagavan sat through the entire presentation, blessed the cast at the end of the play, distributed clothes to them and posed for photographs with them. Prasadam was distributed to all in the end.

Ashadi Ekadasi Celebrations

Devotees at Prasanthi Nilayam had the taste of a sumptuous spiritual feast when Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations of Maharashtra and Goa presented a variety of music and cultural programmes on 23rd, 24th and 25th July 2007 to celebrate the sacred festival of Ashadi Ekadasi.

Excellent Devotional Music: Their first programme was a magnificent musical concert by Sri Sumeet Tapoo of Mumbai who presented a bouquet of devotional songs at the Lotus Feet of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba on the afternoon of 23rd July 2007. As a prelude to the programme, the singer recited many Stotras invoking the grace of the Lord. What followed this was virtually a sumptuous feast of devotional songs, some of which were reminiscent of the famous singer Anup Jalota, and some others showing the ingenuity of the singer particularly those which were specially composed in praise of Mother Sai, Prasanthi Nilayam and Sai Geeta (Bhagavan's blessed elephant which passed away recently). Bhagavan sat through the entire presentation and blessed the singer and the accompanying artistes at the end of the programme. Bhagavan also granted them the coveted opportunity of group photos with Him. The programme came to a close with Arati to Bhagavan at 5.50 p.m. Prasadam was distributed to all in the end.

A Talk on Devotion and Spirituality: On the morning of 24th July 2007, Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations of Maharashtra and Goa organised two programmes as part of Ashadi Ekadasi celebrations. The first was a talk by Sri Ritu Raj Maharaj of Madhya Pradesh which contained the essence of all scriptures and highlighted the teachings of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba.



Soulful Rendition of Purandaradasa's Compositions: This was followed by an enrapturing presentation of some of the finest compositions of Purandaradasa in a dance performance. Soulful rendition of the compositions, scintillating dances, sweet music and perfect choreography made it an outstanding presentation. The programme which started at 9.05 a.m. came to a close at 9.50 a.m. Bhagavan blessed the artistes and posed for group photos with them at the end of the drama. Prasadam was distributed to all in the end.

An Excellent Musical Concert: On the afternoon of 24th July 2007, renowned singer and winner of Padma Shri award Sri Hariharan enthralled the audience with vocal devotional music which was virtually a feast for the soul. Besides the devotional songs which touched the hearts of the audience, the artiste enraptured them with fine rendition of a beautiful Ghazal and soulful Bhajans and Kirtan (congregational singing) which enlisted enthusiastic participation of the listeners. The programme began at 4.00 p.m. soon after Bhagavan's afternoon Darshan in Sai Kulwant Hall and concluded at 5.35 p.m. with Arati to Bhagavan. At the end of the programme, Bhagavan showered His blessings on Sri Hariharan and his accompanying artistes, posed for photographs with them and distributed clothes to them.

Ashadi Ekadasi Function: The main function of Ashadi Ekadasi was celebrated at Prasanthi Nilayam on 25th July 2007. The venue of celebrations was Sai Kulwant Hall which was beautifully done up for this auspicious occasion.

On the morning of 25th July, Bhagavan's entry into Sai Kulwant Hall at 8.00

a.m. was heralded by blowing of conches by a group of nine devotees of Maharashtra in their traditional dress. After coming to the dais, Bhagavan lighted the sacred lamp at 8.30 a.m. to inaugurate the Ashadi Ekadasi programme. A devotional song in praise of Lord Vitthal (Krishna) followed the inaugural ceremony. Soon the decorated Dindi (palanquin) with the idol of Lord Vitthal was brought in the Hall while the singers sang the theme song "Ashadi Ka Din ... Pavan Yeh Din" (the sacred day of Ashadi). About 1,200 Varkaris had earlier brought the Dindi from Dharmavaram, from where it started in procession on 21st July 2007, halting at two villages on the way, Basampalli and Kothacheruvu. During this pilgrimage, medical camps were organised in Obulampalli, Venkatapalli and Settippalli villages in which 3,802 patients were treated and given free medicines. Besides, 1,008 Amruta Kalasams (food provisions) were distributed in 11 villages and Narayana Seva was performed for 3,850 people in five villages en route.

The programme began with the invocation song "Ek Dantaya Vakra Tundaya Gauri Tanayaya Dheemahi" in praise of Lord Ganesh while children performed a beautiful dance to the tune of this composition. Prior to this, two Bal Vikas students paid tributes to Sai Geeta, the beloved elephant of Bhagavan, which recently merged in His Lotus Feet. Sai Geeta, they said, was like Lord Ganesh for them. A replica of Sai Geeta was unveiled at this moment.

Master the Mind and Be a Mastermind: The main item of the morning programme was a drama entitled "Master the Mind and Be a Mastermind" presented in the interesting style of a quiz programme by the present and former Bal Vikas students and Youth Wing of Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation of



Mumbai. The subject was introduced through a dialogue and the perennial question “Who am I?” which was elaborated with a Mira Bhajan and philosophical explanation of Ramana Maharishi.

Thereafter, the stage containing the entire paraphernalia of a TV studio with the setting of a quiz programme was brought forward in the centre of the Hall and the quiz master



The drama “Master the Mind and Be a Mastermind” enacted in Sai Kulwant Hall on 25th July 2007 had its stage setting like a TV quiz programme.

took charge of the programme. One of the two teams that took part in the quiz comprised Bal Vikas students who were undergoing nine-year Bal Vikas programme and the other team comprised those Bal Vikas students who had completed this nine-year training. The difficult subject of the mind, its nature and its mysteries was then analysed threadbare by probing questions, appropriate answers and illuminating episodes consisting mainly of the answers of Lord Krishna to Arjuna. The subject was made more understandable by the comments of four special guests in the costumes of Mahatma Gandhi, Rabindranath Tagore, Swami Vivekananda and Justice Muthuswami Iyer. It must be noted with admiration that such a difficult subject

as the mind, which even most learned scholars would find it hard to comment upon, was presented in such a novel method that the viewers witnessed it with absorbing interest, and there was not even one dull moment in the course of the entire presentation of over one hour. The drama was an example of perfection from all aspects, be it acting, music, stage setting, direction, choice of episodes and their timing, songs and their rendering, dialogues and their articulation. It was heartening to note that Bal Vikas was bringing about such a tremendous transformation in children so that they were able to grasp great spiritual truths with clarity.

The programme came to a close with chanting of Gayatri Mantra by all the participants at 9.45 a.m. At the end of the programme, Bhagavan blessed the cast, distributed watches to them and posed for group photos with them. He also materialised a gold chain for the Bal Vikas student who played the role of quiz master.

Jai Jhulelal – A Dance Drama: Another drama was enacted on the afternoon of 25th July 2007 at the same venue by the Bal Vikas students and Youth Wing of Thane district, Mumbai. The drama entitled “Jai Jhulelal” portrayed the life story of Jhulelal who incarnated on the bank of the river Sindhu 1,000 years ago to sow the seeds of love in the heart of man and to show to mankind the path of unity of all faiths. Significantly, this was the 1,000th birth anniversary of this great saviour who is worshipped by the Sindhi community as the incarnation of water god, Varuna.

Noble theme, powerful message, sweet music, excellent direction, superb acting and scintillating dances of the children enraptured the viewers for over an hour. The drama which started at 4.10 p.m. with the



theme song describing the life story of this great saviour came to a close at 5.15 p.m. with the famous number “Lal Meri Pat Rakhiyo Lala Jhulelal”. Bhagavan sat through the entire performance, blessed the cast at the end of the drama and distributed watches to them. He also materialised a gold chain for a Bal Vikas child. After the distribution of Prasadam, Ashadi Ekadasi celebrations at Prasanthi Nilayam came to a happy conclusion with Arati to Bhagavan at 5.35 p.m.

Devotional Music by U.K. Devotees

A group of devotees from the U.K. came on a pilgrimage to Prasanthi Nilayam and presented a programme of devotional music in Sai Kulwant Hall on the afternoon of 31st July 2007. The programme started with Guru Vandana (prayer to Guru) and an invocation song in praise of Lord Ganesh. What followed this was a medley of Qawalis, devotional songs and Bhajans sung by both ladies and gents singers in Hindi, English and Punjabi languages. The programme which started at 4.15 p.m. came to a close at 5.00 p.m.

Cultural Programme by U.S.A. Devotees

A group of devotees from north central U.S.A. came to Prasanthi Nilayam on pilgrimage and presented a cultural and music programme in the Divine Presence of



The devotees of U.S.A. presented an excellent devotional music programme in Sai Kulwant Hall on 1st August 2007.

Bhagavan on the afternoon of 1st August 2007. The programme started at 4.30 p.m. after the Divine Darshan of Bhagavan in Sai Kulwant Hall. After the traditional prayer in Sanskrit to Lord Ganesh, the devotees, both ladies and gents, presented a medley of popular and semi-classical group and solo devotional songs in English and Hindi to the tune of sweet music. Besides, two young devotees presented a scintillating Siva Tandava (cosmic dance) to the delight of the entire gathering in Sai Kulwant Hall. Pleased with their performance, Bhagavan showered His blessings on them and also materialised a gold chain for one and a ring for the other. At the conclusion of this excellent programme, there was a brief Bhajan session which was also conducted by these devotees. The programme came to a close with Arati to Bhagavan at 6.00 p.m. Prasadam was distributed to all in the end.

Prema Jyothi: An Exhibition to Awaken Man

“Prema Jyothi”, a sublime exhibition covering the whole of Poornachandra Auditorium, presented a grand spectacle celebrating the pure love of Bhagavan Baba. Divided into seven striking themes, it was not just a photo exhibition, but literally ‘Sai Bhagavata Vahini’. 175 stunning posters (1.8 x 1.2 m) portrayed Swami’s Divine life, His incredible compassion for humanity reflected in His mammoth service projects and His powerful message of love which is the ultimate protection for mankind today. There were beautiful back lit theme panels, TV loops, radio, video and the internet, supplementing never-before-seen images.

Swami, most graciously, inaugurated this unique exhibition, at a special ceremony on the morning of 20th July 2007 and spent more than 90 minutes keenly watching and listening



Devotees seeing the Prema Jyothi exhibition with avid interest in Poornachandra Auditorium.

to the commentary offered for each exhibit. He expressed immense satisfaction at the end of

... *Continued from page 279*

of chastity and none could match her in this respect. (Telugu Poem)

Such a great chaste woman had also to undergo great ordeals in life. These days, women find it hard even to listen to the words of their husbands. Draupadi had not one but five husbands; yet she conscientiously obeyed the commands of all of them and served them diligently. She was satisfied with whatever was provided to her. Such women are also there who would pester their husband for a Sari of two hundred rupees even though he earned a salary of one hundred rupees. But Draupadi was not such a woman. She found satisfaction in whatever she got. Draupadi earned great fame as a woman of unmatched chastity due to her these qualities.

A man's prestige depends upon the actions performed by him. While performing actions, there can occur many mistakes. Whatever mistakes one commits, one cannot escape from their consequences. Therefore, it is the duty of man to speak truth and lead his life with love, adhering to the canons of Dharma. A man without truth, righteousness, peace, kindness and love is like a living corpse. Man should

the 'guided tour' and blessed that it may be opened for public and the delegates of Sri Sathya Sai World Youth Conference from the next day. The thousands, who toured the exhibition until it closed on 2nd August 2007, left the place in ecstasy, spellbound or in tears; undoubtedly, it was a life-altering experience for every visitor. This exhibition, organised by the Prashanti Digital Studio (which is also the office of Radio Sai Global Harmony), will be staged in different cities of India in the coming months, starting with Chennai.

consider these values as his very life principle. Never tell a lie even jokingly. Never make fun of anybody. Criticising others is a great sin. There is no greater sin than criticising others. Therefore, we should not criticise anybody whosoever he may be. Love all. *Love is God. God is Love.* Love is life.

(The students sang the song "Love is My form, truth is My breath ..." on the instructions of Bhagavan. After this, Bhagavan continued His Discourse)

Develop love. Love is your sole refuge wherever you may be, whether in a forest, in the sky, in a city or a village, on the mountain top or in the deep sea. Love even your enemy. Do not turn your face away from him when you come across him. Instead lovingly ask him, "Hello, brother! How are you?" Lead your life with love, courage and forbearance. Only then can your humanness blossom into divinity. You should teach everyone to develop love. This is My main message for you today.

– From Bhagavan's Divine Discourse in Sai Kulwant Hall, Prasanthi Nilayam on 15th August 2006 on the occasion of Ati Rudra Maha Yajna.

NEWS FROM SAI CENTRES

INDONESIA

THE CAPITAL CITY OF JAKARTA has repeatedly suffered natural calamities over the past years with little time to rebuild between disasters. More recently, a major flood ravaged the city on 10th February 2007. The Sathya Sai Organisation responded promptly on 11th February 2007 by coming to the aid of villagers stranded in



The Sathya Sai Organisation of Indonesia provided relief to people affected by floods in February 2007. It also organised an acute care medical camp to treat patients suffering from pulmonary and gastrointestinal disorders.

Cakung. Nearly 300 families were rendered homeless due to the floods and sought refuge in metal containers and concrete culverts. Sai devotees distributed food and potable water to these people. By 14th February 2007, the water level subsided and the people

started returning to their flood-ravaged homes. Sathya Sai devotees distributed mops, brooms, pails and worked with the flood victims to help restore their homes. After the homes became habitable, the devotees distributed gas stoves, rice and drinking water on 17th February. An acute care medical camp was set up to look after patients with pulmonary and gastrointestinal disorders due to the floods and poor living conditions. The camp continued until 11th March 2007. Extensive insecticide spraying and water supply disinfection was carried out. Families were given mosquito repellents and coils. Flood victims were touched by the emergency relief provided with love by the Sai devotees.

During a medical camp held during April 2007 (the fourth camp within a span of two months), about 200 patients were provided medical care.

U. K.

A European Regional Conference on Sri Sathya Sai Education was held from 20th to 21st January 2007 at the Apollo Hotel in Basingstoke, United Kingdom. The conference organised by the Education Committee of Sri Sathya Sai World Foundation brought together Sai educationists and senior office bearers from around the world. A total of 205 delegates from 44 countries participated in this conference.

During the inaugural session on 20th January 2007, the Chairman of Sri Sathya Sai World Foundation, Dr. Michael Goldstein dwelt upon the structure of the International Sai Organisation, especially with regard to





A total of 205 delegates from 44 countries participated in the European Regional Conference on Sri Sathya Sai Education held on 20th and 21st January 2007 at the Apollo Hotel in Basingstoke, U.K.

education, and explained that Sri Sathya Sai World Foundation (SSSWF) was responsible for governance of all International Sai Organisations and the Prasanthi Council was responsible for implementing the policies of the SSSWF. With regard to Sathya Sai Education in Human Values (SSEHV) and Sai Spiritual Education (SSE), the SSSWF was directly responsible for the administration of SSEHV, he reminded. He further explained that the International Sai Organisation, under the management of the Prasanthi Council and the governance of the SSSWF, was responsible for SSE. He acknowledged the great service rendered over a period of decades by three of the pioneers in the International Sai Education Programmes: Dr. Victor Kanu, Dr. Art-Ong Jumsai and Dr. Thorbjorn Meyer.

The next speaker was Dr. Narendra Reddy, Director of Sri Sathya Sai World Foundation. He said, "To be, to do and then to tell should be the dictum for all teachers." He stated that there were three types of teachers: (a) those who complained – performing duty without love, (b) those who explained – performing duty with love, and (c) those who inspired –

giving love without obligation. He emphasised that Swami wants the teachers to be inspiring. Dr. Reddy also explained that parents had an important role in teaching. By setting a good example and reinforcing what was taught in SSE they could help human excellence to blossom in children.

The next speaker Dr. Thorbjorn Meyer, Chairman of Zone 7 and Director of European Sathya Sai Educare (ESSE) Institute provided an overview of accomplishments of Sathya Sai Education Programmes in Continental Europe, highlighting the leadership and training provided by the European Sathya Sai Educare. This was followed by presentations by the U.K. Sathya Sai Organisation and the British Institute of Sathya Sai Education on the progress of Sathya Sai Schools and Sai Spiritual Education in the United Kingdom. Sri Kalyan Ray, Chairman of the Education Committee of Sri Sathya Sai World Foundation, concluded the morning session by outlining the objectives and the programme of the conference. He hoped that the process of unification and harmonisation that had started in the U.K. would go far into the future and far beyond the shores of Europe.

Following the inaugural session, the delegates divided themselves into thematic working groups to discuss, refine and bring coherence to the contents of the Strategic Education Plans developed by the different zones during the preparatory process prior to the conference. The topics discussed were: Sai Spiritual Education (SSE), Sathya Sai Education in Human Values, Sathya Sai Schools and Sathya Sai Institutes of Education.

On 21st January 2007, Zone 7 and 9 presented short-term, mid-term, and



long-term goals and action priorities for Sathya Sai Education in Europe. In closing, Dr. Michael Goldstein encouraged the delegates to be vigilant and take forward Sathya Sai Education programmes with constructive energy.

U. S. A.

Sai devotees from Pacific Region South in the U.S.A. conducted a free health screening camp in Corona, California on Saturday,



Sai devotees from Pacific Region South in the U.S.A. conducted a free health screening camp in Corona, California on 17th March 2007 in which 818 patients were provided medical help.

17th March 2007. A total of 818 patients were seen at the camp. Cancer screenings were conducted with mammograms, pap smears, prostate screenings and blood tests. Screening was also offered for diabetes, hypercholesterolemia, cardiac disease, pulmonary disease, osteoporosis and visual acuity. Routine immunisations were provided to 169 adults and 89 children. Patients with abnormal tests or exam results were first seen by on-site physicians and specialists and then referred to a local hospital for further care. Many VIPs attended the camp including Pro-tem Mayor of Corona, Jeff Miller, who stated, "The Sathya Sai

Baba Organisation of America has a strong commitment to provide much-needed health programmes and services that address the unmet needs of children, youth, seniors and families in the Corona-Norco community..." He formally presented the Sathya Sai Baba



Proclamation passed by the Corona City Council and presented to the Sathya Sai Baba Organisation of America in appreciation of its work in the area of healthcare.

Organisation of America with the Proclamation passed by the Corona City Council and signed by the Mayor of Corona, Eugene Montanez that proclaimed Saturday, 17th March 2007 as "Corona-Norco Community Free Health Screening Day."

Since 8th January 2005, the Ashland Free Medical Clinic (AFMC) in San Lorenzo, California has been providing free medical care for patients who do





The Ashland Free Medical Clinic in San Lorenzo, California was presented the Sidney R. Garfield, MD 2007 Exceptional Contribution Award on 3rd May 2007 for providing free healthcare to patients without medical insurance.

not have health insurance and cannot afford medical care. On 3rd May 2007, the AFMC was recognised for its selfless community service. On behalf of all the volunteers at the AFMC, Dr. Joseph Phaneuf, Medical Director of the AFMC, received the Sidney R. Garfield, MD 2007 Exceptional Contribution Award from Kaiser Permanente, a large health maintenance organisation in California. A presentation followed, which explained how this clinic was inspired by Sathya Sai Baba's model of free healthcare in India. On 5th May 2007, a video of the Ashland Free Medical Clinic was shown to approximately 500 Kaiser Permanente physicians along with their spouses and children.

The AFMC provides adult primary care services, dermatology speciality care, health education, free laboratory testing, and free medication every Saturday morning. At present, 18-29 patients are seen during each clinic and there were 914 patient visits in 2006. Over 100 volunteers from the Sathya Sai Baba Organisation have volunteered at this clinic as physicians, nurse

practitioners, registered nurses, receptionists, clinic coordinators, IT support and Spanish interpreters. The volunteers are also responsible for administrative duties and day-to-day operations of the clinic.

RUSSIA

A medical camp was conducted in Lodeynoye Polye near St. Petersburg in Leningrad district from 14th to 15th April 2007. Fifty-six patients attended the free medical camp. Patients were screened for hypertension and diabetes and their vision was checked. In addition, treatment of acute illnesses, psychiatric counselling and cosmetic treatments were given. Narayana Seva was also carried out during the camp. Devotees had packed food, clothes and toys for children which they distributed to needy patients and their families. Some of the devotees also carried out needed repairs to a nearby kindergarten school building.

CZECH REPUBLIC

Members of Sri Sathya Sai Centre in the capital city of Prague, Czech Republic have been serving the needy at the main railway station in Prague every Thursday (except summer months) since 2002. During winter, hot beverages along with food items are served. Warm clothes and sleeping bags are also distributed during this time. Devotees performed these weekly service activities for the homeless with kind words and love. Some basic useful information for the needy people regarding available social services was also provided. Usually, 40 to 60 people are served each week. Inspired by this service, devotees in another major Czech Republic city, Plzen, have started a similar service.



THAILAND

The Minister of Education of Thailand has recently requested the Institute of Sathya Sai Education, Thailand to train over 20,000 teachers in human values-based education all over Thailand during the months of April, May and June 2007. 26,300 teachers in Thailand have already been trained by the Institute over the past four months in SSEHV concepts and methodology, and the training programme still continues.

UN-HABITAT, an agency of the United Nations, has also started supporting the Institute from early this year to strengthen its capacity in human values-based environmental education. The South East Asian Ministers of Education Organisation (SEAMEO) is also considering to support the Institute to become a Centre of Excellence in values-based education and has expressed interest to send teachers and educators from countries in the SEAMEO region to be trained in human values-based water education at the Institute, as part of the programme of UN-HABITAT.

GHANA

Easter symbolises the message of sacrifice and love. For the past seven years, devotees from the Sai Centre of Accra, Ghana have performed selfless service at the Orthopaedic Training Centre in Nsawam annually during the Easter holidays. The Orthopaedic Centre has been providing free orthopaedic care to the poor with the help of a Catholic Mission from the Netherlands. On 9th April 2007, 25 Sai devotees from the Accra Sai Centre prepared sumptuous meals and packaged them with fruits and fruit juices for the patients, family members and hospital staff. They served the meals lovingly in the morning and

once again in the evening. They also donated five ceiling fans for the hospital. In her closing prayers that evening, the Sister Director of the Orthopaedic Training Centre thanked the Sathya Sai Organisation and the devotees for their continued selfless service.

– Sri Sathya Sai World Foundation

BHARAT

Andhra Pradesh: Visakhapatnam district rendered noteworthy assistance to the passengers of Gurudev Express which met with an accident at Duvvada on 11th June 2007. Sai Youth and Seva Dal members evacuated the passengers from the derailed bogies and took them to the emergency relief camp. They put the injured in ambulances for further treatment in different hospitals, collected the luggage and handed it over to the respective passengers, and deposited the unclaimed luggage with railway authorities. They distributed about 6,000 water packets to the passengers at the accident site and relief camp and provided food and other assistance to the patients and attendants till their discharge from the hospitals. They also guided the passengers in safe condition to board the buses for their onward journey from Vizag Railway Station and helped them in carrying their luggage.

East Godavari district came to the rescue of 105 fire victim Girijan families in Konda Modalu village by giving them food provisions, clothes and other essential requirements. This district conducted a District Youth Meet at Ravulapalem on 10th June 2007 in which 600 youth, 100 Bal Vikas Gurus, 100 unit conveners and 300 Seva Dal members took part. The youth were made aware of Bal Vikas and educare programmes along with Grama Seva project.





Sai Organisation of Andhra Pradesh (Nellore district) dug a borewell and provided drinking water to a Girijan colony in June 2007.

Nellore district dug a borewell for the benefit of Rajiv Gandhi Girijan Colony and the same was inaugurated on 8th June 2007. The district also carried out Narayana Seva for 2,000 Girijans on 1st June 2007 in two colonies.

West Godavari district provided nine newly-constructed houses to needy families in a remote tribal village, Tanigudem on 7th June 2007. The District Collector also took part in the function. This district distributed books to 20 needy students in Kummara Revu slum area in Eluru and to 82 students in Mupparthipadu village on 17th June 2007. It also gave nine Amruta Kalasams to nine needy families in a slum area in Tanuku town on 24th June 2007.

Haryana and Chandigarh: A short-term five days' Summer Course on Indian Culture and Spirituality was conducted in June 2007 for the students and youth, wherein 174 boys, 111 girls and 74 observers from the various districts of the State took part. The speakers gave talks on universal values of Sathya, Dharma, Santhi, Prema and Ahimsa. Various other topics were: "Uniqueness of Indian Culture", "Aim of Life", "Unity of Faiths", "Gita in Daily Life", "Spirituality is not an Hindrance in Materialism", "Stress Management", "Seva as

Sadhana for Character Building", "Avatarhood and Sathya Sai Avatar". Film shows on the humanitarian work of Bhagavan were also arranged. All the participants expressed their earnest willingness to participate in such courses in future and to take part in day-to-day activities of the Sai Organisation in their respective areas.

A two days' State Conference of Bal Vikas Gurus and office bearers was organised in June 2007 in which 164 Bal Vikas Gurus and 135 office bearers of the Sai Organisation participated from various districts of the State. The conference emphasised the need to improve the quality of Bal Vikas programmes and highlighted the role of office bearers in the Bal Vikas movement in the State for spreading the message of Bhagavan Baba.

Sikkim: Sikkim, a tiny but beautiful Himalayan State, has four district headquarters. Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation is functioning in all these four districts. There are in all 30 Sai Samithis and 125 Bhajan Mandalis in the State. The Sai Organisation of the State has adopted four villages (one in each district for all-round development).

One of the villages adopted by the Sai Organisation under Grama Seva project is Mongrang, a remote village about 40 km from the south district headquarter of Namchi. Work on the construction of a community centre in this village has been undertaken by the Sai Youth of this district.

On 14th April 2007, 122 Sai Youth and Seva Dal members including those from Women's Wing extended their help in excavation work of the proposed community centre and the plinth area was completed. Excavation work for a public toilet in the village was also carried out



A remote village, Mongrang of Namchi district, has been adopted by the Sai Organisation of Sikkim for all-round development. Photo shows distribution of clothes to needy children.

on the same day. On 12th May 2007, 37 Seva Dal members including Sai Youth worked hard to throw the spoils from the construction site. Digging of the plinth for construction of the public toilet was also carried out on the same day. On 31st May 2007, a series of Sai activities were carried out in this village. About 120 Seva Dal members including Sai Youth and the Women's Wing volunteers took part in the construction work of the community centre.

A free medical camp was organised where free medicines were distributed to the patients.



Sai Organisation of Sikkim organised a medical camp in Mongrang which benefited more than 100 people of the village.

About 103 patients were treated and Narayana Seva for all the patients and other local people was also carried out. About 200 villagers benefited from this service. Apart from this, clothes and food provisions were distributed to needy people. A healthcare programme for the children was also conducted. Hair cutting of 12 boys and nail cutting of 25 small children was carried out by the experts and the Women's Wing. The Spiritual Wing of the district conducted a Bhajan training class for the interested local youth wherein 33 youth took part in the training.

On 3rd June 2007, Namchi Samithi organised a youth motivation camp at Namchi Sai Mandir wherein 60 youth attended the programme. The objective of the programme was to make the youth aware of their role in society and their responsibilities in the Sai Organisation. A quiz competition for the youth was also organised.

A veterinary camp was organised by the Sai Youth of Namchi in Kabrey village of Namthang Samithi with the help of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Service Department, Namchi. Resource persons delivered lectures on livestock management and control of animal diseases and made the villagers aware of developing good breeding of domestic animals. Treatment of cattle was also conducted on the spot. About 73 villagers derived benefit from the programme.

Sai Youth and Seva Dal members including the office bearers of Singtam Samithi under east district organised a free medical camp at Upper Suman on 20th May 2007. More than 300 patients were treated on the spot and free medicines were distributed to them.

Tamil Nadu: In the first phase of its rural empowerment programme, Sri Sathya Sai

Seva Organisation of Tamil Nadu has started rural development in about 50 villages, most of which are in Kancheepuram district. Water purification systems have been set up to meet the need for safe and pure drinking water of these villagers. Secondly, plants like papaya, curry leaves, drumstick, coriander and coconut are being grown in these villages to eradicate diseases caused by malnutrition. Besides, the villagers are being provided opportunities to make them self-reliant. Special efforts are being made to empower rural youth for their development as ideal citizens who understand the purpose of life.

In the first part of the year 2007, the Youth Wing of Kancheepuram district has installed purified drinking water systems in four villages: Chellampattidai, O.M. Manglam, Sivapuram and Illambiyan Kattur, and in two rural schools:



The Sai Organisation of Tamil Nadu has installed water purification systems in two rural schools and four villages in the first phase of its rural empowerment programme.

RCM Middle School in Chellampattidai and Don Bosco Residential School in Sahayathottam. The population of the areas currently covered is more than 5,500. The students of the two rural schools covered by the purified water systems

hail from over 36 villages. The villagers and the rural school students are delighted to drink bacteria-free purified water.

Don Bosco Residential School is located in a remote village (Sahayathottam) far away from the main road and lacks basic facilities. Approximately 500 students including destitutes and wards of poor peasants are studying in the school. The water purifier installed in the school caters to the needs of the staff and students of the school. The Father of the Roman Catholic Mission who is also the Correspondent/Head Master of the School has expressed his gratitude by sending a letter to the District President of Kancheepuram, admiring Bhagavan for inspiring Sai volunteers to render selfless service. He also expressed his desire to associate himself with the future service activities of the Organisation in that village.



Bhagavan's photo being received by the Headmistress of RCM Middle School, Chellampattidai where a water purifier has been installed by the Sai Organisation of Tamil Nadu for the benefit of the students and staff.

In another instance, Sister Elizabeth Rose, the Headmistress of RCM Middle School at Chellampattidai expressed her gratitude

to the Sai Youth and the District President during their visits to the school to ascertain the proper functioning of the water purifier. She came to the Siva Temple in her neighbouring village and offered thanksgiving prayers at the temple, showing respect for the service activity rendered by the Sai Youth.

To mitigate malnutrition in the adopted villages, nutritive plants were distributed to each and every house. The necessity for growing such plants with nutritive values was explained to the inhabitants by distributing a pamphlet in Tamil. In the month of May 2007, Sai Youth of Kancheepuram district started the distribution of saplings of drumstick, papaya and curry leaves in over 17 villages in the district and its peripherals. This was done over the weekends with over 70 Sai Youth participating in each distribution. It was a pleasant sight to watch the youth take off in different directions in four open tractors and closed vans loaded with saplings. The saplings were received with great delight by the villagers. Phase 1 has covered distribution of over 2,200 saplings, one to each household.

After the completion of the distribution of the nutritive plants, it was necessary to have regular follow-up visits to ascertain that the plants were cared to grow well, to review welfare of the inhabitants and well-being of the villagers. It was planned that the youth from Kancheepuram district should visit the villages on rotation during every weekend (Sundays). On an average, 12 to 20 youth join together, carry their food and reach the villages by two wheelers. They get dispersed from a place, centre to all the villages, interact with the inhabitants, ensure effective functioning of installed water purifier and its usage by the dwellers and ascertain proper growth of

plants. They meet rural youth and speak about the importance of Seva, welfare of the youth and their settlement in life, quantifying the future needs of the villagers.

Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand: Improvement in sanitation and checking of spreading of diseases in adopted villages of the State is being achieved through construction of flush type latrines and soak pits. The villagers are actively participating in this activity in a big way and the labour involved in the work is being provided by them.

22 children of the women jail inmates in Lucknow are being helped by the Sai Organisation in their education by paying their school fees and by providing books and stationery to them.

Khajur village in Noida has been adopted by the Sai Youth. While surveying the village, it was noticed that villagers were afflicted with skin diseases because the hand pumps they were using for drinking water were only 6-7 m deep. As a first step, two deep bore (36-45 m), good quality hand pumps were installed at convenient points. The villagers are very happy and grateful to Bhagavan Baba for this facility provided to them. Sai Youth have also been advising the villagers not to waste water, the precious gift of God, and to keep the area neat and clean.

Noida Samithi organises three blood donation camps in a year with the help of doctors from AIIMS, New Delhi. For the camp held on 13th May 2007, advance door-to-door campaigning for 15 days was done by the Sai Youth of the area. As a result, 150 persons turned up to offer blood. However, only 111 units were accepted by the doctors for their blood bank.



West Bengal: Four State-level Youth Conferences were organised. The first conference was organised on 17th June 2007 at Sodepur, North 24 Paraganas in which about 400 youth from Kolkata, Howrah, Hooghly, North 24 Paraganas, South 24 Paraganas and Nadia districts participated. The second conference was held at Kolabari, Darjeeling South on 24th June 2007 in which around 1,500 youth from Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Coochbehar and Dinajpur took part. The next conference was held at Suri, Birbhum on 8th July 2007 which attracted about 400 youth from Birbhum, Burdwan and Murshidabad. The final conference was held at Kharagpur on 15th July 2007 in which youth from Midnapore West, Midnapore East, Bankura and Purulia took part.

A two-day training camp for Bal Vikas Guru Master Trainers was organised at Sri Sathya Sai Seva Kendra, Barrackpore on 28th and 29th April 2007. More than 100 senior Gurus from all the districts attended this camp and learnt new techniques to make the Bal Vikas movement more effective. Eminent speakers



Four State-level Youth Conferences were organised by the Sai Organisation of West Bengal in June-July 2007. The photo shows one such conference in progress.

from the Sai Organisation and professional guests addressed the Gurus. The trainers will take the essence of this training to every district to strengthen the Bal Vikas movement. Youth members actively helped in organising the camp and expressed their resolve to carry forward the Bal Vikas movement in the coming years.

In the last two years, Sai Youth of North 24 Paraganas have been organising drinking water distribution camp and Iftaar Party during festivals for our Muslim brothers. This year, another step was taken when Sai Youth



Sai Youth of West Bengal doing Seva in Hazrat Khwaja Shah Ali Mosque during a festival.

undertook crowd control work inside Hazrat Khwaza Shah Zahar Ali Mosque at Belghoria B.T. Road on the auspicious occasion of his birthday. The youth dressed in white, wearing suitable caps and the scarf and badge of Seva Dal worked efficiently to control the mammoth crowd. A drinking water camp was also organised opposite to the mosque where scented drinking water and sugar candy were distributed to the devotees. The mosque authorities were highly impressed with this work and have invited the Sai Organisation to do this work every year.

Maya

ONCE GOD CALLED MAYA AND said to her, "Maya! I am getting a bad name due to you; all call Me Mayopadhi (one with the vesture of Maya). This has affected My reputation. Therefore, go away immediately. Hereafter, I do not want any association with you. Leave Me and get lost."



God asked Maya to leave Him and go away as she was bringing a bad name to Him.

Folding her hands in supplication, Maya replied with great humility, "Oh God! I will surely obey Your command. But if You tell me the place where You are not present, I will go to that place." Smilingly, God said, "There is no



"Oh God! I will surely obey your command. But if You tell me the place where You are not present, I will go to that place," replied Maya with great humility.

place where I am not present. You and I are inseparable. I put this question to you only to get this reply from you."

What is meant by Maya? Body attachment is Maya. This is the root cause of ignorance. But how to overcome Maya? It can be achieved only by the grace of God. Divinity is within you only. To make it the subject of your experience is the main objective of your life. Only this can bestow eternal bliss on you. This body is impermanent. Do not develop undue attachment to it. Perform spiritual practices with total faith in the veracity of this truth.

Unfortunately, there is a widespread opinion circulating freely that education is for jobs and not for the expansion of illumination. This is deplorable. Wisdom is illumination. It is the aim of education to radiate that light of wisdom. Such wisdom bestows upon man real power.

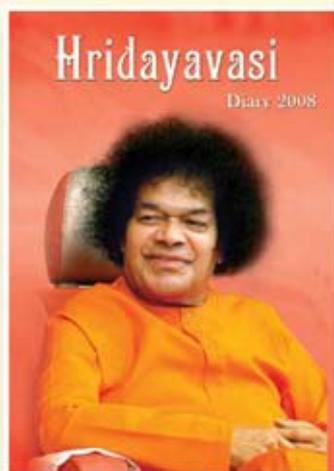
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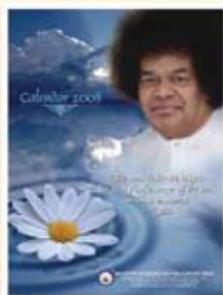
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CALENDARS 2008

With Bhagavan's multi colour photos and sayings with holidays marked; wire-o-wire binding for all except Wall Book Type for which centre pinning is done. Wall calendar in foreign art paper; Table Calendars in foreign art board. For amount payable including postage and orders please visit our website www.sssbpt.org AFTER 1st week of SEPTEMBER 2007 or see in September 2007 issue of Sanathana Sarathi.



Calendar specification and UNIT PRICE at our sales counter. Wall - Wall calendar; Table - Table calendar; PE - packing and postage extra	Minimum Quantity
W1 Wall 4 Sheets 11"x17" unit price Rs.16 + PE	5
W2 Wall 4 Sheets 14"x19" unit price Rs.26 + PE	5
W3 Wall 7 Sheets 11"x 22"(Book Type) unit price Rs34+ PE	5
T1 Table 7 Sheets 7"x8.5" unit price Rs.19 + PE	5
T2 Table 7 Sheets 6"x10" unit price Rs.25 + PE	5
Set - One each of W1, W2, W3, T1 & T2 Rs.120 + PE	1 set

